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MRLD, LLC

MEMO

DATE: 1 November 2017

RE: Kittery Foreside Land Use, Parking, and Transportation Study

Draft Recommendations Summary

TO: Town of Kittery Planning Board

FROM: Mitchell Rasor, Principal

On October 25, 2017, the consulting team of MRLD and TY Lin – with the assistance of Town Staff, KACTS, and the Study Working Group – presented draft recommendations regarding mobility, land use, and urban design issues at a second Public Forum.

The goal of the Study:

The goal of this Study is to determine a reasonable and palatable build-out scenario to use as a model to conclude what land use regulations, traffic patterns, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, and parking resources are necessary to support and sustain future growth while not diminishing community character and residential qualities.

The draft recommendations were developed through a process including:

- A review of the 1997 Study, the Foreside Forums, current zoning and policies, the latest draft of the Comprehensive Plan, as well as other documents
- Input from Public Workshop #1 held in June
- · Ongoing input from the Working Group and Town staff
- Analysis by the consultant team

The presentation and technical memos provide detailed information on the draft recommendations, but in general the recommendations can be divided into the following categories:

- Safety
- Transportation
- Zoning
- Character
- Economic / Community Development

Safety:

- Low, medium, and high growth projections were determined for the study area in terms of residential and commercial growth. The street and intersection concept design recommendations have been modeled and meet or exceed safety standards. In addition, the mobility recommendations have been modeled to ensure that future capacity needs are met.
- Sidewalks, crosswalks, and other pedestrian and bicycle accommodations were inventoried and the proposed concepts improve the sidewalk network, add and align crosswalks to safe locations, and right size intersections in order to make pedestrian crossings safer.
- On-street parking throughout the study area has been better defined to not only increase parking supply, but also improve vehicular and bicycle circulation.
- Proposed bump outs and road diets on Walker and Route One will help calm traffic, without reducing capacity.

Transportation

- The goals of the Study are being carefully coordinated with the Route 103 (Walker / Wentworth MaineDot) project in order that both projects inform each other, leveraging funding for the optimum mobility and streetscape improvements.
- On-Street parking is maximized throughout the study area to increase supply and create a more village like environment. On-street parking is also maximized in order to avoid the creation of more surface parking.
- Either dedicated bike lanes or sharrows are recommended for all major streets to improve safety and encourage biking.
- As currently designed, Route 1 consists of three different zones of scale and character running from the river to Government, Government to Walker, and Walker north through Gourmet Alley. It is a major goal of this Study to make the scale and character of Route 1 and the intersections more consistent in order to promote a village like atmosphere, improve safety, and calm traffic all while maintaining capacity.
- While the Study reflects the realities of the peak AM and PM Shipyard traffic volumes, streets and intersections have been designed to meet the needs of the community first rather than the two hours +/- a day when Shipyard traffic impacts the study area. New signals and signal optimization will maintain capacity, while improving circulation for all users, even during peak Shipyard hours.

Zoning

The primary goals for zoning include:

- Extend walkability and character of Foreside to Route 1
- Reconcile uses between MU-KF / BL-1 / BL
- Larger buildings along Route 1 corridor
- Smaller buildings east of Route 1: 1,000 to 4,500 +/-
- In general, redevelopment along Walker at a larger scale than other streets in Foreside
- Stabilize and preserve residential neighborhoods by allowing low impact uses such as home occupations
- In a recommended zone encompassing Route 1 and the area from Route 1 to Wallingford Square between Government and Walker, allow for more flexibility in uses, design standards, and dimensional standards. However, this flexibility should not allow for development that is out of scale with context nor create excessive congestion and parking demands.
- Promote zoning and uses calibrated with available on-site and off-street parking availability

Character

- In general, extend the village character of the Foreside to Route 1 by encouraging downtown scaled development, more urban streets with liner buildings, improved streetscapes, right sized streets and intersections.
- Integrate zoning, transportation, and design standards to promote placemaking.
- Begin to identify the Foreside neighborhood as a series of legible and attractive streets and squares that improve circulation, aid wayfinding, and encourage economic development at the appropriate scale and intensity. Currently, Wallingford Square is a "destination," however the integrated approach to mobility and land use envisions additional "squares" including Walker Square, Government Square, and Whipple Square. These squares will act as anchors, neighborhood centers, and gateways.
- Several recommendations have been made to increase access to the waterfront in addition to pocket parks as well as improved access to John Paul Jones Park

Economic / Community Development

Since 1997, the Foreside has seen tremendous revitalization. Growth and innovation should continue to happen in the study area. However, "palatable" growth thresholds need to be identified to maintain the character of the area, balance form, use, and parking demand while providing a safe transportation network for all users.







Agenda

1. 6:00 – 6:05 Introductions

2. 6:05 – 6:40 Draft Recommendations

3. 6:40 - 7:25 Q&A

4. 7:25 – 7:30 Next Steps





Working Group

Donnajean Ahigian, Board of Directors for the Dance Hall
Marissa Day, Planning Board and Foreside resident
Tom Emerson, Economic Development Committee
Ken Gilbride, Property owner in the Foreside
Elisa Winter Holben, Business owner and resident in the Foreside
Ben Lord, Black Birch business owner in the Foreside
Terry Lochhead, Foreside resident
Tom Roberts, Beach Pea Bakery business owner on State Road

Staff includes:

Chris Mann, Representing Maine DOT Jamel Torres, Representing KACTS Kendra Amaral, Town Manager Dave Rich, Public Works Commissioner Chris Di Matteo, Town Planner



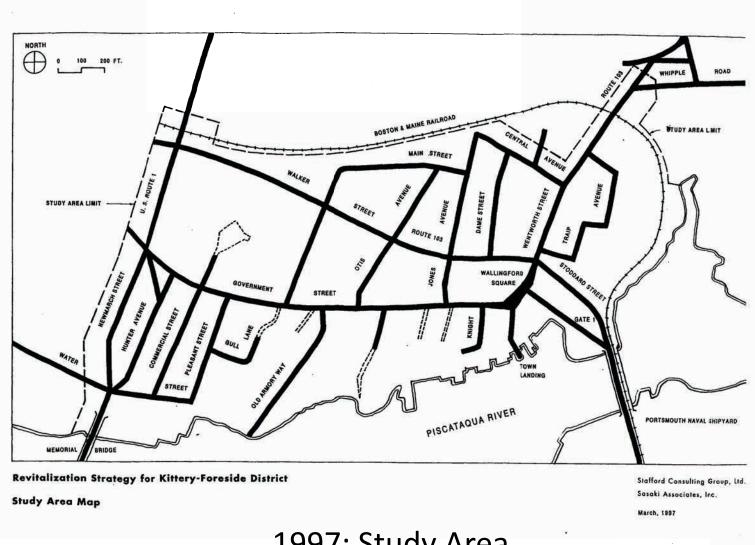




2017: Study Area







1997: Study Area





1997 - 2017: 20 Years of Change

1997 Plan Findings

2017 Study Findings

Disinvestment

Kick-Start Growth

Affordable

Ample Parking

Primarily Residential

Strict Parking Standards

Zoning/Use Disconnect

Streetscape Disinvestment

Not a Destination

846 Parking Spaces +/-

Investment

Guide Growth

Expensive

Parking Proximity Concerns

Residential with Mixed Use

Flexible Parking Standards

Zoning/Use (General) Alignment

Streetscape Investment

A Destination

1,007 Parking Spaces +/-





June 15 Public Forum #1:



June 15 Public Forum #1 Summaries:

- Housing potential on water district site
- · Better pedestrian infrastructure in Gourmet Alley area
- High speeds in Gourmet alley need to calm traffic
- Walker / State intersection is too big
- TD Bank entrance is too narrow
- Better pedestrian signals and crossings at State / Newmarch / Government / Hunter a complicated intersection for pedestrians and vehicles. Does not encourage access to park
- · Love Lane is dangerous. High speeds, no sidewalks, cut through traffic, difficult sight lines. Traffic calming needed
- Better walking paths needed. Rail line could be safe and direct connection from Route 1 to Wallingford
- Better / uniform street lights on primary downtown streets
- Better pedestrian infrastructure all of Walker and Wentworth
- Jones and other residential type streets residential parking programs
- Concern with pay for parking program (which has since been installed on Jones similar to Portsmouth and Portland)
- · Old fire station site owned by Town should be redeveloped with small infill building with parking to rear
- Wallingford Square area is going to see more parking conflicts
- In general, need better pedestrian amenities throughout Kittery Foreside
- Trees in Wallingford Square need maintenance
- · Lots of people from out of state congesting downtown
- Need new traffic signals at Walker / Wentworth
- Shipyard exits two ways into Wallingford Square, which works for them but creates additional congestion downtown
- Need increased engagement with Shipyard on parking, circulation, and land use particularly parking
- Better / more appropriate land use at intersection of Wentworth / Rogers / Whipple
- Public / private parking agreements such as with York Hospital
- Variations in parking regulations (more or less variation





June 15 Public Forum #1 Summaries:

- · Require on-site parking
- Increase parking fines
- Install smart meters
- Formalize parking along western side of Wentworth
- Not enough parking at peak (dinner / restaurants most intensive use and trending that way
- Shipyard traffic and dispersed lots an issue
- · Seasonal special contractors particular concern for parking
- Install multi-story parking garage on Jones
- Install multi-story parking garage on water district site as part of redevelopment to serve that site, Gourmet Alley, and Kittery Foreside
- Maximum five-minute walk from parking space to destination particularly Wallingford Square as destination
- Allow for overlay zoning in Kittery Foreside for special projects or to recognize that Wallingford Square is unique in scale, uses, and intensity
- York hospital should better address Route 1 with active door and first floor retail
- The gap along Walker created by parking for Loco Cocos should be addressed with infill development
- · Sidewalk along southern side of Walker need to be wider
- Limit cut through traffic on Love Lane





June 15 Public Forum #1 Summaries:

