

**Facilitator** Missy Zawacki, Lisa Matthews

**Attendees:** David Baker, Jimmy Monto, Stephen Skinner, David Haas, John Cronkwright, Gene Cilento, Peggy Chase, Frank Pelosi, Frank Fisher, Keith Muhammad, Loren Gosserin, Richard Cary, Emmanuel Nubosi, Nader Maroun, Captain Richard Shoff, Chol Majok, Pauline Tucci, Margaret McVicker, Bernice Barb, Sue Straub, Mike Parzyck, David Haas, Caroline West, Ben Walsh, Jimmy Monto, Ann Marie Bergold, Stephen Skinner, Annelise Bucci, Joe Driscoll, Sue Parsons, Beverly Labier, Joseph Tawgnedi, Mike BehnkeTerry Reiter, Dan Horan, Lee Fordock, Jerry Haas, Jeff Romano, Mike Tollner, Kathleen Joy, Laura Lavine, James Arona, Bill Donigan, Al Tassi, Anthony Lambert

**Minutes**

Jerry Haas motioned to waive the reading of the minutes and accept the March 27<sup>th</sup> minutes, Lisa Matthews 2<sup>nd</sup> all were in favor

**Presentation:** I-690: Frank Fisher | *Crane-Hogan Structural Systems* [www.511.org](http://www.511.org)

The duration of the entire project will be February 2017 – June 2019. The project limits will be from Lodi St to Pete St. Entire project will include removing existing I-690 viaduct west of Beech to just before Teal Ave and replacing with a retaining wall system. There will be new bridges over Beech and Teal as well as reconstruction of Teal on/off ramps. The Teal Ave intersection will be widened.

**Q.** Are you adding lanes to both sides?

**A.** Yes, there will be a total of 7 lanes. North bound on Teal will have 2 turn lanes and 2 regular lanes. South bound on Teal will have 1 turn lane and 2 lanes all the way to Erie Blvd.

**Q.** Will the new design include walkways?

**A.** Both sides of Teal will include sidewalks.

**Q.** Will there be crosswalks East to West and will they have countdown signals?

**A.** The crosswalk E to W will probably be on Burnett and will include hand signals and countdown.

**Q.** Will there be bike lanes?

**A.** No, there is not enough room

**Q.** Heading East on 690, are you lengthening the exit lane? Will that be a traffic control?

**A.** Yes, all the way to Beech St. Yes, it will be traffic control.

**Q.** Is the median required and if so how long? People currently stand there asking for money.

**A.** Yes, median will be there between 3' to 4' for vehicle safety.

**Q.** How high is the median?

**A.** 6"

**Q.** What will be the correction from Price Rite turning left heading North on Teal will there be construction to prohibit cars from turning? This needs to be addressed.

**A.** May not have been in the RFP for the project to Crane-Hogan, the company will have to take a look at the plans and get back to Councilmember Nader. Hon. Nader Maroun mentioned that any traffic turning off Canal should only be able to turn right.

**Q.** Are all the workers from Rochester?

**A.** Crane-Hogan has had an office off Burnett Ave in Syracuse since 2004. The labor will mostly consist of Syracuse residents.

**Q.** Will both onramp/off ramps have 2 lanes?

**A.** The off ramp on 690 East will have 2 lanes. The 2 lanes heading west will merge into 1

**Phase 1:** May/June of this year running through November 2017. The inside lanes on both East and West bound will be closed to prepare for the summer work.

**Phase 2:** West bound lanes and ramps will be shut down and everyone redirected on East bound lanes. July – Nov. 2017

**Phase 3:** East bound will cross over to West bound in April through October 2018 (reverse of phase 2). Beech st. will be closed from June – August 2018. Detour will go down through Burnett, Lodi and Canal

**Phase 4:** Entire job will be repaved and painted at night. There will be landscaping. 2019

**Q.** Will there be a temporary traffic light at Midler?

A. Crane-Hogan is currently in the process of working with a company to design Traffic Control

Q. So Midler will be the main access to go East or West?

A. Correct, lights will have to be adjusted. The engineers will work with the City on the timing.

Q. When proceeding west on 690, you are taking away the 2 middle lanes. The far left lane going west merges onto 81 South, will there be enough time for people to merge over.

