

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association

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April 15th 2016

To: Tom Markus, City Manager
City of Lawrence
PO Box 708,
Lawrence, KS 66044

Re: East 9th Street Project Phase one plan

To Whom it may concern,

ELNA is submitting this letter to the City Commission in support of the East 9th Phase 1 Project plan. In the ELNA public meetings of April 4th and 11th, the Design Development Document 04.04.16 submitted by el dorado was reviewed. After much discussion, amongst the board and neighbors in attendance, the board voted on whether we supported the plan as generally a positive change to the neighborhood. The board voted 7 in favor, 6 against, 1 abstain. We understand as the phase 1 plan transitions into phase2 work plans more change may occur. We are hopeful that ELNA continues to be kept informed and can have input.

The attached table contains the dialogue of the meeting attendees identifying pros/cons/outstanding questions/alternatives.

Thank you,
East Lawrence Neighborhood Association
PO Box 442393
Lawrence, KS 66044

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron Paden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Aaron Paden
ELNA President
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785 840-6400

Topic	PROs	CONs	Questions	Alternatives
Plan	Plan is complete now.	Will complete plan lose the flavor of East Lawrence?		Would like to allow East Lawrence flavor, colored concrete, artist's plan?
Lighting	Lighting is generally low (4 ft high) and directed down. Minimizes light pollution	Only on one side of street		
Rocks	Kids will love them. Adds ambiance. Church	Kids get hurt jumping off Code says rocks 8 ft. apart.	What is the landing surface? Must be soft surface.	
John Naramore/Eileen Larson Parking	City code compliant ADA compliant Public parking Limiting parking	Losing over half the grandfathered parking Do's-Delux needs handicap parking for aging clientele.		
Handicap Parking			Where are the handicap spaces?	
General Parking	Loss of parking could limit large scale commercial redevelopment. Increases neighbor sustainability by walking.	Loss of parking pushes public parking onto other streets, especially 900 block of NJ.	Has there been a study on the effect of loss of 9 th St. parking?	Permit parking for residents
Sidewalks	ADA Compliant Wheel chair assessable Makes a complete sidewalk from NH to Delaware. Attention to collector street sidewalks perhaps might come later?	3 sidewalks in plan, only 2 are needed. They would need to be maintained/cared. Increases work.		ADA compliant bricks sidewalks could be made instead.
Bicycles	Stop signs help kids get to school on safe routes to school. Shared path helps less experience cyclists proceed thru neighborhood. Bike box! At 9 th & Mass and 2 bike repair stations.	If shared use path, bicycles should not be in street (city ignores code) < this was later found to be untrue. If shared use path, bicyclist have choice of shared path or street. If dedicated bike path, bicyclist must use path >		
Traffic	Increased 9 th St stop signs will decrease traffic on 9 th .	Increased 9 th St stop signs will increase traffic on 8 th & 10 th as vehicle traffic moves to avoid.		
Street width	Narrower streets force	Width of street not code	How does this change affect	

	drivers to slow down and pay attention. Increases safety	compliant (plan is 24 ft., code is 27 ft.) Will make semi-truck deliveries to 9 th St businesses difficult.	Patchen's Motor's ? Will this push deliveries to adjacent east/west streets.	
Mini-parks (neighborhood moments)	Bench around Turnhalle encourages neighborhood to be more communal. Ability for pedestrians to safely rest without getting run over by cars. Welcoming to the human aspect of neighborhood. Ability to sit and view/interact with neighborhood history.	Will benches be used by neighbors or visitors? If too close to houses, will (9 th & Conn in particular) it contribute to late night noise? Strangers hanging out too near private house. Bench maintenance – who clears out leaves, ice, general. Seating by Turnhalle does not match existing architecture		
Wishing Bench	Will be kept on 9 th & Delaware	Won't be kept on 9 th & Delaware.	Which is it?	
Sewer	Existing storm sewers will be replaced by new-age storm system, permeable pavers & native grasses.	KU system must be cleaned often so it doesn't clog.	Will this new system be able to keep up with Kansas storms? Will the native grasses continue to be maintained by city workers in upcoming years?	
Power Lines	Will be buried and not cross 9 th . We believe there is a reduced fee from Westar for burying cables (as street is already torn up).	Pretty expensive. Not confirmed. Trees within 8 ft. of buried power lines will be removed.		
Trees	Plan kept as many trees as possible.	More trees will be lost due to excessive digging.		
Budget	City is willing to fund infrastructure improvements in East Lawrence	It appears that the preliminary budget is lacking a considerable number of items. The total cost of the project will continue to increase. (see below)	Is the amount budgeted really enough?	
Art	Art is well done and provides a good balance into the neighborhood.		What security will be in place to protect art? Will there be security cameras added to 9 th ?	

Additional items that may not currently be in phase 1 plan budget. Some of the costs listed below are from estimates from Lawrence Public Works department who met with ELNA representative on two occasions. Others are gleaned from recent city public works projects in East Lawrence.

1. Bartlett & West Engineering (typically 10% of cost of project): \$300,000 to \$400,000. Engineering design and soliciting bids for actual construction.
2. el dorado Architects - \$275,000 - \$375,000 for Phase 2 Design.
3. Moving utilities (burying WOW, ATT, Westar lines). \$250,000 to \$1,000,000. Westar has not yet quoted an official price to Lawrence Public Works. There has been "talk" of a reduction in the cost due to the streets already being torn up for the project.
4. Adjusting all ground utility covers to new grade. Budget shows 10 new sewer inlets while demolition plans shows 16 removed. Will \$18,000 to 30,000 need to be added for this?
5. Staking and surveying for Construction.
6. Costs of compacting earthwork.
7. Fly ash layer under street. This cost was \$27,000 for Delaware St from 8th to 9th.
8. New storm water system drainage pipe (some perforated) for permeable paving, plantings. Also, crushed granite for drainage.
9. Repair brick intersection at 9th & NY.
10. Removing & stockpiling bricks from New Hampshire to Delaware (from brick street under asphalt).
11. Costs for new connections to existing storm sewer pipe, moving hydrants, new valves, etc.
12. 2 bike fixit stations, ADA drinking fountain (water source for trees?), 2 bike corrals (at big rocks & wishing bench), trash cans.
13. Lost city revenue from removing 10 downtown parking meters.
14. Professional Parking study.
15. Curb inlets are list as \$3,000 but recently installed inlets (Pennsylvania St) were \$4,250 and 9th & Delaware were 5,000. They cannot be removed and reused because they break when removed.
16. Possible bus shelter (alley by 901 New Hampshire).
17. Projected yearly costs for maintenance of street lighting and 2 public art lighting projects (Public Works and/or Parks & Rec and/or Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission).
18. Projected yearly budget for Parks & Rec maintenance of trees, plantings, cleaning out grasses, cleaning out crushed granite, cushioned surface around large rocks, clearing shared use path (mud, leaves, ice, snow). Ice stays on south side of street longer as some existing buildings shade the sidewalk.
19. Cost of installation of public art, lighting, public audio: Artist pays? City? Art Center? Some combo?
20. Will the \$300,000 lighting budget cover replacement of light poles at SE corners of RI, Conn, Penn, Charlie's Bar alley? Are these traditional street lights or public art streetlights?