

Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting

August 21, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Administrators Present: Tom Fortnum, Jeffrey Matzner, Matthew McFarland, Josh Reynolds, Vanessa Sanders, and Belinda Wallen

Board Members Present: Al Moyer

Public Present: Eric Meyer and Steve Niebler

Topics for Discussion:

1. HABPI (Healthy Adams Bicycle/Pedestrian, Inc.) Presentation on Boyds School Road Bike Trail

- a. Mr. Meyer shared the mission of HABPI, which is to develop bicycle and walking trails and advocate for the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians.
- b. Mr. Meyer described the Boyds School Road Pathway project as a 1.2-mile-long off-road pathway for walking and biking along Boyds School Road from Old Harrisburg Road, joining the existing North Gettysburg Trail at the Gettysburg Area High School (GAHS), and then heading west to Biglerville Road.
- c. Mr. Meyer said the pathway, which would be 8-feet wide and made of asphalt, was identified in the Central Adams Comprehensive Plan, adopted by Straban and Cumberland townships and Gettysburg Borough in 2019.
- d. HABPI is in the process of requesting proposals for a feasibility study that is expected to be completed in June, according to Mr. Meyer, who noted Straban and Cumberland townships each contributed \$5,000 towards the cost of the study.
- e. Mr. Meyer pointed out that SolAmerica has offered to construct the pathway along the GAHS property on the south side of Boyds School Road, if their solar farm project is approved by Straban Township officials.
- f. Dr. Matzner asked if the cost would come to the district, if the solar farm project were to fall through.
- g. Mr. Meyer said the cost would not fall to the district.
- h. Dr. Matzner also questioned who would be responsible for the maintenance of that section.
- i. Mr. Meyer said they would need to come to an agreement on how it will be maintained, working with the townships, school district, and potentially the Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority, as the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources requires a signed maintenance agreement.
- j. Dr. Moyer noted there would be a need for a little maintenance there, but he sees the project as a positive by getting people to campus safely.
- k. Mr. Reynolds asked if there was any movement on the improvements needed for the bridge over Rock Creek in relation to the project.
- l. Mr. Meyer indicated the feasibility study will have an estimate for the cost of the bridge portion, noting that is likely to be the biggest expense of the project and presents a financial challenge.
- m. Mr. Reynolds shared the potential safety issue in that area, if they are unable to incorporate it in the project due to the cost.

- n. Mr. Meyer asked if there was interest in having a district representative serve on a steering committee once the feasibility study is done.
- o. Dr. Matzner said district officials will discuss next steps and get back in touch with HABPI.

The next meeting will be held on September 18, 2025 at 4 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Administration Building.