



## **NedPeds Project Update and Summary of Next Steps**

The NedPeds project has recently completed a cost estimating and value engineering process using the 90% design as the basis. While the project has managed to significantly cut the gap between the desired project and the budget, the numbers are still presenting challenges. As the attached meeting minutes show, a number of items have been cut in order to preserve the integrity of the water treatment system while also keeping the walkability and multimodal components. The largest challenge we have to date is the inclusion of the concrete sidewalks. Once the project is trimmed to cut most if not all of the features identified in the minutes, the project remains approximately \$40,000 over budget. As a \$66,000 item, the concrete sidewalks are on the table for discussion.

It is, however, the recommendation of the design team and sustainability team that we proceed to construction bidding with the concrete sidewalks intact and see where the bids come in. This is in line with one of the basic tenants of sustainability, which is that oftentimes projects with initial higher costs have a much greater positive economic impacts in the long run. While we do not have hard numbers or projections that keeping the street as a distinctive and functional stormwater conveyance and infiltration project will result in \$x additional economic benefits, it is nevertheless our strong belief that it will be the case. Also, since we will be going to bid early and these numbers are not prepared by an actual contractor, the balance could well swing in the Town's favor.

The attached budgets show a number of modifications, and include alternates as options should the contractor be able to include them in the budget and/or the Town find additional funds to build them. Additionally, the original schematic level estimate of a more traditional drainage and conveyance system is included. These options will be discussed by Board of Trustee members at various Boards and members of the design and sustainability teams as needed.

Finally, it is important to remember that the NedPeds project ultimately has two goals, one of which CDOT and DRCOG share: 1. Create a functional multimodal pathway to connect the Park n Ride to the Post Office and 2. Address the stormwater overflow issues along Second Street. This project is attempting to combine the two in as sustainable a fashion as possible with a limited budget, a challenge to say the least. Regardless of what the Town approves, CDOT will also need to approve the project. That meeting will be set up as soon as we have clear direction on which option to pursue. Otherwise, the project is on track and we remain confident that a solution will be able to be found that ultimately works best for the Town.