

Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap Project

TSPL0ST 2023 Project #03 Proposed Project Concept

MAYOR & COMMISSION WORK SESSION

August 13, 2024

Category 2 Item

Prepared by:

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Agenda and Purpose

- ❖ Purpose :
Present to the Mayor and Commission, the User Group's Proposed Project Concept
- ❖ History Summary
- ❖ Initial Project Statement & User Group Members
- ❖ Project Concept
- ❖ Budget
- ❖ Project Timeline & Next Steps
- ❖ Q&A

History Summary

- In 2015, ACCGov partnered with the Urban Land Institute to complete a Technical Assistant Panel Report.
- On November 2017, the residents of Athens-Clarke County approved the TSPLOST 2018 Program Referendum, which included the Lexington Highway Corridor Improvements as Project 14.
- In August 2018, the Athens in Motion Commission (AiM) issued a Bicycle and Pedestrians Master Plan Final Report.
- In August 2019, the Atlanta Highway - Lexington Highway Connect Athens Corridor Final Report was issued.
- On May 24, 2022, the voters of Athens-Clarke County approved a referendum for the TSPLOST 2023 Program, which included Project 03 - Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap.
- On February 27, 2023, a Notice of Proposed Administration Action (NOPAA) completed the current Tier Funding Schedule. The tiering schedule included funding for the Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap (TSPLOST 2023 Project 03) during Tiers 1-2 (FY23 - FY24).
- On August 10, 2023, a project kick-off meeting was held with the User Group. Due to the specific nature of the project and collaborative project type with the Lexington Road Corridor Improvement Project (TSPLOST 2023 Project 03), ACCGov Manager Williams appointed the User Group responsibilities for both projects. For collaborative purposes, the User Group agreed to progress the both projects together during the Concept Phase.

History Summary – con't.

- Between August 2023 and March 2024, the User Group reviewed previous corridor reports, conducted field inspections, and site visits.
- On February 13, 2024, the Athens Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) offered a recommendation in accordance with Athens-Clarke County Code Ordinance, Section 1, Title I, Chapter 1-25-6, Additional Funding for Public Art, to the M&C related to the use of public art for Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap Project (TSPLOST 2023 Project 03) (Attachment #2). Based on the nature of the project scope, the ACAC recommended that public art be associated with the implementation of TSPLOST 2023 Project 03.
- On March 14, 2024, the User Group unanimously recommended the Proposed Project Concept to Mayor and Commission (M&C) for consideration including supporting Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap (TSPLOST 2023 Project 03) with \$250,000 from the Lexington Road Corridor Improvement Project (TSPLOST 2023 Project 02) to support a 10' wide shared use path to enhance the bike/pedestrian facility.
- On March 26, 2024, staff presented the User Group Proposed Project Concepts to Athens in Motion (AiM) during their regularly scheduled meeting. AiM supported the projects as defined.
- On July 23, 2024, Athens in Motion reviewed the Proposed Project Concept and approved recommending the Proposed Project Concept for Mayor and Commission (M&C) consideration including supporting Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap (TSPLOST 2023 Project 03) with \$250,000 from the Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements Program (TSPLOST 2023 Project 25) to support a 10' wide shared use path to enhance the bike/pedestrian facility.

TSPL0ST 2023

Lexington Road Corridor Improvements Project #03

Initial Project Statement:

This project will provide funding for capital improvements in the general area of the north side of Lexington Road between the intersections with Cooper Road and Whit Davis Road. Depending upon actual costs and funding availability, improvements may include, but are not limited to: sidewalks, crosswalks, and/or other pedestrian safety improvements. This project is a continuation of the TSPL0ST 2018 Project 14 Lexington Road Corridor Improvements Project. To the extent allowed by law, budgeted project funds may be used as matching funds for leveraging grant opportunities. Additionally, to the extent allowed by law, other funding sources, including, but not limited to, grants, may be utilized to offset and/or reduce the project budget. Any unspent project funds that accrue as a result of the receipt of grants or other funding sources may be assigned to other approved TSPL0ST projects.

