

MEMORANDUM

TO: Essex Junction Planning Commission

FROM: Regina Mahony

DATE: August 2, 2021

RE: Design Review & Historic Preservation Overlay District **Public Outreach**

During the July 1st meeting the Planning Commission asked Staff to work on seeking public input on the proposal to extend design review and historic preservation to the trunk routes leading into the Village. CCRPC has prepared some language and an online map for your review and consideration.

1. Here is an online map equipped with a comment feature. Once a point is put on the map, a pop-up appears for comments, name and address. None is required, so people can skip the name and address part. This is set up so that a person can see all the comments. A user can only delete or update their own comments. The online map can be advertised in a variety of places (Front Porch Forum, Facebook, newspaper, etc.) and we can leave it open for however long you'd like to gather input. Here is the online map -
<https://ccrpc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=554e13ec15054f938992b67026a10255>
2. There is also a large-scale version of the map that can be printed for display in local places – maybe the Village Offices, Library, Rec Center, etc. This will have Terry's email address for sending comments in, and it will also include a url to the online map. We can also include sticky notes and pens with the map and folks can leave comments directly on the map.
3. Draft blurb for advertising:

Proposed Design Review & Historic Preservation Overlay District

The Planning Commission is proposing to expand the historic preservation and design review standards used in the Village Center District into the trunk routes of Main Street, Lincoln Street, Pearl Street, Park Street and Maple Street. This expansion is called for in the Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission is seeking input on these proposed changes to the Land Development Code. Please provide comments via the online map (insert tiny url) or via email to Terry Hass <terry@essexjunction.org>.

Note that the historic preservation standards as proposed apply **only** to those buildings listed or eligible for the State or Federal Register of Historic Places. *The properties that MAY BE subject to these rules are located on the map as a "historic site". The data for this is old, but the best available for this purpose.* The design review standards as proposed apply to all properties within the overlay district.

The purpose of these standards are to:

1. Protect those buildings listed or eligible for the State or Federal Register of Historic Places while accommodating new and appropriate infill and redevelopment.
2. Enable infill and redevelopment that brings opportunities to provide new sources of architectural and urban design for the 21st century while increasing density, multi-modal development, activity and economic opportunity.
3. Carryout the concepts of the Design Five Corners Plan which are to accommodate infill development while calming traffic and reclaiming more space for people.
4. Establish a pedestrian friendly atmosphere from the surrounding neighborhoods into the Village Center.
4. The historic sites outside of the overlay district have been removed from these maps to avoid confusion.
5. Regarding timing, it would be best to wait until late August/September to spread the word on this.