- Don't want to become Portsmouth
- · Need to understand Shipyard parking impacts
- Choke point at the intersection of Government / Walker / Town parking lot
- Either bike lanes or sharrows throughout study area
- Parking garage and affordable apartments on water district site
- Gourmet Alley look to other areas of town for growth. Wetland restrictions and congestion limit development
- Look at making Gourmet Alley a "town street" and not a "highway"
- Should parking on residential streets be allowed currently is on most
- Most get Shipyard employees out of on-street spots and residential neighborhoods
- People parking illegally in ADA spots
- · General parking management and enforcement
- Extend character of Foreside to Route 1 and Gourmet Alley and Wentworth / Whipple intersection
- Turn old fire department building into surface parking
- · Sell Taylor building and make parking
- Unsafe turns being taken into Town parking lot at Walker / Wentworth intersection
- Two-levels of parking by Rice Building
- · Wentworth and Traip are currently underutilized parking
- More access to water not just working Town Wharf



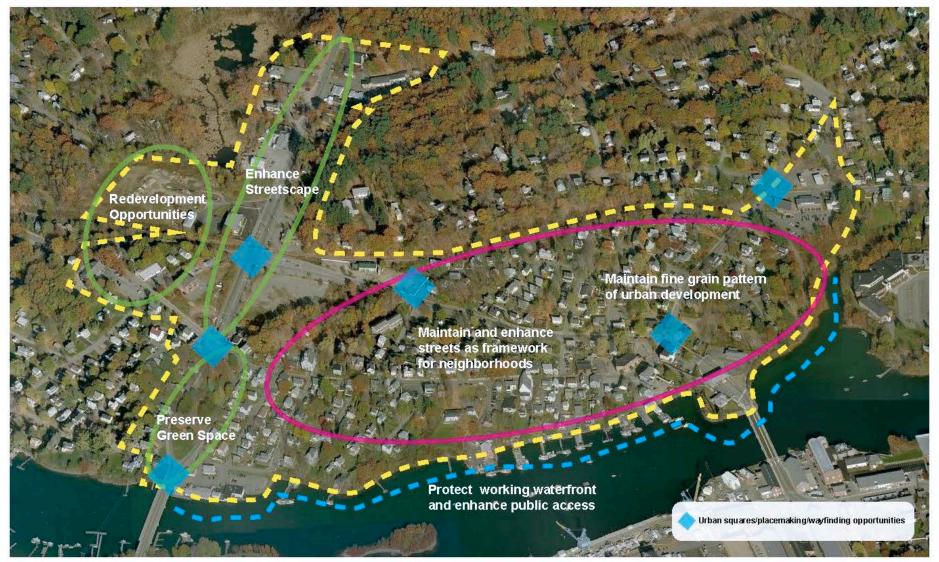


June 15 Public Forum #1 Summaries:

- What are marijuana considerations. Should this be an allowable use?
- Add sidewalk to Love Lane
- · Wayfinding needed
- Play structure needed in study area / range of pocket parks
- The whole area does not need infill. Fabric nice now
- Incentives for Shipyard for buses and satellite lots exist
- Utilize Town easements to create access to water (need easement map created by Open Space Committee)
- · Wayfinding for parking and for Wallingford Square key
- · Cars to fast, especially on Walker
- Parking signage, striping, regulations, and enforcement need to be consistent visually and in terms of policy
- Rezone residential side streets as separate from Walker and Wallingford Square, for example
- Rethink / redesign parking on two-way section of Government
- Usually empty on-street by Poco Loco's, but people will not walk that far
- Kittery Foreside is a walkable community. Make it more so...
- Sidewalk upgrades needed on Walker
- Focus commercial growth and protect residential streets
- Streetscape could be downtown open space / civic
- New reconstruction of Walker and State Road too wide. Wrong character. Can't walk across.
- Reclaim Route 1 / State Road for sidewalks / infill development...
- Could there be a path running along river?
- Warren's only place to easily access water views
- Do not create parking on first level of buildings facing street. Not interaction. Not pedestrian / village friendly



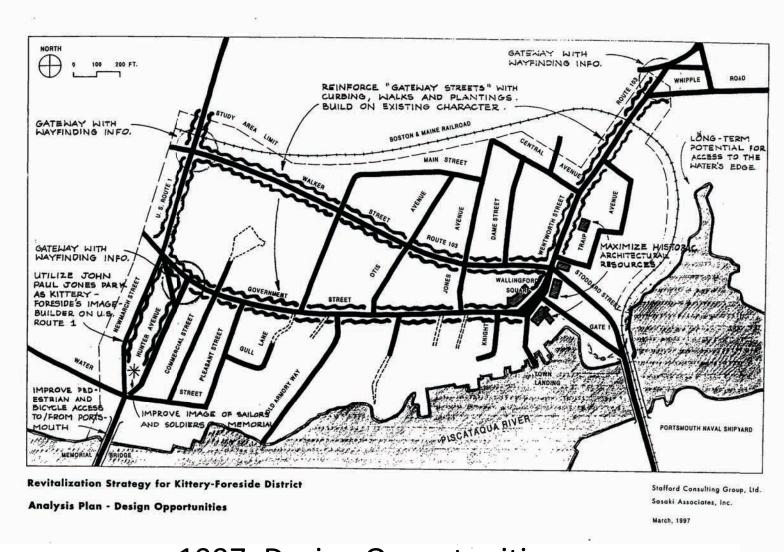




2017: Study Area Initial Observations







1997: Design Opportunities





A Place is Defined by:

- Streets
- Intersections
- Architecture
- Neighborhoods
- Open Space
- Respect for History
- Respect for the Future
- People





Key Metrics:

- Improve Walkability and Safety for Pedestrians and Bicycles
- Protect Residential Neighborhoods
- Allow More Development Flexibility in Mixed-Use Areas
- Make Route 1 More Consistent in Character / Scale
- Create a More Unified Zone From Whipple to Wallingford to Route 1 / Gourmet Alley
- Increase Access to a Range of Open Spaces
- Increase Awareness of Parking Options
- Not Portsmouth
- Coordinate with Shipyard





Goal:

The goal of this Study is to determine a reasonable and palatable build-out scenario to use as a model to conclude what land use regulations, traffic patterns, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, and parking resources are necessary to support and sustain future growth while not diminishing community character and residential qualities.





Framework Statement:

Use the street network to define neighborhoods, balancing existing and anticipated growth patterns in order to enhance a sense of place.

- Preserve and stabilize residential neighborhoods
- Allow for more flexibility in uses and design in more mixed-use and commercial neighborhoods





Study Methodology:

- 1. Existing Conditions: Review previous studies and planning efforts, study existing zoning and policies, map existing land use, urban design, transportation, and parking uses.
- 2. <u>Visioning:</u> Gather input from community and stakeholders to shape vision for desired future growth
- 3. Model Growth: Develop build-out scenarios
- Guide Growth: Develop zoning and transportation recommendations supporting desired build-out and redevelopment



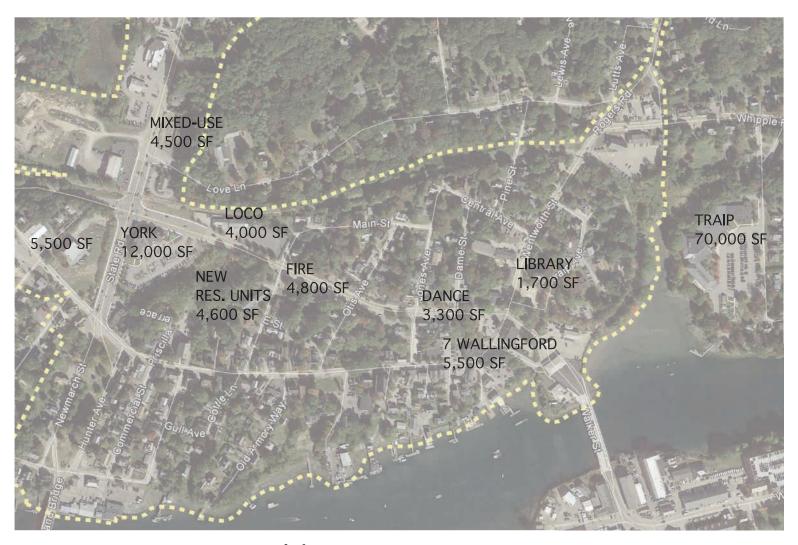




Pedestrian Sheds







Existing Building Footprints Comparison





Kittery Foreside Land Use, Parking, and Transportation Study Zoning Strategies:

- 1. Extend walkability and character of Foreside to Route 1
- 2. Reconcile uses between MU-KF and BL-1 (for example grandfather):

Mass Transit

Building Materials

Garden Supply

Conference Center

Funeral Home

Gas Station

Mechanical Service

PARKING LOTS?????

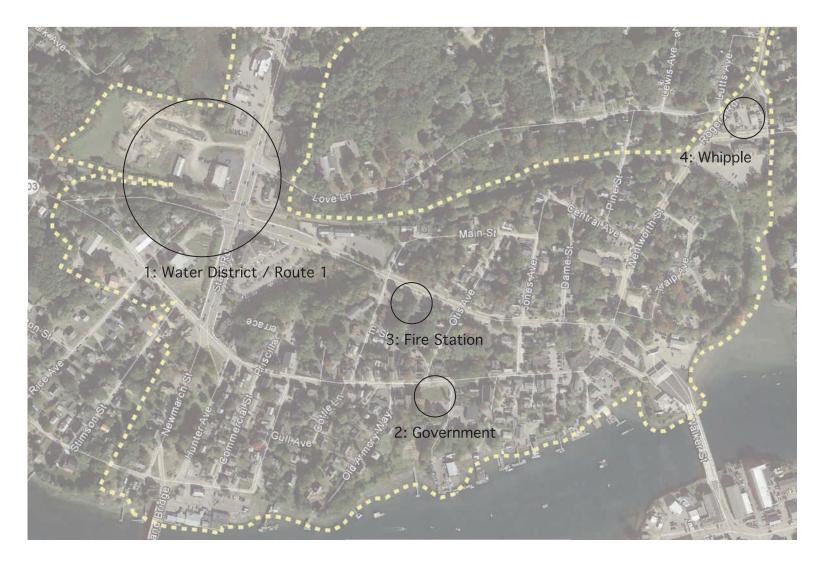
- 3. Larger buildings along Route 1 corridor
- 4. Smaller buildings east of Route 1: 1,000 to 4,500 +/-
- 5. In general, redevelopment along Walker at a larger scale than other streets in Foreside