Corridor User Group & Participating Dep't

Diane Napier - Resident Member

David Spooner - Resident Member

Greg Davis - Resident Member/Aim Representative

Stephen Bailey - ACCGov Transportation & Public Works Director

Jeanne Connell - ACCGov Landscape Mgmt. Administrator

Max Doty - ACCGov Special Projects Planner

Economic Development

Transit

Leisure Services

Airport

TSPIOST 2018 & TSPIOST 2023 Lexington Road Corridor Improvements Project Collaboration

Multi-use Path along north side of Lexington Road Project

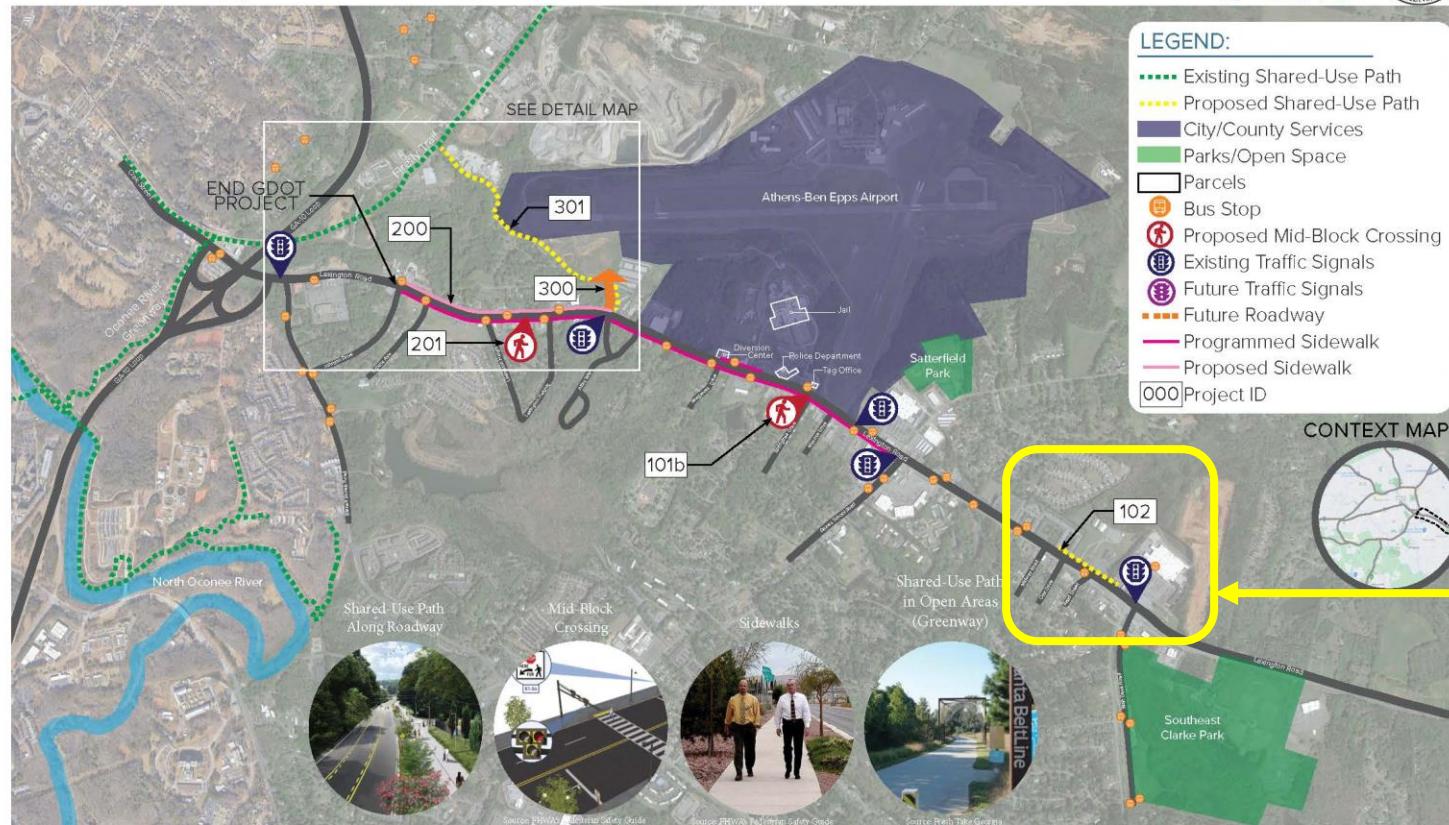
- Overall vision for bicycle facility along corridor
- AiM support Tier 1 bike corridor
- Supports Lexington Road User Group's preferences to eliminate gaps in bike/pedestrian infrastructure

Lexington Road Corridor Collaboration – con't.

