



Community Services Advisory Commission
May 10, 2022
Minutes

Commission Members: Present: Vivek Arunachalam, Elizabeth McClain, Dee Kanonchoff, Steve Dritz, Rex Pryor, Hong Qiu, Vicki Von Sadovszky

Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Matt Earman, Director of Parks & Recreation
Jay Anderson, Director of Public Service
Emily Goliver, Management Analyst DCM/COO
Chris Nicol, Operations Administrator

I. Call to Order

Mr. Arunachalam established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

Mr. Arunachalam mentioned that last week a runner in Dublin was hit by a car and lost his life. Not all of the details have been released, but Mr. Arunachalam asked if the City has discussed how to prevent this from happening in the future or if there are any safety procedures the City can put in to place to prevent this from occurring again.

Mr. Earman said he is not aware of anything the City is doing, as far as messaging goes for safety and typical etiquette, but he said it is possible that will follow in the near future.

Mr. Arunachalam asked Mr. Earman if he would follow-up and keep the commission informed.

Ms. Qiu commented that she is very aware of the story because her husband is a part of the same running group. It was a very sad situation and the running group had a memorial service for the runner. Ms. Qiu continued that she believed he was running south on Avery Road, which is the side of the road where there is no sidewalk, and he was running in the road. This brings up a very good point, to which she believes the City is doing great and provides multi-use paths for residents to run, walk and bike on. It is always a good idea to review policies and etiquette to see if there is any communication the City can improve to reduce any future tragedies from happening.

Mr. Earman said to Ms. Qiu's point, the City does have more than 130 miles of shared-use paths for that purpose. He realizes it is a choice that people want to run in different places and areas where there are gaps and voids in the path system. The City does have studies that identify areas

that need paths and the City does program them into the capital budget as the City can afford to do so, and as they are a priority. Certainly, safety is a priority.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the April 12th meeting were distributed for review via email. Mr. Arunachalam asked if anyone had any changes to the meeting minutes. Ms. Von Sadovszky made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. McClain seconded the motion. All in favor, the April meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Election of Chair and Vice – Chair

Mr. Arunachalam asked for nominations for Chair. Mr. Dritz nominated Ms. McClain for Chair. Ms. Kanonchoff seconded the motion. All were in favor. Ms. McClain accepted.

Mr. Arunachalam called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Ms. Kanonchoff nominated Ms. Qiu for Vice-Chair. Mr. Dritz seconded the motion. All were in favor of the nomination and Ms. Qiu accepted. Mr. Arunachalam then turned the meeting over to Ms. McClain.

V. Shared-Use Path Snow Plowing Overview and Priorities – Jay Anderson

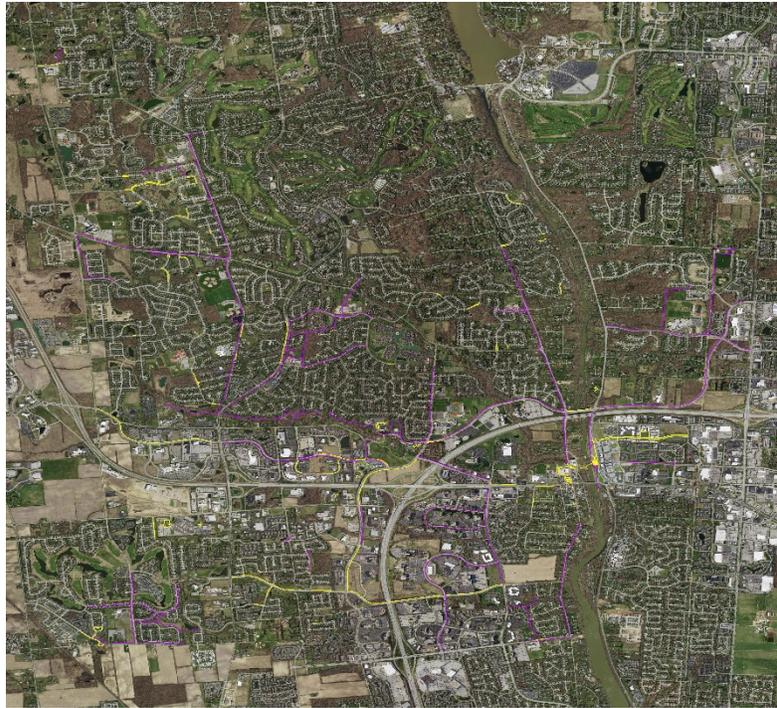
Mr. Jay Anderson, Director of Public Service introduced himself, as well as Mr. Chris Nicol, Parks Operations Administrator. Mr. Anderson said he was in attendance to discuss shared-use paths and sidewalk snow removal. Although it is a beautiful 80 degree day outside, snow removal is a constant process the City is reviewing. Staff is eager to hear any input or suggestion that this commission may have.

