



The purpose of the public hearing is to consider the facts in order to formulate a decision. The Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan map represents a network of current and future facilities that provide guidance on what is likely to be suitable for long term growth, connectivity, and recreation. The Plan does not require a schedule for implementation nor does it set aside funding for improvements. Instead, it helps the Town establish long term priorities and identify requirements for new development. The Plan was last amended on September 13, 2022.

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider amendments to the Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan map to:

1. Change the proposed bicycle and pedestrian facility type along the west side of Richardson Road between Humie Olive Road and US 1 from proposed street-side greenway to proposed side path.
2. Change the proposed bicycle and pedestrian facility type east of Richardson Road from a proposed public greenway to a proposed side path along a future street.

A map of the proposed amendments to the Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan map is displayed in Figure 1 below.

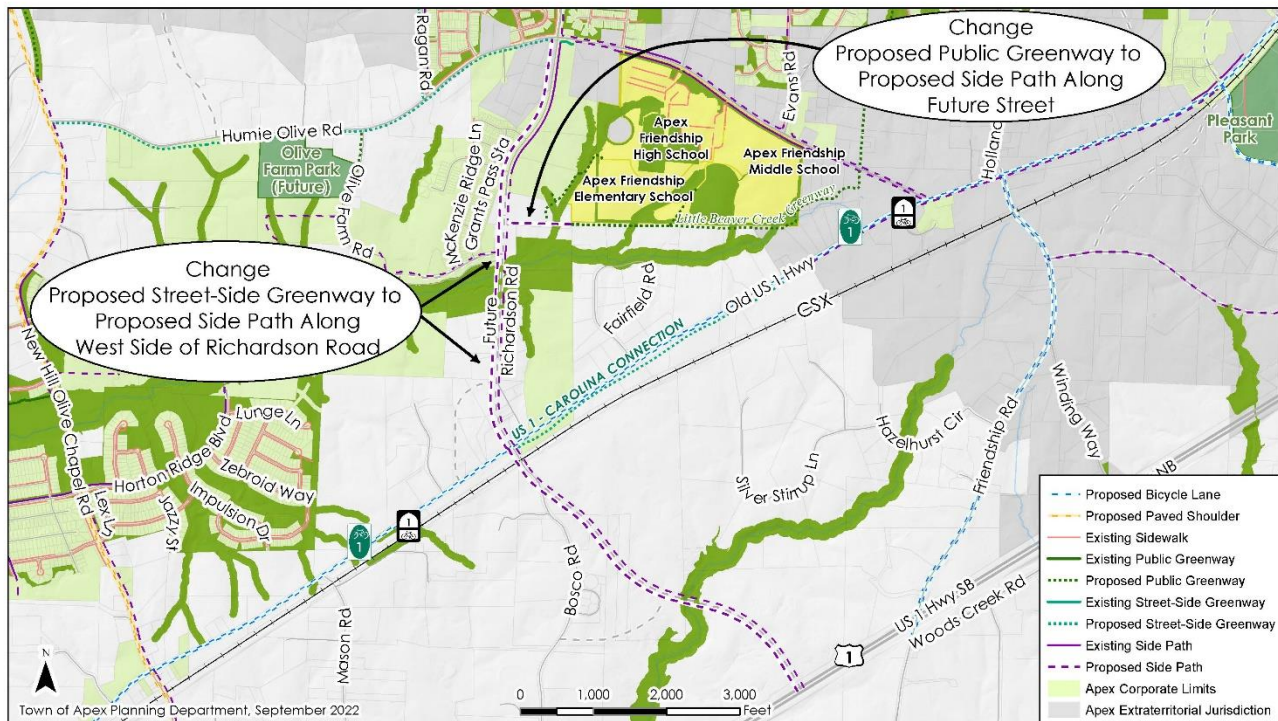


Figure 1. Proposed Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan Map Amendments

The purposes of the proposed amendments are to align the facility type with the 2045 Land Use Map, account for the Richardson Road conservation easement, and align with the anticipated The Townes at the Station development.

Street-side greenways are intended to provide an enhanced off-road, recreational bicycle and pedestrian facility along roadways in Apex with a rural context. The [2045 Land Use Map](#) designates development along future Richardson Road between Humie Olive Road and US 1 as Medium Density Residential. Side path along

# STAFF REPORT

## Transportation Plan Amendments

October 11, 2022 Town Council Meeting



both sides of future Richardson Road is a more suitable bicycle and pedestrian facility for this type of development.

Additionally, the approved Friendship Station Planned Unit Development (PUD) along the west side of existing Richardson Road, south of Humie Olive Road, was proposed prior to the proposed street-side greenway designation. A street-side greenway cannot be accommodated along this section of Richardson Road based on the approved development.

There are constraints for development within the future Richardson Road conservation easement. A street-side greenway cannot be provided along this section of Richardson Road as street-side greenways are meandering paths with a wide landscaped buffer. Street-side greenways require a 20' public greenway easement and are located outside of the public right-of-way.

Based on the considerations described above, the proposal is to change the bicycle and pedestrian facility type along the west side of Richardson Road from proposed street-side greenway to proposed side path.

The Townes at the Station is an anticipated PUD along the east side of future Richardson Road, south of Humie Olive Road. The proposal is to change the bicycle and pedestrian facility type from proposed greenway to proposed side path along a future residential street within the development to connect to a proposed greenway that connects to the Apex Friendship Schools campus.

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Planning and Community Development Department staff and Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department staff recommend approval of the proposed amendments.

The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Advisory Commission considered and unanimously recommended approval of the proposed amendments at their September 28, 2022 meeting.

### **Planning Board Recommendation:**

Planning and Community Development Department staff will present this item to the Planning Board at their October 10, 2022 meeting. The Planning Board's recommendation will be presented by staff at the Council meeting.