Projected Growth Models: 20 Years

Existing	Mid	<u>High</u>
Comm: 268,854 SF +/-	25,000 SF	90,000 SF
Residential: 400 +/-	95 Units	200 Units
Totals:	294,000 SF 495 Units	359,000 SF 600 Units
Additional Parking:	500 +/-	1,500 +/-
Peak AM Trips:	121	294
Peak PM Trips:	216	517







Mid Growth Scenario







Water District and Route 1 / Walker







Government Street: Infill to Code







DRAFT: Government Street: Infill to Code







DRAFT: Government Street: Infill Not to Code







Fire Station Site: Infill / Redevelopment to Code







DRAFT: Fire Station Site: Infill / Redevelopment to Code







Whipple: Infill Redevelopment to Code



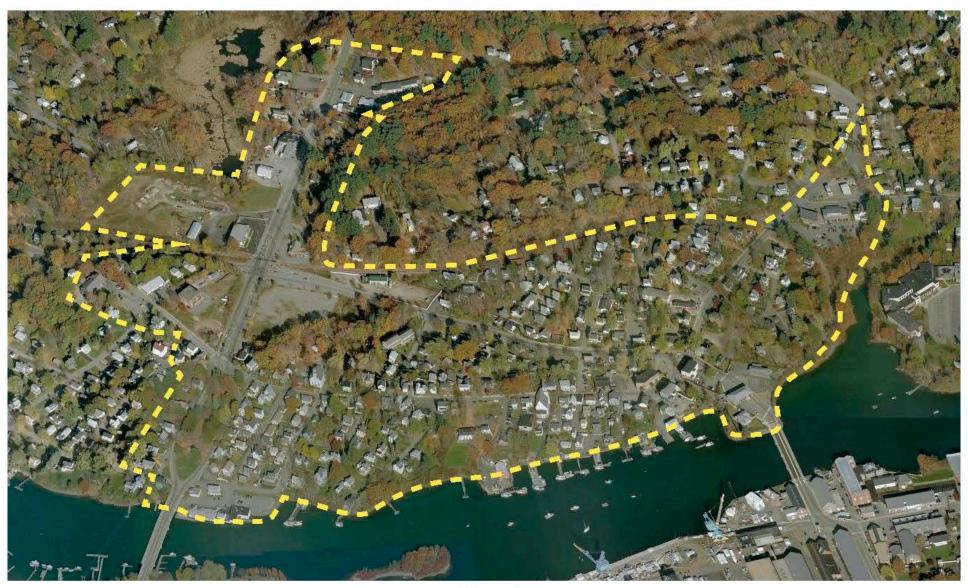




DRAFT: Whipple: Infill Redevelopment to Code













1997: Existing Zoning



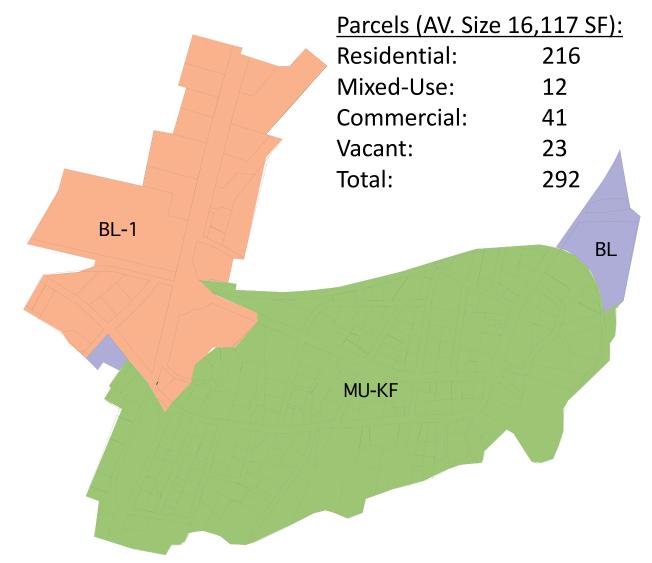




1997: Proposed Zoning



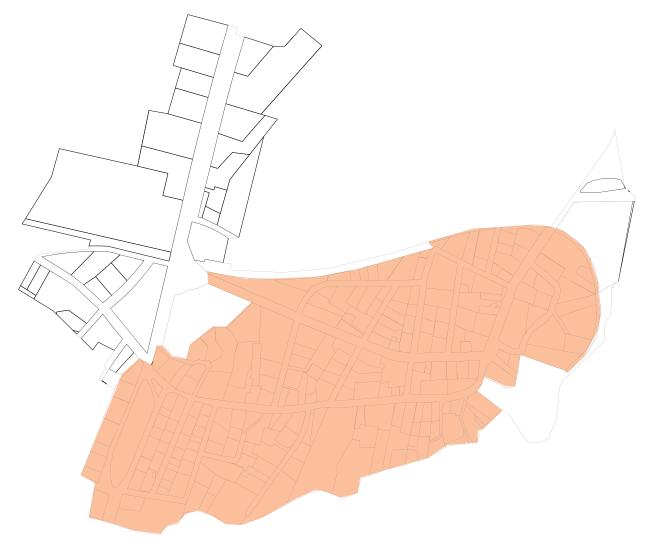




2017: Study Area Existing Zoning



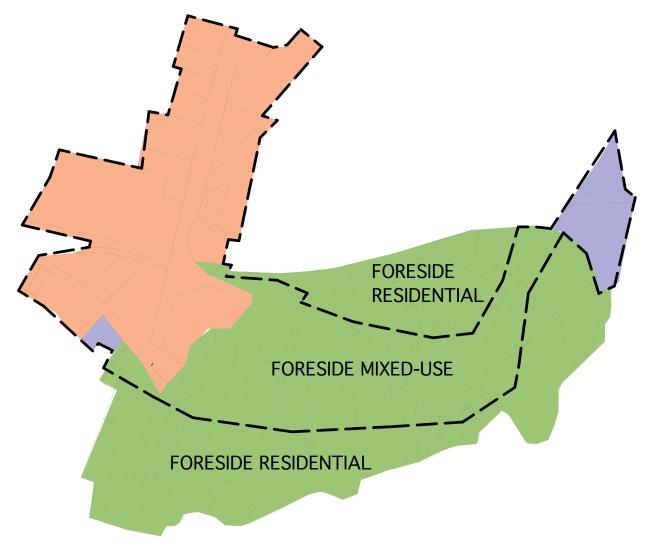




2017: Comprehensive Plan Neighborhood Stabilization







