Walpole - Charlestown
NH 12 Improvement Project

Project Advisory Committee Meeting #3

March 12, 2008
Agenda

• Welcome and Introductions
• Review Workshop Results
• Draft Problem Statement Discussion
• Discuss Visions Statement
• Possible Low Cost Improvements
• Assignments
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.”
Workshop Results
Workshop Results

- Evaluation
- Opportunities
- Problem Statements
Problem Statements

1. “While corridor has high scenic value, it cannot be enjoyed or traveled safely because of narrow roadway squeezed between railroad and river.”

2. “The road is narrow, bordered by the river and railroad, causing a dangerous passageway. The need is to ensure that this road remains safely usable at all times while complimenting the scenic beauty of the area.”

3. “The road is narrow with insufficient shoulders and drainage due to the pillars from the NH 12A overpass, the river, and the railroad’s close proximity. Travel along this corridor is unsafe for walking, bicycling, and other recreational activity.”

4. “Road may fall into the river and in addition to that, there are many safety issues to solve. Road is unsafe for pedestrians, trucks, and cars.”

5. “The road is not wide enough and there are no shoulders. Pavement is rough due to the concrete underbase and riverbank instability, which is a significant safety and environmental concern. Other safety issues include the proximity to the railroad, condition of the guardrail, potential for hydroplaning, and safety of pedestrians and cyclists.”
What does a Good Problem Statement Look Like?

• It is stated in terms of underlying causes
• It is linked to travel markets
• It relates the transportation, community, and environmental components to one another
• It reflects customer focus
• It does not include or pre-figure solutions
• It is not mode specific
Problem Statement

The aging infrastructure of Route 12 presents safety concerns that are exacerbated by the roadway's proximity to the Connecticut River and the active New England Central rail line. The instability of the Connecticut River bank is a serious environmental concern that threatens the roadway itself and the ability to efficiently travel between Charlestown and Walpole. Route 12 is too narrow, lacks shoulders and guardrail, and presents the potential for hydroplaning due to poor pavement condition and lack of sufficient roadway drainage. These conditions hinder the ability of vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians to safely travel the roadway, which detracts from residents' ability to access the river and enjoy the scenic beauty of the Connecticut River Valley.
Vision Statement

A statement of desired characteristics of a place at a specific time. This statement should address transportation goals and may include other community and environmental goals related to the transportation corridor as well.
Vision Statement

• Include Transportation Needs

• Include Community Values or Aspirations

• Include Scenic, Aesthetic, Historic and Environmental Values and Goals
Sample Vision Statements

Meredith's village and rural settings will be enhanced by the US 3 /NH 25 corridor, which will allow easy access to village destinations while moving traffic through in a slow, steady, safe and efficient manner. Peak congestion in Meredith and the Region will be mitigated by managing pedestrian flow, educating the public about alternate traffic routes and providing for various modes of transportation. People will feel comfortable walking or cycling on the corridor which will promote the town’s social life, recreational offerings, historic features, and economic vitality. Long term viability of the corridor and stewardship of the natural environment and cultural assets will remain a steadfast priority.

Meredith US3/NH 25 Transportation Project
Sample Vision Statements

“Loudon Road will be an attractive, safe corridor that visually and physically connects at a human scale destinations east and west of the turnpike. It will be uniquely Concord place that functions well for all modes of transportation and integrates Concord history, aesthetics and environment.”

Concord, Loudon Road (NHDOT CSS Training Course Example)
Sample Vision Statements

The Pelham town center will be enhanced by changes to multiple intersections, which will make the town center safer and more welcoming to drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. These changes will enhance and preserve the small town character, historic setting and community aesthetics. Traffic movement for all approaches through the Pelham Town center will flow at a slow, steady, safe, and efficient manner for pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles.

Gateway treatments will provide an announcement to drivers that they are entering the Pelham Town center. The Town center will become a focal point that has connectivity and amenities, which contribute to a sense of “place”, history, and pride.
Vision Statement

What is your vision for NH 12?
Low Cost Improvements

Workshop Results
Walpole-Charlestown
October 10th, 2007

Possible Low-Cost Short-Term Improvements

What few things could be done near at low cost to improve this place?

**Group 1:**
Upgrade with cosmetically sensitive guardrail, add more pull-offs, and add scenic highway signage.

**Group 2:**
Improve guardrail

**Group 3:**
Improve and add guardrail; improve drainage to prevent puddles in summer and ice spots in winter.

**Group 4:**
Improve signage to Fall Mountain Regional High School

**Group 5:**
Install new guardrail, shim pavement, and improve shoulders
Stakeholder Outreach

- Public Involvement Plan
  - Introduction
  - Project Background
  - Project Team
  - Project Process
  - Project Advisory Committee
  - Communication

- Project Website
Next PAC Meeting

Working Group Meeting # 3
Wednesday. April 9th, 2008
Silsby Library/Municipal Building
Community Room

Assignments
1. E-Mail Draft Vision Statements to Don or Nate.
2. Think about what potential low cost short-term improvements could be implemented.
Thank You

Questions ???