Mr. Anderson said within the City of Dublin, the Parks Operations work unit is currently removing snow on approximately 49.3 miles sidewalks and paths per snow event. This includes the following:

- Shared-use paths – 32.9 miles
- Sidewalks – 14.9
- City buildings sidewalks- 1.5 miles

Mr. Anderson continued to say that this is quite an undertaking for an average of 22 employees when fully staffed. Public Service does typically lose some of our parks staffing to help with street plowing for snow removal as well.

Mr. Anderson shared an overview map of the areas the City currently performs snow removal on for shared-use paths (highlighted in purple) and sidewalks (highlighted in yellow). This snow removal is completed by the Parks Operations staff.



Mr. Anderson highlighted some of the history of shared-use path priorities as it pertains to snow removal:

- Routes are reviewed annually to see if any changes need to be made
- Priorities continue to be routes of ingress/egress to the schools
- Other paths are cleared to provide access to COTA lines
- Once all priorities are completed, crew are dispatched to open up recreational paths in our larger community park areas such as Coffman/Indian Run, Avery and Emerald Fields

Mr. Anderson briefly discussed some of the responsibilities of parks staff, which include:

- All City buildings and parking lots
- Historic Dublin City owned property frontage and City parking lots within the District
- Riverside Crossing Park/Dublin Link Bridge
- John Shields Parkway
- Shared-use paths with ingress and egress to Dublin and (one) Hilliard City Schools
- Shared-use paths in select parks for recreation usage
- All sidewalks that border City property

Mr. Anderson provided a snapshot of the current staffing within the Parks Operations work unit. There is 24 hour coverage provided just as there is in our street snow removal operations. Our crew supervisors are working crew supervisors and they are out clearing with our maintenance staff.

Two shifts AM/PM

- 11 Employees on AM shift
- 10 Employees on PM shift
- 3 Bike Path routes
- 2 Building routes
- 1 Parking lot route
- 1 Downtown route

AM Shift

- 3 Crew Supervisors
- 8 FT Employees

PM Shift

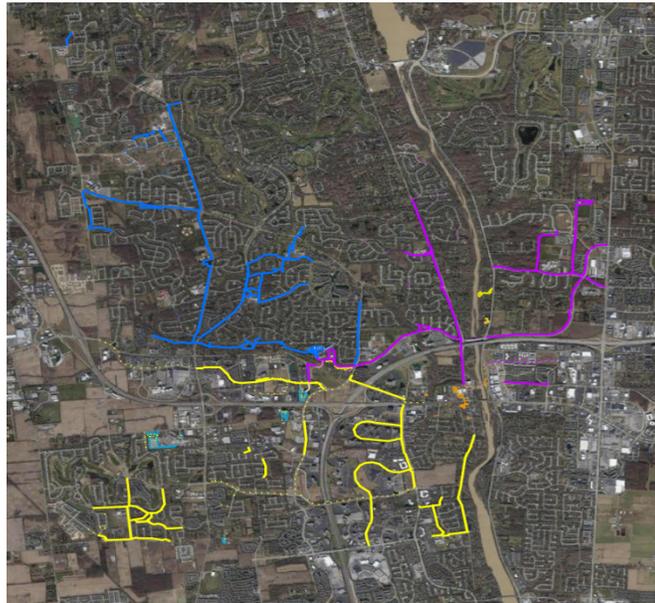
- 2 Crew Supervisors
- 8 FT Employees

* 2 Horticulture Assistants canvassed in on the PM shift for the snow season.

Mr. Anderson shared the different types of equipment allocated for snow removal what they are used for when handling snow removal for shared-use paths and sidewalks.

- 4 Polar Tracks
- 3 Snowrators
- 2 ATV's
- 1 Ventrac with turbine blower
- 1 Stand on mower with plow
- 1 Case Tractor w/push box
- 1 Skidsteer w/push box
- 5 1Ton Dumps w/plows
- 1 2Ton Dump w/plow
- 1 1Ton Pick-up w/v-plow

Mr. Anderson also shared a map broken out by zones for sidewalk and shared-use path removal.