2017: Proposed Draft Zoning







2017: Street and Squares Concept Diagram

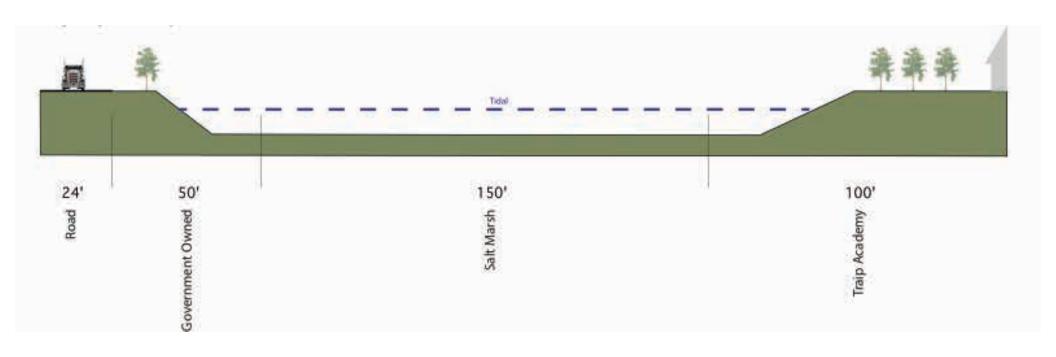




Proposed Greenway Connectivity and Open Space





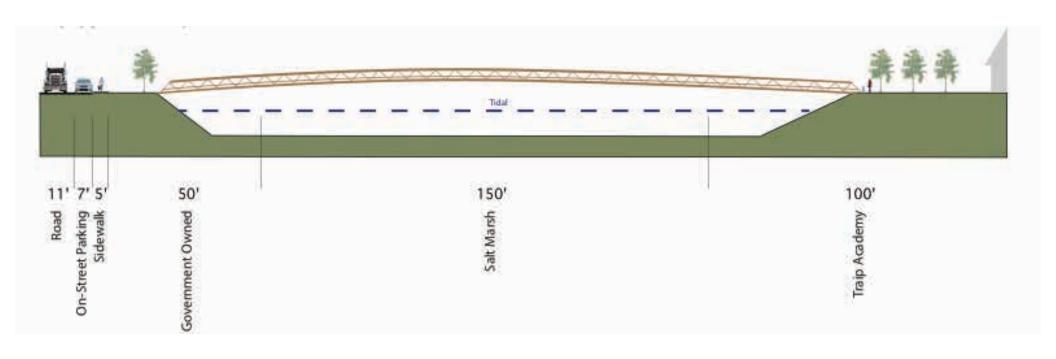


Greenway / Estuary: Existing







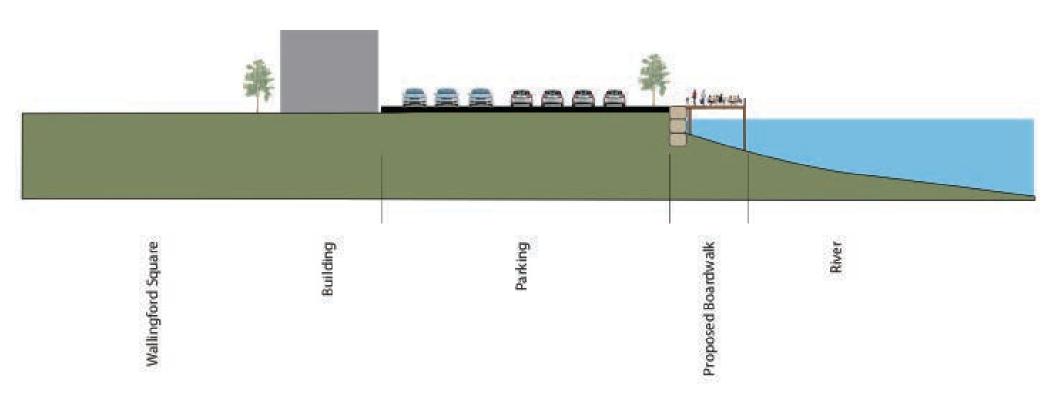


Greenway / Estuary: Proposed





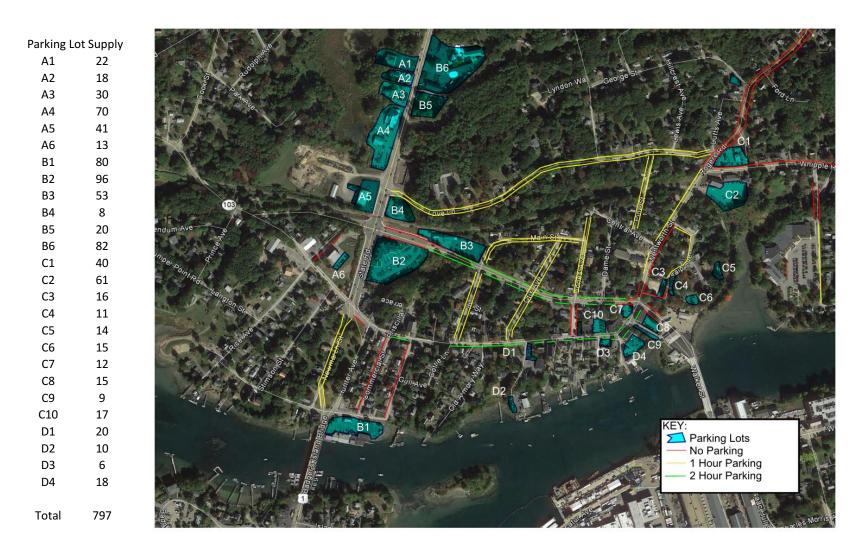




Wallingford Square Boardwalk: Proposed



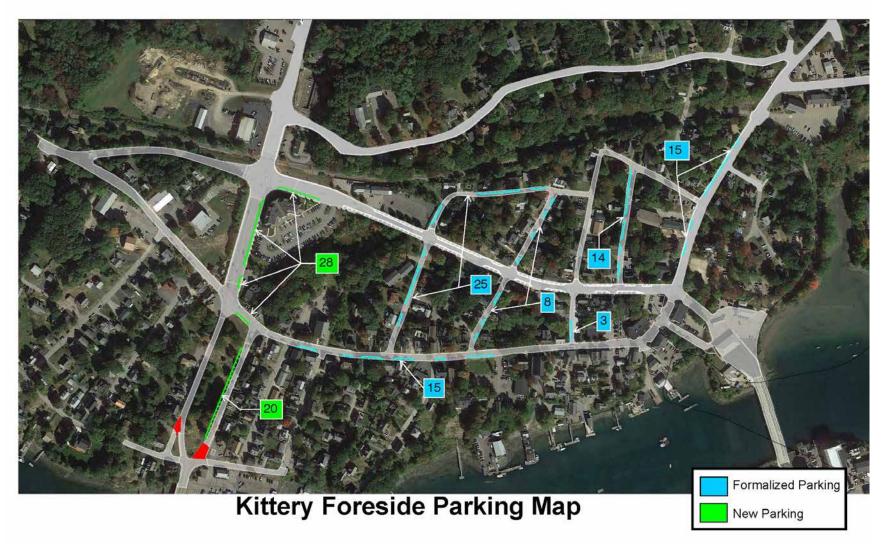




Off-Street Parking: 797 Spaces







On-Street Parking Supply Enhancement

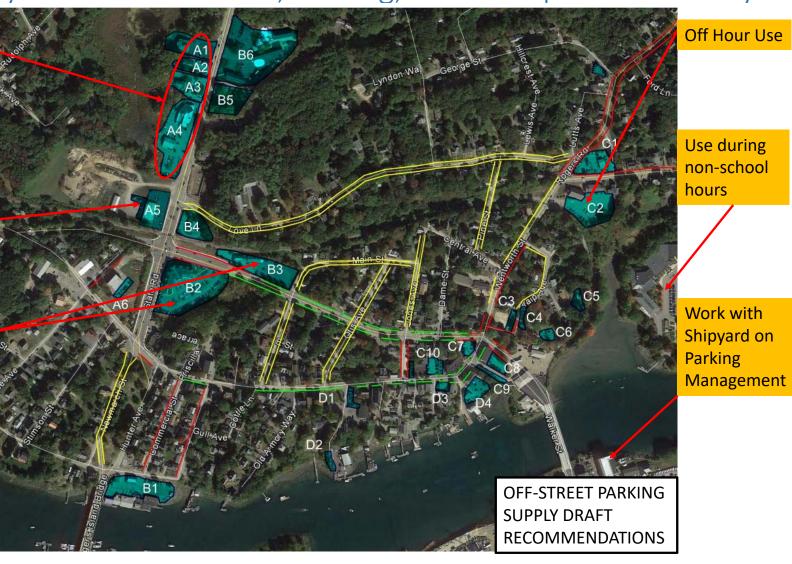




Formalize Shared Parking

Add Parking Supply as part of redevelopment

Off Hour Use



Off-Street Parking Supply Enhancement



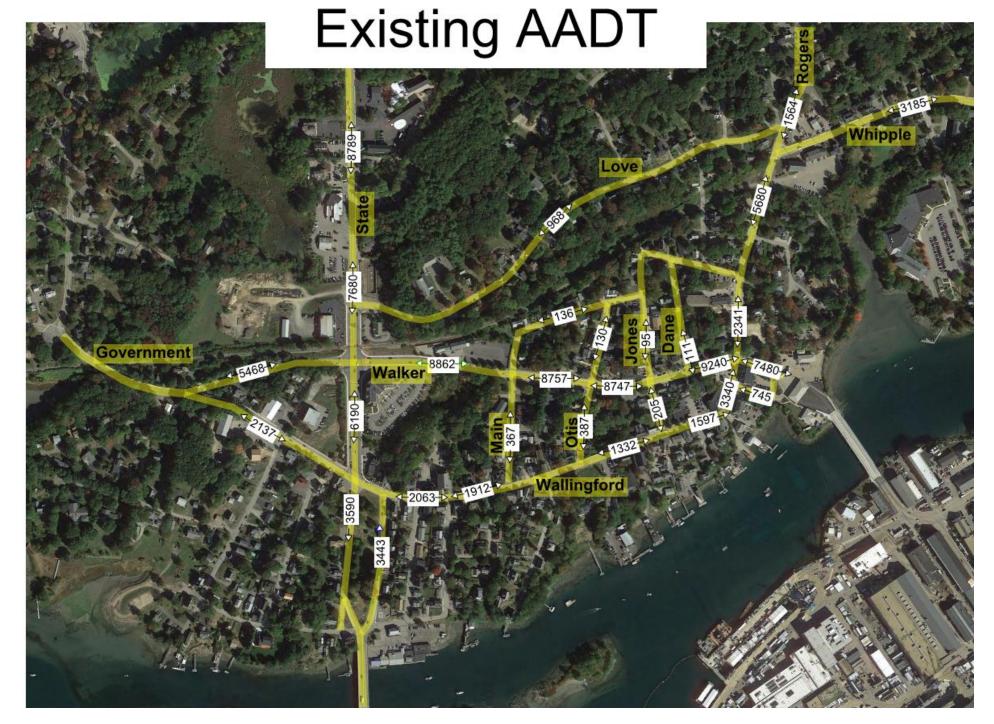


Off-Street Parking Strategies:

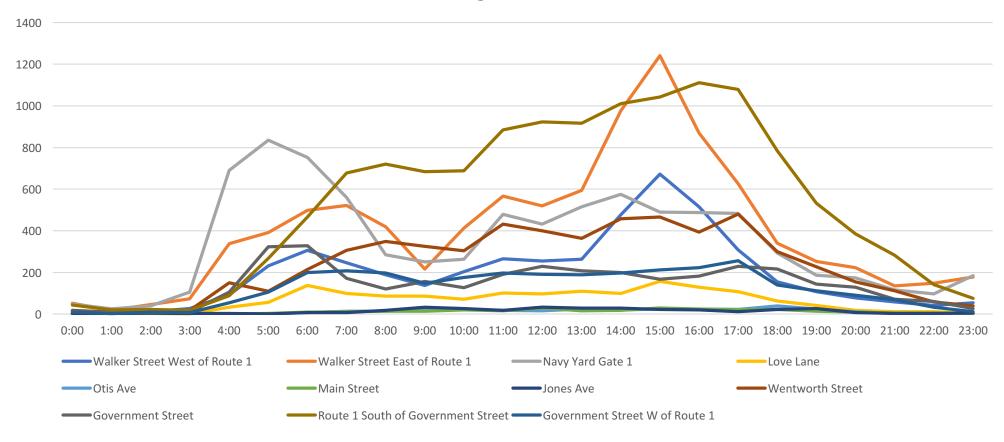
- 1. Off-hour shared parking
- 2. Shared parking for abutting uses
- 3. Create new parking supply with redevelopment
- 4. Coordinate with the shipyard on parking management strategies





