



US Route 2 & Main Street Plainfield, Vermont

Community Conversation

Presentation prepared by E. Parizo, VTrans Project Manager,
with assistance from Plainfield Select Board and CVRPC

US Route 2 & Main Street Intersection Improvement Project

Community Conversations Goals:

- Consult with the community about the project status;
- Obtain feedback on the available options for the intersection improvement; and
- Understand community considerations and concerns.

The Select Board will use the information gathered from these Community Conversations to inform the formal endorsement of a chosen option.



Agenda

- Background
- Local Challenges
- Major Alternative
- Minor Alternative
- Next Steps
- Conversation

Photo by John Predom

[Image Source: Town of Plainfield, VT website](#)



Looking towards the Bancroft Inn, built in 1914 after a fire at a time where automobiles are beginning to be mass produced. The intersection of Main Street and what is now US Route 2 is on left.

What are the challenges?



US Route 2

US Route 2

← To Montpelier/I-89

To St. Johnsbury/I-91 →

Awkward Geometry
Steep Grade
Poor Sight Distance
High Traffic Volumes
Historic District
Utilities
Not a Lot of Room!



Plainfield Village →

Main Street



Evaluating Alternatives



Safety



Traffic Operations



Alternative Transportation



Cost



Property Impacts



Constructability

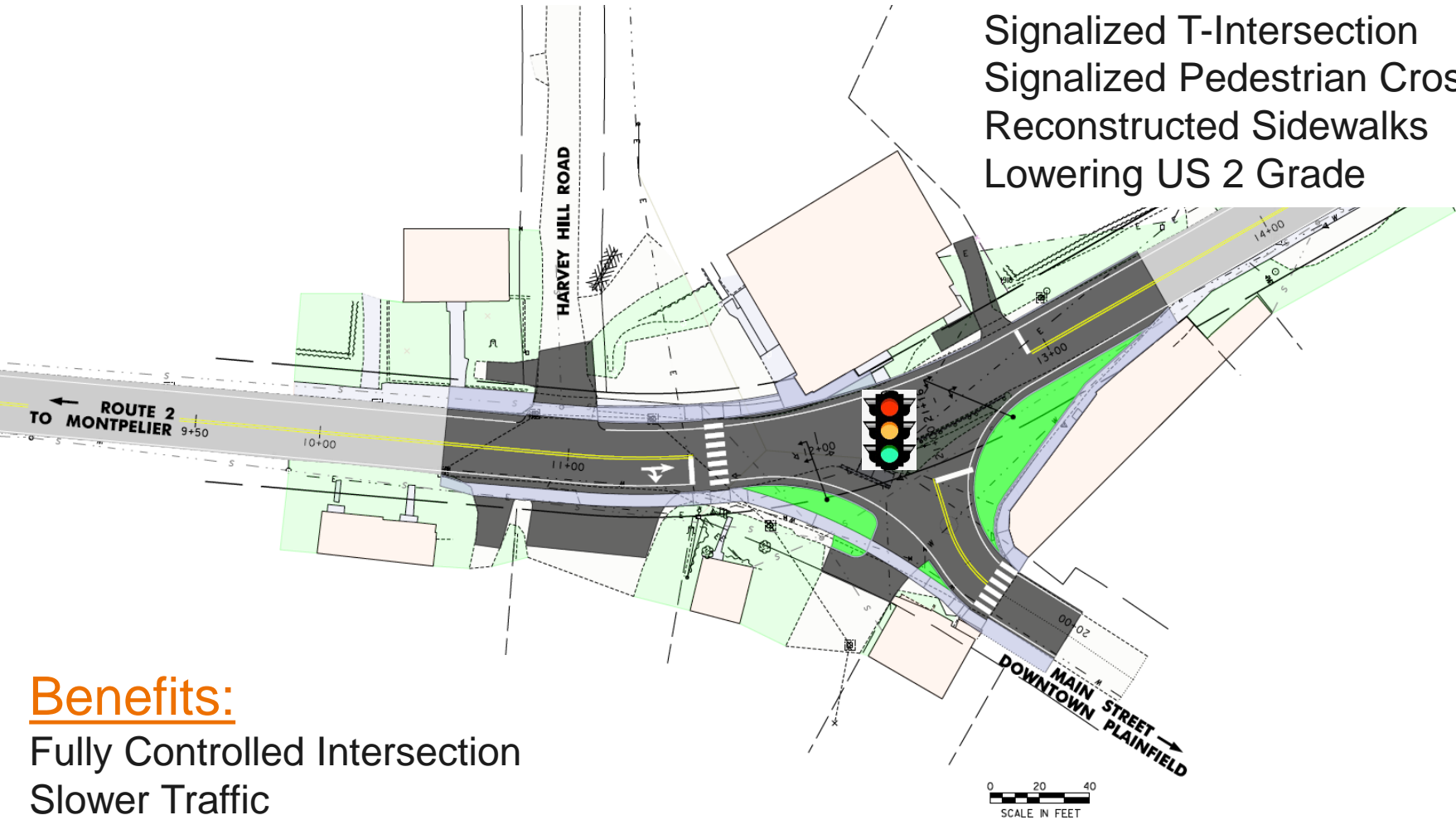


Construction
Traffic Management

Major Project Improvement

What:

- Removal of Central Island
- Signalized T-Intersection
- Signalized Pedestrian Crossings
- Reconstructed Sidewalks
- Lowering US 2 Grade

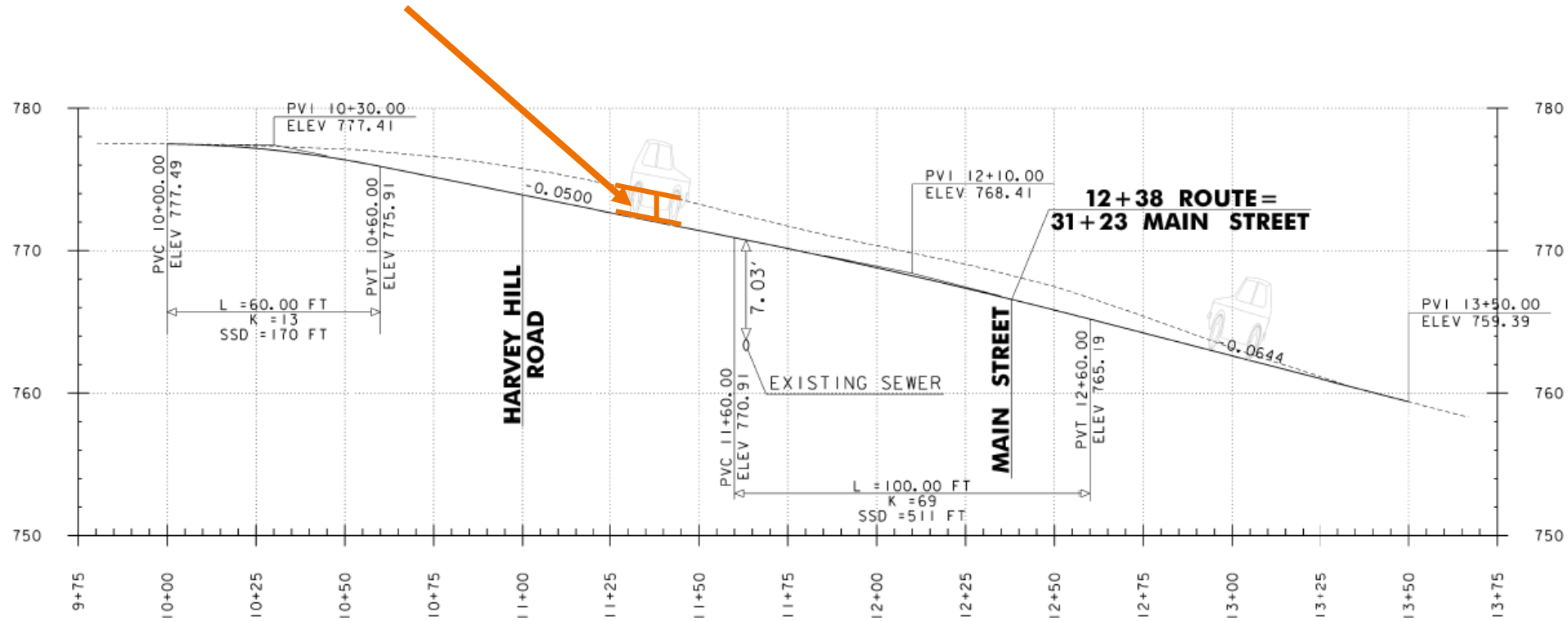


Benefits:

- Fully Controlled Intersection
- Slower Traffic
- Safer Pedestrian Facilities
- Improved Sight Distance

