



**Town of Henniker Public Forum
Main St. Data Presentation
Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission
Tuesday April 23, 2024 6:00 PM
Henniker Community Center**

EDC Present: Lori Marko, Bob Pagano
Central NH Regional Planning Commission: Michael Tardiff, Executive Director; Vincent Pagano, Regional Planner
Town Administrator: Diane Kendall
Town Planner: Mark Fougere
Recording Secretary: Hank Bernstein
Guests: See attached Sign-In Sheet

BACKGROUND AND DATA

TA Kendall welcomed the audience and introduced the representatives from the Economic Development Committee (EDC) and Central NH Regional Planning (CNHRPC).

In 2020, the Selectboard received a request for an additional crosswalk on Main Street. The Board of Selectmen forwarded the request to the Highway Safety and Road Management committees and did not reach consensus. The issue resurfaced in 2022, prompting the Selectmen to seek input from the EDC. To gather additional information, the EDC enlisted the expertise of the CNHRPC to conduct a study of traffic volumes, speed data, pedestrian counts, pedestrian crossing locations, and parking utilization on Main St. The purpose of this forum is to present the data collected in 2023 and to n current conditions and needs of the Main Street area and evaluate options for making improvements that may better fit the present and future needs of the community. Mr. Tardiff informed the public of the findings of the study. Vincent Pagano gave further details. Those documents can be found at this address:

<https://www.henniker.org/economic-development-committee/pages/henniker-main-st-public-forum>

PUBLIC INPUT

- Jennifer Lopez, of Foster Hill and co-owner of SuperScoops, shared that she had made the initial request for a crosswalk.
- Marc McMurphy, of Rush Rd, spoke on the lack of safety crossing the street and asked for something- a crosswalk or a flashing light, to alert drivers of pedestrians. He also remarked that out-of town drivers may not understand the traffic patterns.
- Josh Finet, of Foster Hill and co-owner of SuperScoops, shared his passion for the town of Henniker and expressed concern about the safety of his customer base crossing the street.
- Amy Guimond, of Juniper Ridge, shared a personal story and commented on signage.
- Taylor Carroll, of Village Green, remarked on the large number of children that may explore the town unsupervised and commented the community has a shared responsibility to make it a safe place.
- Kelly McCutcheon, of Foster Hill Rd and Broken Boat Farms, asked about the cost to paint a crosswalk. She supports an additional crosswalk on Main St.
 - TA Kendall responded to the question of cost stating cost to paint is not burdensome. An additional crosswalk requires a certain visibility which could decrease the number of parking spaces. Mr. Tardiff agreed and stated that there is an opportunity to do a demonstration.

- Josh Finet returned to note that he does not care about the economic impact and is solely concerned about the safety of the pedestrians.
- Joan O'Connor, of Echo Lane, shared a story Dr. Francis Holmes who was stuck and killed crossing the street. She also discussed the safety of the crosswalks on route 114 at New England College crossing areas.
- Susan Adams, of Ramsdell Rd, spoke in favor of lowering the speed limit and stricter enforcement rather than an additional crosswalk.
- Jennifer Lopez returned to say that signage would be a good start, as well as increased visibility and potentially lowering the speed limit.
- Bill Marko, of Evergreen Circle, asked if data had been collected for the winter. Mr. Tardiff informed that CNHRPC gathered data for Spring and Summer as a first step and can collect more data. Bill Marko said that the winter data should be considered.
- Ruth Zax, of Hall Ave and Chairman of the Concert Committee, mentioned the data and informed that attendance to the Summer Concert Series ranges from 300 to 500, with the finale event having 600 to 800 attendees. She recommended signage both for pedestrians and for parking.
- Cody Jacobson, of Western Ave, said that it is easy to pick up speed when traveling westbound from Old Concord Rd onto Main Street. He noted that the radar speed sign was a good reminder to slow down.
- Bogart Lopez Finet, of Foster Hill and SuperScoops employee, shared his observations of pedestrian and vehicle travel from the SuperScoops windows and he feels a crosswalk would help people feel safer.
- Allison Mrohs, of Ramsdell Rd and Henniker House B&B, asked if there was a temporary solution- like neon posts- while a long term solution is figured out.
- Stuart Bernstein, of Tanglewood Dr, noted that traffic headed westbound from Old Concord Rd onto Main Street travels downhill and has visibility issues. He spoke in favor of getting drivers to slow down and pay attention.
 - Mr. Tardiff responded by saying there are a variety of options beyond enforcement including narrowing lanes, signage, and flashing radar.
- Heidi Aucoin, of Weare Rd, asked about restricting traffic on Old Concord Rd to cut down on traffic.

TA Kendall invited guests to email additional comments which will be forwarded to the EDC for compilation. The EDC will provide the EDC and Board of Selectmen the data, comments, and recommendations.

THE PUBLIC FORUM CONCLUDED AT 7 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Hank Bernstein,
Minute Taker



Meeting: Main Street Public Forum

Economic Development Committee
&

Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission

Date: April 23, 2024

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Name	Address
Lori Marko	Henniker
Heidi Arwin	Henniker
Susan Adams	Henniker
Ruth Zax	Henniker
JAY ZAX	Henniker
Lekey Daniel	Henniker
Kevin David	Henniker
Amy Guimond	Henniker
Ray Guimond	Henniker
Marc McMurphy	24 Rush Rd Henniker
Michele McMurphy	24 Rush Rd "
J. Scott Osmond	188 Foster Hill Rd. New
Scott D'AS	Flinders Rd
Heidi Galster	Henniker
Barbara Bernstein	Henniker
Stuart Bernstein	Henniker
Allison Mrahn	10 Ramsdell Rd



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Name	Address
Ray Mwohs	10 Ramsdell
Paula Amato	NEC
Taylor Carroll	Henniker Henniker
Peter Dwyer	HRP
Joan O'Connor	7 Echo Lane
Ray & Rebecca Blanchard	359 Highland Dr
Joyce Buss (The Messenger)	
Kelly McCutcheon	378 Foster Hill Road
Cody Jacobsen	97 Western Ave
Dawn Lavallu	442 Liberty Hill Rd.
Jennifer Lopez	Foster Hill
Robert Lopez Finer	808 Foster Hill
Philip Sletten	188 Gould Pond Rd
Paul [unclear]	Old Hillsboro Rd
Rocky Bostrom	HENNIKER
Karl Derrman	" "