

STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 17, 2022
5:30 p.m.
ZOOM MEETING - TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET

Present:

Patrick White, Chuck Cardillo, Jamie Minacci and Mike Canales

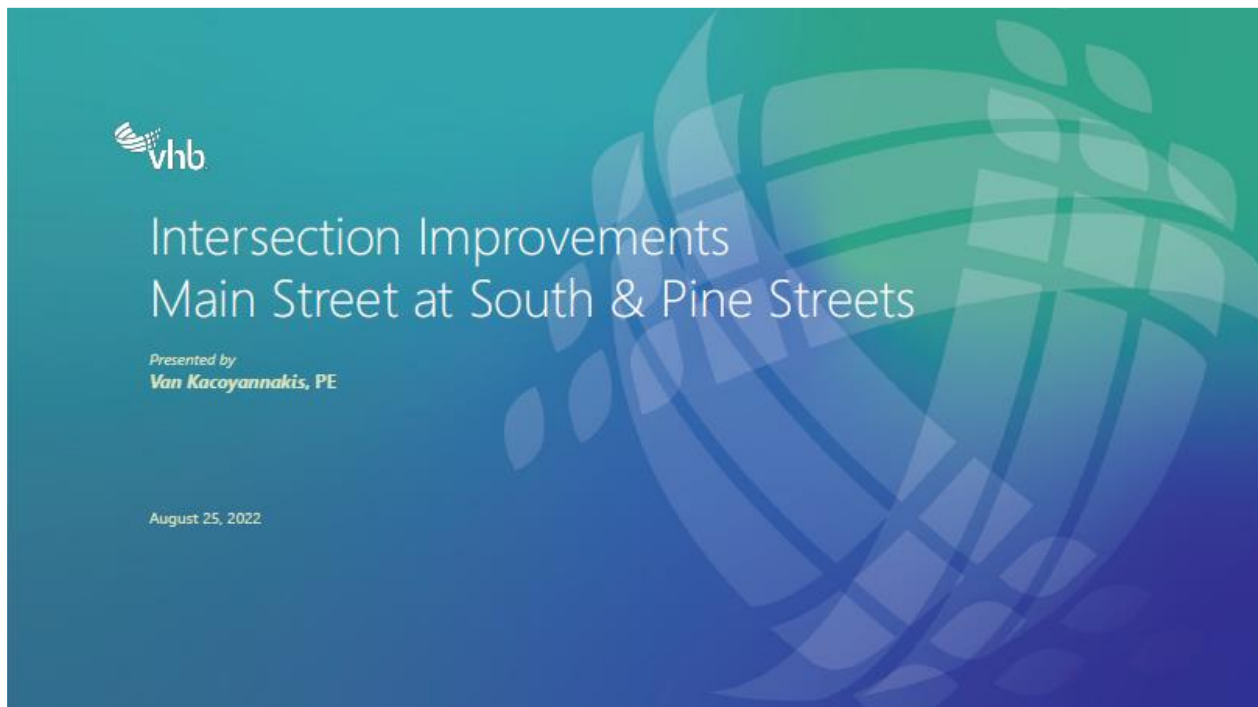
Call to Order:

Patrick called the meeting to order to consider the Main Street Redesign project presentation by Van Kacoyannakis of engineering firm VHB. Van joined the meeting remotely.

Mike supplied opinion/comment input forms pertaining to the redesign for residents to complete and submit.

The redesign project has been a discussion for about five years and been through a number of design phases.

Mike reviewed the slide show below:



Goals of Tonight's Meeting

- Review Project History
 - Assessments, Concepts, and Plans
 - Key dates
- Review Preferred Improvement Plan
 - 2020 interim striping plan
 - Shared Streets improvements
 - Final intersection design
- Discuss Next Steps
 - Public Outreach



Existing Conditions Aerial Photo



Project History: Assessments

- Planning traffic study
- Reviewed crash data
- Performed field survey
- Developed various concepts
- Identified a preferred alternative
- Implemented interim striping improvements
- Initiated State Highway coordination (Access Permit)
- Developed final plans for preferred alternative
- Pursued Shared Streets Grant (Partial Project) - Awarded

Project History: Key dates

- 10/2018: Initial planning traffic study
- 5/2019: Town Meeting approved funding for preliminary design
- 5/2020: Public information meeting held to discuss project concepts
- 6/2020: Interim striping plan prepared and implemented by town at Main St/ South St/ Pine St: bicycle lanes and painted islands
- 9/2020: Project limits changed added 3 crosswalks toward Town Hall
- 3/2021: Preliminary design plans provided to the Town
- 5/2022: Shared Streets Grant awarded for 3 crosswalks
- 8/2022: Final design plans 90% complete, on hold

