

Town Center Renovation Project

2/28/19 Project kick off meeting minutes

Attendees:

- Everett Heller, Fin Com, Capital Planning
- Richard Maki
- Rosanne Mapp
- Pam Guild, First Church
- John Woodsmall, First Church
- Pat Campbell, Library
- Carol Stewart-Grinkis
- Sean Hamilton, SMLD
- Bill Tuttle, DPW
- Paul Cathcart, EDC
- Ross Perry, TA

The group agreed to limit the project scope to both sides of Main Street as follows:

- Starting at the SMLD
- Park Street
- North on Meetinghouse Hill Rd to lots 64/65
- South on Meetinghouse Hill Rd. past the First Church and Library
- South on Main Street (Worcester Rd.
- Ending at Princeton Rd lots 51/52
- Ending at Worcester Rd lots 34/35

The construction may be handled in smaller segments of the above.

After this phase of the project is underway, extending the sidewalk and underground utilities further up Meetinghouse Hill Rd, Princeton Rd. and Worcester Rd may be considered.

Overall project components:

- SMLD buries electric wires and installs conduits for Verizon and Comcast(?)
 - Leaves graded, leveled, and compacted dirt surface, ready for new surface
- DPW installs new water main as some of the pipes go back to 1940's
 - Drainage is NOT part of this project as it reported to be functioning as designed and was mostly replaced in 2014 when Main Street was repaved.
- DPW repaves the sidewalks.
 - Asphalt or concrete?
- Coordination with Verizon and Comcast
 - Comcast is currently planning on placing their cables underground
- SMLD prefers to use street lights consistent with the design they use from the rest of Town.

- These may not be esthetically what this group determines most appropriate
 - More discussion required
- Should any of the road geometry be changed as part of this project?
 - The 2007 Plans show the Meetinghouse Hill Rd to Main Street intersection in front of the library reconfigured to more of a right angle.
- Ask the Police Department for accident data at Meeting House Hill Rd from Main Street to Park Street. (Ross)
- Check with MRPC about previous traffic studies. (Domenica)
- The finished project should include park benches, trash receptacles, trees and other landscaping.
- Obtain additional paper copies of 2007 plans in smaller format. (Ross)
- Contact property owners for their participation and input.
- What about additional parking off Houghton behind the Library?
- Are 'traffic calming' designs appropriate?
- Retaining the historic look of The Common, per 'horse and buggy' pictures was mentioned as a goal by at least member

Potential funding sources:

- Chapter 90 funds
- TIP
- MassWorks
- Complete Streets
- Bonding
- Capital Investment Funds

Timeline:

- SMLD and DPW are ready to start the first section covering both sides of the road from SMLD to Traina's Insurance spring 2019
 - Should this proceed or wait for overall design effort?
 - What is the best material for the sidewalks, asphalt, concrete, brick, etc?
- Carol has information from a previous Town Common study will work with Sean to compare street light pole and fixture designs
- Hold off contacting Weston & Sampson for initial design input until the group has identified changes from their 2007 plan.
- Review modified parking plan for the Library to see if it should be formally including in the modified plans.

Next meeting:

10:00 Thursday Mar 7th, 2019

Respectfully submitted by:

Ross Perry

