

Hess, Raymond

Subject: FW: Scio Church Crosswalks
Attachments: Scio Church Crosswalks Mar 2022.pdf

From: Peter Houk <XXXXXXXXXX>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 7:43 PM
To: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <TransportationCommission@a2gov.org>
Cc: Hess, Raymond <XXXXXXXXXX>; Redinger, Cynthia <XXXXXXXXXX>; Carson, Chris <XXXXXXXXXX>; Eyer, Jen <XXXXXXXXXX>; Briggs, Erica <XXXXXXXXXX>; Cooper, Eli <XXXXXXXXXX>; Molly Kleinman <XXXXXXXXXX>; Suzette Wanninkhof <XXXXXXXXXX>; Larry Deck <XXXXXXXXXX>; Seth Peterson <XXXXXXXXXX>; Nelson, Elizabeth <XXXXXXXXXX>
Subject: Re: Scio Church Crosswalks

Thanks for the chance to speak tonight. The updated Scio Church Crosswalks document that I mentioned is attached. It includes:

- summary of the alternatives that I mentioned (pages 10-14)
- Link to the Facebook group I started. It is public and you can see the content, even if you don't join (page 9)

Thanks

Peter Houk

On Wed, Feb 23, 2022 at 4:25 PM City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <TransportationCommission@a2gov.org> wrote:

Peter,

Thank you for contacting the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission. Your comment concerning Scio Church crosswalks will be provided as a communication item on the March 16 Transportation Commission Agenda.

Transportation staff are also copied here so that they are also aware of your comment.

Respectfully,

Eli Cooper, A.I.C.P.

Transportation Program Manager

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Thank you.

From: Peter Houk <XXXXXXXXXX>
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2022 9:30 PM
To: Allen, Jane (Engineering) <XXXXXXXXXX>
Cc: Eyer, Jen <XXXXXXXXXX>; City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <XXXXXXXXXX>; Hess, Raymond <XXXXXXXXXX>; Nelson, Elizabeth <XXXXXXXXXX>; Molly Kleinman <XXXXXXXXXX>; Redinger, Cynthia <XXXXXXXXXX>; Carson, Chris <XXXXXXXXXX>
Subject: Re: Scio Church Crosswalks

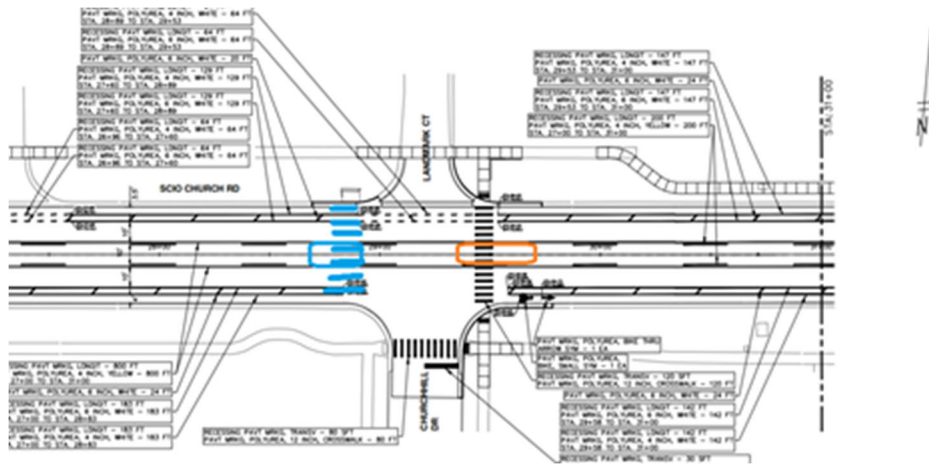
Greetings, all. I had a conversation with Cynthia recently about the Scio Church project and I understand that the plans that are posted on the project web site are not going to be changed to include any refuge islands, since they can't fit without inhibiting left turns or driveway entrances.

However, if the crosswalk and a refuge island were installed on the west side of Churchill (in blue in the picture below), then the only turning movements that would be affected would be those going onto Landmark Ct. There are only 4 residences on Landmark Ct. Can the left turns onto Landmark happen from the through lane? If so, then a refuge island may fit. But if we put the crosswalk on the east side (as planned now) then adding a refuge island now or in the future is not an option without moving the entire crosswalk.

Please have a look and let me know what you think.

Thanks

Peter Houk



On Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 10:14 PM Peter Houk <XXXXXXXXXX> wrote:

Hi Jane. Did that review happen yet? I am looking forward to seeing the new design.

Thanks

Pete

On Thu, Sep 2, 2021 at 12:57 PM Allen, Jane (Engineering) <XXXXXXXXXX> wrote:

Peter,

Thank you. The design team has made some adjustments, but we are waiting on review from the transportation team. I will let you know.

Jane Allen, P.E., Civil Engineer IV

Engineering, Public Services

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From: Peter Houk <XXXXXXXXXX>
Sent: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 4:18 PM
To: Allen, Jane (Engineering) <XXXXXXXXXX>
Cc: Eyer, Jen <XXXXXXXXXX>; City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <TransportationCommission@a2gov.org>; Hess, Raymond <XXXXXXXXXX>; Nelson, Elizabeth <XXXXXXXXXX>; Molly Kleinman <XXXXXXXXXX>; Redinger, Cynthia <XXXXXXXXXX>; Carson, Chris <XXXXXXXXXX>
Subject: Re: Scio Church Crosswalks

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Hi Jane. I'm just wondering if your design team has had a chance to look at this yet. Thanks!

