
Maxwell Hill Area Traffic Study

Public Meeting #2

PURPOSE

A public meeting was held from 5:30 to 7:30 August 16, 2016 at the Beckley City Council Chambers to define current transportation issues in the area and evaluate potential solutions to reduce cut through traffic. Representatives from Burgess and Niple facilitated a presentation at 6:00 PM on behalf of the Fayette Raleigh MPO (FRM). Members of FRM, the WV Division of Highways, and local law enforcement were present to host the meeting, gather residents' suggestions and feedback concerning specific solutions, and address the perceived problems.

Twenty-eight people signed in at the meeting and five comment forms were returned at the meeting and two electronically. The comments are attached.

SUMMARY OF COMMENT FORMS

The attached spreadsheet compiles all locally voiced support as reflected by both online and paper comment forms.

ACTION ITEMS

Recommend logical, affordable, and most importantly, implementable solutions.

Source	What do you like about Concept A and why?	What do you dislike about Concept A and why?	What do you like about Concept B and why?	What do you dislike about Concept B and why?
online survey	I prefer this concept over all of the ones mentioned. There are less disruptions to the people of the Maxwell Hill community.			I don't like this concept.
online survey	Low cost and unobtrusive, doesn't disadvantage residents.	Nothing	Nothing	This will greatly inconvenience the residence of the area. Adding approximately 70 seconds of travel time to the hospital in an emergency situation for my house and 40 seconds for my mother-in-law. This could be the difference between life and death. Emergency response times are very important, this will have too much impact on them.

Source	What do you like about Concept A and why?	What do you dislike about Concept A and why?	What do you like about Concept B and why?	What do you dislike about Concept B and why?
paper survey	It gets people from the shopping center to Harper/I-64 better but I don't think it does anything the other direction. It does discourage some trucks.	It doesn't help divert people from Harper to shopping center much	Not too rough on vehicles but would discourage some traffic	Ice accumulation and toher water issues from drainage change could get dangerous and expensive
paper survey	I like the signage-but with Pinewood Drive cut off at the top of Maxwell Hill Road to prevent thru traffic	Signage alone would not deter traffic from cutting thru. Need a traffic light at Robert C Byrd Drive exit	Would slow traffic- live on Holliday and would like the humps	No problem for me
paper survey	Common sense step. Should have already been done.			Should drive traffic to Teel since it is a state route
paper survey				

What do you like about Concept C and why?	What do you dislike about Concept C and why?	What do you like about Concept D and why?	What do you dislike about Concept D and why?
	<p>I don't see C or D as an option. Both are very disruptive to the people who live here.</p>		<p>I don't see C or D as an option. Both are very disruptive to the people who live here.</p>
<p>Nothing</p>	<p>As someone who lives in the neighborhood this will cut us off from one side of town. Adding needless travel time and extra cost to our travel and commute. It will, again, greatly increase emergency response times which is unacceptable.</p> <p>Honestly, whoever thinks that cutting the neighborhood in half is a good idea is not very considerate of others. If this were to happen the daily travel of many of us would be much worse, and would just drive the traffic onto smaller, less equipped roads. Frankly, this idea is ridiculous and you are clearly underestimating the inconvenience to residents. I would put this at the highest level of disadvantage.</p>	<p>Nothing</p>	<p>This is even worse than concept C. As someone who lives in the neighborhood this will cut us off from one side of town. Adding needless travel time and extra cost to our travel and commute. It will, again, greatly increase emergency response times which is unacceptable.</p> <p>Honestly, whoever thinks that cutting the neighborhood in half is a good idea is not very considerate of others. If this were to happen the daily travel of many of us would be much worse, and would just drive the traffic onto smaller, less equipped roads. Frankly, this idea is ridiculous and you are underestimating the inconvenience to residents. I would put this at the highest level of disadvantage.</p>

What do you like about Concept C and why?	What do you dislike about Concept C and why?	What do you like about Concept D and why?	What do you dislike about Concept D and why?
Not much. It's cheap though.	I think it would divert traffic close to the school	Nothing	
I live on holliday Drive. Would alleviate my traffic.	Directs traffic to Tolley and Teel Rd.	May stop some truck traffic	Simply slows traffic some
Need to block off Christian at Tolley. Would minimally impact Christian residents and eliminate Tolley as a cutoff route. If you add barrier on Holliday at Painter, that would keep traffic from redirecting that way for shortcut.			

What do you like about Concept E and why?	What do you dislike about Concept E and why?	Other Comments
<p>I feel Concepts A and E together are the better solution. New River Drive needs improvements to the road itself right now!</p>		<p>Increased police patrols at the 4-way stop would help. I live one street away from Holliday Drive. I have family on Holiday Drive and Teel Road. None of us have an issue with the amount of traffic. The biggest problem we see is failure to stop at the 4-way.</p>
<p>I love that this will not inconvenience residence and I like to use New River drive already, so improvement to the access of this road will be excellent.</p>	<p>Nothing.</p>	<p>As a resident of the Maxwell hill area for over 7 years this whole traffic study seems like a complete waste of time and resources to me. It is a joke to think that there is a traffic problem in the area.</p> <p>I have never personally encountered the excessive speeding that people are apparently reporting (50mph), in fact I am more likely to encounter people traveling below the speed limit. I concede that people do speed (typically seems to be approximately 30mph), but in my personal experience, not to the degree that people seem to be reporting.</p> <p>I also have never seen the levels of traffic that are apparently a problem. I feel that people in this area must have no concept of what actual traffic issues look like. The traffic that goes through the Maxwell Hill area is nothing compared to anywhere else I have been in my life.</p> <p>We have very little traffic, even at the so called rush hours. To think I have been driving on these roads for seven years and never encountered the issues that people are apparently complaining about seems to be unlikely. So therefore I have to conclude that I am either very lucky, or the complaints are coming from overly sensitive people who dislike sharing the road with others. And I know I am not that lucky.</p> <p>Cutting the neighborhood in half, as is suggested in a couple of these concepts, would destroy the neighborhood itself. If my access to both sides of town were to be cut off in the manner proposed (C & D) I would consider moving. One of the great draws of the area is that it is such a good location. Emergency response times will be reduced and this will also decrease the desirability. Remove the desirability of the area and this could potentially reduce the values of homes in the area. This is not just about unnecessary traffic control, but is also about the well-being of the neighborhood in general.</p>

What do you like about Concept E and why?	What do you dislike about Concept E and why?	Other Comments
This is my favorite option because New River has a lot of potential for development if it is improved and it would be a great thoroughfare.	The cost is steep but it is in the LRTP for the 2020s. Maybe combining the intersections at Ollies would be ideal.	The completion of East Beckley Bypass will give Maxwell Hill residents easy access to the bypass via Pinewood. So, if they were to block Pinewood the residents may regret asking for blocking Pinewood when they can't get to the bypass quickly.
Would actually carry traffic the way it should go. Would also need speed humps.	Without speed humps traffic would still travel through Maxwell Hill	
Best idea in conjunction with concept A		Like the closing off of Pinewood. Cheapest & quickest. Good solution till Concept E can be completed
		Combine concept B & E
		Combine speed humps and E

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