

Brookville Road Sidewalk Project Update

The current effort to install a pedestrian sidewalk along Brookville Road began five years ago in response to residents' requests for a sidewalk along Brookville Road between East Irving Street and the existing sidewalk installed by the Village of Martin's Additions that ends just north of the Brookville Road park at Quincy Street. This narrow 2,100 foot-long section of roadway is a busy vehicular and pedestrian thoroughfare. The installation of this sidewalk achieves the 30+ year effort by the community to make this roadway a pedestrian accessible route.

In September 2005, the Board of Managers created the Brookville Road Working Group. Comprised of residents from throughout the Village, the Working Group was charged to work with staff, the Board and residents abutting Brookville Road to develop a sidewalk proposal that could receive approval from all required State and County agencies and, more importantly, address the safety concerns of residents in the community. The Working Group and staff also worked to design a sidewalk that would have the least possible impact on those properties that directly abut the roadway.

The sidewalk material will be "gravelpave". "Gravelpave" is a honeycomb base material in which grey gravel will be inserted. The gravel allows the sidewalk to be pervious, while the honeycomb base provides the rigidity necessary to withstand wheelchair and stroller wheels. You will not see the honeycomb base when the gravel is in place.

To accommodate the sidewalk along this narrow roadway, several of the abutting residents were asked to enter into temporary or perpetual easement agreements because the sidewalk would either be on their property or the construction of the sidewalk would require activity on their property. Property owners along Brookville Road were overwhelmingly supportive of the project and willingly allowed use of their property for the installation of this sidewalk. These property owners' generosity is commendable in supporting a project to benefit the surrounding community.

Now that all permits and required easements and agreements have been received for the project the Village is currently in the process of soliciting construction bids. Contract award is anticipated to occur at the September 13, 2010 regular meeting of the Board of Managers. At which time Village staff will present a brief informational presentation on what to expect during construction and a preliminary timeline for construction.

Once the Board has awarded a contract, Village staff will hold a public meeting tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 20, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall. The public meeting will give residents an opportunity to meet with the Brookville Road sidewalk construction contractor and Village staff. During this meeting Village staff will provide a more detailed presentation on what to expect during and a formal timeline for construction. Residents will also have an opportunity to ask the contractor questions about the project.

The Board, members of the Brookville Road Working Group and Village staff would also like to extend our deepest appreciation to the residents along Brookville Road who agreed to

donate a portion of their property to permit the installation of the sidewalk and to the Brookville Road Working Group for all of its work and support over the past five (5) years to make Brookville Road and the Village safer for all.

As we move closer to construction, please stay tuned to the Village website (www.chevy ChaseVillageMD.gov) and listserv for further updates on the project or contact Director of Municipal Operations Michael Younes at michael.younes@montgomerycountymd.gov.