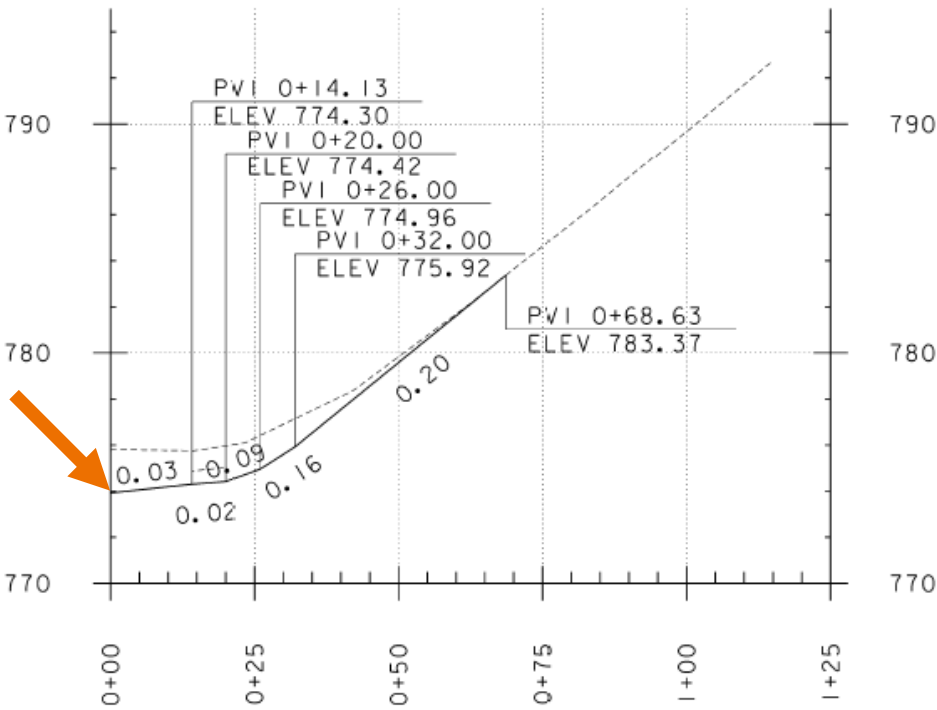
Major Project Improvement

Route 2 approximately 2 feet lower

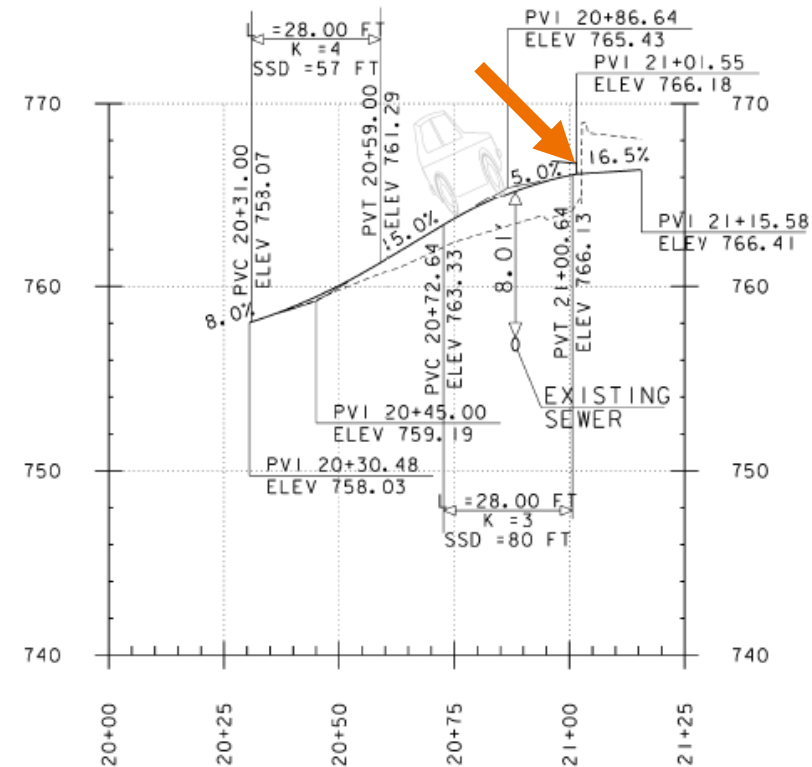


Major Project Improvement

Harvey Hill Road



Main Street



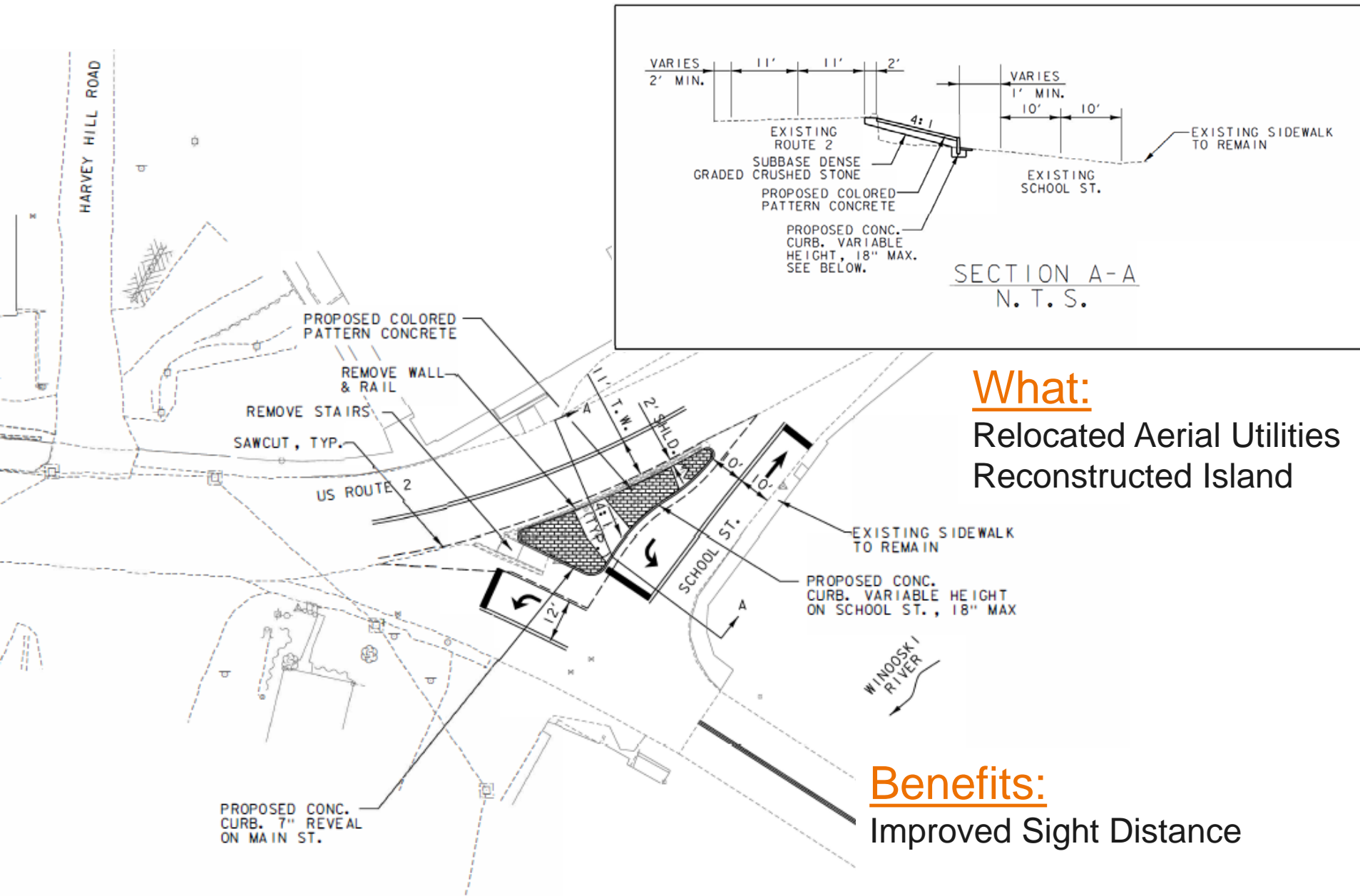
Construction Considerations

- Easement Acquisition (Temporary and Permanent)
- Utility Relocations (Aerial/Underground/Municipal)
Town responsibility
- Duration
Delivery Duration: ~ 3-5 years
Construction: ~ 1 season (April-Dec)
- Cost
Federal: 100% ~ \$1.5 million+
Local: only design \$ and materials \$ for municipal utilities

Community Considerations

- Traffic Management
 - Route 2 – 24/7 Signal One-Way Alternating
- Village Access
 - Main Street Closure (~3 months)
 - Night work allowed would reduce duration
- Emergency Response