Mr. Anderson said one of the reason's he is discussing snow removal tonight, is because staff is seeking feedback from the commission on additional snow removal services in areas to create

opportunity for winter activity loops. This provides residents the opportunity to still get out in the winter and do a four-mile walk or run. In the winter, residents are cooped up in the house and one of the calls our staff get often in the winter is residents asking for the City to clear the shared-use paths so they can get out and exercise. Staff feels that by adding these additional path miles we could accomplish this for the residents. The 3.4 miles staff is proposing to clear for these winter activity loop connections are:

- Brand Road – 2.45 miles
- Coffman Road - .20 miles
- Riverside Drive (future) - .75 miles

Mr. Anderson shared a map of the City that is called a “heat map”, it shows where the hotter areas are including the red, and yellow areas are where the highest density of the population is. Therefore, if you look on this map, it also shows where the four proposed loops are based on the population.

Mr. Anderson noted a few things to keep in mind during larger snow events:

- Snow events over six inches tend to significantly increase the magnitude of the workload
- In these events shared-use paths are placed on a lower priority as the City roads and certain City buildings become the primary focus of all snow removal staff
- Once crews do return back to shared-use paths routes, only priority routes are cleared due to the amount of time and equipment needed to perform the work
- With more snow and with the amount of paths we clear, the harder it is to tell where the paths are and more damage can be done to the turf around the paths since it is sometimes hard to tell where the paths are

Mr. Anderson further explained the proposed snow removal to make the connections on the four loops

- Loop 1 – 5.77 mile loop
- Loop 2 – 3.4 mile loop
- Loop 3 – 3 mile loop (this is pending the connection of Riverside Drive)
- Loop 4 – 5.5 mile loop

Mr. Dritz asked if the shared-use path in the Bridge Park area is a part of the current snow removal process.

Mr. Anderson replied the shared-use path in the Bridge Park area is currently being cleared as a part of the current process.

Ms. Qiu asked if the “potential new shared-use path plowing loops” map is available online.

Mr. Anderson said this map was created for this presentation, so it is not available online. There is a map available on the City’s GIS website that shows the snow layers. If you select the “non-street snow events” on the GIS mapping, current snow removal areas on shared-use paths can be viewed.

Ms. Qiu asked if the staff that handles the snow removal on the shared-use paths and sidewalks also handles the snow removal of the City streets.

Mr. Anderson replied that there are two different snow removal efforts going on at the same time. There are designated staff that handle strictly snow removal. Sometimes the parks staff will help with snow removal if there is not enough staffing to handle the City street snow removal process. The City has a process called "snow canvassing" and this is where we canvas all of the routes for street snow removal before the season begins. Currently we have 22 routes, which need to be staffed by 44 employees to handle the a.m. and p.m. shifts. Should there be openings on these routes after the streets employees choose their routes, then the parks staff have the option to canvas a snow route (as long as they have been properly trained for street snow removal). So the availability of staff in our parks work unit can fluctuate based on the staffing levels of the streets staff.

Ms. Qiu noticed that on one of the slides it referenced horticulture staff. She asked what the horticulture staff normally do in the winter during snow removal.

Mr. Anderson said once the streets canvassing has taken place and we know how many parks employees have requested to handle streets snow removal, then we need to determine how many vacancies there are for shared-use path/sidewalk snow removal. At that point, snow removal will be opened up to our forestry and horticulture staff to help with snow removal. Our forestry and horticulture staff also help with our ice rink and sledding hill in the winter.

Mr. Dritz asked if the street snow removal is parallel to path snow removal or if it is sequential.

Mr. Anderson replied that all staff is handling snow removal at the same time. During the start of a snow removal streets staff will be completing the street snow removal. At the same time our parks staff will start on City buildings such as the Justice Center and Dublin Community Recreation Center, along with downtown Historic Dublin areas staff are responsible for. Once these areas are cleared, which are considered priority one removal, staff will then move on to the priority two areas, which include the shared-use paths. Depending on the amount of snow, staff may be going back and forth between building sidewalks and shared-used paths.

Ms. Kanonchoff asked if the City does any type of pre-treatment prior to the snowstorm.

Mr. Anderson said the City tries to do as much pre-treatment as possible and brined the streets. Staff will focus on intersections, hills and areas with curves. The City is looking to expand our pre-treatment operations and looking at new equipment that staff can use on our plow trucks to pre-treat. Currently there are only a few trucks that are set-up to pre-treat. Staff would like to have all of our fleet setup to be able to pre-treat prior to the snow.

Ms. McClain commended the City staff for their snow removal efforts, especially along her court, which is irrelevant to most of Dublin. She thanked staff for taking care of the paths in their area also so the kids can get to school and the joggers can get out and exercise.

Ms. Qiu also wanted to commend staff on their outstanding commitment to taking care of our parks and the path system. Ms. Qiu also inquired about how much money the City spends on path clearing annually.

