**MPNA Meeting Minutes**

**Public Design Meeting for Area Streets (Furr Drive)**

**March 18, 2019**

Councilwoman Sandoval welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the Furr Drive Reconstruction was among the projects selected as part of the May 2017 bond. This project is going to be managed by Transportation and Capital Improvements (TCI), which is the department that oversees all of the bond projects. She introduced Richard Casiano, Capital Projects Officer, TCI, and Stephanie Phillips, Senior Historic Preservation Specialist, Office of Historic Preservation (OHP).

**TCI Presentation:**

Mr. Casiano is familiar with and has worked on other street improvement and reconstruction projects in Monticello Park and is aware of the special considerations required in a historic district. TCI has a team in place and is responsible for design, construction, and completion of this project. He introduced the members of the team, to include the engineers and consultant (Fernandez, Fraser, White and Associates). He will be our primary point of contact and can be contacted at [richard.casiano@sanantonio.gov](mailto:richard.casiano@sanantonio.gov) or 210-207-8218.

The scope of this project is to reconstruct Furr Drive from Fred Road to Kampmann, to include the street, curbs, sidewalks, ramps, and driveway approaches. The project does not include updating utilities (water/gas meters). The project timeframe is April 2019 (design completion) to January 2021 and the budget is $3.96 million. They hope to start in September 2019; however, the History Design and Review Commission (HDRC) and City Council must still approve the project. He added that since the scope of this project is more involved than the Club Drive project, it will have to be done in shorter phases. This takes a little longer. The phases have not been determined yet, so we do not yet know which blocks will go first or how traffic will be detoured. Once that is identified, we will be provided with an update.

Once work is ready to begin, the contractor and/or subcontractors will be notifying residents of upcoming work. Notification might include a flyer or face to face, but if you signed in and provided your email, email notifications will also be issued. Sufficient notice will be given so that arrangements can be made for parking. On-street parking will be very limited and/or not allowed once construction starts on a block segment (they are working in small sections per block, not an entire block at a time). On-street parking during the daytime will not be possible in the areas where work is being done; please plan accordingly. You will receive a one to two day notice before work on your driveway approach begins; please allow three to five days for your driveway approach to be completed.

Please note that easements will be disturbed – if you have trees in your easements or trees on your property with extensive root systems, some cutting or pruning may be required. TCI does have an arborist as part of the team and any cuts that are made will be properly sealed. If you have plant beds in your easements, make plans now to relocate what you want to save. Any plants that are removed during sidewalk construction will be replaced in kind. If you have a sprinkler system that is up to code, it will be reconnected. If your system is not up to code with backflow valves, it will NOT be reconnected. It is your responsibility to bring your sprinkler system up to code so please plan accordingly and don’t forget to pull any necessary permits!

Many of our properties have berms, which are a character defining feature of our neighborhood. The berms will be preserved. If anyone wants to change the slope of their property or make any changes to the berms, a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) is required. If you have a retaining wall, the wall will be preserved. No new retaining walls will be added. Again, if you want to make a change to your landscaping, a COA is required. Existing steps and handrails will also be preserved, but if possible, it is recommended that you remove and store your handrails.

Sidewalks will be raised, but will have a slight slope so that water will flow toward the street and does not pool on properties. Also, the sidewalks on Lake will be completed and will dovetail with the new Furr sidewalks.

TCI will coordinate with SAWS if a surface meter has to be moved. TCI will also be coordinating and sharing information with fire, police, and emergency services so that in the event of an emergency, the street is sufficiently accessible.

All of our properties are unique and they will not be taking a one-size-fits all approach with respect to our driveways, berms, and slopes. Issues and concerns will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Please do not forget that if you are making any changes to your property, you need to obtain the appropriate permits and certificates of appropriateness.

This project still has to be reviewed and approved by HDRC; this hearing is open to the public. There will be a follow up meeting once contractors are in place and construction is ready to begin.