Agenda

• Welcome and Introductions
• Why are we here?
• What is CSS?
• Role of the Project Advisory Committee
• What Happens Next
Introductions

• Design Team

• Project Advisory Committee
Why Are We Here?

- Project History and Intent
- Funding
- Schedule
Project Overview

• Study Area:
  – Main Street in North Walpole to NH12A in Charlestown

• Description:
  – Remove concrete base, add shoulders, upgrade drainage.

• Concerns we have:
  – Proximity to the Railroad
  – Proximity to the River
  – Possible River Slope Stability Issues
Project Timeline

• Preliminary Design (2007-2008)
  – Public Workshop
  – Problem/Vision/Goals
  – Alternatives Development
  – Public Hearing

• Final Design (2008-2009)
  – Detailed Design
  – Purchase Right of Way
  – Secure Permits

• Begin Construction with RR Relocation (2010)
• Begin Roadway Construction (2013)
What is CSS ???
Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS)

“A collaborative interdisciplinary approach that involves all stakeholders to develop a transportation facility that fits its physical setting and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic and environmental resources, while maintaining safety and mobility.”
Consensus

“Consensus does not mean that everyone agrees, but that the principal groups and individuals can live with a proposal.”
Safety
Uniformity
Mobility

Historical and Community Values and Environment
Walpole – Charlestown NH 12 Improvement Project

CSS Defined

Safety
Uniformity
Mobility

Historical and Community Values and Environment
CSS Relies On:

• Sound Engineering and Design

• Effective Community Outreach and Stakeholder Involvement
Francestown NH 47  2005

Walpole – Charlestown NH 12 Improvement Project
Easton-Woodstock NH 112  2000
Easton-Woodstock NH 112  2005
Greenfield TE Project
Meredith Experiment
Public Participation Process

• CSS Process

• CSS Steps
Develop Public Involvement Plan

Internal DOT Review
• Develop “Right Sized” process for project

Public Workshop
• Placemaking Exercise
• Develop Problem Statements
• Opportunities Discussion

Draft Problem Statement

Draft Vision Statement

PAC Meeting
• Consensus on Problem Statement
• Develop Vision Statement

Distribute Problem & Vision Statement to Workshop Participants

PAC Meeting
• Concept/Alternative Development
• Design Facilitator
• Develop outline for next Public Workshop

Public Workshop
• Review Prelim. Concepts w/Problem & Vision Statement
• Review Rating Criteria
• Feedback on Alternatives

PAC Meeting
• Consensus on Preferred Alternative

Formal Public Hearing

Solicit More Ideas Through Media/Web
CSS Steps

1. Problem Statement
2. Vision Statement
3. Screening Criteria
4. Brainstorm Alternatives
5. Screen Alternatives
6. Preferred Alternative
7. Public Workshop
8. Public Hearing
Placemaking
Context Sensitive Solutions

How to Look at a Place:
Seeing Context, Defining the Right Problem
Placemaking

• A different way of thinking and looking at transportation
• Facilitating an understanding with communities by identifying the right problems from the beginning
Walpole – Charlestown NH 12 Improvement Project
What Makes a Great Place?

From: Projects for Public Spaces

**Intangibles**
- sociability
- uses & activities
- access & linkages
- comfort & image

**Measurements**
- street life
- evening use
- volunteerism
- business ownership
- property values
- land-use patterns
- Fun
- retail sales
- Active
- Vital
- Neighborly
- Connected
- Walkable
- Convenient
- Accessible
- Safe
- Scenic
- Charm
- Clean
- Attractive
- Historic
- crime stats
- sanitation rating
- building conditions
- environmental data

**PLACE**
- transit usage
- pedestrian activity
- parking usage patterns
Uses & Activities

Signs of success:
- good place for business,
- active - lots of people walking, opportunities for active recreation

Signs of problems:
- empty spaces,
- underutilized buildings,
- security problems.
Comfort & Image

Signs of success:
- attractive
- fits its surroundings
- historic
- feels safe.

Signs of problems:
- unattractive
- poor environmental quality
- poorly maintained
- unsafe.
Access & Linkages

Signs of success: connected, continuous, legible, walkable, accessible.

Signs of problems: automobiles dominate, poorly-marked crosswalks, poor signage, few pedestrians or bicycles.
Sociability

Signs of success: neighborliness, opportunities to gather, diverse population.

Signs of problems: empty spaces, isolation
In Conclusion….  

- Good places breed **healthy activity**.
- People attract people **attract people**.
- When you focus on place, **you do everything differently**.
- It takes many **disciplines and skills to create a place**.
- It takes a place to create a community, and a **community to create a place**.
- Amenities that make a place comfortable are critical.
- You can’t know what you are going to end up with.
- Each place has its own **identity**.
Role of the Project Advisory Committee

• Represent the Community
• Be a Liaison to the Community
• Provide Guidance for the Design Team
Role of the Project Advisory Committee

• Guidelines and Procedures
  – How we treat each other
  – How we make decisions
  – How we communicate
Stakeholder Outreach

• Public Involvement Plan
  – Introduction
  – Project Background
  – Project Team
  – Project Process
  – Project Advisory Committee
  – Communication

• Project Website
Public Workshop

• Agenda
• Public Workshop Exercise
• Public Workshop Brochure
Public Workshop

• Agenda
Public Workshop

• Public Workshop Exercise
Public Workshop

- Public Workshop
- Handout

Planning for the Future of Route 12 Charlestown and Walpole

Date: Wednesday, October 10th, 2007
Time: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Sikhsy Library/Municipal Building
Community Room - 26 Railroad Street
Charlestown, NH

Meeting will include:
- What is CSS (Context Sensitive Solutions)
- Overview of Project
- What Happens Next
Next PAC Meeting

• Set Meeting Schedule
  – Meet every 1-2 months
  – Anticipate 6-8 meetings
  – Public Hearing Target Dec. ‘08

• Contact Information

• Homework Assignment
  1. *Handout Public Workshop Flyers*
  2. *Think of the Problems you see with the area*
  3. *Attend the Public Workshop*
Thank You

Questions ???