Project History: Roundabout Planning to Design 2018 to 2020

- 2018: Goal to design within roadway layout
 - Avoid impacts to monuments, fountains, etc.
 - Roundabout concept prepared without survey – survey needed to confirm layout before MassDOT review.
- 2020: Survey completed, and design updated
 - Need to meet current MassDOT design standards
 - Deflection of entering vehicles needed to be increased
 - Splitter islands need to be raised to protect pedestrians
 - To address design requirements, impacts outside the layout would be realized



2018: Roundabout Concept from traffic planning study

Van Kacoyannakis explained that the original round-about design required more deflection which would slow down the traffic but the impacts of the roundabout are many: loss of 27 parking spaces, shared use path required for bicycles and impacts to monuments.

Designed with survey base mapping

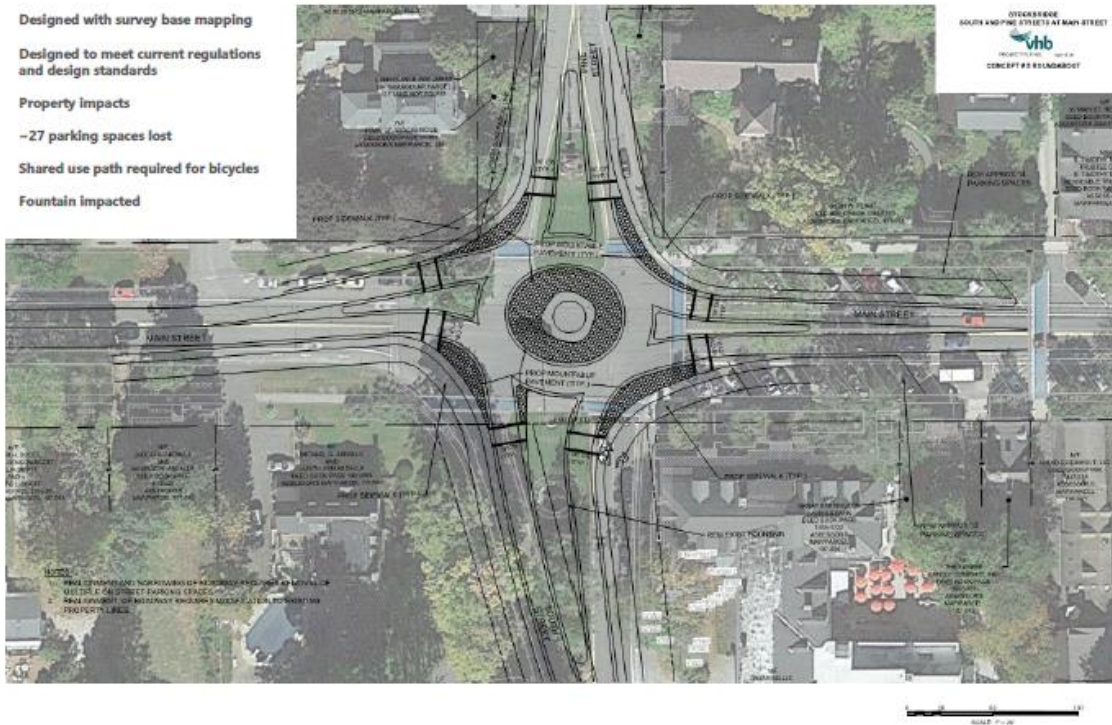
Designed to meet current regulations and design standards

Property Impacts

-27 parking spaces lost

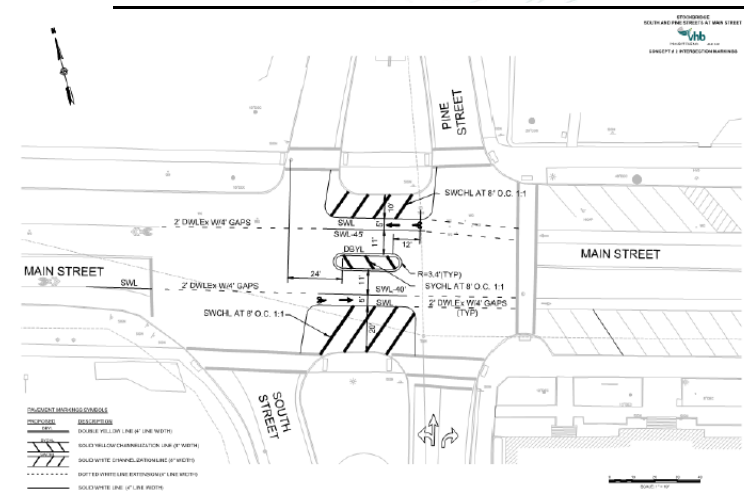
Shared use path required for bicycles

Fountain impacted



2020: Roundabout Concept
from public meeting (on survey)

