

Notes from 3/2/16 Meeting with Jason Benson, County Engineer

Paul and I met with Jason Benson and Tom ? of the County Engineer's Office this morning. Here is a brief recap of the meeting:

1. County will file an application to FEMA to build a bridge over Drain 10. The project must have a positive cost to benefit ratio. Jason didn't think that would be a problem because the bridge would most likely serve 200 homes. Currently, the CR 31 overtops at 35 to 36'
2. County RD 31 realignment will happen this summer as previously detailed.
3. County will consider paying for all 4 street lights on CR 31. They are currently obligated for \$8900 – 2 lights. The other two lights and wiring would increase that obligation to \$22000.
4. We asked about speed limit signs on both sides of the subdivision – 40 mph. County will consider that, they thought it was a good idea given increased traffic (because of softball fields). Crosswalks are not an option because there are not sidewalks on both sides of CR31.
5. We spoke about chip seal. The engineers felt it should be done following routing and sealing of the cracks. The engineers felt chip seal would extend the life of the roadway by 20 years. The county has received very attractive rates for chip sealing given the price of oil (roughly half the price compared to 2015). They recommended we use the small aggregate for walking, biking, etc. The project should take no more than a day for HP with very little traffic disruption. Paul is going to contact the County's 2016 chip seal contractor to get a number.
6. Jason thought the diversion was a go. Once up and running, the diversion will start working at 35'. The capacity of the diversion will be to handle a new 500 year event at 41'. The new 500 year flood event is now projected to be roughly 62,000 cfs. To put that number into perspective, the 2009 flood, roughly 41', was nearly 33,000 cfs. The diversion would certainly be good news for Highland Park. The properties would only be impacted to the extent they were in 2009, even at double the water flow.

Notes by Tom Martin