

## Meeting Summary

To:	<u>Meeting Attendees</u>	Organization:	<u>See Attendees List</u>
From:	<u>Blythe Robinson</u>	Organization:	<u>Capital Strategic Solutions</u>
Meeting Date:	<u>04/20/2023</u>	Time:	<u>9:00 AM</u>
Meeting Location:	<u>Via Zoom (Meeting Recorded)</u>		
Subject:	<u>Town of Shrewsbury Comprehensive Transportation &amp; Multimodal Study</u>		
KHA Project No.:	<u>112801000</u>		

Attendees:

- Andrew Truman, P.E., Town Engineer, Town of Shrewsbury
- Chris McGoldrick, Director of Planning & Economic Development, Shrewsbury
- Louise O'Neill, Assistant Town Planner, Town of Shrewsbury
- Taylor Galusha, Principal Department Assistant, Town of Shrewsbury
- Bill Scully, P.E., Kimley-Horn
- Lisa Juan, P.E., Kimley-Horn
- Peyton Graham, Kimley-Horn
- Jake Berman, Toole Design
- Mel Chacharone, Owner of former Walgreens Parcel – 557 Main St
- Blythe Robinson, CSS
- Libby Bolling, CSS
- Moira Miller, Shrewsbury Town Center Association (STCA)

## Discussion Items:

- ✓ Project Timeline
  - Wrapping up existing conditions in April
  - Future analysis conditions
  - Evaluation of alternatives – explore next month based on survey results
  - Meeting with Shrewsbury Town Center Association on Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Existing Conditions
  - Observed Traffic Volume – Heavy Vehicle Hourly Volume
    - Multi-Unit Truck volume is greater along Grafton Street/Boylston Street
    - Mostly Single Unit Trucks traveling along Main Street and Maple Street
    - Peak truck traffic is not occurring during typical AM (7 – 9 AM) and PM (4 – 6 PM) peak hours
    - Main Street and Maple Street AM Peak Hour is 11 AM
    - Grafton Street/Boylston Street
      - AM Peak Hour – 9 AM
      - PM Peak Hour – 2 PM
    - School buses vehicles are separate from multi-unit truck vehicles

- Pedestrian Access
  - Important destinations within a potential 15-minute walk of the Town Center, including Town Hall, Library, 5 schools, 10 parks and open spaces, 10 historic sites
  - Sidewalks largely accessible
  - Some street crossings and sidewalk surfaces could be improved
- Bicycle Access
  - Assessed major streets in Town Center for comfort by people riding bicycles
  - Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress
    - Bicycle Facilities
    - Vehicle Speeds
    - Vehicle Volumes
    - Number of Travel Lanes
  - Segments with shoulders wide enough for bikes are generally LTS 3
  - No alternate neighborhood routes
- Bike Facilities
  - Bike detection marking in place in areas
  - Typical shoulders on Main Street are 4.5 feet
  - No shoulder on Main Street in the Town Center core
  - Wider shoulders blocked by queuing vehicles
  - Unclear “no parking” signage
- Sidewalk Quality
  - Wide sidewalks in the Core
  - Signs, poles, and trees blocking sidewalks exists in some locations
  - Mixed-condition asphalt sidewalks outside the Core
- Major Intersection Crossings
  - Long crossing at Main Street and Maple Avenue
  - Large corner crossing at Route 140 and Main Street
  - Short walk timing at Main Street and South Street
- Side Street/Driveway Crossings
  - Need improvement for Apex Ramp placement and angle
  - Better markings
  - Fix ramps that are not parallel
  - Unmarked crossings
  - Asphalt to concrete transitions
- Mid-block Crossings
  - Good visibility, signs warnings across Maple Ave
  - Improve low-visibility markings at Paton Elementary
  - Brick crosswalk improvements, and detectable warning pads needed at Boylston Street and Prospect Street

