

## **Forest Home Infrastructure Planning Task Force**

Initial Meeting – March 21, 2025

12:30 pm - Ithaca Town Hall

**NEXT MEETING: May 2, 2025 @ 1 pm – Town Hall**

### **MEETING NOTES**

#### **ATTENDING**

- Town of Ithaca: Rod Howe, David O'Shea, CJ Randall, Joe Slater,
- Cornell Univ: Susan Riley, Leslie Schill
- Forest Home Community: Robin Blakely-Armitage, Ari Lavine, Jennifer Loucks, Ruth Mahr, Charlie Trautmann

#### **KEY TASKS**

##### **Town**

- Written tentative timeline for the process going forward (subject to funding)
- Draft RFP/RFQ for selecting a consultant (subject to funding)

##### **Forest Home**

- Low hanging fruit for implementation by Town now (crosswalks/repainting options)
- Priorities for implementation from the 2007 Traffic Calming Plan (what is still relevant)
- Discuss design of 4-foot side paths along streets with residents
- Check NESTS
- Check with Cayuga Hts. re process with sidewalks (community agreement, funding)

##### **Cornell Univ.**

- Communicate the goals and general process of this project to relevant people at the university

#### **MEETING NOTES**

- Others to involve / inform:
  - Tompkins County
  - NY State
  - Assemblyperson Anna Kelles
  - ITCTC

- Code issues
  - Historic district restrictions – how could impose limitations on street ROW
  - Fire trucks - need 20' minimum pavement width (excluding shoulders) to comply with NY Fire Code
  - Agreement from residents needed for any land needed for walkways
  - Minimum pavement – Pavement widths need to be reviewed based on NY Code and Functional Classification of Road with consideration of historical value of community.
- Joe suggestions
  - Doesn't think that reducing volume of traffic is likely or feasible
  - Needs to address soil creep damage on Forest Home Dr by Sackett Bridge. Should be considered, if we fund a project before other improvements are made.
- Dave suggestions
  - Should complete connected segments of walkway network in FH in projects, for funding. Should complete routes and not create dead ends.
  - Possible tasks: review 2007 study, determine costs, suggest funding sources, oversee consultant, public comment, funding, design, and construction. Town to ultimately oversee hired professionals
  - Consultant selection is initially qualifications-based.
  - We need a broad SOW for a consultant search
- CJ suggestions
  - We might also consider an RFP for community-process consultant, who could help resolve ROW issues and setting priorities

Revised and submitted 4-5-2025

CHT