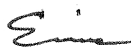


MEMORANDUM

September 2, 2010

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric S. Stuckey, City Administrator 
Eric J. Gardner, P.E., Director of Engineering
David Parker, P.E., CIP Project Executive

SUBJECT: Breezeway School – McEwen/Wilson Pike Improvement

Purpose

The purpose of the memorandum is to provide the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) with information regarding the planned roadway improvements in association with the proposed Breezeway School.

Background

On August 24, 2010, BOMA approved the Interlocal Agreement between Williamson County Board of Education (WCBE) and the City regarding the Breezeway School project as well as the rezoning of the property for the school. Various roadway improvements in conjunction with the school have been identified. In the Interlocal Agreement, WCBE will make one million dollars (\$1,000,000) available to the City to use to address traffic mitigation priorities as identified by City staff and/or as part of the school's traffic studies. There has also been suggested the possibility that the City contribute to the improvements through the approximate one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in the City's adequate facilities tax fund.

The school's traffic study identified four separate locations for roadway improvements; Wilson Pike and Clovercroft Road, Wilson Pike and McEwen Drive, Clovercroft Road at the School Access, and Wilson Pike at the one-lane railroad underpass. The WCBE is responsible for the installation of a traffic signal at the two Wilson Pike Intersections as well as the improvements on Clovercroft Road at the School Access; the costs for these are in addition to the one million dollars (\$1,000,000) that the WCBE will make available to the City.

Staff believes that the improvements at Wilson Pike and McEwen Drive will address the most traffic mitigation and have identified them as the highest priority. The traffic study identified the improvements at this intersection to include a traffic signal and a northbound left-turn lane on Wilson Pike. Staff believes that an additional eastbound left-turn lane on McEwen Drive should be included with these improvements. In order to construct the left-turn lane on McEwen a new bridge crossing the CSX railroad would be needed. The improvements will be coordinated with the City's McEwen Phase IV project to ensure that the intersection will function properly in the future and meet the City's long term needs in this location.

Staff developed a cost estimate for this intersection for discussion with the WCBE. The cost estimate was approximately \$1.75 Million and does not include the cost for design, right-of-way acquisition (if necessary) and the traffic signal (since the WCBE will be paying for and constructing). Staff will investigate costs for design and should have preliminary numbers to discuss at the September 14th Work Session. Staff will be developing a scope of work for design and will be prepared to bring a professional services agreement to BOMA as early as at the September 28th meeting to begin the design of the improvements at the Wilson Pike and McEwen Drive intersection.



The next highest priority improvement would be at the Wilson Pike and Clovercroft Road intersection. The traffic study identified the improvements at this intersection to include a traffic signal, extending the southbound left-turn lane on Wilson Pike and a westbound right-turn lane on Clovercroft Road. Staff also developed a cost estimate for this intersection. For construction only, staff has estimated the cost to be approximately \$200,000. Once again, costs for design and right-of-way acquisition would need to be determined for a total project cost.

Once design for the Wilson Pike and McEwen Drive intersection is approved by BOMA, a better cost estimate will be developed. If the City decides to contribute to the school's offsite roadway improvements above the money available from WCBE and there are funds remaining, staff would then bring a professional services agreement to BOMA for approval of the next highest priority project (Wilson Pike and Clovercroft Road).

Financial Impact

There is no direct financial impact at this time. In the future, the Board will make decisions related to roadway improvements that will commit City funds and those pledged by WCBE per the Breezeway School Inter-Local Agreement.

Recommendation

Staff recommends moving forward with the design of the improvements at the intersection of Wilson Pike and McEwen Drive.