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INFORMATION:

Wake Bus Rapid Transit – Bid Award Update – New Bern Avenue Corridor

Staff Resources: Het Patel, Transportation, 996-5120, het.patel@raleighnc.gov

Sam Brewer, Engineering Services, 996-3547, sam.brewer@raleighnc.gov

To advance implementation for the Wake Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) along the New Bern Avenue corridor, an Advertisement for Bids was posted on March 5, 2024. The initial bid opening date was extended from April 5 to May 7. Although multiple contractors attended the bid opening, no bids were received for the project. Staff from the Transportation and Engineering Services departments have collected feedback from interested contractors and peer transit agencies working on BRT projects. Below is a summary of the feedback received and the anticipated schedule to re-advertise construction for the New Bern Avenue BRT project.

Summary of Feedback Received from Contractors and Peer Transit Agencies

Based on communication with more than a dozen transit agencies and contractors who have either shown interest in our BRT project or constructed similar projects in other localities, we determined several factors

which had a wide consensus.

- o Schedule – the original contract time of two years was universally viewed as insufficient to complete the scope of work. The following were the primary drivers.
 - Public Utilities - Improvements which are part of our construction plan are significant and complex due to the urban traffic patterns. These mostly underground activities are estimated by private contractors to take up to two years and are precursors to much of the roadway construction work.
 - Private utility clearance in the public right-of-way - Major private utility contractors are still working in the project limits to relocate their facilities. Although a significant amount of this work has been completed, contractors are still wary of the potential risk for delays present with any remaining utility relocation work.
 - Traffic Control & Management – Due to the project location in and near downtown, a significant portion of the project requires performing work in existing traffic lanes with daily lane closures/reopening's of immediately adjacent lanes. Available working hours are limited due to daily lane closure restrictions during rush hours and school begin/end times. This negatively impacts the productivity capacity of the contractor.
 - Several contractors offered four (4) years as a preferred duration. Staff believes a period of 3.5 years for the total project completion is a reasonable allowance. In an effort to minimize impacts to the community and meet the transit plan goals of service provision, and based on positive feedback of the tool's effectiveness, we are adding incentives to the package for accelerating the project completion time up to one year early which would mean a potential 2.5-year construction period and completion.
- o Scope – The size and nature of the project made this an imposing challenge to approach for most contractors.
 - Most contractors would prefer to be able to focus on their construction specialty, either the horizontal roadway elements or the vertical building elements (BRT transit stations) to ensure they will be successful.
 - Conversations with peer agencies that split the horizontal linear components from vertical station components received favorable responses for both advertisements.

Anticipated Schedule for Re-Advertisement of Construction

Based on the feedback received, staff has devised an approach to split the construction advertisement for the project into two key components: horizontal linear construction of the project elements (dedicated lanes, utilities, drainage, multi-use path) and vertical components (BRT transit stations). The horizontal linear construction of the project includes majority of the work driving the construction schedule, uncertainty and risks identified. The construction schedule for horizontal linear component has been extended to 3.5 years with potential daily incentives to complete the work within 2.5 years. The construction schedule for the vertical components has been identified as 2.5 years and will be staggered to allow coordination and schedule overlap/efficiencies with the contractor working on the horizontal linear components. The summary table below illustrates the anticipated re-advertisement for project activities:

Activity	Horizontal Linear Construction	Vertical Stations Construction
Advertisement	Mid/late August 2024	March 2025
Bid Opening	Mid/late October 2024	May 2025
Begin Construction	February 2025	September 2025
End Construction	August 2028	March 2028

(No attachment)

Weekly Digest of Special Events

Staff Resource: Sarah Heinsohn, Office of Special Events, 996-2200, sarah.heinsohn@raleighnc.gov.

Included with the *Update* materials is the special events digest for the upcoming week.

(Attachment)

Council Member Follow Up Items

Follow Up from the July 2 Public Comment Session

Zoning Enforcement Action - 5009 Pine Drive (Mayor Baldwin)

Staff Resource: Keegan McDonald, Planning and Development, 996-4630, keegan.mcdonald@raleighnc.gov

During the meeting, the resident and property owner of the vacant lot at 6949 Smith Court spoke to Council requesting permission to allow a RV on the lot to be used as a semi-permanent dwelling. The following details the timeline of prior actions taken with the property and next steps moving forward:

On May 30, Zoning Enforcement staff visited 5009 Pine Drive after receiving a complaint that two Recreational Vehicles (RVs) were being stored on a vacant lot (6949 Smith Court) behind the subject property and that both vehicles were being used as dwellings.

