

**Knoxville Energy and Sustainability Task Force
Infrastructure Working Group Notes– 07/19/10**

06/16/2010 Meeting results & next steps:

- Determine who regulates it, how it's regulated, and what is required currently;
- Do research on 'best practices' in other cities to see what we might want to implement here;
- Begin developing our description of ROW elements as we would like to see them;
- Leave 07/19/10 meeting with direction on research in order to finalize our description of ROW design by the following meeting, to be set approximately two weeks later;
- With our 'description' complete, we will discuss what changes to City regulation, policy, etc. we feel are appropriate to recommend to implement changes.

Sustainability Task Force - Infrastructure WG Assignments				
Topic	Lead Person	Additional Help	Dept or Efforts to Coordinate with	Next Step
Pavement width by street classification	<i>Susanna B</i>	<i>Shawn F</i>		Background research
Paving materials	<i>Susanna B</i>	<i>Shawn F</i>		Background research
Insitu water retention	<i>Jason E</i>			Background research
Drainage ways design, location, etc	<i>Jason E</i>			Background research
Natural filtration	<i>Jason E</i>			Background research
Sidewalk, ped/bike-way design	<i>Susanna will recruit from Transportation WG</i>			Background research
Landscaping	<i>Trey B</i>	<i>Zane F</i>		Background research
Utilities (location, zone, future repair guidelines)	<i>Susan E</i>			Background research
Interface with other groups or efforts	<i>Wayne B</i>			Background research

07/19/2010 Meeting summary and next steps:

- Took a first cut at describing the elements we would like to see in place and/or amended;
- Topics of study owners provided updates on their research;
- Identified further research necessary to develop recommendations;
- August meeting: plan to finalize our list of recommendations and discuss with Engineering how best to word / recommend those changes.
- Recommendations focus will be based on 5 year and 10 year priorities. This will enable the infrastructure work plan to be laid out succinctly and practically introduce changes for both the short and long term.

Our final product will be as follows:

Work Plan Chapter 4: Infrastructure (compiled and submitted by Group)

- a. Paragraph explaining group intent / group goals
- b. Brief summary of pre-existing and current actions
- c. 5-Year Plan: prioritize matrix actions based on importance and feasibility
- d. 8 to 10-Year Plan: prioritize matrix actions goals based on feasibility
- e. Matrices with proposed policies, in order of action

Specific Notes from 07/19/10 Discussion:

Discussion of ROW design changes: Trey Benefield lead with a cross section drawing that depicted a generic current City street: 50' ROW included 8' utility easement, 4' sidewalk, 5' grass strip, and 26' travel lanes.

Issues identified through group research include:

- Pavement width
- Curb requirement
- Grass strips
- Additional modes of transportation
- Reducing pavement width but keeping ROW
- LEED neighborhood design guidelines worth looking at
- Trees and utilities: thoughtful location of both
- Maintenance always an issue to consider when forming recommendations
- Tree Board may have a tree species list to review – perhaps it becomes a part of Engineering's website / spec page

Reoccurring themes identified during all our meetings to date that could become possible group recommendations:

- Potential Recommendation: work with MPC to modify subdivision regulations to reduce pavement width;
- Potential Recommendation: work with MPC to modify subdivision regulations to remove pavement sealing requirements;
- Potential Recommendation: work with MPC to modify subdivision regulations to remove curb requirements to aid with drainage design, location, filtration, retention in preparation for new stormwater regulations;
- Potential Recommendation: examine grass width and planting standards to allow for more flexibility in ROW stormwater filtration and mowing requirements (ie, landscaping with native species and allowing the uncut look to become accepted by the community);
- Potential Recommendation: add additional traffic modes: bike lanes striped in ROW where possible, examine requesting sidewalks of developers (not homeowners);
- Potential Recommendation: Work closely with KUB during the design process to find suitable locations for utilities that minimize pavement and root disturbance and maximize ease of maintenance for utility work crews.