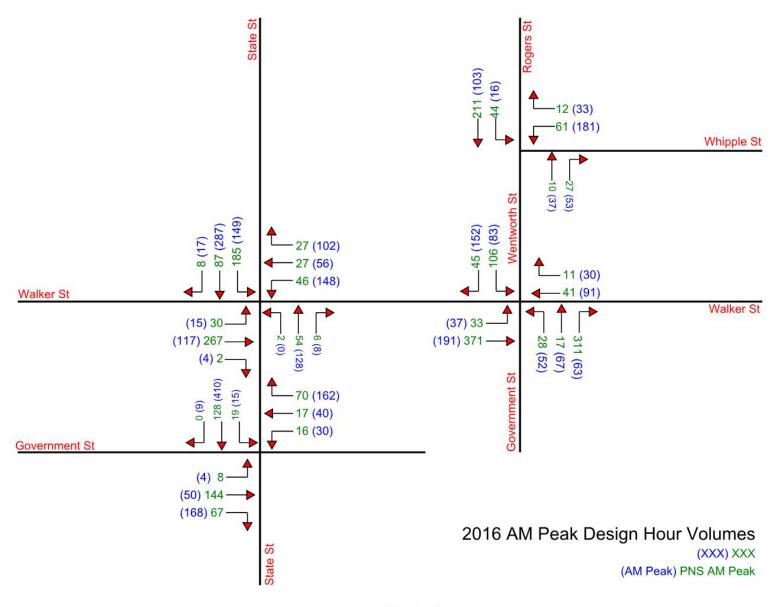


Hourly Volume Variation According to Tube Counts



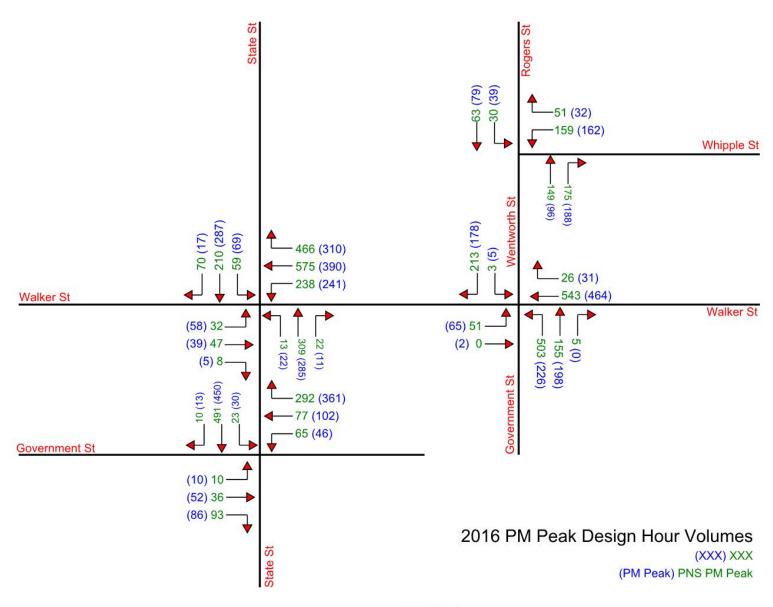






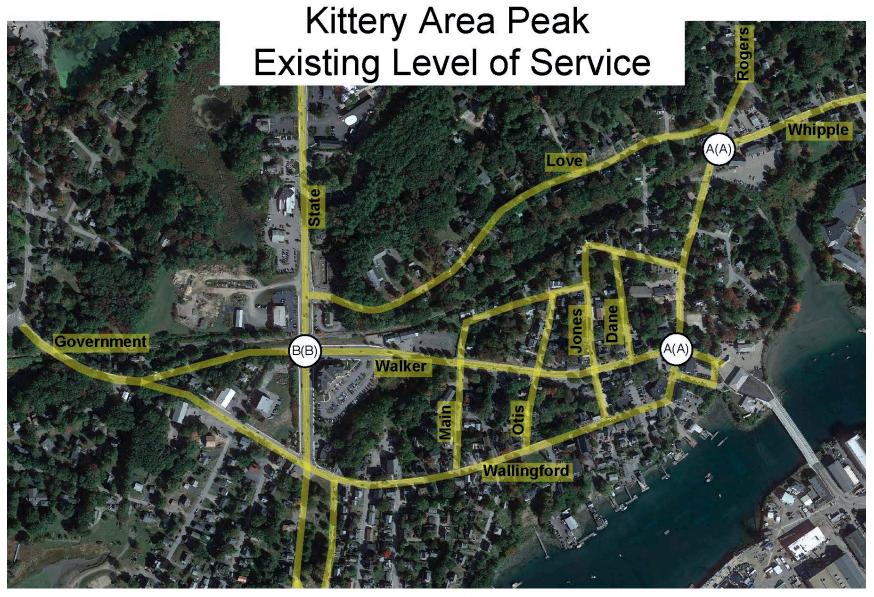






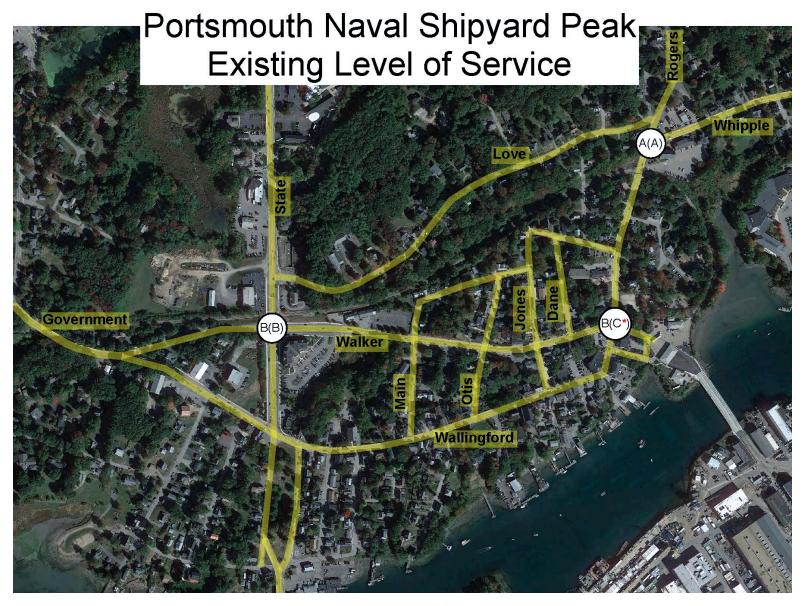






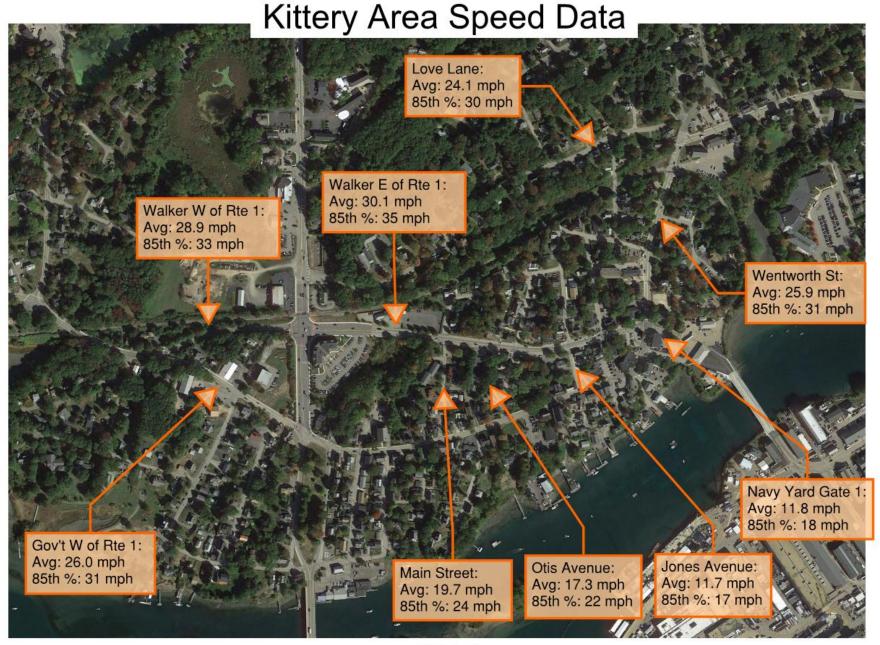






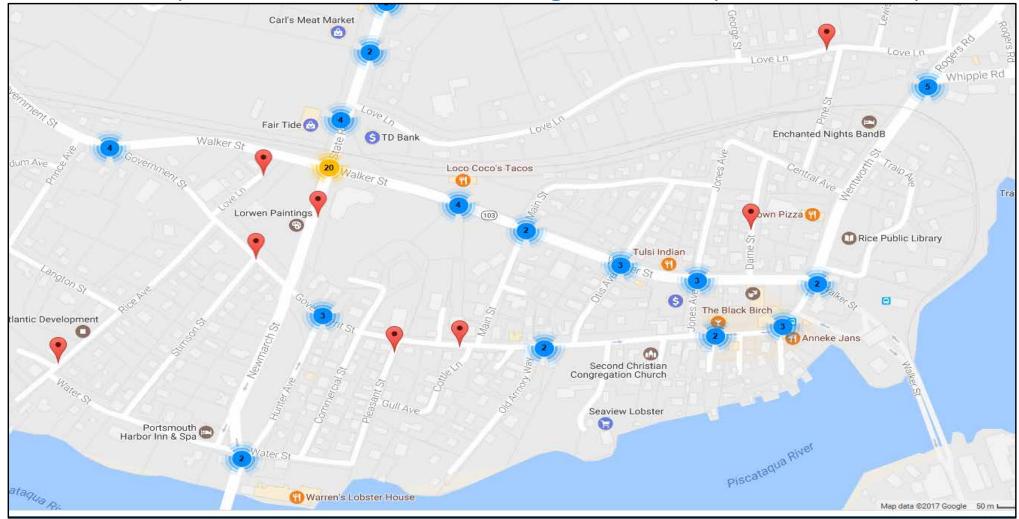












Existing Crash Data









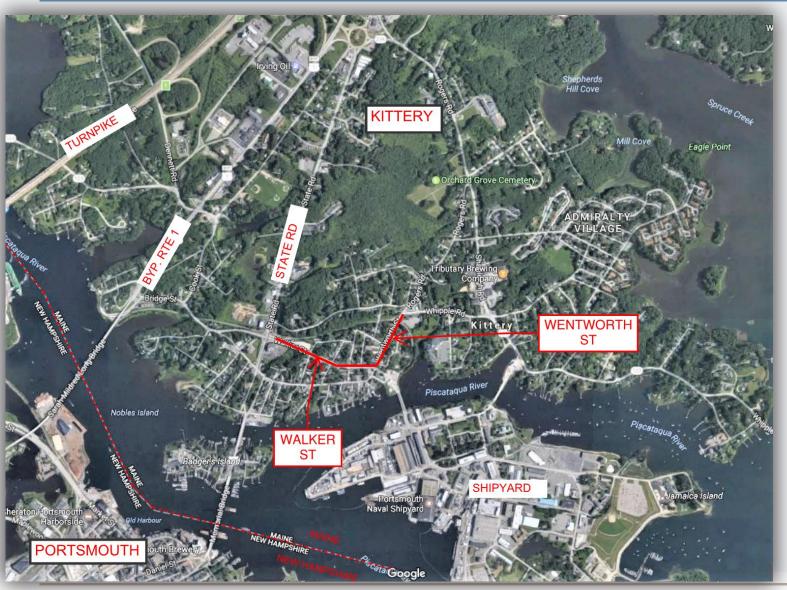


Kittery NHPP-1865(300)