Mr. Anderson said every year this can change based on the type of weather and how much snow we get every year. For this past year, the City had 11 snow events and staff spent 665 hours clearing the paths. The City spent \$21,000 in labor, \$9,600 on equipment and \$2,000 was spent on materials for a total of \$33,575. Again, that can vary quite drastically based on the weather. Overall, we had a mild winter this year, except the major ice storm that caused staff some challenges.

Mr. Nicol also commented that the material cost might seem a little bit low. On the multi-use paths staff uses the same road salt that the City uses for street snow removal, so that cost is probably included in the street snow removal cost and not completely identified within the parks costs. The materials cost that Mr. Anderson was referring to was mostly the bagged material that parks staff uses on the sidewalks and the pavers downtown.

Mr. Pryor referred back to the information regarding the staffing and equipment costs. He asked if the City adds these extra miles of plowed paths, will there be a need for additional staffing or capital equipment costs.

Mr. Anderson said the proposed paving areas would not require any additional staffing to be funded. It will just take a little longer for plowing in order to complete these loops. Mr. Anderson also commented that the City does have some aging equipment, such as our Polar Trac that were purchased in 2008, so we are working through the capital process for some replacements of aging equipment, but there are no requests for additional equipment.

Mr. Dritz said he lives in the Woods of Indian Run behind Coffman High School. There is a walkway between the fence and a home just north of the school and that feeds right into the school sidewalk. He asked if that portion of path is a part of the City's plowing plan since it is an ingress/egress.

Mr. Nicol said the portion of the path that Mr. Dritz is referring to is not included in staff's plowing. City staff plows the sidewalks from the parking lot in Coffman Park where students park. The path that goes through the woods is not included. Mr. Nicol said he would check with Dublin City Schools to see if they do any path clearing around that area. The path runs through the pre-school area, so that would be something that the School's would probably clear.

Mr. Dritz clarified that he is referring to the path that is in the Woods of Indian Run wooded area that butts up to the fence of the stadium and feeds right into the school. The high school does a good job of plowing the sidewalk that goes right to that path.

Mr. Nicol said it is not an area that has been requested, so it is not a part of our path clearing, but it is certainly something staff can look at or we can chat with the schools to see if they can extend their plowing a little bit to include that part of the multi-use path. Mr. Nicol said staff tries to work with the schools as much as possible to coordinate areas that connect to the schools. Sometimes we are able to help them out and this may be an area where they can help us out. Mr. Nicol said he would look further into this area.

Ms. McClain wanted to confirm that the recommendation staff has is to expand the shared-use path plowing to include these additional recreation loops following snow events.

Mr. Anderson said that is correct.

Ms. McClain asked the commission if there is motion to take this recommendation to the next steps.

Mr. Dritz moved to approve the recommendation of City staff to expand the plowing of the shared-use paths to include the additional loops as proposed. Mr. Pryor seconded the motion and the commission unanimously approved it.

Mr. Anderson thanked the commission for their time this evening. If anyone should have any additional feedback or suggestions, please feel free to let staff know.

VI. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Stakeholder Engagement – Matt Earman

Mr. Earman thanked the commission for allowing staff to bring the Parks & Recreation Master Plan (PRMP) back. This commission was involved with the preview PRMP review and implementation and the process by which staff has gone through for the selection of a new firm to help guide us through the update of the PRMP. We have talked about PROS Consulting which is the firm we have selected. PROS Consulting has tremendous experience in the development of these plans to the similar scope that we have here in the City of Dublin. They have worked nationally, internationally and certainly regionally. They are very aware of the Midwest and certainly the Ohio region and the municipalities that border the central Ohio region. We are very excited to have them on board. Mr. Earman continued to say since the City has gotten PROS Consulting on board, we have initiated the kick-off meeting and are in the process of exercising the stakeholder and focus group meetings as a part of the public engagement process. Tonight staff has invited PROS Consulting to this meeting as having this commission service as the first focus group. Mr. Earman introduced Leon Younger from PROS Consulting. Mr. Younger has been with PROS Consulting for quite some time and we are very fortunate to have him working with us going forward. Mr. Earman turned the discussion over to Mr. Younger.

Mr. Younger explained that wanted to put together an outstanding master plan for the City of Dublin. The master plan focuses on land, facilities, operations, staffing, marketing, programming

and finances. It looks at all of the different aspects of the parks system. It is a guide that helps in planning for a 5-10 year focus.

Mr. Younger shared with the commission what the focus is for PROS Consulting. PROS works off a Community Values Model, which looks at these six factors in terms of what people, consider being the mandate of the parks system.