- Some damaged detectable warning pads
- Primary Mobility Metrics – Typical Weekday
  - Total trips: 2022 – 60K+
  - Walking trips: 2022 – 6K+
  - Biking trips: 2022 – 250
- Future Conditions
  - Annual Growth Rate of 1.0% to year 2033 (10-year projection)
  - Vicinity Developments
    - 1-7 Maple Avenue – Beal School Redevelopment
    - 6 Maple Avenue
    - 555 Main Street
    - 584 Main Street
    - 578-574 Main Street
- Public Engagement – Engaging Trucking Facilities
  - 44 entities were contacted, and 19 entities responded
  - Trucks travel through Town Center to access Grafton Street (Route 140)
  - In favor of an alternate truck route
  - Difficulty making an eastbound right from Main Street onto Grafton Street (Route 140)
  - Traffic backups at the interchange of Route 140 and Route 20 for employees traveling to work.
- Public Engagement – Community Survey Update
  - Available for more than two weeks
  - 170 Responses as of April 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Around 40% of people visit the center once a week or more
  - Over 20% visit the center about once a month
- *Comments/input:*
  - **Heavy Vehicle Volume**
    - Findings make sense, we get feedback later from survey, we do see a steady stream of truck movements. The data confirms, points out that a steady stream of truck traffic runs through Main Street and Maple Avenue – B. Scully
    - How is the information gathered? From the traffic counts conducted in January – M. Chacharone
    - Data will point us to actions we can do or offer new actions – B. Scully
  - **Future Conditions**
    - Part of what is already being done includes a dedicated space in the future with RTA and flag stops. Trying to get more infrastructure to get away from flag stops. Parking is generally towards Chase Terrace with connectivity from Hascall Street and Main Street. Also includes pedestrian improvements along Main and includes Veteran's

Memorial. As part of the Beal's Commons, TDM will include car-pooling and public transit. Engineering going to do traffic studies. Hascall Street is going to stay the same and will include Don't Block the Box markings at Maple Avenue & Hascall Street. Upcoming projects will maintain parking along Hascall Street – C. McGoldrick.

- Lisa Juan – wants to know what upcoming development will be done.
- C. McGoldrick – he will send Kimley Horn traffic study for Beal Commons
- Beal Commons: 2<sup>nd</sup> floor has 6 residential units, working to renovate ground floor retail, owner making progress, but up for sale currently. Informal parking agreement between the building, bank, and Pizza restaurant. Encouraging formal parking agreements. 6 Maple Avenue: planning to bring that structure down and expand parking and vehicle access to Main. The plan is for three units of housing plus retail. Do they resell it for development or keep it for municipal use? Not known now. – C. McGoldrick
- Town is currently buying dry cleaner property – M. Miller
- 555 Main Street is a dermatologist's office. Other part of property is going to retail space, functional education purposes, a 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM use – M. Chacharone
- 557 Main Street – currently being used by schools for special needs programs between 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Should we include the redevelopment of Prospect Park (to expand the cemetery)? A. Truman
- All agreed that it should be considered.
- Do we envision trying to encourage development in a certain way if we know pockets of land exist in the vicinity and plan for future development? B. Scully
- An increase in density in the town center with new development would be discouraged, redevelopment yes to provide pedestrian friendly access to a destination, new development should be sent out the corridors outside of town center – C. McGoldrick
- Don't see that kind of development coming to town center – M. Miller
- 524 Main St has recently been renovated- Body Therapeutics (currently in Worcester) will be going in - I can send the plans – L. O'Neill

- *Public Engagement*

- CSS has reached out to trucking companies to encourage filling out survey and will continue following up – B. Robinson
- Food trucks start-up again so we could have a table for that. Possibly May 25 – B. Scully
- Will get the best data from past data. – T. Galusha

- *Next Steps*







- Push out the survey again through Town's mediums, and send it to the STCA ahead of the May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Continue engaging the trucking facilities
- STCA Meeting on May 11, 2023, at the Library at 8:00 AM
- Choose a date to attend Food Truck Thursday
- Next working group meeting on Thursday, June 1st at 9:00 AM



Zoom Meeting

Recording

## Major Intersection Crossings

 <p>89' crosswalk at Main St and Maple Ave</p>	 <p>Large corner radii, crossings, at Rt 140/Main St</p>	 <p>Short Walk timing, three crosswalks at Main St/South St</p>
 <p>Accessible Pedestrian Signals</p>	 <p>Long wait to cross diagonally, at Rt 140/Main St</p>	 <p>No pedestrian signal across Carlton St</p>

Town of Shrewsbury Comprehensive Transportation and Multimodal Study

Kimley Horn 19


9:30 AM 4/26/2023

Zoom Meeting

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Recording

## Sidewalk Quality



Wide sidewalks with trees on Main St in Town Center core

Asphalt sidewalks outside of core Town Center area, in mixed condition

Utility poles, signs, trees blocking sidewalks in some locations

Participants: 12  
Chat  
Share Screen  
Record  
Reactions  
Apps

9:28 AM  
4/26/2023