

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Greenways Commission
David Tuttle, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: Recommendations Related to the Draft Central West Small Area Plan

DATE: October 23, 2013

The Greenways Commission reviewed the draft Central West Small Area Plan. In addition, the Commission reviewed and agreed with comments generated by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board. The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to recommend:

1. That the option for the Estes Drive cross section shown in Figure 3 be used with one change. We agree with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board that the bicycle path should be grade-separated and exchanged with the planting strip on each side of the road to be a protected bicycle lane (cycle track).
2. Bicycle lanes should be maintained at a five foot width in the event that limited right of way would prevent the installation of a full 10-12 feet multi-use path and a bicycle lane.
3. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board should be consulted and review the design specifications for the bicycle and pedestrian improvements on Estes Drive from Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. to the traffic light at Caswell Road throughout the process.
4. New development in the Central West Focus Area should have good network connectivity without cul-de-sacs and other discontinuities, particularly for pedestrians and bicyclists and other non-motorized modes. These new roads should emphasize safety and accessibility for non-motorized uses.
5. The plan should encourage connectivity between new greenways developed in Central West and existing greenways, such as the Bolin Creek Greenway.
6. The final plan should include pedestrian and bicycle connections to Franklin Street by way of schools, Pritchard Park and the Library.
7. The final plan should include pedestrian and bicycle connections to Estes Drive Extension and Carolina North.
8. Consider the possibility of a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. In the event that a bridge is not possible provide other options for safe crossing of the road.
9. Explore all options to use the power utility easement that runs north to south in the center of the area or other routes proximate to it.
10. Explore options to connect the Estes Drive area to the Bolin Creek trail.

Present: David Tuttle (Vice Chair), Joan Guilkey, Christopher Paul, and Robert Myers

Absent: Christine S. Berndt (Chair) and Angelica Pura *A quorum was present.*