



To: Jon Harrington  
Town of Pomfret

Date: 07/12/2023

Memorandum

Project #: 58786.00

From: Elisabeth Sundberg  
Karen Sentoff

Re: Pomfret Scoping Report

## Response to Comments

VHB primarily responded to comments from VTrans with direct revisions in the Village of South Pomfret Scoping Study final report. The feedback and comments received that did not prompt direct revision and/or required further response were included with response below. **Comments** from VTrans are in bold font and *response to comments* are included in italics.

**The bolded portions should be the purpose, and the rest of the text is the need.**

*The Purpose and Need statement language was developed with feedback from the community and finalized with the town during the public outreach process of the project. As such, no revisions to the statement were made.*

**Has winter maintenance been fully considered?**

*Winter maintenance was discussed during the public meetings and was considered, particularly in regards to snow plow clearance of medians and sidewalk clearing.*

**Per pedestrian crosswalk guidelines, marked crosswalks are to be a minimum of 200 ft apart.**

*In some alternatives, marking crossings at the intersections were explored, otherwise midblock crossings were considered in locations with spacing of more than 200 ft.*

**Is there an accessible parking space at the library? One should be provided.**

*Yes, there is existing accessible parking that would be maintained.*

**Per State Statute Title 23 : Motor Vehicles, Chapter 013 : Operation Of Vehicles, Sub-chapter 010 : Stopping, Standing, And Parking (Cite as: 23 V.S.A. § 1104) You may not park any within 30 feet upon the approach to any flashing signal, stop sign, or traffic control light located at the side of a roadway;**

*As part of the stakeholder engagement process, concerns about losing parking on the library parcel were discussed. Given the concerns raised and the context, this design detail will be resolved in the design phase of the project.*

**Stop sign required**

*Yes, that is the intent and would be included in the design.*

**Downward arrows required for a marked crosswalk. Signs visible for both approaches**

*The signs were included for visualization purposes. MUTCD compliant sign packages would be included in the design process.*

### **Where does shoulder taper back to existing?**

*The shoulder taper would meet existing just outside the study area – just west of Saskadena Six, north of Artistree, and east of the Prosper Valley School.*

### **Section 1111?**

*Pomfret Road and Stage Road are town highways and therefore would not require Section 1111 permits for relocation of driveways.*

### **Historic does not have permits—there are specific review documents.**

*The bullet regarding historic and public lands requirements have been updated to state “Review under Section 106 and evaluation under Section 4(f)”.*

### **Identify which Alternative # this is.**

*The preferred alternative is based off of Alternative 1 but with adjustments based on community input. Alternative 1 was adapted to include 4-foot sliver widening along Pomfret Road down to Prosper Valley School.*

### **New sidewalk sections must have logical termini**

*New sidewalk sections would terminate at existing, dedicated walkways/sidewalks including the Library walkway, Artistree path, crossing to the Grange, and existing Teago sidewalk. The remaining segment of sidewalk would provide accessible pathways between parking and these logical termini.*

### **However pedestrians are crossing the road to get to the library. That could be reversed, and slow the traffic at the same time. Or make it 45 degree and one-way, or eliminate entrance onto Stage Rd.**

*These alternatives were considered early in the alternatives development process and not carried forward due to impacts.*

### **Consider the role of street trees for traffic calming within project area. Would be good to have a section in this report to mention this. There are tree planting grants available through VTUCF.**

*Added this to the preferred conceptual plan section.*

### **For demonstration projects, reach out to AARP Vermont. They have placemaking demonstration grants for things like this. Could also consider the transportation alternatives program (TAP)**

*Added this to the funding opportunities section.*

### **Other comments and revisions to note:**

- *A No Build scenario, though assumed in the process, has been added to the alternatives analysis.*
- *Traffic control costs have been added to the cost estimates.*
- *There were many of the same comments in the appendix, which includes slides that were presented to the public. Revisions to the slides presented in public forums were not updated to maintain an accurate representation of the public engagement.*