Minor Project Improvement



What:
Relocated Aerial Utilities
Reconstructed Island

Benefits:
Improved Sight Distance

Construction Considerations

- Easement Acquisition: permanent easements for Aerial utilities
- Utility Relocations: Aerial only
- Duration
 - Delivery Duration: ~ 1-2 years
 - Construction: ~ 4 weeks
- Cost
 - Federal: ~ \$200,000
 - Local: none

Community Considerations

- Traffic Management – no road closures
- Ongoing/existing safety concerns remain

Ongoing VTrans Progress

- Conceptual Plans Developed – 30% (for major alternative)
- Subsurface Utility Investigation
 - August/September
- Geotechnical and Contaminated Soils Investigation
 - August/September

Next Steps



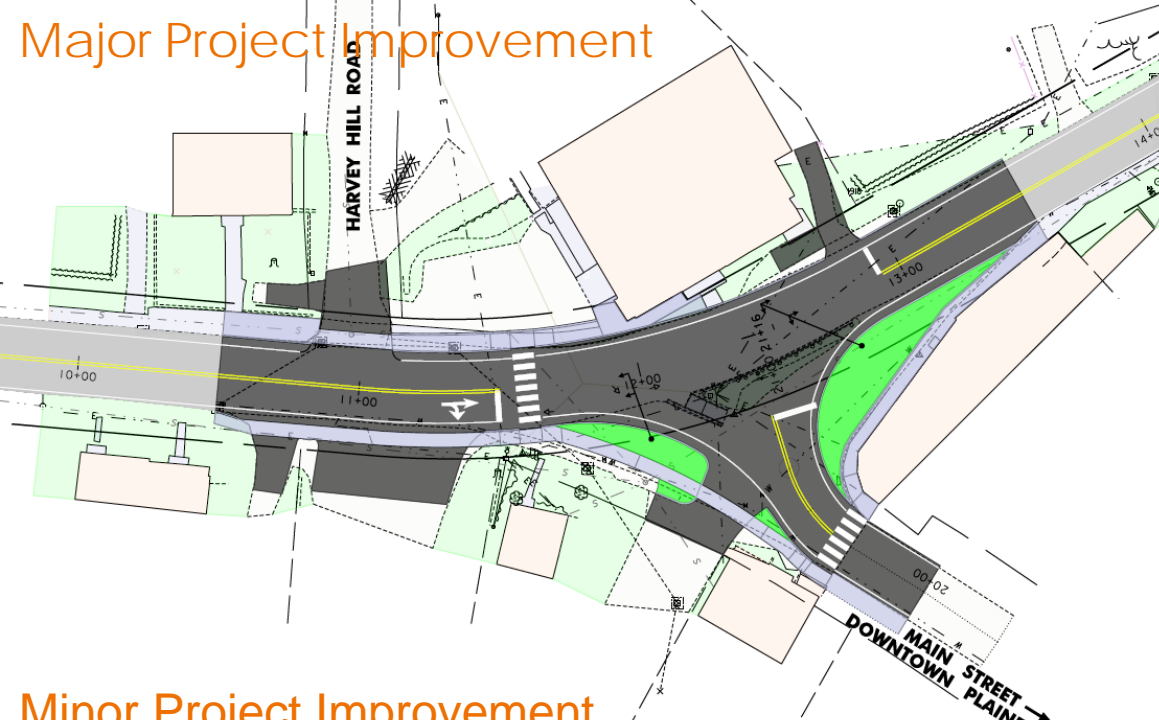
Community
Meetings
August

Finalize
Input/Survey
September

**Endorse
Alternative**
September

MAJOR		MINOR
\$1.5 Million +/-	Cost	\$200,000 +/-
1+ Year	Construction Duration	1+/- Month
Significant (Local, Regional, EMS)	Traffic Impacts	Minor, Short Durations
Aerial & Underground	Utilities	Aerial
Temporary and Permanent Rights	Property Impacts	Minimal
3-5 Years	Project Delivery Duration	1-2 Years
Slower traffic Pedestrian safety Improved sight	Benefits	Improved sight distances

Major Project Improvement



Conversation

Which intersection improvement is the better option for Plainfield as a whole?

Which intersection improvements has the most long term benefits?

Are there additional questions or concerns which haven't been addressed on the Major Improvement Design option?

Are there additional questions or concerns which haven't been addressed

Minor Project Improvement