- PROJECT 102: Provides for additional funding to support TSPLOST 2023 Project #3 to create a shared use path along the north side of Lexington Road eliminating pedestrian connectivity gap connecting Cooper Road to the western drive of the Walmart shopping center. The estimated cost of completing Project #3 is larger than the budget due to GDOT requirements.

Lexington Road, Bike & Pedestrian Improvements

Athens-Clarke County

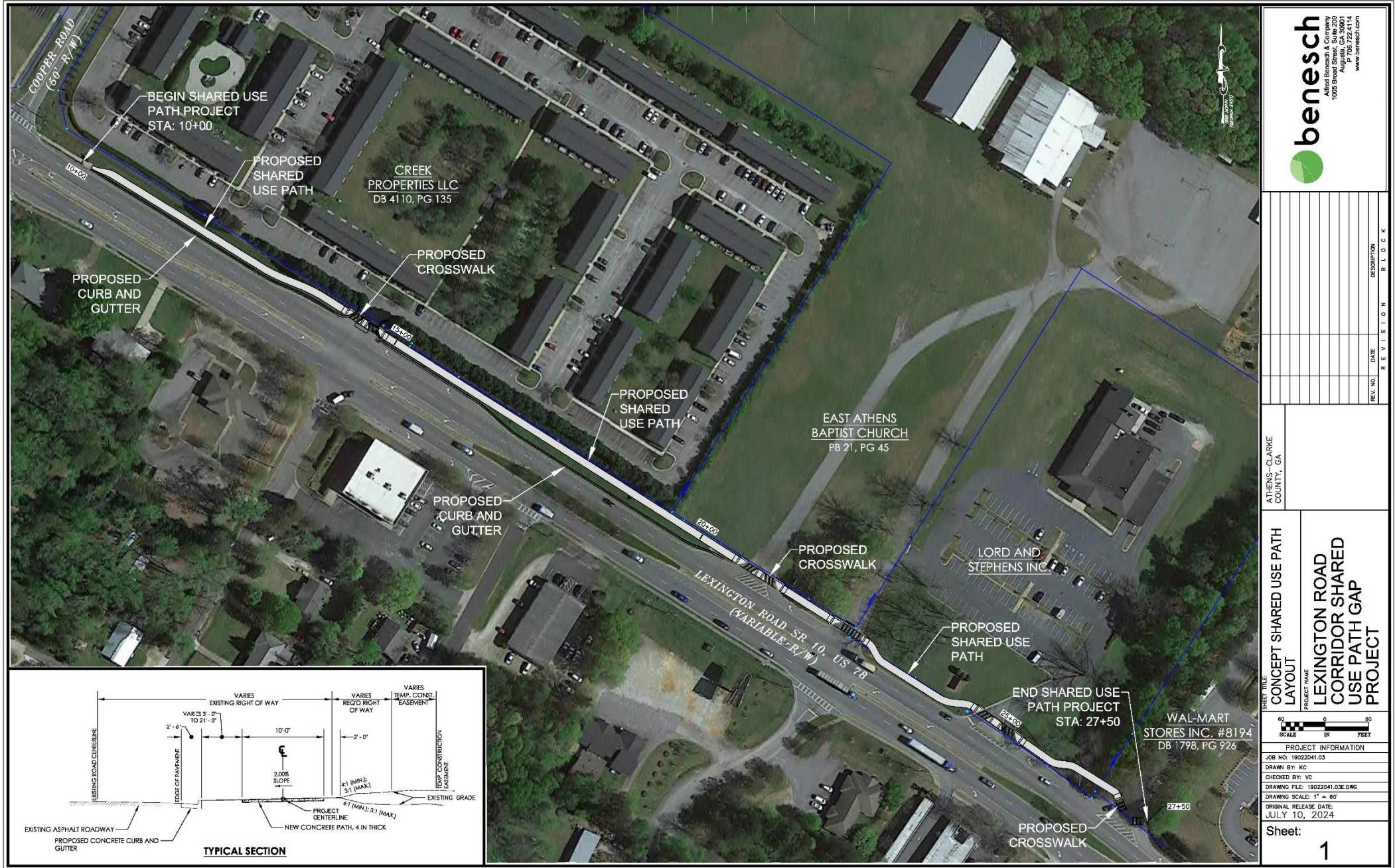


Connectivity Gap

Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap Project Description

- The Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap original request was to provide sidewalk connectivity between Cooper Road and the Walmart Shopping center.
- As the Project Concept process matured, consideration with alignment, space, right-of-way required, and Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) requirements, the cost of expanding a sidewalk to a 10' side separated bike/ped facility seemed appropriate. Consideration was also given since that this section of Lexington Road is defined as a Tier 1 bicycle project by Athens in Motion plan.
- The refined Project Description: **Provide a Shared-Use Path (SUP) along the northern side of Lexington Road between Cooper Road and Walmart Shopping Center's westerly entrance.** This effort generally includes but is not limited to:
 - 0.33 miles of 10' wide concrete shared-use path
 - Traffic control/safety protocol on state route
 - Storm piping to close existing roadside swale
 - Curb inlets/catch basins
 - Installation of curb & gutter
 - Utility relocations
 - Land Acquisition (Brighton Park Apartments, East Athens Baptist Church, Lord & Stephens Funeral Home)
 - Landscaping
 - Commercial Driveway crossings

Recommended Project Concept Map



Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap Project Budget Information

- Whether a 5' sidewalk or 10' shared use path is constructed, either effort along this section of the corridor will require storm drain pipe installation in the existing roadway ditch and the installation of curb & gutter. The engineer team estimates the construction cost and contingency of the 10' wide shared use path is approximately \$800,000. In comparison, the engineering team estimated the 5' sidewalk construction cost and contingency is approximately \$715,000.
