

Speidel, Marn

From: Storer, John
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 12:56 PM
To: Ronan O'Doherty; Transportation Advisory Commission - All
Cc: Mavrogeorge, Kenneth; Parker, Christopher
Subject: RE: Stark Ave, Dover Pt. Rd. sidewalk to Pointe Place?
Attachments: Sidewalk - Dover Pt.pdf

Mr. O'Doherty,

I thought I would reach out on behalf of the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) to explain some previous considerations of the City's Capital Improvement Programs (CIP).

There had been consideration of new sidewalks as you noted, and it occurred as recently as last year as part of the long-term, proposed CIP. Attached is a project summary sheet, that while included for consideration in the FY23 CIP, was proposed for implementation out in FY28. But unfortunately, the City was struggling with debt-issuance and other competing, priority infrastructure needs such that the sidewalks were pulled from the proposed FY24 CIP. If it helps, you should be able to find links to all the recent City CIP's.

[https://publicrecords.dover.nh.gov/public/1/deptnum/3/cab/Financial Information?index=document_type&desc=1&autosearch=Capital%20Improvements%20Program](https://publicrecords.dover.nh.gov/public/1/deptnum/3/cab/Financial%20Information?index=document_type&desc=1&autosearch=Capital%20Improvements%20Program)

New sidewalks have to compete for very limited CIP funds with other infrastructure General Fund priorities like bridge maintenance, street reconstructions, and drainage issues. These would all have to be funded via the City's General Fund. During the last CIP consideration process, Engineering staff identified something like 80 different projects totaling well over \$150 million. Ultimately, the recommended projects have to be culled down to an annual general fund debt issuance that is somewhere in the ballpark of only \$4 million annually. That causes numerous projects to be ranked and compared due to urgency & safety. To put things into context, while new sidewalks are recognized as a benefit, we still have a City bridge that is on the State's Red-List as needing urgent attention, we also have antiquated storm drainage pipes that need replacement and we are still dealing with somewhat regular flooding events in the Park, Ham, and Ela neighborhoods. Essentially we have more needs and requests that can be funded.

But new sidewalks can find their way into the CIP. I should note in the last 4 or 5 years the City had 2 fairly substantial new sidewalk projects. This past summer we just completed installation of sidewalks along Whittier Street, between Glenwood and 6th Street. And perhaps 4 years ago or so, new sidewalks were added on Spruce Lane, essentially from Mast Road down to Back River Road.

I think citizen advocacy certainly helps put a priority and focus on projects. But unfortunately, I can share that the proposed CIP that will be presented for FY25, does not include funding for sidewalks as you have suggested. I believe the City Council and Planning Board will see an initial DRAFT of the FY25 CIP at a joint meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 29. If you watch the City website, there should be links and notices posted for the meeting, and to also access the proposed CIP, as soon as its finalized and available for review.

Realize this may be disappointing, but hopefully it helps explain some of the infrastructure challenges the City is facing. Please let me know if you have any follow up questions or concerns.

Best regards,

John Storer
Director of Community Services

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From: Ronan O'Doherty <ronan749@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 7:00 AM

To: Transportation Advisory Commission - All <TransportationAdvisoryCommission-All@dover.nh.gov>

Subject: Stark Ave, Dover Pt. Rd. sidewalk to Pointe Place?

Security Notice: External sender. Use caution with hyperlinks or attachments.

Good morning all,

I live at Elliot Park here in Dover since 2000 & during my commute on Dover Pt. down through the years I have seen my fair share of near misses between walkers, runners and cyclists and motor vehicles of all shapes and sizes.

Since the Pointe Place development started, I have seen a huge increase in near misses as more folks are out and about on the hard shoulders, connecting to the Middlebrook/Hawthorne Rd. neighborhoods or the Stark Ave. sidewalks

I am curious if there has been any discussions regarding a sidewalk on the northbound side of Dover Pt. road connecting the Stark Ave sidewalks via a crosswalk in the vicinity of Cowlicks?

It would also aid in traffic calming, as the traffic count & speeds aren't going down either...

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Regards,

Ronan (603) 512-0215 - mobile

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