

Town Center Renovation Project

3/14/19 Project meeting minutes

Attendees:

- Mike Pineo
- Pat Campbell
- Richard Maki
- David Hurlbut
- Gary Chamberland
- Bill Tuttle
- Carol Stewart-Grinkis
- Domenica Tatasciore, Town Planner
- Ross Perry, TA

While discussing the first segment of the project, SMLD to Traina's Insurance Co, Bill agreed with the rest of the group that the sidewalk material and 'style' should be coordinated with the rest of the town center segments. He mentioned that Asphalt is the easiest to maintain.

One option might be to use concrete for sidewalks on the eastern (presumably more traveled side of Main Street (same side as most of the businesses and asphalt on the other side of road

The group is still interested in knowing the cost difference between different materials; asphalt versus concrete, and concrete with different borders. Bill was volunteered to provide a square footage estimate for sidewalks on both sides of Main Street from SMLD to Traina's. The MassDOT web site has a project estimator. Hopefully, Bill can obtain some high level cost estimates.

Is there enough road width for both parking and sidewalks around the Common? It was suggested to remove all or some of the perimeter sidewalk (as soon on the 2007 plans) or all of some of the parking spaces. There was concern about the loss of parking spaces, approx. 25. Parking spaces without a corresponding sidewalk will force users to walk on the road. One option is to renew/expand the sidewalks in the interior of the Common and open more gaps in the white rail fence around the Common.

Are there any road surface changes that will improve stopping and turning at the Meetinghouse Hill Rd and Park Street intersection? Would rubble-strips on Main Street before the Common help slow traffic?

There was a suggestion to improve pedestrian paths between the library and the 1835 building and also between the Butterick Building to the 1835 Building, and Church and Library.

The sidewalk width of 6ft in front of the library shown on the 2007 plans may be more than necessary.

The 2007 plan show a right-angle intersection of Meetinghouse Hill Rd and Main Street in front of the library. One comment suggested it remain more like it is today.

It might improve snow plowing to remove the 'bump outs' from the library parking lots as shown on page CP-2 of the 2007 plans.

The above issues/concerns could use the input of traffic engineer.

Weather permitting, the group plans to do a 'walk-around' and mark up the 2007 plans with their findings.

Notices of the next meeting should be given to as many business and residents on Main Street as possible.

Next meeting Thursday 3/21 10:00 AM

Ross Perry