A. Closer stops at about Lodi St., cars will have enough time to merge over.

Q. Certain portions are covered by state and some by the City, with all the traffic down Burnett, the roads are already pretty well beat up, are there plans to repave?

A. That is not a part of this contract, but the contractor is responsible for maintaining any damage from cars along the detours, unless the road repair is structural then the city is the responsible entity.

Q. Will the bridge be concrete? Precast or cast in place?

A. Yes, it will be concrete and consist of a combination of both precast and cast in place. The bridge beams will be set at night, majority of work will be done during the day. Some demo may have to occur at night, which will include some noise. The loudest will be the pile driving, which will occur in the daytime.

Q. Will all lighting be LED and will the lamp posts be protected by guardrails?

A. Light poles will be mounted on the retaining walls, the type of lighting is currently being reviewed.

Q. Will the new design take away the homeless camps under Beech St bridge?

A. Yes.

Q. Will the span on Teal and Beech will give more clearance for things underneath? Will there still be a dip in the road?

A. The bridges will be built with mandated clearances. The dip will depend on the gradation of the road.

Q. What about water mains, electric and gas lines? Will fire engines be able to pass?

A. No, it will be completely closed. There will be a new water main installed on Teal. The company is trying to minimize moving electric and gas lines. There will be new drainage and sewers installed.

Q. Has there been any discussion on moving the Post Office entrance off Lynch st?

A. The Post Office is federal land and was problematic to buy, not sure if the entrance will move.

Q. How will this work be communicated to the general public?

A. Within 7-10 days something will go out to the media/press.

Q. Will there be signage? There are 86,000 vehicles down 690 per day.

A. 511.org is the DOT site with information. There will be permanent message boards. The contract includes 6 variable message boards. During the winter everything but Beech st. will be open.

Q. Is there access to the designs on the website?

A. Not yet. This is a design/build contract. There is no final design of every detail yet.

Q. In regards to questions you can't fully answer yet, will Gene Cilento update Eastwood TNT at future meetings?

A. Yes

### **Presentation:** Eastwood Heights Park: Jeff Romano | *Landscape Architect*

At the January meeting, Jeff asked the group in attendance for feedback on what the community would like to see in the park. After the meeting, an analysis was done of the park to create a conceptual design, the design was presented to the group.

Q. The backstop is just for softball, correct?

A. The park is not big enough for hard ball.

Q. Where you have the playground, it should be moved to the other side of the Gazebo to separate the teen/young adults on basketball court with mothers and small children.

A. The more people use the space, the more voices

Q. Is there really a need for a softball field?

A. Softball and little league teams use it to practice.

Q. Whats happening with damaged trees?

**A.** Harry Webb's boss financed 10 new trees, they were planted but 3 need to be replanted because Steve Harris, the City Arborist, was not contacted beforehand.

**Q.** Will there be fencing around any other part besides the baseball field?

**A.** Fencing around the entire park will be 8'.

**Q.** What is the cost of the conceptual plan and where will the funding come from?

**A.** There was no cost analysis from the conceptual plan. The playground will be a high cost, regrading the field can be done with the equipment in the Parks Department. The Gazebo could cost 10 – 20,000 depending on what the community wants. Volunteers could build the garden beds for the community garden. The group will look into ways of raising the funds.

**Q.** Fruit trees require maintenance. Who will do this?

**A.** The community proposed the idea, hopefully the community will step up and help.

### **Presentation:** COPS Cameras: Captain Richard Shoff | *Syracuse Police Department*

Chief Fowler requested that all community groups get update on the COPS cameras. The cameras are high quality and can see 2-3 blocks away but only in the direction they are pointed. Each camera cost around \$10,000 each. Assemblyman Magnarelli has been the #1 funder for the cameras on the Northside. Ask your district Assemblyperson for funding. The cameras must be placed near 'hot spots', a library or school with wifi. They must also be daisy-chained to each other. Some of the cameras are coming to the end of their lifecycle and need to be replaced. Retired police officers have been hired to live monitor the cameras, almost 24 hours a day. There are about 140 cameras city-wide, 200 by end of summer.