Community Values Model - Holistic Approach

Community Mandates/ Priorities

Safety & Health/Wellness
Mandatory elements for Facilities, Programs, & Services
Principles of Community



Financial/ Revenue



Funding Mechanisms to Support Operations & Capital

Standards



Programs & Facilities
Maintenance & Operations
Land & Open Space

Partnerships

Public/ Public
Public/ Not-for-Profit
Public/ Private



Levels of Service

Levels of Service Delivery
Core Services
Role in Delivery vs. Other Service Providers



Governance/Organization



Design/ Align Organization to Support Vision and Values to Community

Mr. Younger shared some of the key components of the City's Master Plan and the process we will need to go through to get it updated.



Mr. Qiu asked how the key stakeholders are identified. She also asked what the goal is as far as how many surveys will be collected.

Mr. Younger said we need 500 surveys completed to be statistically valid, but we usually end up getting 700 – 800 when we do a statically valid survey. So we will mail out 3,500 to get about 700-800 back. We also do an online survey and we typically get between 1500 – 2000 households that respond. Once all the surveys are completed, they will be compared to see how closely they match up in comparison.

Ms. Qiu asked if Mr. Younger could further explain what information would be collected as it pertains to climate change.

Mr. Younger replied that the City has asked for this information, so it will address any environmental elements that could be an impact on the City. OHM, which is the landscape group we will be working with, will be handling that portion of the plan.

Mr. Earman added that this is one of the items that was suggested through our public input sessions with this commission, to be added to the plan. Mr. Earman continued to say it is a valid suggestion. There are certain measurements that we can look at throughout the City such as river levels, rainfall levels, growing factors, wildlife habits and so forth. These measurements can really provide an indication if there is an influence on the climate change, how is that changing our environment and the natural habitat. It is not going to be such an in depth study, but we are only going to look at the primary factors that might be affected by climate change and what staff might do to mitigate that.

Mr. Younger engaged everyone in some discussion and asked questions of the commission members. First he asked “What are some of the key outcomes that you would like to see come out of this plan?” Mr. Earman also added, “If you had one dream, if there was one amenity, one program or one park that could truly change Dublin as a community of choice, what it would be?”

Some of the responses are as follows:

- For all parks to be accessible to all people, being of able body or disabled versus having targeted areas within certain parks
- To have a City with enough green space and natural resources. To be very mindful of sustainability and many aspects of life
- Accessibility and the range of accessibility not only for physically disabled, but also for hearing impaired. That would set the City above a lot of other organizations
- Due to the amount of diversity of ethnicity, different options such as a dedicated park for Cricket
- Complete park connection without having to use a car.
- Public transit between key areas/parks within the City
- Enhance the rich cultural history that we have in Dublin into our parks system
- Different modes of transportation and availability of shared-used paths and tying it all together for safe mobility in connection between parks

Mr. Younger also asked, “What is one of the biggest issues that you hear residents talk about that could be solved in this plan?”

Some issues are as follows:

- Running out of recreational space within the City to eat (have picnics) and enjoy specific amenities
- Network of trails connecting the parks without having to use the roads

Mr. Younger asked “What is an amenity you have seen anywhere around the world that you think would be a great amenity to have in Dublin?”

Some of the amenities suggested are as follows:

- A park with wood carvings of birds for the visually impaired
- Campgrounds
- Kayak launches/viable areas for kayaking
- Destination arboretum
- Expansion of art in our parks
- Swim lanes with water ways (not to be disturbed by boat traffic)
- Kayaking – offer bucket to take on the river and if bucket is filled with trash/debris than kayaking fees would be free/discounted
- Trash burning plant with winter ski slope option (probably not practical in Dublin, but cool idea)
- Phone app to track miles within Dublin path system
- Forest Preserve System – which includes educational buildings and educational events
- Parks more environmentally friendly - increase recycling at minimal cost
- Esports capacity for the younger generation

Mr. Younger thanked the commission for providing input/feedback. We will continue to collect information from public input sessions and stakeholders. We will then come back and share what we have learned. We will then move forward with looking at recommendations and sharing these recommendations with this commission.

Ms. McClain asked who the key stakeholders are.

Mr. Earman said the first level of key stakeholders include City Council, boards and commissions and staff, along with stakeholders around the community that the City has partnerships with. These meetings will probably lead us to other people we need to include. Mr. Earman said Mr. Younger is here for the next two days and will be meeting with several stakeholders including Dublin City Schools, youth sports organizations, Dublin Historical Society, the City Manager, Community Inclusion Advisory Commission and our downtown Strategic Alliance. The Strategic Alliance group includes Visit Dublin, Chamber of Commerce, Crawford-Hoying and the City of Dublin. This group collaborates on things that are going on in downtown Dublin. We will also talk to Dublin Arts Council, as well as the Dublin corporate community. Mr. Earman continued to explain that some

of the things we want to capture, is what is going on with the youth in our community. We touched on esports, but the City wants to understand what the next generation is looking for in parks and recreation.

