



Sherry R. Huber, President
Rebecca W. Arnold, Vice President
John S. Franden, Commissioner
Carol A. McKee, Commissioner
Sara M. Baker, Commissioner

March 23, 2010

Re: Floating Feather Road, Ballantyne Lane to Hesse Lane Pedestrian Project

Dear Interested Citizen,

Thank you for submitting comments on the Floating Feather Road, Ballantyne Lane to Hesse Lane pedestrian walkway project. Your participation in the public involvement process is important and the feedback was greatly appreciated. The majority of comments received supported the project, but some concerns were also expressed. The following is a brief summary of some those concerns and how ACHD plans to address them.

Pathway on South Side

Two comments suggested ACHD install a pathway on both sides of Floating Feather Road. In an effort to maximize use of tax dollars some pedestrian improvement projects are being constructed on only one side of the street. This enables ACHD to improve pedestrian safety while at the same time allowing the District to do more pedestrian projects throughout the county. The side chosen depends on several factors. In this case, constructing a pathway on the south side would require greater resources due to the irrigation ditch and an existing storm drain line which would require raising the road.

Concrete Instead of Asphalt

An asphalt pathway is proposed instead of concrete because these improvements are temporary. When the roadway is widened in the future, permanent curb, gutter and sidewalk will be installed. This choice was made to reduce the project costs while still providing a safe route for pedestrians.

Extruded Curb

A raised concrete curb will be installed to provide a separation between vehicles and pedestrians. This curbing will define the edge of the travel lane.

Open Ditch

One comment included a concern of a vehicle potentially going into the ditch. Although the ditch will remain for now, the raised concrete curbing being installed with the pathway project will help reduce the potential of a vehicle leaving the roadway and going into the drainage ditch.

Pathway Width

The width of the pathway, in the original project newsletter, was shown to be seven feet. During design of the project, the width was reduced by two feet to provide a gravel shoulder next to the pathway and to provide the necessary travel lane width. The new pathway width is five feet.

Next Steps

ACHD has incorporated comments and has completed the pathway design. Our right-of-way department is contacting property owners along the project to purchase both temporary and permanent easements for construction of this project. Construction will commence during the school break in the summer of 2010.

If you have questions, please contact me at 387-6118 or projects@achdidaho.org . ACHD thanks you for your comments.

Sincerely,

Craig E. Herndon
Project Manager