**Q.** Are images stored on a computer?

**A.** Yes, for about 1 month, they are not there forever unless archived for a specific purpose.

**q.** Are cameras for crime traffic violations? Is there anything in the works for traffic speeding/running stop signs?

**A.** They are not used for traffic violations. There will be a new class of officers graduating June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 27 people, to add to the police force.

**Q.** How long do they last? Is there additional cost for maintenance?

**A.** 7-8 years old, there is one officer dedicated to maintaining the cameras.

**Q.** What are the deterrents, blue blinking light? Can you report a blue light that is out?

**A.** Just because the blue light is out does not mean the camera is not working. Contact Captain Shoff and he will take care of it. Have the Pole number and street name.

**Q.** Are there any cameras in Eastwood or proposed for Eastwood?

**A.** No, not that Captain Shoff is aware of. Contact your state representative and make the case. Chol Majok, representing Senator Valesky was able to secure a few for the Tipp Hill area.

**Q.** Would it make more sense on James St/Burnett than on side streets?

**A.** Yes, it makes more sense on higher trafficked areas.

**Q.** What was reasoning for the guy who destroyed the trees in the park?

**A.** Emotional Breakdown.

### **Committee Updates:**

Parks Committee: Mike Behnke informed the group of the successful Sunnycrest Park Association's Earth Day cleanups at Sunnycrest Park, James St and Sheridan Park. The Association teamed up with youths from Lemoyne College to assist in the efforts. There was a meeting with Steve Harris, the City Arborist, to discuss trimming the trees at Sheridan Park. One tree was planted at Sunnycrest in celebration of Earth Day. Dan Horan stressed the point of park safety as chair of the Eastwood Heights Park Association. Recently, a man drove through the park and ran over trees. Last year, a couple kids were chased through the park by a car and managed to get away. There has been discussion on the need for pedestrian friendly barriers to keep cars out of the park. Dan thanks Jeff Romano for his presentation. Hon. Maroun mentioned that last year he was able to request the Syracuse Housing to place a camera on their building. The camera faces towards Mosley and can pick up vehicles driving into the Park.

Beautification Committee: Lisa Matthews asked for volunteers to assist Steve Harris replant trees in Eastwood Heights Park on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Please call Lisa at 727-8242 if you would like to volunteer. On May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, Lisa will need help with 3 plants at 158 Mosley Drive.

### **Special Projects:**

Lisa Matthews proposed funding paint out of the remaining Special Project funds to refurbish a sculpture in Sunnycrest Park. Mike Behnke has offered to supply the labor. Jimmy Monto made the motion to accept the proposal, Mike Parzyck 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor. The total cost of the paint \$208.98. Both Nader Maroun and Mike Behnke have been in conversation with the City School district, whom have offered to redo the Obama Rain Garden sign.

### **Issues for City Department Officials**

**Q.** There is concern over the closing of Fire Station 7, as there will be an influx of buildings from SU. Will there be another Fire Station built to service the area?

**A.** Councilmember Nader Maroun stated that there was an issue with the flooring in Fire Station 7; it was not safe for the weight of the trucks in that building. It was the decision of the Mayor and the Fire Chief to close it. The response times have not been diminished as a result of the closer.

### **City-Wide Update**

Missy Zawacki reminded the group of the TNT City-wide Strategic Planning meeting on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 7:30pm. The meeting location has changed to 258 E. Adams St.

### **City-Wide Board Nominations**

Jerry Haas nominated Jimmy Monto for the delegate position. Mike Behnke nominated Lisa Matthews for the delegate position. Mike Behnke nominated David Baker for the Alternate Position. Jerry Haas nominated David Baker for the delegate position. Mike Parzyck nominated David Haas, he declined. The election for Delegate and Alternate will occur at the May meeting by ballot.

### **Announcements**

- 1) Councilmember Nader Maroun announced that there will be a public meeting in the Council Chambers on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm regarding the City Budget
- 2) Memorial Day Parade on May 29<sup>th</sup>

Jerry Haas motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9pm