STAFF REPORT

Transportation Plan Amendments

October 12, 2021 Town Council Meeting



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 28, 2021.

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider the following proposed amendments to:

- 1. Change Proposed Street-Side Greenway to Proposed Side Path along the east side of Laura Duncan Road, north of Old Apex Road.
- 2. Add Proposed Greenway from the Proposed Side Path along the east side of Laura Duncan Road to align with the Town of Cary greenway plans.



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 purpose of the proposed change in bicycle and pedestrian facility type along the east side of Laura Duncan Road is to align with the existing bicycle and pedestrian facility along Laura Duncan Road, south of Old Apex Road. The bicycle and pedestrian facility type in the Town of Cary, fronting Laurel Park Elementary School, is designated as a Street-Side Greenway on the <u>The Cary 2040 Community Plan: The Comprehensive Plan for the</u> <u>Town of Cary</u>, though it functions as a side path as it is a relatively straight path without a landscaped buffer. The existing bicycle and pedestrian facility along the east side of Laura Duncan Road in Apex, south of Laurel Park Elementary School, is designated as an existing side path.

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The purpose of the Proposed Greenway is to add the Swift Creek Greenway, as shown on the The Cary 2040 Community Plan, to the Town of Apex Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan map. The Proposed Greenway is located off Laura Duncan Road, north of N Salem Street. This plan amendment will result in consistency among neighboring plans.

Staff Recommendation:

Planning and Community Development 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 29, 2021 meeting.

Planning Board Recommendation:

Planning and Community Development Department staff will present these items to the Planning Board at their October 11, 2021 meeting. The Planning Board's recommendation will be presented by staff at the Council meeting.