Mr. Earman commented that the City of Dublin is very fortunate and our parks and recreation system is an economic generator. It creates a quality of life that certainly make us a community of choice. We want to make sure that what we are doing in the next five to seven years invests further into that, to attract that 25 to 45 year old working class. The City wants to make sure that it is continuing on our success as a community.

Mr. Younger also commented that there are three public forums set up and those will be a combination of in-person and online forums.

Mr. Earman thanked the commission for their input and staff will certainly keep this commission informed and engaged as we move forward.

VII. Styrofoam Recycling – Emily Goliver

Ms. Goliver provided some background on Styrofoam recycling.

- Styrofoam is also referred to as expanded polystyrene (EPS)
- SWACO reported in 2019 that there were 7,000 tons in the landfill
- Styrofoam is made of beads and air – 90 to 95 is air
- Styrofoam is densified rather than recycled
 - 2 types of densification – heat or compressed
 - Densified Styrofoam can be used for car seats, helmets, insulation, etc.
 - Raw EPS must be completely clean and dry in order to run it through a densifier
 - Densified material must be kept clean and dry
 - High demand to purchase densified EPS, however it is negligible due to the cost to pick up the product
 - Requires 6+ pallets of densified material for the cost to break even
 - Approximately 30 cents per pound

Mr. Dritz asked how many pound of material six pallets would represent.

Ms. Goliver was not sure but she can reach out to the City of Hilliard to see they can provide that information. Hilliard has a densifier currently onsite.

Ms. Goliver said the City's goal is to divert 55% of waste from the landfill and by densifying EPS; the City would be helping to accomplish that goal. Staff has identified two potential options to help towards this goal.

Option #1 - Partnership with Hilliard

- Hilliard received a grant from SWACO – purchased a densifier

- Compresses to 1/50th of its original volume
- 250 cars brought 1800 lbs. of EPS
- Staff operated machinery
- Partnership opportunity
 - Dublin hosts its own drop-off event (tied in with HHW and document shredding)
 - Deliver collected material to Hilliard for densification
- Pros
 - Dublin saves the expense of purchasing and maintaining a densifier
 - Little burden on Dublin staff
 - No storage issues with the densified Styrofoam
- Cons
 - Dublin would not see any of the revenue associated with sales of densified EPS

Option #2 – City-owned and Operated Densifier

- Opportunity to apply for SWACO grant funds to help offset the cost of purchasing the machine
- Machine could be located at the Service Center
- Pros
 - No need to transfer collected EPS to Hilliard
 - Opportunity for some revenue
- Cons
 - Little to no room at the Service Center to store the collected or condensed EPS (must be kept inside)
 - Don't have the staff capacity to run collected EPS through the machine

Ms. Goliver also provided a cost analysis for these recommendations. The cost in option #1 are based on an overtime hourly rate of a maximum of \$45.00 per employee, utilizing three employees working eight hours for the drop-off events. Then option #2 would include staffing within normal business hours with a normal hour rate of approximately \$22.76 per hour averaging 36 hours worked (which is what Hilliard spent in hours of labor). This also shows the difference for option #2 with and without the SWACO grant. Hilliard had approximately \$15,500 in electrical and start-up cost associated with this program.

Option #	Equipment Cost	Staffing Cost	Total Cost
Option 1	\$0	\$1,080	\$1,080
Option 2 (with SWACO grant)	\$15,500*	\$819.36	\$16,309.36
Option 2 (without SWACO grant)	\$45,000*	\$819.36	\$45,819.36

* Cost estimates based on Hilliard's experience

Ms. Goliver said she would be happy to answer any questions the commission members may have. Ms. Goliver also added that if CSAC supports one of these two options, the next step would be for staff to include City Council in this conversation for final approval.

Ms. Kanonchhoff asked if the estimate cost for equipment only include the cost to purchase the equipment. She asked if there was anything built in for the maintenance or repairs to the equipment. If not, she asked if Ms. Goliver was aware of the lifespan of the equipment and durability.

Ms. Goliver replied that the cost included only the purchase of the equipment. She said Hilliard only purchased their densifier last year so it is still new, but she will follow-up with Hilliard to get more information.

Mr. Dritz asked how often Hilliard has Styrofoam drop off days. In addition, he asked if the amount that is dropped off is consistent or if it increases.

Ms. Goliver replied that Hilliard just had one on Earth Day and she believes that to be their third or fourth drop off day this year. She also added that the amount they are collecting is increasing and Hilliard is working on partnerships with other municipalities to have other municipalities come to Hilliard's drop-off events. Hilliard does not exclusively accept material from their residents. Anyone can drop off. As the word is getting out, more people are taking their Styrofoam to Hilliard.