State Route 103 (Walker St. and Wentworth St.)
Pedestrian Facility, Access Management,
Safety, Traffic Signal Improvements

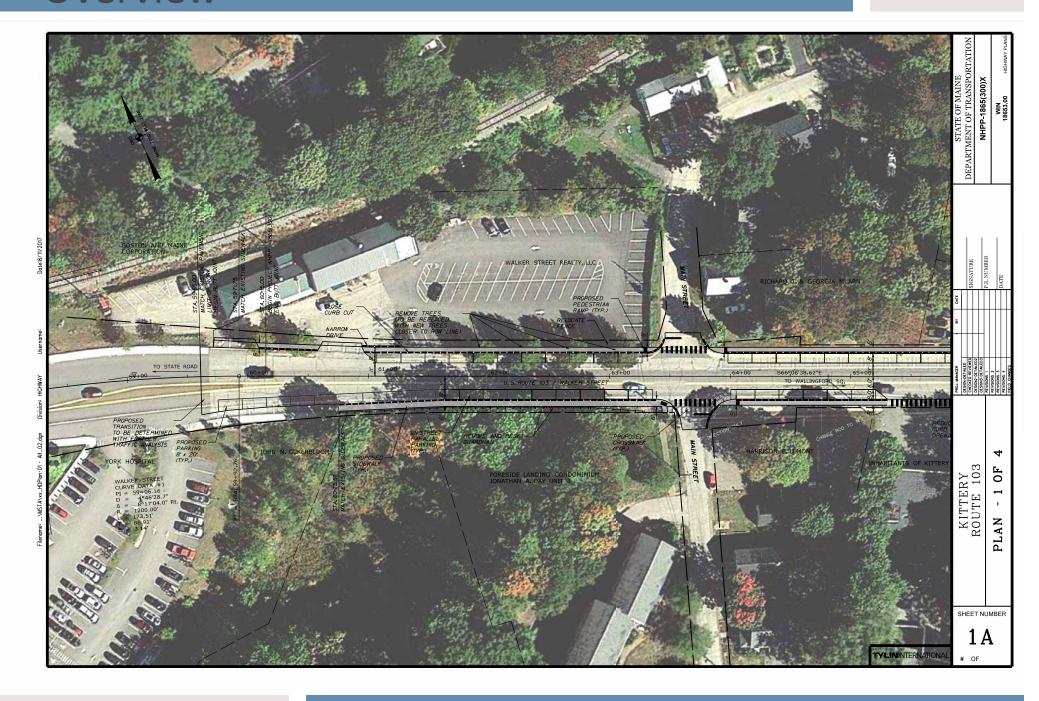


Project Location

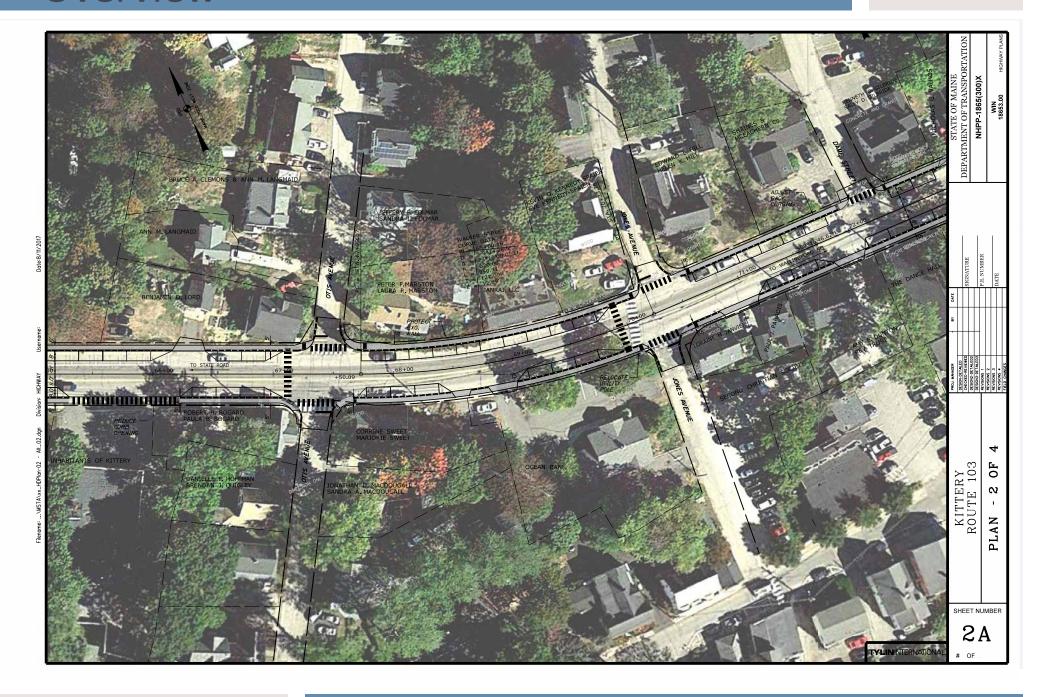


- Begins 400'
 east of
 State Rd
- 0.31 mileon Walker Rd
- 0.19 miles on Wentworth St
- Ends at Whipple Rd
- Includes
 Intersection at
 Walker /
 Wentworth /
 Wallingford
 Square

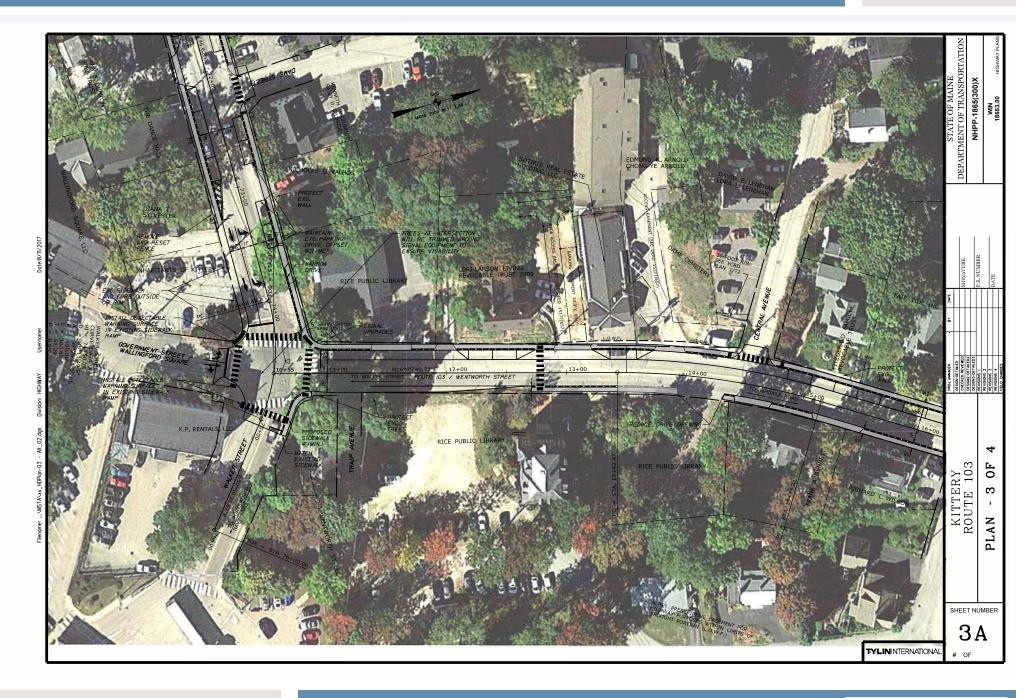
- Proposed Design
 - Walker St
 - ▶ 5' Sidewalk both sides
 - ▶ 8' Parking both sides
 - ▶ 11' Travel Lane both sides

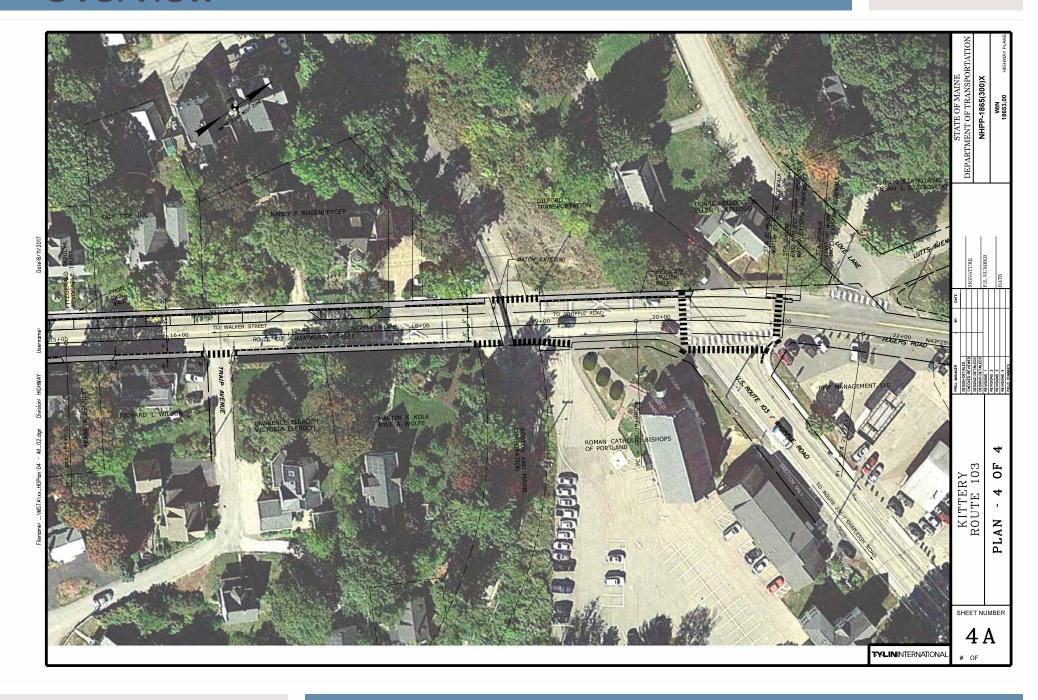






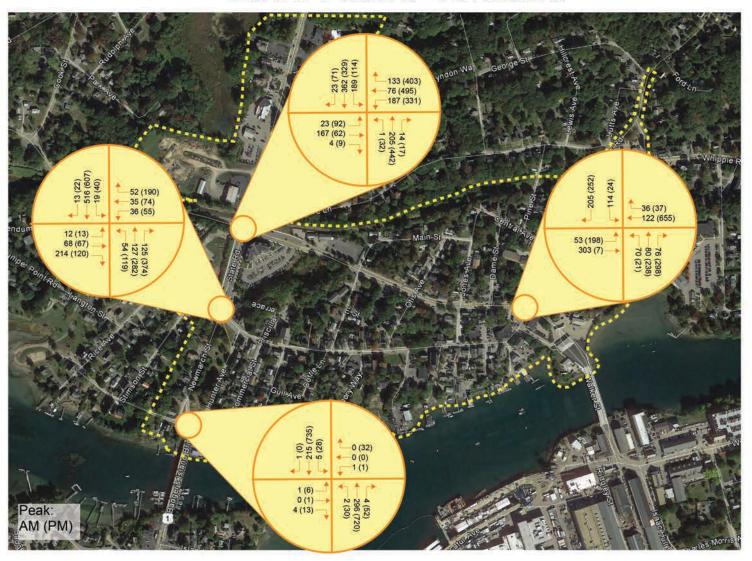
- Proposed Design:
 - Wentworth St being Studied
 - ▶ 8' Parking on west side only
 - ▶ 5' Sidewalks on both sides
 - No shoulder
 - Requires Design Exception / to go through MaineDOT Approval Process
 - Drainage and Cost currently being evaluated







