

(70)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Greenways Commission
Joe Herzenberg, Chair *BW for J.H.*

SUBJECT: Transportation Improvement Program

DATE: January 22, 2003

The Commission reviewed the TIP and voted unanimously (5-0) to recommend that the Council seek a greater share of the funds made available for the region.

In addition, the Commission strongly recommended that the Council take whatever steps it can to move the Morgan Creek Trail project high enough on the TIP that some funding for construction would come into the schedule in a reasonable time. The Commission is concerned that there are currently no funds for a major greenway project in the State transportation pipeline. The only other large funding amount potentially available is the Orange County bond and that will likely be confined to the Bolin Creek Trail project. The Commission notes that the Morgan Creek Trail would be a good project because it would extend an existing greenway, the Town already owns the majority of land needed for a first phase, and the conceptual planning efforts should be completed in 2004. We believe that the goal envisioned in the 2002 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, of building 6-7 miles of trail by 2011, will be severely compromised without additional construction funds in the State TIP.

Voting yes were Joe Herzenberg (Chair), Bill Bracey, Peter Calingaert, Jim Earnhardt and Robert Verboon