



City of Dublin

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# Memo

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**To:** Members of Dublin City Council

**From:** Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager

**Date:** April 7, 2016

**Initiated By:** Vincent A. Papsidero, FAICP, Planning Director  
Devayani Puranik, Planner II

**Re: Bright Road Area Plan Update- Info Only**

## Background

In August 2015, the City of Dublin initiated an update to the Bright Road Area Plan. The last major update to this area plan occurred in 2007, with minor technical revisions completed in 2013. MKSK are the consultants assisting Staff with this project.

On January 21, 2016, project updates were presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Residents in attendance also expressed their concerns, primarily focusing on traffic. The Commission asked staff to further investigate traffic issues related to the plan recommendations prior to concluding the process.

This Memo summarizes the planning process to date and the next steps for Area Plan Update.

## Planning Process

### *Public Input Meetings and Surveys Schedule*

- Kick-off Meeting - Core Group (August 25, 2015)
  - Core group includes staff representatives from Planning, Engineering, Building Departments and two Citizen/ Resident representatives.
- Meeting with Dublin City Schools (September 23, 2015)
- Public Workshop I Process
  - Core Group (October 10, 2015)

- Public Workshop I- (October 27, 2015)
- Staff Workshop I- (November 4, 2015)
- Online Public Survey I (November- December, 2015)
- Public Workshop II Process
  - Core Group (November 25, 2015)
  - Public Workshop II- (December 9, 2015)
  - Staff Workshop II- (January 15, 2015)
  - Online Public Survey II (December- January, 2015)
- Planning and Zoning Commission briefing - (January 21, 2016)

To date, the planning process has completed the first two planning tasks: (1) the analysis of existing conditions to create a baseline understanding of how development and infrastructure conditions have changed since the 2013 update, and (2) the presentation of the draft plan concepts, intended for review by the public and refinement. All material prepared for this project has been posted on the city website, including online engagement with the public (survey questions).

### **Next Steps**

The input received through the community workshops, the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, and online engagement effort will be used to refine the draft concepts for the Bright Road Area Plan Update.

As a first step to understand the impact of the proposed land uses, Engineering staff is preparing a traffic comparison for trip generation between the 2013 Future Land Use Map and proposed changes to the Future Land Use Map.

At the same time, Engineering has been working with the City of Columbus to define a scope for undertaking a transportation study of the Sawmill Corridor. This effort is occurring at an opportune time, given the concerns raised before the Planning and Zoning Commission. The transportation study will evaluate the complex nature of roadways, traffic, and associated congestion along Sawmill Road, focusing from SR 161 to the south to Hard Road to the north. The current scope of the study relevant to the Bright Road area includes:

- Studying traffic conditions at busy intersections along Sawmill Road (Snouffer, I-270, Billingsley Road, and Bright Road) and possible alternatives, where appropriate;
- Examining options for Sawmill Road (Example - a potential connection between Emerald Parkway and Bridge Street District over I-270); and,
- Widening of Bright Road between the Emerald Parkway roundabout to the west and Sawmill Road to the east.

CH2M Hill is the consultant for this joint project. The project kick-off is tentatively scheduled for end of April, 2016. A public meeting will be scheduled to provide updates on study progress and receive input.

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Responding to resident concerns and Planning and Zoning Commission input, the proposed land use recommendations for the Bright Road Area Plan update will be re-evaluated based on the recommendations of this transportation study. The transportation study is an essential component informing the proposed land uses. Staff is recommending that the Bright Road Area Plan update be resumed after the completion of the transportation study for uniform, sustainable, and informed land use planning. The land uses contained in the City's current Community Plan will serve as the basis for projected traffic in the study.

City staff will send periodic updates to the area residents regarding the Bright Road Area Plan update process and transportation study progress. Additional public meetings will be hosted to complete the future land use plan based on the transportation study recommendations.

At that time, the plan will be brought back to the Planning and Zoning Commission for consideration.

**Recommendation**

Information Only.