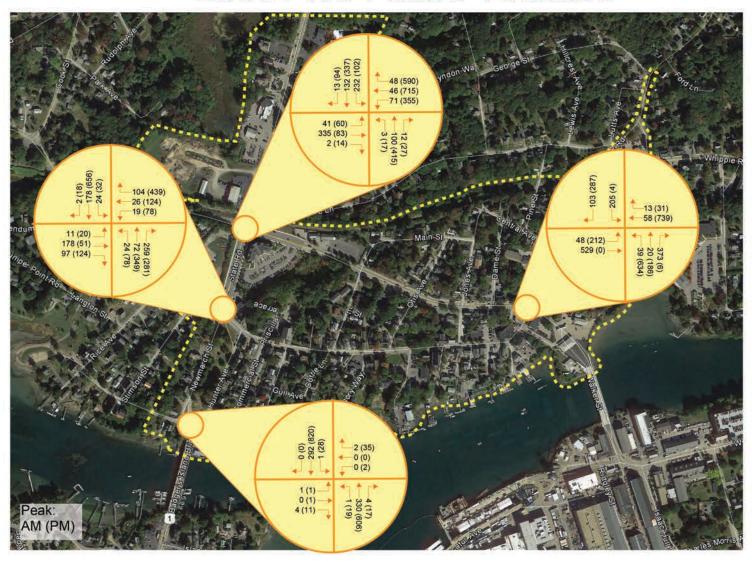
2036 Future Volumes





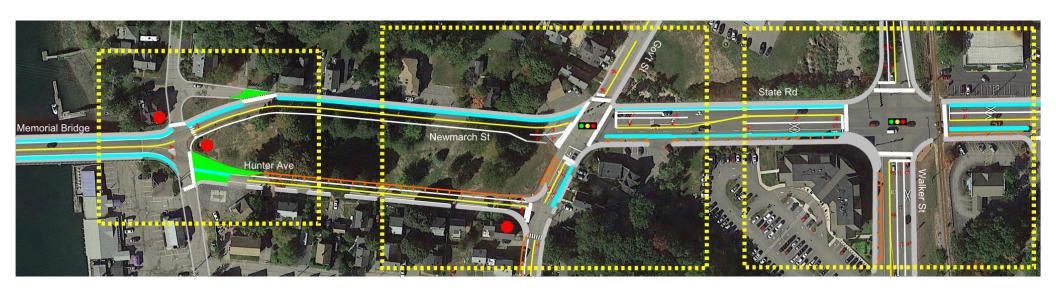


2036 PNS Future Volumes





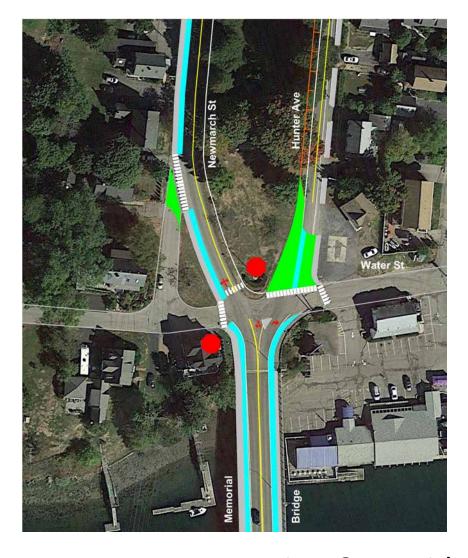




Route One Intersection / Corridor Improvements



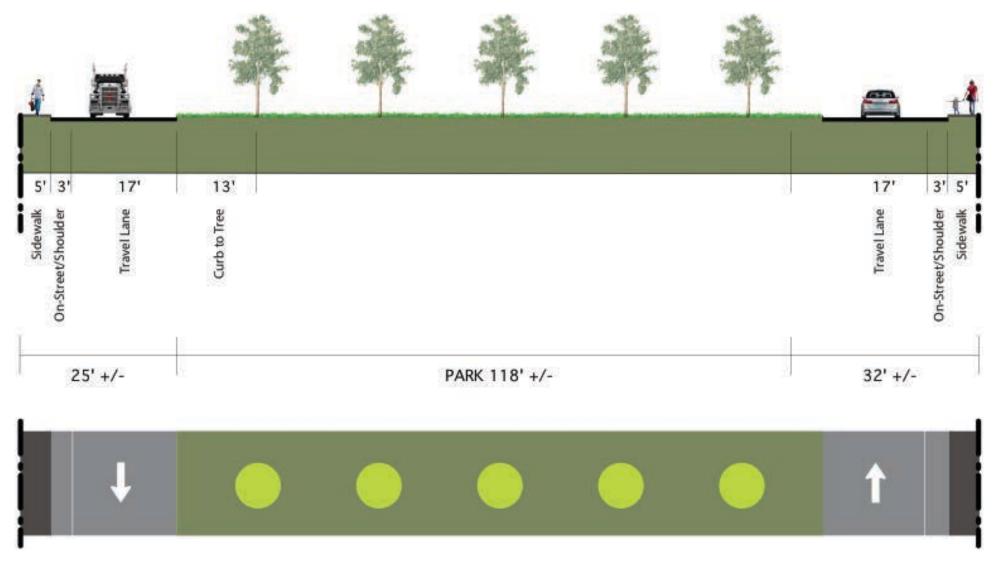




Route One / Water Street Intersection & Corridor Improvements



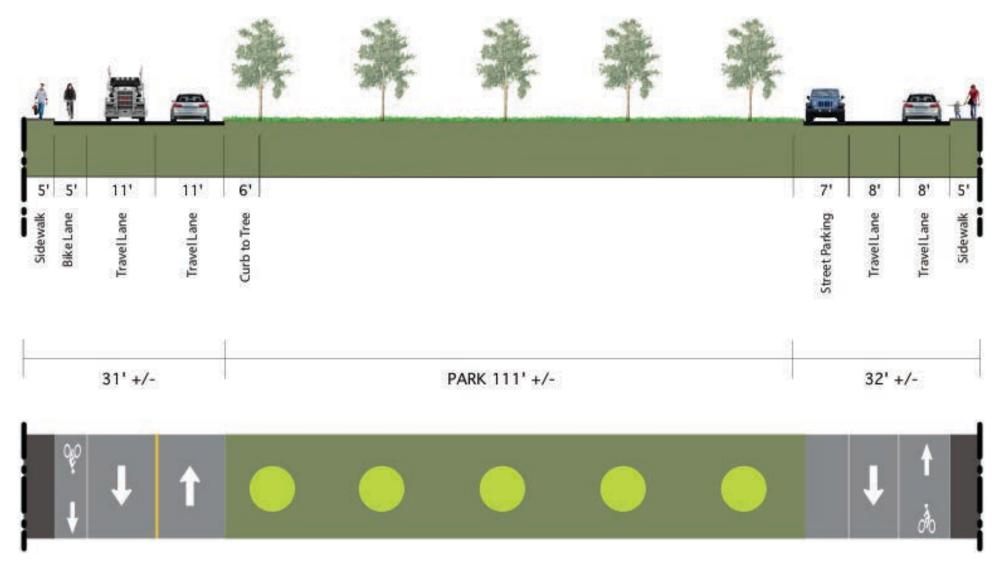




John Paul Jones Park: Existing





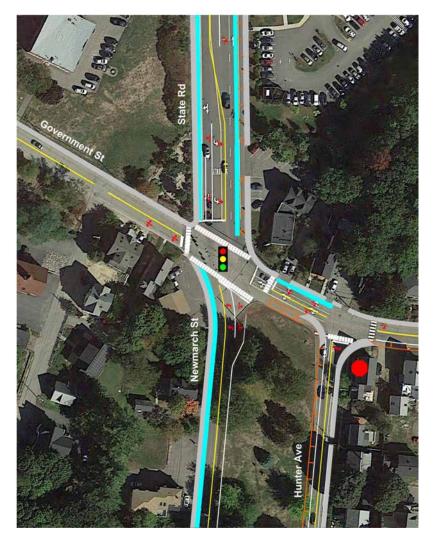


John Paul Jones Park: Proposed









Route One / Government Street Intersection & Corridor Improvements





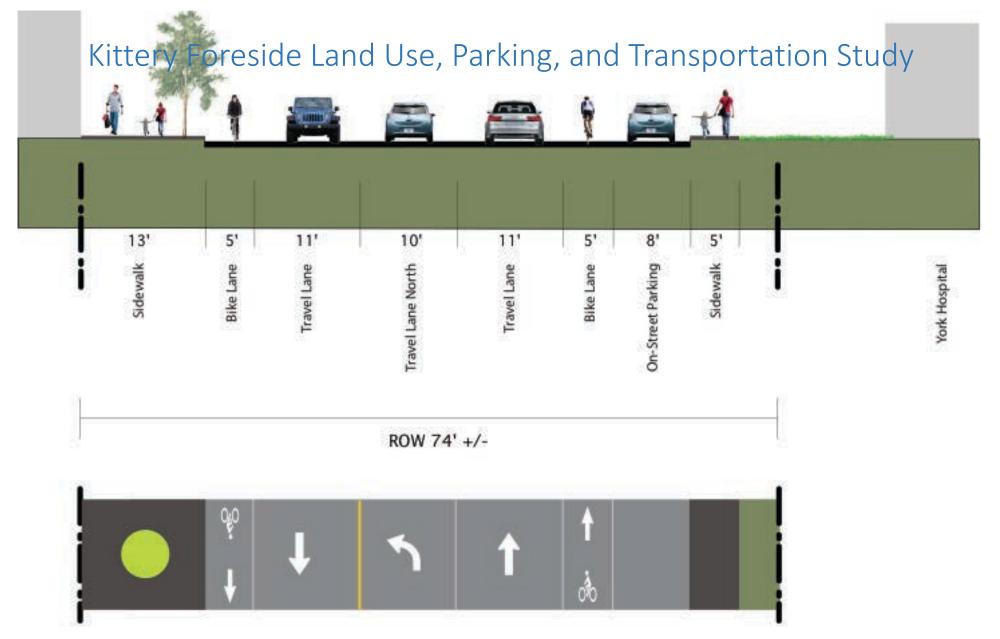
Kittery Foreside Land Use, Parking, and Transportation Study 5' 12' 12' 12' 12' 5' 5' Sidewalk Sidewalk **Travel Lane Travel Lane Travel Lane** Bike Lane **Travel Lane** Bike Lane York Hospital

