

Questions for Ambridge

Merchant Street Streetscape and Gateway Improvement Project

1. What are the funding sources for the project? \$3 million dollar Bond Funding
2. Is the funding for both design and construction in-hand now? Yes! \$3 million Bond Funding in hand! We anticipate looking to secure additional funding (such as: PennDot CFA Multi-Modal Funding, SPC or DCED funding) to possibly help accommodate improvements along the 8th Street Gateway) as some preliminary design and cost estimates are defined.
3. If federal funds are involved, will PennDOT be the reviewing the bid documents; does this need to be submitted through PennDOT's ECMS? Currently no Federal Dollars. It is possible there maybe PennDot Dollars for the 8th Street Improvements should Council decide to pursue this portion of the project.
4. Is background mapping available (field survey- topo., property lines, boundary, utilities) for the project? I am not aware of any up to date survey-topo, property line, boundary mapping. We do have mapping of the Borough's Water, Sewer and Storm Water systems.
5. Can you clarify the scope for 'Public Art Implementation'- Has a public art piece been chosen? Do we know where and what this is, or is this something to be determined? There has been no public art pieces chosen. We are looking to upgrade the visual of CJ Caul Park. There is currently a water fall feature that no longer is working order, the Honor Wall of Ambridge Borough residents that have served in the various military wars is in need of landscape upgrades and improvements. This could also include proposed murals on various building walls to help add interest and display the past and current culture for the town.
6. Can you confirm this project does or does not include the intersection Rt.65 and 8th. Street (the traffic signal, ped. heads, and crosswalks)? The primary scope of the project is Merchant St from the intersection of 8th to 12th. However, due to the fact it touched 8th Street (Rt 989) it may be recommended improvement to this intersection being address. The fact that 8th Street is one of the main Gateways into the Borough Council would like to explore the possibility of including this Gateway segment from Rt 65 to Merchant. There is a Rt 65 Study that was lead by the Quaker Valley COG that can be referenced for recommendation that came out of this project.
7. Has PennDOT been involved with prelim. discussions for this project? If so, who is your contact? NO! However PennDot did fund the 65 Corridor Study and they are familiar with the recommendations for improvements that have been suggested.
8. Please define the scope of work for the below traffic signals. Will below traffic signals be replaced, retrofitted with new heads and repainted, or just repaired/repainted?
 - a. Maplewood and 8th (PennDOT Rt. 989)
 - b. Merchant and 8th (PennDOT Rt. 989)

c. Merchant and 12th

I believe that the Traffic signals at Merchant and 11th will definitely need to be upgraded (more than likely entirely replaced) per the project scope.

As for the 2 signals on 8th Street it is safe to say the some upgrades on the 8th & Merchant Street will need to be performed. Regarding the 8th & Maplewood this will depend on if the Borough wished to move forward on the Gateway Projects preliminary study and recommendation. In addition if Council decide to seek additional funding from PennDOT to help fund these improvements.

9. Has any conceptual planning, budgeting, or a master plan been completed for the project?
The Route 65 Corridor Study “ 65corridor.org”, and the former Streetscape from 4th – 8th Street along Merchant Street.
10. If so, can the concept, budget, or master plan be sent to bidding consultants for review?
See above
11. Who is on the selection committee?
3 Members of Council, Borough Manager, Downtown Chamber of Commerce Representative, Ambridge Downtown Development Corporation Representative, and a representative from the Ambridge Historic Development District