



9/29/2016 Big Springs Egress Design Team Meeting Notes

Attendees: Alisha Reis (Town Administrator and Big Springs resident), Charles Wood (Town Trustee), Randy Lee (egress proposal author), Chris Pelletier (Public Works Director), Joel Price (JVA Consulting Engineers), Alice and Paul Bosma (Big Springs residents), Dallas Masters (Town Trustee), Russ Fillipello and Tania Corvalan (Big Springs residents) and Steve Williams (Planning Commission and Big Springs resident).

This was the inaugural meeting of the design team. Its purpose was to inform members about where the project stands in the overall process of approval, design and construction and make clear the role of the team.

Alisha said that the County Commissioners had granted conditional approval for an easement across County open space property for the purpose of constructing the egress road; the team's job is to provide input on the road's design. (The Town has proposed two separate egress routes, but the Team's focus will be on the route leading from Doe Trail to Magnolia Road, at least for now). Conditions imposed by the Commissioners include minimizing impacts to the riparian area and wildlife.

Questions were asked about project funding and parallel planning processes. Funding, particularly for construction, is TBD, with the Town hoping to obtain grant assistance, perhaps from DOLA and/or GOCO, and also that the County and Forest Service will kick in resources. The Town, County and Forest Service are each engaged in analyses of the project. The County is working on defining the property easement and defining design requirements. The Forest Service is evaluating the proposal as part of its Forsythe II project; the latest estimate is for the Environmental Assessment (EA) and a Draft Decision to be issued in November, to be followed by an objection period and final decision. The Town's responsibility is to design the egress road; once a conceptual design is complete, the Town and County will work together to finalize construction plans. The Forest Service will presumably join the discussion once its EA is final.

The Town's on-call engineering firm is JVA Consulting Engineers, represented at the meeting by Joel Price. Joel described JVA's initial role as developing a conceptual design that builds upon Lex Ivey's LiDAR modeling (which staff made available on the Town website). The conceptual engineering design will include grading requirements, potential rock issues, drainage and erosion control, identification of potentially sensitive areas, wetland mitigation and estimated construction costs, and will illustrate in detail typical sections of the route.

To a question of what the decision making process would be, Alisha responded that the Team would attempt to arrive at a general consensus.

The next step will be a field trip to walk the proposed Doe Trail route, sometime within the next two weeks; Alisha will issue a Doodle Poll soon to schedule. The next team meeting will be in about a month, once some additional information is available, such as the potential draft concept plan for first review.