



Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape Project

Pre-Design Meeting – January 18, 2012

Project Description

The Ethan Allen Gateway is a high use area for pedestrians and a substantial business area that lacks adequate sidewalks, infrastructure compatible with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), street trees, and pedestrian-oriented lighting.

The project goal is to provide a safe and comfortable environment for pedestrians that links residents to alternative transportation options, and supports local shopping and a vibrant commercial center. The project will also address improving stormwater infiltration through the inclusion of Sustainable Design features.

Workshop

After the presentation, workshop participants used small sticky dots to indicate on large maps of the Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape project area where they would like to see improvements. The color-coded dots represent streetscape elements dealt with in this project:

Red	=	Public Art / Decorative Pavement
Blue	=	Puddles / Water
Green	=	Needs Shade / Street Trees
Yellow	=	Dark / Needs Lighting

Participants were also provided with yellow post-its for placing additional comments related to the streetscape on the large maps of the project area. Comments were encouraged that addressed: sidewalk width and connectivity, pedestrian crossings, street trees and landscaping, lighting, stormwater management, way-finding signs, transit accessibility, and other pedestrian safety concerns.

Stay Connected

Visit the project page and 'like' the New Ave on Facebook to keep track of updates and meetings:

www.theNewAve.com/development/projects

www.facebook.com/TheNewAve



Or contact **Erkin Ozberk** at (301) 891-7213 or ErkinO@takomagov.org



LEGEND

- ROAD SIGN
- POWER POLE
- GUY ANCHOR
- LIGHT POLE
-  GAS VALVE
-  STORM DRAIN MANHOLE
-  UNKNOWN MANHOLE
- WATER METER
- WATER VALVE
- FIRE HYDRANT
-  SANITARY SEWER MANHOLE
-  CLEANOUT
- TELEPHONE MANHOLE
- PAY PHONE
-  BOLLARD
-  MAILBOX
-  CHAIN LINK FENCE
-  WOOD FENCE
-  GAS SIGN
- STATE HIGHWAY BASE LINE
- HCR HANDICAP RAMP



Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape: January 18 Meeting Comments

Please excuse any errors. These comments reflect those received by community participants and are only provided as a representation of the insight, ideas, and concerns that were expressed at the January 18 workshop on the Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape project. Comments appear as they were written with additions in italics indicating geographical references. Comments sent via the web or verbally are not included in these notes but have been received by the project staff.

Intersection: New Hampshire Ave and Ethan Allen Ave/East-West Hwy

- Pedestrian safety crossing NH and Ethan Allen
- Raised crosswalks, High visibility crosswalks
- Reconfigure westbound 410 @NH Avenue: Allow one lane to cross, one left turn, and one right turn. Narrow west side to one westbound lane. To avoid “the race” from two lanes to one.
 - o A redesigned right-turn could also address the pedestrian crossing. The pedestrian crossing should be protected with a light and signal.
- New pedestrian crosswalks and island: incorporate into plan – don’t waste \$\$ already spent!
- The intersection is too big, a massive concrete field! Will it be possible to increase the “pedestrian curb” (don’t know what to call it) where there is a small triangle of curb at the edge of the intersections so that the effect is to decrease the overall surface area of this massive intersection? You could put trees on them, whatever...

South Corner

- Scary pedestrian crossing, cars zip through lane. No pedestrian signal to get to island with signal
- Pedestrians have to wait a long time to cross with walk signals, especially if crossing from Shoppers to Kuku Market corner

East Corner

- This is a scary crossing with very low visibility for cars / pedestrians

North Corner

- Cars cut through traffic thru parking lot of Kuku Market from NH southbound to Ethan Allen westbound
- 5-7 minute wait to cross and then have to run.
- No right on red (N to New Hampshire) for pedestrian safety

West Corner (*no comments*)

Sidewalks

- There is a sidewalk gap in this area somewhere (*adjacent Glazwood Manor townhomes*)
- Sidewalk no continuous (*adjacent Glazwood Manor townhomes*)
- Need continuous sidewalk, preferably with buffer from road (*La Chiquita*)
- Needs sidewalk (*East of La Chiquita*)
- Sidewalks on East West, north side (*La Chiquita and east*)
- Need sidewalk connection to existing PG sidewalk on north side (*Takoma Park – Prince George’s boundary*)
- More sidewalks on MD410 and wider for pedestrian safety

Stormwater

- Low Impact Design stormwater management street tree boxes
- Please examine the options for catchment and filtration of stormwater (in the gutters) before it enters the stormwater drainage system if possible.
- Please make a serious effort to decrease use of impervious pavement wherever possible.
- Smashed-in gutter (*median in Ethan Allen Avenue near New Hampshire Avenue intersection*)

Street Trees / Landscaping

- Native trees labeled for education purposes
- Whole intersection is devoid of trees or any plants except near Sunoco. Need trees near bus stops.
- Please put them in as many places as you can! I can't put a dot everywhere there should be a tree. And use as many of these enhanced water catchment systems as possible.
- Silva cells with Oak Trees (willow oak) on each pedestrian island
- More plantings and trees throughout the intersection
- Trees for shade at bus stop (*southbound, at North corner of intersection*), do double duty with stormwater management

Bus Stops

- People cross middle of block because of bus stops (*across E-W Hwy, at Red Top Road intersection*)
- Safe cross needed to access East-bound busses (*across E-W Hwy, at Kentland Avenue intersection*)
- Improve safety, visibility, and aesthetics of southbound bus stops on New Hampshire Avenue

Signage

- Large sign to indicate Takoma Park, the distances are large and tiny signs elsewhere in the city won't suffice here.
- "Ethan Allen Ave" Sign
- Please add prominent signs that indicate "Ethan Allen Ave" on New Hampshire Ave in both directions
- "Welcome to Takoma Park" sign here (*at north corner of intersection, Kuku Market*)

Lighting

- Wherever you put in lighting, please don't make it brighter than necessary – consider dark sky needs!
- Lighted crosswalks!

Red Top Road (*no comments*)

Kentland Avenue

- Road grading at this right turn inevitably causes spin-out even on dry road (*from Kentland onto E-W Hwy westbound*)
- Kentland Avenue and E-W Hwy: no crosswalk but students from Don Bosco High School cross to get bus

Other

- At either U-Haul or Kuku Market, create a food truck serving zone for multiple trucks. While the trucks would park on private land, the pedestrian access to the windows would be from the extra wide streetscape sidewalk. Similar to the Falafel Truck.
- Rats! Lots of rats (*in landscaped area at East corner of intersection*)