Ms. Von Sadovszky said the goal of getting it out of landfill is around 50% which is wonderful, but less than 1% of the population of Hilliard shows up to drop off, then she questioned the return on investment. She asked if there are other mechanisms out besides this program, which would be more effective at getting closer to the diversion goal.

Ms. Goliver said the City's diversion goal is to divert 55% out of the landfill. The City's composting and e-waste programs both help towards that goal. The densifying would only help get closer to that goal. It would also help in general with cleanliness, especially around the holidays with all of the packaging includes Styrofoam and that fills up everyone's trash cans around the holidays.

Ms. Von Sadovszky was curious if there are other options, other than the machine, to collaborate with or to get a grant. It might be the lowest hanging fruit right now, but long term is it the most feasible solution.

Ms. Goliver commented that as far as she is aware, densification is the only way to keep Styrofoam out of the landfill. The options are to reuse it or to throw it away.

Ms. Qiu commented that based on the numbers provided this solution does not seem like it is a good choice because the City would be putting a lot of money and resources into this program, but there is not much coming out of it. If the City decides to offer this program, there need to be better options, if the City only has 2-3 drop-off's per year than the percentage of participation is lower. There needs to be a way to drop off more often and directly densify it as it is dropped off.

Ms. Von Sadovszky agreed with Ms. Qiu. She also commented that people aren't going to want to store it until there are specific drop off days. There need to be different options to drop off immediately for densifying or for storing, until it can be densified. She commented that her neighbors would not hold on to it until there are specific days, they will throw it away and it will end up in the landfill.

Mr. Dritz asked if Rumpke is looking into Styrofoam recycling for the future.

Ms. Goliver said at this time, Rumpke has no plans to recycle Styrofoam.

Mr. Pryor asked if Ms. Goliver knows what the lifespan of the densifier is. In addition, is there a lifespan on an agreement with Hilliard or is it just event by event.

Ms. Goliver said as far as a partnership with Hilliard, those details have not been discussed at this time. As far as the equipment, Ms. Goliver believes there is a lifetime warranty, but she will confirm with Hilliard.

Mr. Arunachalam asked if there is any information on how much revenue Hilliard has received from this. Also, if Rumpke is not considering recycling the Styrofoam are there any private vendors doing this at all.

Ms. Goliver commented that Hilliard has not generate any revenue yet because it is still in storage and they have not found a buyer for the EPS yet. Also at this time there is no one recycling Styrofoam.

Mr. Dritz asked if Hilliard does their Styrofoam drop-off days as stand-alone events or is it combined with other events.

Ms. Goliver said Hilliard has done both. They did a stand-alone event around the holidays so that people did not have to store the Styrofoam, but they have also combined it with other events. They try to do it at least quarterly. Their most recent event was in combination with Earth Day and the household hazardous waste collection.

Ms. McClain asked if option #1 would be a pilot. Is Dublin attempting to figure out whether this is viable for our City and to help Hilliard increase the use of their machine?

Ms. Goliver replied that it would be a pilot, because Dublin would also have the option to purchase a machine in the future if staff feels it is viable. Option #1 also give us the opportunity to help divert this from our landfill now.

Ms. Qiu asked if the cost of \$1,080 for option #1 is for year or per event.

Ms. Goliver said it is per event. If the City folds this option in with other events, this would be the overall event cost, so there really would not be a cost increase to add this option.

Mr. Dritz asked if the household hazardous waste event that just occurred was successful.

Mr. Anderson commented that the City had between 800-900 cars that came through. The numbers were down just a bit from last year, but it is a very successful event. Mr. Anderson also said it would make sense to have the Styrofoam recycling in conjunction with another event already taking place, with the exception of having an event after the holidays to collect all the Styrofoam from the holidays.

Ms. Von Sadovszky asked what the proposed number of events would be per year.

Ms. Goliver replied that staff is discussing having a quarterly event. We would coordinate with other efforts that take place such as household hazardous waste removal and shred-it day, but also have a stand-alone event after the holidays.

Mr. Pryor asked if there has been an analysis of whether these quarterly events are an optimal amount of time for recycling and hazardous waste.

Mr. Anderson said our household hazardous waste event has been in the spring and the fall, but then in the fall staff competes with OSU football and participation from residents, so we move it to the spring. The shred-it event typically aligns with earth month, so the events are about a month apart.

Mr. Pryor was just trying to identify where the diminishing returns start to kick in, if the City has any. Are weekly events too often to have them or is quarterly not enough. Maybe the concerns regarding revenue versus expense settle a little bit if staff determines where the optimal point is.

