

Chocorua Village Workshop

October 10, 2002

Runnells Hall

As part of the ongoing discussion involving the Route 16 Corridor a workshop was conducted to discuss options available at the NH 16 and NH 113 intersection in Chocorua Village. This workshop was presented by: the Town of Tamworth, NH Department of Transportation, Lakes Region Planning Commission, NH Office of State Planning, NH Department of Environmental Services and NH Division of Historical Resources. Also in attendance was Michael Wallwork, a national renowned Traffic Calming consultant.

After a great deal of listening, brainstorming and working collectively the accompanying options were developed as a beginning point in which this intersection could be improved, but the character of the community maintained.

Option 1:

More of a conventional approach that involves constructing a sidewalk system on both sides of NH 16 with connections to Runnells Hall and the Post Office. This option involves several safety improvements as well as traffic calming measures to slow traffic speeds as they enter the Village area. The concept will provide for more formalized parking at the Country Store, the Ice Cream Shoppe and Runnells Hall. Crosswalks across NH 16 will also be included in this option. It is believed that this option could be constructed within the \$100,000 budget associated with the project.

Roundabout Option:

This option involves constructing a roundabout at the intersection of NH16 and NH113. While only one roundabout currently exists in New Hampshire they are generally accepted as an alternative to the standard intersection. Roundabouts are becoming more accepted in America and are commonplace in the UK, Australia, and European countries. Roundabouts slow traffic entering the area, but provide for continuous traffic flow with typically small backups. The attached design option was developed and presented by Michael Wallwork, for more information concerning roundabouts visit Mr. Wallwork website at <http://www.roundabouts.net>. The estimated cost for constructing a roundabout as shown could run as high as \$500,000.

Store Relocation:

This option was more of a “money is no problem” concept. This concept eliminated the parking issue by relocating the Country Store. The Country Store would be relocated to the white house behind the closed gas station. The gas station would be removed and become parking for the Country Store. The existing Country Store site could then be used as parking for the Ice Cream Shoppe and as a “micro” park where people could use picnic tables and view the dam and river. This option also shows a picnic area along the river adjacent to the Country Store. This option would also incorporate the sidewalk, traffic calming measures, and other design ideas of either Option 1 or the Roundabout option. This was considered an option the Town may wish to investigate as a long-term idea for improving the intersection.

For additional information concerning the above options please feel free to contact Bill Oldenburg, NHDOT, at (603) 271-2604.