

## Notes for IMHA

March 30, 2007

- Recognize the support of Commissioner Larry Dillard and Mayor Tony Petelos for the greenway study funded through the county.
- Recognize the cooperation between the city and the county to construct the new Veterans Park at Spain Park. The use is phenomenal.

The greenway study was approved by ALDOT. It is funded through the Livable Cities program of the Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission of which Mr. Dillard chairs the greenway committee.

Gresham Smith is the contractor for the study, which will identify the corridor for the greenway through Inverness- along Inverness Parkway and Inverness Center Drive.

It is our intent to run the greenway within the ROW of the parkway and Inverness Center Drive and on City of Hoover property. The greenway will be 10 feet wide in most places allowing for safe usage by joggers, bicyclists and walkers. Ten feet allows for safe passage of a variety of users going either direction. We plan to run the greenway through the new Inverness Park. The greenway should be easily accessible for all users of all ages including those with physical limitations.

I recently met with City of Hoover officials to discuss development of Inverness Park. Initial plans call for development of a passive recreation including hiking and viewing nature, including songbird habitat and wildflower enhancement. The Mayor approved the city forester and landscape architect to take the lead on the project.

A separate but equally important project is the widening of Valleydale Road by the City of Hoover. Plans call for a 5- lane road with a 6- foot wide concrete sidewalk along the entire project, basically from near US 280 to Caldwell Mill Road. The IMHA supports a 10- foot wide greenway in place of the concrete sidewalk. Both Mayor Petelos and Commissioner Dillard support the 10- foot wide greenway. The issue is the road is designed and the concern is that changing the plans will delay the project 2-3 years. I have asked the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce to host a meeting with ALDOT, Senator Wagoner, Mayor Petelos, Commissioner Dillard and the Inverness Masters Homeowners Association to approve and expedite the change to minimally delay the project.

We need your support to make this happen. Please contact Senator Wagoner and let him know our community interest to push the project forward.