

December 19, 2024

102 Main St. Associates LLC PO Box 3 Walpole, NH 03608

RE: Downtown Infrastructure Project

Last summer, the City Council selected a conceptual plan for the upcoming Downtown Infrastructure Project. The conceptual plan has been referred to as the "Multi-Lane Hybrid Option" and includes the following key features:

- Retain the existing traffic pattern around Central Square, but with updated traffic signals and optimized lane configuration.
- Retain two lanes in each direction on Main Street.
- Retain two-way traffic on Gilbo Ave.
- Eliminate parking in the median of Main Street.
- Create protected bike lanes, with buffers, at the same elevation as the sidewalks.
- Expand opportunities for sidewalk dining and commerce.
- Connect Gilbo Ave and Railroad Square with a raised intersection.

The City is now in the Preliminary Design phase of the project. During this phase, the design team will begin filling in many of the details that will be required prior to final design. Examples include the type of street furnishings that are desired, safety improvements for crosswalks, where and what species of trees should be planted to ensure the long-term vitality of downtown's tree canopy, etc.

To guide the design team, we are planning a series of three design review workshops. These will be open to the public and each will focus on a specific design area. Dates, times, location and focus area for each meeting are listed on the enclosed flyer. After each public workshop, we will be reporting to the Municipal Services, Facilities, and Infrastructure (MSFI) Committee on the public preferences and feedback we received for each design area. Although public comment is taken by the MSFI committee, I would encourage everyone to participate in the workshops as that format allows a more free-flowing exchange of ideas.

If you are not able to attend one of the meetings, you can always send your comments to me directly at dlussier@keenenh.gov or by calling me at 603-209-3502.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Lussier, P.E.

City Engineer