- The Design Professional's (Benesch Engineering) estimated cost of construction at this conceptual phase is \$715,000, not including design or construction contingency. The total needed project construction budget is \$800,000, including contingency. The original budget for TSPLOST 2023 Project 03 is only a total of \$532,000; which would support a construction budget & contingency of approximately \$300,000.
- The User Group and Athens-in-motion (AiM) both agree to support the recommendation to request M&C approve supplementing the Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap Project (TSPLOST Project 03) budget with an additional \$250,000 from Lexington Road Corridor Improvements (TSPLOST 2023 Project 02) and with an additional \$250,000 from the Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements Program (TSPLOST 2023 Project 25). In part the additional funding, from the other two projects, would help both complete the original project but also support installing 10' wide shared use path to enhance the bike/pedestrian facility, instead of a 5' sidewalk. Supplementing the Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap Project (TSPLOST Project 03) budget in this way would provide a construction budget of \$715,000 plus a 12% contingency.

Lexington Road Sidewalk GAP Project Budget

REVENUES:	
\$ 532,000	TSPLOST 2023, Project 03 – All Tiers
\$ 250,000	TSPLOST 2023, Project 02
\$ 250,000	TSPLOST 2023, Project 02
\$ 1,032,000	Total Revenues
EXPENSES:	
CAPITAL:	
\$ 66,548	Expensed and Encumbered
\$ 46,000	Land/Easement Acquisition
\$ 54,624	Remaining for Design
\$ 57,828	Designated Misc./PM Fees/ Testing Permitting
\$ 3,000	Proposed for Public Art
\$ 85,000	Designated Design & Construction Contingency
\$ 715,000	Available for Construction

Lexington Road Corridor Improvements Schedule

- M&C Work Session Project Concept Review - August 13, 2024
- TSOC Meeting Project Concept Concurrence – August 19, 2024
- M&C Agenda Setting Meeting Project Concept Discussion – August 20, 2024
- M&C Voting Meeting Project Concept Approval – September 3, 2024
- Preliminary Plan Development
- Preliminary Plan M&C Approval – December 2024

Lexington Road Sidewalk Gap TSPLOST 2023 Project #03

Questions/Comments