Preferred Improvements:
2020: Interim Stripping Plan



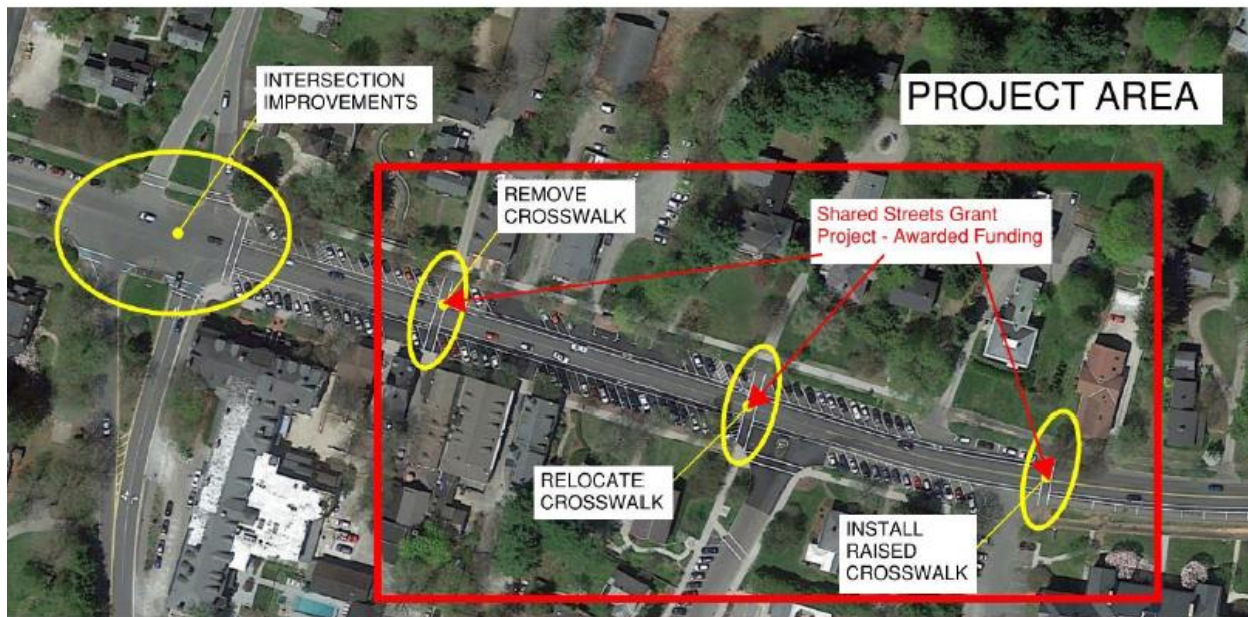
2020: Interim Plan: Painted Island
w/ intersection markings



Interim/ Existing Conditions

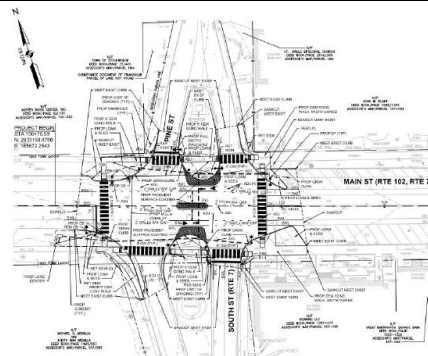
Preferred Improvements:
Current Project Area





Preferred Improvements: Final Intersection Design

- Intersection Traffic Calming
 - Narrow pavement
 - Extend curb/replace interim painted islands with mountable decorative pavement
- Reconstruct crosswalks/ pedestrian ramps
- Provide bicycles lanes
- Design for future street lighting



