

Local Concerns Meeting

Pearl Street Corridor Scoping Essex Junction, Vermont

May 8, 2012

One Team.

Infinite Solutions.



Project Committee

CCRPC – Christine Forde

Village – Dave Crawford, Robin Pierce

Stantec – Greg Edwards

Meeting Purpose

- Describe project development process
- Provide the public with collected existing information
- Solicit additional information, issues and concerns
- Address questions and comments

Project Development Process

- Collect and review existing information.
- Conduct Local Concerns meeting to solicit concerns and ideas.
- Establish project purpose and needs.
- Identify potential alternatives.
- Evaluate alternatives and determine a preferred alternative.

Project Area and Existing Conditions

Existing Conditions Plan

- Project Background – Complete Street
- Roadway Characteristics
- Land Use and Zoning and Potential Redevelopment
- Pedestrian/Bicycle Facilities
- Transit Service
- Intersections
- Crash History
- Corridor Resources

Draft Project Purpose

- To promote a multimodal corridor and enhance the mobility, access and safety for all users including vehicles, transit, pedestrians and bicyclists.

Draft Project Needs

- **Pedestrian Facilities** – Much of the existing sidewalks are 4 foot wide and some are deteriorated and are not ADA compliant.
- **Bicycle Facilities** – Through the project area there is no on-road or shared use path facility for bicycles. The existing roadway lanes are 12-foot wide with no shoulders and sidewalks varying from 4' to 5' wide.

Draft Project Needs

- **PO Square Intersection** – The intersection's eastbound and northbound approaches experience some delay and congestion. This is expected to worsen. The existing signal is not MUTCD compliant and numerous rear end crashes occur at this intersection.
- **Corridor Consistency/Compatibility** – The VT 15 corridor has had many recent improvements including bicycle lanes, new sidewalk, new curbing, drainage improvements, new street lighting, and new landscaping. All these are contributing elements to a multimodal corridor that promotes TOD. The 2500 feet is the one unimproved section of Pearl Street.

Draft Project Needs

- **Traffic Calming/Gateway:** This corridor is the entrance to the Village area. For eastbound travelers, the VT 15 Corridor is transitioning from a 48' foot-wide roadway with bike lanes and a more recent commercial development to a more Village context with a mix of development, commercial, and residential. Some of the existing structures are historic. This context warrants slower speeds, includes numerous drives and streets, turning vehicles, and has significant pedestrian and school children activity. Improvements need to consider providing a corridor design and context that promotes mixed use development and creates a gateway to the Village.

Community Input

- Safety issues
- Pedestrian/bicycle operations/destinations
- Traffic operations – AM/PM
- Truck/bus operations
- Emergency vehicle operations
- Important resources/properties
- Special Events
- Planned Developments

Next Steps

- Finalize Project Purpose and Needs
- Develop and Evaluate Alternatives
- Conduct Alternatives Presentation
- Seek Local Endorsement

Comments and questions

Pearl Street Scoping, Essex Junction, VT