

Northville DDA: Mary Alexander Court should remain one-way street

DDA revises street plan after merchants' input

By Pam Fleming • STAFF WRITER • February 18, 2010

Northville Downtown Development Authority Board members have decided to keep Mary Alexander Court as a one-way street after merchants complained about plans to make it two-way.

The revised plan by JJR landscape architects in Ann Arbor was unveiled at Tuesday morning's monthly DDA Board meeting.

Parking spaces were also added rather than subtracted as originally planned, with a total of 18 spaces proposed in the new design. Four spaces will be gained on the east end of the court compared to the previous design.

Two separate Dumpsters and one grease container for restaurants are also planned in the design.

The design will maintain a continuous sidewalk along the street and provide barrier-free access to the parking deck on the south side.

Lori Ward, DDA executive director, said the volunteer Design Committee considered having a sidewalk added next to the driveway into the parking deck, but decided it would be cost prohibitive. This is because the \$17,000 arch would have to be taken down plus the columns on either side of the entry.

WALL AROUND DUMPSTERS

A masonry wall will be constructed by the Dumpsters to partially conceal those structures, with the board suggesting no doors be placed leading to the receptacles, since they could block the sidewalk if left open.

The revised plan was unanimously supported by the DDA Board, and it will go before city council on

March 1. A letter was mailed to merchants affected by the improvements last Friday to inform them that the one-way street heading westbound will remain.

Ward said an MDOT grade inspection is scheduled for Feb. 18, and that the project is proceeding through the grant approval process that will be finalized this spring.

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