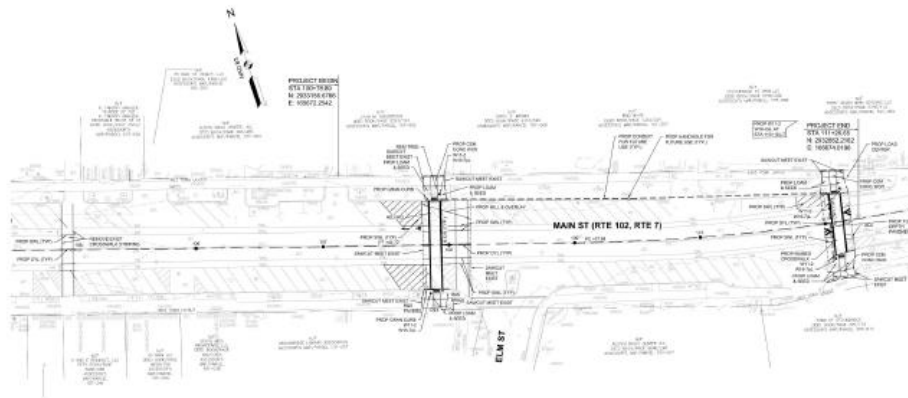
Final Intersection Plan

Preferred Improvements: Shared Streets Grant Crosswalks

- Shift crosswalk at Elm Street
 - Move out of driveway, shift west
 - Reconstruct pedestrian ramps
- Update crosswalk at Town Hall
 - Construct raised crosswalk
 - Reconstruct pedestrian ramps
- Remove/ eliminate crosswalk to west



Van noted that our current crosswalks are not ADA compliant and some begin and/or end in driveways.



Shared Street Grant Crosswalks

Preferred Improvements: Rendering on Aerial



Anticipated project construction costs (2022)

Preferred Intersection Improvements: Main Street at South & Pine Streets	~\$550,000
Crosswalk Improvements Main Street: Shared Streets Grant (\$135,000 Awarded)	~\$175,000
Pavement maintenance costs anticipated to be required at intersection (next 5- year)	~\$150,000
Roundabout – (does not include property takings, reconstruction of fountain or other hardscape improvements)	~\$ 3 Million

Note: Anticipated construction costs are office estimates, bid
from contractors needed to confirm.

Project Next Steps:

- Prepared bid documents for Shared Street Grant Crosswalks:
 - Advertise project
- Public Information Meeting (Fall - TBD):
 - Use this presentation for outreach meeting
 - Seek feedback from public on intersection improvements
 - Prepare handout for public to identify desired improvements:
 1. Do Nothing - \$150,000
 2. Preferred Intersection Improvements - \$550,000
 3. Roundabout - \$3M
 - Evaluate feedback
 - Potentially pursue funding and approval at Town Meeting

Public Comment:

Mark Mills stated that there seems to now be a long distance between crosswalks with the removal of the center one. He did not agree that the design will address the confusion at the intersection as a round-about would.

Chuck said that one crosswalk could be put back if needed.

The crosswalk in question is not correctly installed as it goes into driveways nor is it ADA accessible.

Fred Rutberg asked that they reconsider the roundabout and removing the central crosswalk. He did not feel that the proposed changes would help.

Joann Conroy thought that having four crosswalks will add more confusion to the intersection.

Paul Sundberg suggested removing the west stop sign.

Tom LaBelle said that residents know the intersection well and suggested a board to consider options. He added that it is a registered historic district that would require a Mass Historical review. Mike said that it would happen.

Kate Fletcher was thinking about putting it on an upcoming Planning Board agenda.

Shelby Marshall asked if traffic signs could help with traffic flow as a round-about would have.

Ron Brouker questioned painting arrows on the pavement and agreed with the need for the center crosswalk. He added that if there is an issue with parking, a two-hour limit could be placed on parking on Main Street.

With moving the center crosswalk, 6 parking places and one tree would be lost. Chuck explained that decreasing the travel distance of the intersection would decrease the confusion helping with traffic flow.

Roxanne McCaffrey gave some background information on the intersection and past discussions. Most fender benders at the intersection are due to distracted drivers.

Discussion also included the turning of tractor trailer trucks; removing the west to east stop sign allowing clear traffic going east to west; a police officer in the intersection; all the crosswalks being raised as opposed to just two; ADA compliance; increased jaywalking; speed limits; not removing the central crosswalk; and a four-way stop or all yield.

The intersection discussion will be followed up at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Patrick adjourned the meeting.

Please see <https://ctsbtv.org/government-channel-1303/> to view the full meeting.