ROW 74' +/-



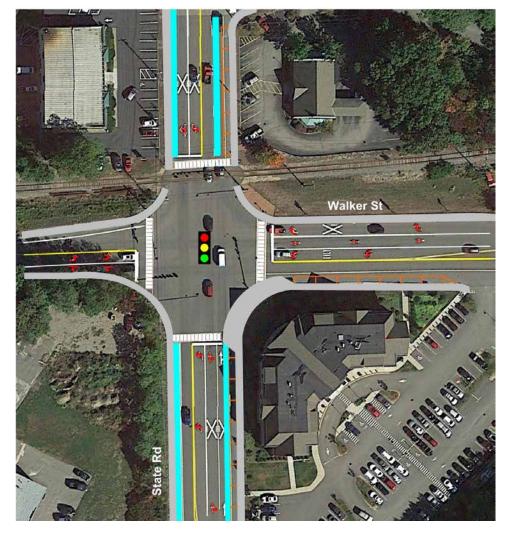
State: Existing





State: Proposed

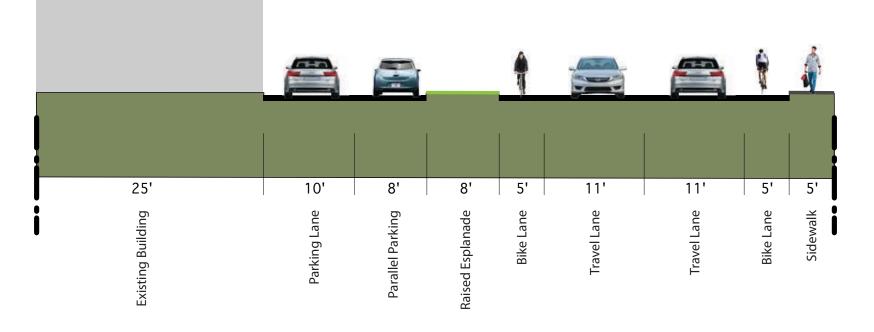




Route One / Walker Intersection & Corridor Improvements







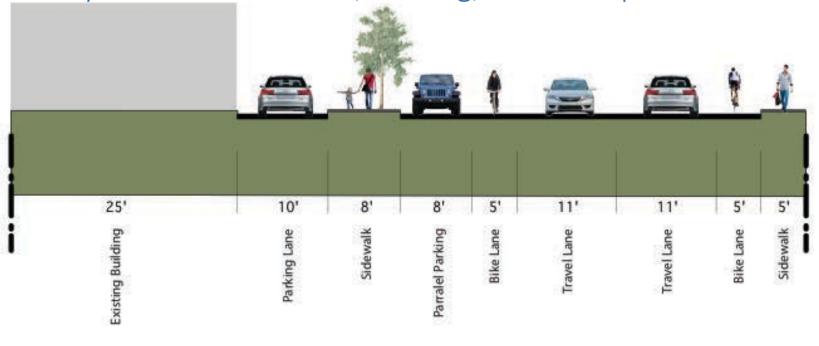
ROW 90' +/-



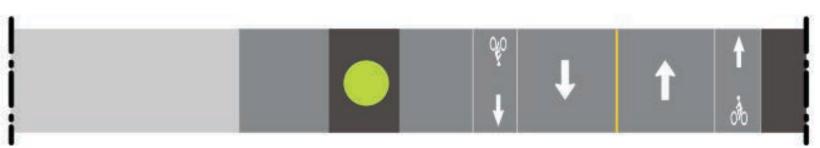
Gourmet Alley: Existing





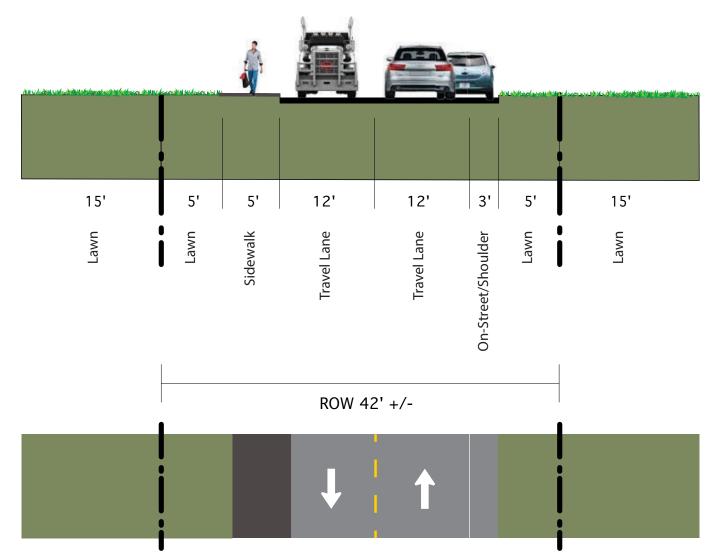


ROW 90' +/-



Gourmet Alley: Proposed

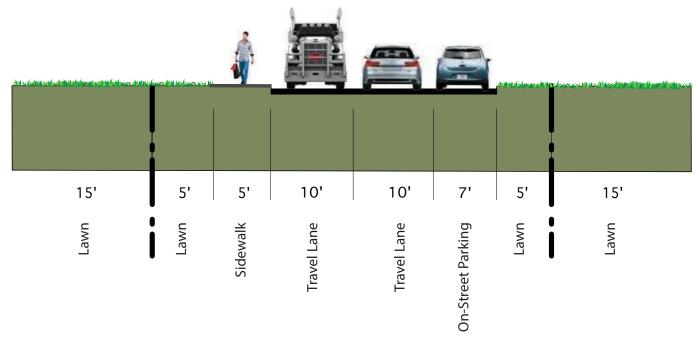


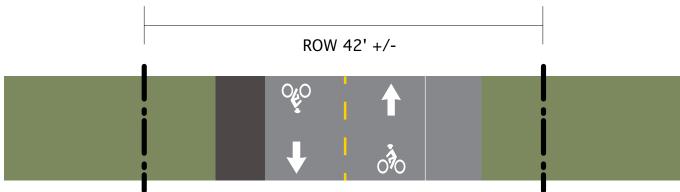


Government: Existing





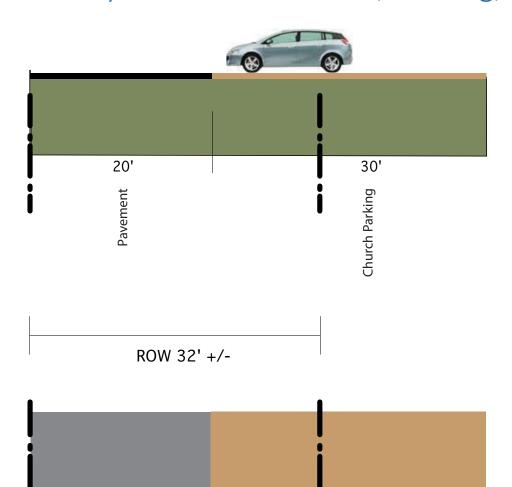




Government: Proposed



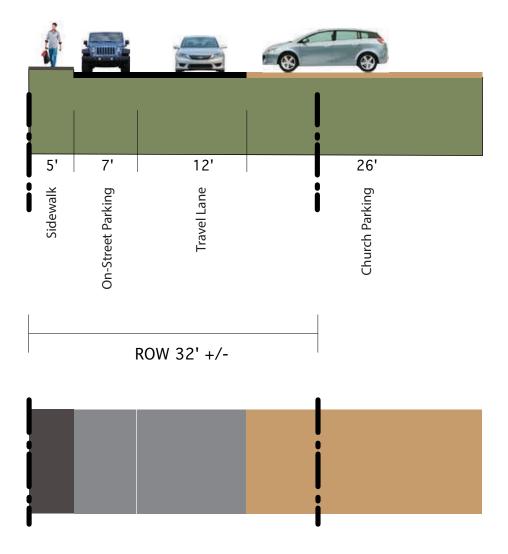




Jones: Existing







Jones: Proposed





Next Steps / Schedule:

- Notice To Proceed December 19, 2016
- Staff Kick-Off Meeting January 10, 2017
- Public #1 Kick-Off Meeting February 8, 2017
- Kick-Off Working Group Meeting #1 Site Walk March 6, 2017
- Existing Conditions Technical Memorandum March 2017
- Working Group Meeting #2 to Review Existing Conditions May 3, 2017
- Public Meeting #2 Listening Session and Design Workshop June 15, 2017
- Working Group Meeting #3 to Review Draft Scenarios August 2017
- Working Group Meeting #4 to Review Draft Scenarios October 2017
- Public Meeting #3 October 25, 2017
- Present Draft Recommendations to Planning Board November 9, 2017
- Present Draft Recommendations to Town Council November 2017
- Prepare Draft Report November 2017
- Working Group Meeting #5 December 2017
- Final Report December 2017