On Fri, Jul 30, 2021 at 2:18 PM Peter Houk <XXXXXXXXXX> wrote:

Thanks for the update, Jane. I understand you probably have timing constraints to get bids from contractors. Adding changes before construction begins sounds like a good plan.

Thanks!

On Wed, Jul 28, 2021 at 11:20 AM Allen, Jane (Engineering) <XXXXXXXXXX> wrote:

Pete,

We do not have time to make possible changes to the location of the crosswalk at Churchill and the possibility of adding medians at that crosswalk and near Covington, however it is something that could be added after the project advertisement. Our design staff can revisit your concerns before construction.

In regard to the pavement width, we have added a buffered bike lane on both sides of the street which utilizes that extra 5 feet you mentioned. This also reduces the crossing length for pedestrians as well as adding protection for cyclists.

Jane Allen, P.E., Civil Engineer IV

Engineering, Public Services

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From: Eyer, Jen <XXXXXXXXXX>

Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2021 2:17 PM

To: Peter Houk <XXXXXXXXXX>; City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission
<TransportationCommission@a2gov.org>

Cc: Hess, Raymond <XXXXXXXXXX>; Nelson, Elizabeth <XXXXXXXXXX>; Molly Kleinman <XXXXXXXXXX>; Redinger, Cynthia <XXXXXXXXXX>; Allen, Jane (Engineering) <XXXXXXXXXX>

Subject: Re: Scio Church Crosswalks

Thank you, Pete.

All: I'm glad to hear about the RRFBs as well. I do, however, share Pete's remaining concerns about the design with regard to width of the road and drivers' frequent and dangerous abuse of the turn lane.

Best regards,

Jen

From: Peter Houk <XXXXXXXXXX>
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2021 1:02 PM
To: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <TransportationCommission@a2gov.org>
Cc: Hess, Raymond <XXXXXXXXXX>; Eyer, Jen <XXXXXXXXXX>; Nelson, Elizabeth <XXXXXXXXXX>; Molly Kleinman <XXXXXXXXXX>; Redinger, Cynthia <XXXXXXXXXX>; Allen, Jane (Engineering) <XXXXXXXXXX>
Subject: Re: Scio Church Crosswalks

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Thanks, all, for your time last night, and for the excellent news about adding RRFBs.

I'd like to follow up on a few ideas that were discussed yesterday.

Firstly, refuge islands might inhibit left turns, but this can be mitigated at two of the crosswalks. At Churchill, an island on the east side of the intersection (where the crosswalk is now planned) would indeed inhibit left turns into Churchill Downs neighborhood, which has approximately 100 residences. But adding that feature to the west side of the intersection would inhibit left turns onto Landmark Ct., which has only 4 residences and no outlet. Maybe one option would be to move the crosswalk west and add a refuge island there. Similarly, at the Covington crosswalk, there is no southbound street at that intersection. Adding a refuge island or a narrow median on the east side of the intersection would not inhibit any left turns.

I'd also like to draw attention to the extreme width of Scio Church. With 45', we would have room for two 5' bike lanes, two 10' through lanes, one 10' turn lane and still have 5' left over for a refuge island. I don't necessarily think that's the best plan, but it does illustrate exactly how much pavement there is on this road. Please, let's try and repurpose more of it to support safety features for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists.

Lastly, the real issue here is that drivers misuse the center lane. It's possible that the existing crosswalk design (plus RRFBs!) would be adequate, IF some other features would deter misuse of the center lane. A narrow median at the intersections (like the attached picture) would make it obvious that the center lane is only for left turns and not to be used as a through lane or for passing.

Thanks again for your effort on this project!

Peter Houk



On Wed, Jul 21, 2021 at 2:08 PM City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <TransportationCommission@a2gov.org> wrote:

Peter Houk,

Thank you for contacting the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission. Your feedback is included as a [public communication](#) item on the [July 21](#) Transportation Commission agenda.

Sincerely,

Kayla Coleman

Transportation Commission Staff Liaison

Kayla Coleman (she/her/hers), **Community Engagement Specialist**

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From: Peter Houk <XXXXXXXXXX>
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 9:30 PM
To: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <TransportationCommission@a2gov.org>
Cc: Hess, Raymond <XXXXXXXXXX>; Eyer, Jen <XXXXXXXXXX>; Nelson, Elizabeth <XXXXXXXXXX>
Subject: Scio Church Crosswalks

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear Transportation Commission,

I live near Scio Church Rd. and I am a daily user of this roadway as a driver, cyclist, and pedestrian. I am concerned that the plan for Scio Church Rd. improvements and crosswalks does not offer enough protection for pedestrians. Misuse of the center turn lane is rampant on Scio Church Rd., and the new plan does not do enough to correct this. Based on my review of the plans and my emails with staff, the crosswalk infrastructure is limited to paint, signs, and seasonally installed flexible bollards.

Scio Church Rd. needs a year-round solution to deter misuse of the center turn lane and protect crossing pedestrians.

I am planning to speak during the public comment time in this week's Transportation Commission meeting. I'll be referencing some of my personal experiences that are pictured in the attached file.

Please contact me with any questions. You can reach me at 734-610-8588 or petehouk@gmail.com.

Thank you,

Peter Houk
2025 Yeoman Ct.



cc: Ward 4 Council Members; Raymond Hess