



City of St. Marys Masterplan

Master Plan Steering Committee (MPSC) Meeting #6

April 7, 2016

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

St. Marys Senior Center

Meeting Summary

Attendees:

William DeLoughy
Tanya Glazebrook
Joseph Holler
Fred Mercier
Michael Rich
Elaine Powierski
Eric Landon (Proxy for Steve Howard)
Kenneth Lyons
Lee Walker
Jon Preble
Cyndi Birke (Ex-officio)

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6 by Mike Rich. Quorum was present. The new MPSC members appointed by City Council were introduced: Lee Walker and Jon Preble.

2. General announcements and updates – Mike Rich

a) Art Contest update - Fred Mercier

Fred discussed the art contest. There were 22 entries received. The high school art club will judge the entries and identify the winners. Mike Rich and Free Mercier will work on a press release with pictures of the winners. After the judging is complete, Fred will provide the entries to EPG so that we can digitize them for inclusion in the plan. We will then provide them to Jeff for display at the City.

b) Survey

There are 422 surveys completed to date, not including approximately 50 hard copies that will be entered by the intern. Lee is working to have a request to take the survey included on church bulletins.

c) Interviews

The MPSC reviewed the list of individuals and groups for interviews as well as the list of presentations. New assignments were made, and the current assignments not completed were identified. The results of these interviews will be compiled by the city and/or EPG intern this summer.

d) GIS Application

Mike requested that EPG develop a paragraph description about the GIS application with the link for use by MPSC members. Jon asked that information on the app be sent directly to him as he knew several people who would enjoy using it. EPG will develop an email with a description of the application and the directions to download the application will be attached. This will be emailed to the MPSC.

e) Director of Development update (survey responses, website visits, etc.) – Jeff Adams

The City sent out a letter to midtown and west side businesses (approximately 250 letters) inviting them to take the survey and be individually interviewed.

3. Transportation Workshop – Rachel Hatcher, RS&H

Rachel gave a presentation on transportation issues facing the City of St. Marys. The presentation is included by reference in this summary. Questions/points made during this presentation are summarized below:

- The Navy wants to encourage use of the railroad by other entities in order to share the cost burden of maintenance of the railroad.
- Some citizens are concerned with golf cart/car interactions.
- There are issues around the Middle School related to traffic and children travelling on foot/bikes.
- The accident data does not include I-95, just the ramps.
- Public Comment – Glynn County transportation study showed that 5 lane roads (those with 2 lanes in each direction and a turn lane) are the most dangerous roads. The City should work with DOT to have these roads better designed to include a median.
- Will the Colerain improvements include a bike lane? They will include a wider lane to accommodate bike traffic as well as a dedicated 5 foot sidewalk.
- Is there a Benchmark Transportation Plan the MPSC should review? There are plenty of good transportation plans out there, but St. Mary's is unique, so there may not be a comparable plan. St. Marys. There is military, retirement, boating, rail, and tourism

considerations. Transportation peaks are not twice a day like in most communities where commuting is an issue. They are more associated with military events and school.

- Public Transit – The city does not have the density to support a fixed route system like busses. The Coastal Regional Commission does offer an on-demand bus system called CRC Coaches. It costs \$3 dollars per one-way trip per county traveled. The MPSC felt that this system was not well utilized because it is not well known, not available on Sunday, not reliable time-wise, and that the cost may be prohibitive for the people who want to use it. Public Comment: Allen Burns with the CRC will work with the City to improve utilization. The MPSC asked Rachel if she could get data from the CRC on utilization in St. Marys. The goal of the transportation plan is to identify gaps such as these and plug those gaps with transportation options.
- Public Comment: Does the City have Uber yet? No there is no Uber yet in St. Marys.
- Can Uber be subsidized? There are no examples of Uber being subsidized by federal transportation dollars to date, but there are examples of transportation agencies working with Uber to provide last mile services.
- Exit 1 Off Ramp: RS&H will provide a conceptual layout of how this ramp could be improved. There is already a project that has been approved to widen Haddock Rd.
- TIGER grant for multi-use trail connecting State Park to downtown St. Marys is in the process of being prepared.

The **Public Transportation Workshop** will be held on **Tuesday, 5/17 from 6 – 8 PM** at the Elementary School (schedule permitting). Jeff will work with the school to reserve the facility. Mike will work with the newspapers to ensure that it is advertised. The MPSC felt that a two week notice was optimum to get the best participation. Jeff will work with Mike Rich and EPG Team to have it advertised in the City’s water bills. It will also be included in the updated Community Snap Shot, church bulletins, and promoted through email list-serves, i.e. the City utility bill list serve and Osprey Cove.

A catchy name is needed. I recommend, Transportation Public Workshop: Tell Us What “Drives” You Crazy about Transportation in St. Marys.

4. Land Use Workshops, Preliminary map review—Courtney Reich

This agenda item was postponed until the May MPSC meeting, due to insufficient time. EPG will provide the draft map and Character Area descriptions to the MPSC for their review as “homework” before the next MPSC meeting.

5. Public Comment

Public comment was received throughout the meeting and was recorded as received above.

6. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40.