The Zoning Enforcement Officer spoke with someone at the subject property who then connected him via telephone with the property owner of 6929 Smith Court and 5009 Pine Drive. The Officer explained to the property owner that pursuant to Section 6.7.1.B. of the Unified Development Ordinance, no accessory use or structure may be established on a lot before establishing a permitted principal use. He also noted that RVs do not meet the City's minimum housing code and, therefore, cannot be used for permanent habitation. While the Officer did not have a good vantage point to take a photo and was not granted permission to access the property, the property owner confirmed the presence of the RVs and that people were using them as dwellings.

In addition to this telephone conversation, Planning and Development staff met with the property owner at One Exchange Plaza to further explain the violation and provide a printed copy of the specific UDO Section.

The Officer issued an initial Notice of Violation on June 11, 2024, with a compliance date of July 11, 2024. Due to a typographical error, the Officer reissued a Notice of Violation on June 26, 2024, extending the compliance date to July 26, 2024. The staff then granted an additional time extension to August 26, 2024.

To achieve compliance, the property owner must remove the RVs from the vacant property and ensure they are not used as dwellings. The RVs may be stored in the rear yard of a property with a principal structure and/or use, such as 5009 Pine Drive.

If the property owner does not comply within the specified time period nor contact the City to extend the compliance date further, they will incur an initial fine of \$100.00, an administrative fee of \$100.00, continuing penalties of \$500.00 per day, and other enforcement action, including, but not limited to, commencement of legal action and injunctive relief.

Alternatively, the property owner may also appeal the Notice of Violation to the Board of Adjustment by July 26, 2024.

(No Attachment)

Weekly Events Digest

Friday, July 12 – Thursday, July 18

City of Raleigh Office of Special Events
specialevents@raleighnc.gov | 919-996-2200 | raleighnc.gov/special-events-office

Permitted Special Events

[Runologie Track Club 5K](#)

St. Augustine's University & Surrounding Streets

Saturday, July 13

Event Time: 9:00am - 10:00am

Associated Road Closures: The 5K route will be closed from 8:50am until 10:00am; note that all cross-streets will be detoured during the event. [View the 5K route map](#) for more details.

[Raleigh's Summer Festival](#)

City Plaza

Saturday, July 13

Event Time: 11:00am - 8:00pm

Associated Road Closures: Fayetteville Street between Davie Street and the south end of City Plaza will be closed from 6:00am until 11:30pm.

Other Upcoming Events

[Sebastian Maniscalco](#)

Friday, July 12

PNC Arena

[Kidz Bop Live 2024](#)

Friday, July 12

Coastal Credit Union Music Park at Walnut Creek

[Fall Athletics Signing Day Event](#)

Saturday, July 13

Baileywick Park

[Birdwatching](#)

Saturday, July 13

Flowers Cottage at Dix Park

[Totally Tubular Festival – 80's New Wave Tour](#)

Saturday, July 13

Red Hat Amphitheater

[Sunflower Soiree](#)

Saturday, July 13

Sunflower Field at Dix Park

[Alice Gerrard's 90th Birthday Celebration – Pinecone](#)

Saturday, July 13

Fletcher Opera Theater

[Body and Soul: The Intimate Experience of Civil War Soldiers](#)

Saturday, July 13

City of Raleigh Museum

Dream Moore Market

Sunday, July 14
Moore Square

Self Care Sunday: Sound Bath

Sunday, July 14
The Chapel at Dix Park

O.A.R. with Fitz and the Tantrums & DJ Logic

Tuesday, July 16
Red Hat Amphitheater

Wake County Public Library Pop-up

Tuesday, July 16
Outdoor Classroom at Dix Park

Tarboro Road Park Redevelopment Drop-In Design Workshop

Tuesday, July 16
Tarboro Road Park

Arts on the Hill – Photography Workshop

Wednesday, July 17
Outdoor Classroom at Dix Park

Senior Bingo

Thursday, July 18
John P. "Top" Greene Community Center

Public Resources

Event Feedback Form: Tell us what you think about Raleigh events! We welcome feedback and encourage you to provide comments or concerns about any events regulated by the Office of Special Events. We will use this helpful information in future planning.

Road Closure and Road Race Map: A resource providing current information on street closures in Raleigh.

Online Events Calendar: View all currently scheduled events that impact city streets, public plazas, and Dorothea Dix Park.