Ms. Goliver said she does not believe there is any type of revenue with the document destruction and the revenue for Styrofoam recycle would be so little, that it would not really be worth tracking. The City is not really looking at it as generating revenue, but providing an amenity to the residents that would help reach our goal of the 55% diversion rate.

Ms. Von Sadowszky asked if there is any data on the metrics of success.

Ms. Goliver said she does not at this time, but she can follow-up with Hilliard.

Mr. Dritz commented that Ms. McClain earlier mentioned the word “pilot” and that seems like what option #1 would be and that makes the most sense to get the information out to the public and see how much interest there is before the City purchases its own densifier. Even if there is not a return on investment, it seems it sends a good message to the community and it would be a good thing to do.

Ms. Von Sadowszky agrees with Mr. Dritz. She also wondered about the marketing campaign and getting the message out to residents so that it would be a successful pilot program.

Ms. Goliver said the City’s communication and public information team does a good job of getting the information out for other events that the City has. Staff would definitely be working that with team to inform people of the event and to explain the benefit to the community.

Ms. Qiu asked if there could be an option of just having a drop-off location just as the City currently has for batteries and electronics. Would that option reduce the cost or it would cost more to offer a drop-off location.

Ms. Goliver said there would be a concern with the appearance. We currently do have an e-waste drop off at the Service Center and that takes up a lot of space. A concern with having a drop box would be that the space and items dropped off need to be clean. We could definitely look into it, but we would need a way to ensure that the items dropped off are clean and dry when dropped off.

Ms. Kanonchhoff asked what constitutes clean and dry.

Ms. Goliver said the items could not be wet or rained on. It needs to be clean, so it cannot have dirt on it from being outside and there cannot be any food waste on it. We would not accept takeout food containers and it cannot have tape or anything stuck to it.

Ms. Von Sadowszky asked how often youth groups and church groups are a part of the messaging and collecting of these items; as well as community service projects or high school volunteers?

Ms. Goliver said the City does have a very robust volunteer program as well as corporate volunteers so this would definitely represent an opportunity for volunteers, especially our high school

environmental groups that are very eager to get involved. Ms. Goliver asked Mr. Anderson if he had anything to add.

Mr. Anderson said the City has used volunteers to help staff the household hazardous waste events in the past, but as far as generating interest in Styrofoam recycling, it definitely makes sense to get the community involved. The City has used volunteers for a number of events. The City is very blessed to have a healthy volunteer group.

Ms. Qiu said there might be opportunity for the City to collaborate with corporations in Dublin to have collection locations.

Ms. Goliver said that would be great idea, as long as there is a way to ensure that no water gets in the collection boxes.

Mr. Pryor asked if the SWACO grant is limited strictly to equipment purchases or if it could be used to offset the staffing costs or incentives to corporations for recycling.

Ms. Goliver said she is not sure about staffing, but it can be used for installation costs, etc. The City's composting site is the result of a community waste reduction grant. Staff could definitely look into it. It would be based on how the grant is written. Hilliard's grant request was specifically for the equipment cost itself.

Ms. McClain asked the commission if they are comfortable with the current options to move forward with making a recommendation.

Ms. Qiu asked if this commission needs to choose an option.

Ms. Goliver said the idea would be to choose one of the options so staff could move forward with plans to execute, but Ms. Goliver said she could definitely bring back more information if that is the preference of this group based on the questions and answers that Ms. Goliver was not able to provide today.

Ms. McClain asked if there is a timeline that the City needs to get back with Hilliard by or is there a timeline for the City to propose this process.

Ms. Goliver said there is not a specific timeline or deadline, so we have time to address the questions and the concerns raised by this group before moving forward if that is the preference.

Mr. Arunachalam asked if a motion is required.

Mr. Earman said there is no motion needed if this group wants to continue with conversation.

Ms. Goliver said she would report with more information.

Mr. Dritz asked what the next steps are. He personally does think there is any further information that would change his mind about the City moving forward with a pilot program in option #1 just makes the most sense.

Ms. McClain commented that staff will provide more information and answers to some of the questions and suggestions brought forth by this commission at the June meeting for further discussion. Ms. McClain thanked Ms. Goliver. This commission looks forward to hearing more about this in June.

VIII. Other Items of Interest

Mr. Dritz thanked Mr. Arunachalam on behalf of the commission for his leadership over the last year.

IX. Next meeting: June 14, 2022

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

X. Adjournment

Ms. McClain adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Marja Keplar, Administrative Support III

Attachments: Parks and Rec Master Plan Stakeholder Engagement Memo
Styrofoam Recycling Memo
Sidewalk & Shared Use Path Snow Plowing Memo