Complete Streets Committee

Intersection Analysis and Priorities for Improvement

Presentation to Council May 20, 2019
Complete Streets Committee Members

2018
- Steven Misiura: Borough Council
- Lee Stultz: Borough Council
- Beverly Asselstine: Planning Board
- Dodie Colavecchio: Planning Board, Historic Preservation Commission
- David Zaiser: Environmental Commission

2019
- Steven Misiura: Borough Council
- Beverly Asselstine: Planning Board
- Dodie Colavecchio: Planning Board, Historic Preservation Commission
- David Zaiser: Environmental Commission
- Joe Cicaless: Planning Board, Environmental Commission
PURPOSE

Set priorities for future infrastructure projects with a focus on:

• The Downtown

• Providing a continuous network of safe intersections and sidewalks from all parts of the Borough to Hightstown High School
Franklin Street (Rt 33) and Maxwell Avenue

- Provide crosswalks across all four street segments.
- Provide continental stripe crosswalk marking.
- Install walk/don’t walk signals.
- Install high visibility pedestrian crossing signs.
- Repaint stop lines.
- Correct speed limits on Rt 33 eastern approach.
Franklin Street (Rt 33) and Maxwell Avenue

Provide traffic calming measures on Rt 33 eastern approach including:

• Road Diet
• Replacement of the wide shoulder with bike lanes and sidewalks.
• Street trees

Crosswalks distance could be reduced by curb extensions.

• Include rain garden

Eliminate right-turn lane and island.

No turn on red on Maxwell north approach.

New sidewalk on Maxwell from Franklin to Ward.
Curb extensions improve visibility for pedestrians and drivers, reduce the pedestrian crossing distance, cable traffic, and shield on-street parking at intersection approaches. In the above example, the addition of curb extensions shortens pedestrian crossing distances from 75 feet to 52 feet in one direction and 11 feet to 18 feet in the other direction without reducing the number of travel lanes.

**Channelized Right Turns**

Where channelized right turns are necessary, they should be designed to slow driver turning speed and improve visibility of pedestrians, bicyclists, and oncoming motor vehicle traffic for the turning driver.

**Standard**

**Ladder**

**Continental**

*Highland Park, NJ*
Franklin Street (Rt 33) and Broad Street

- Trim tree branches.
- Install Hawk or RRFB crosswalk signals.
- Provide elevated crosswalks with continental stripping.
RRFB on Alexander Street in Princeton, NJ

HAWK signal along NJ 27 improves access to the Metropark Train Station in Iselin, NJ
North Main Street (CR 539) and Monmouth Street (CR 633)

- Add a second crosswalk across N. Main St.
- Provide high visibility crosswalk signage and continental stripping.
- Provide ADA compliant curb cut ramps.
- Replace faded signage
South Main Street (CR 539) and Etra Road (CR 571)

• Provide a crosswalk with continental stripes at the north side of this intersection across South Main Street.

• Install high visibility pedestrian crossing signs.

• Provide RRFB crosswalk signals across South Main.
South Main Street (CR 539) and Etra Road (CR 571)

- Ramp connecting to the sidewalk on the west side of South Main
- Provide bicycle pathways along both routes
- Add detectable warning surfaces to existing and new ramps.
South Main Street (CR 539) and Springcrest Drive

- Restripe existing crosswalk with continental stripping.
- Provide traffic calming measures along South Main St such as road narrowing or an island.
- Install RRFB crosswalk signals across South Main.
- Install a street lamp on the SW corner of Springcrest.
- Install a sidewalk along the entire length of Springcrest.
- Install ADA compliant curb cut ramps on South Main.
- Infill missing sidewalk gaps along South Main, (East side).
Curb extensions improve visibility for pedestrians and drivers, reduce the pedestrian crossing distance, calm traffic, and shield on-street parking at intersection approaches. In the above example, the addition of curb extensions shortens pedestrian crossing distances from 75 feet to 32 feet in one direction and 51 feet to 28 feet in the other direction without reducing the number of travel lanes.
South Main Street (CR 539) and Leshin Lane

- Restripe crosswalk across Leshin Lane with continental stripping.
- Provide crosswalks with continental stripping, and RRFB crosswalk signals across South Main.
- Provide traffic calming measures along South Main St such as road narrowing or an island.
- Add sidewalks on the east side of South Main to fill in gaps. Provide curb cuts and detectable warning strips.
- Provide bike lane on South Main and Bike Route on Leshin Lane.
Mercer Street (RT 33) and Grape Run Drive

- Restripe existing crosswalk with continental stripping.
- Provide RRFB crosswalk signals across Mercer Street.
- Extend the shoulder stripping on Mercer Street past the intersection.
- Reduce the speed limit on Mercer Street to 25 mph.
Mercer Street (RT 33) and Grape Run Drive

- Provide traffic calming measures on Mercer Street such as curb extensions or an island.
- Streetscape improvements to better connect it to the downtown such as street trees, decorative street lamps, decorative median and decorative pavers.
Stockton Street (CR 571) Dutch Neck Road, Harron Avenue and Oak Lane

- Provide continental stripes across all streets at the intersection.
- Provide RRFB crosswalk signals across Stockton Street.
- Study the feasibility of adding a roundabout.
- Change Harron to a one-way street from Morrison north to Stockton.
Downtown Walk Audit

Participants
Streets and Sidewalks Committee
Steve Misuira, Council President
Beverly Asselstine, Planning Board
Joe Cicalese, Planning Board and Environmental Commission
Borough Staff and Professionals
Ken Lewis, Superintendent of Public Works
Frank Gendron, Police Chief
Carmela Roberts, Borough Engineer
Mercer County Planning Department
Matthew Zochowski, Assistant Planner
Community Organizations
Brian Clissold, Downtown Hightstown, Inc., also member West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance
Jack Curry, RISE
Cheryl Kastrenakes, Executive Director, Greater Mercer TMA
Ian Henderson, Greater Mercer TMA
Jerry Foster, Greater Mercer TMA
Downtown Walk Audit

Principal Findings.

• Numerous unmarked crosswalks.

• Lack of compliance with Complete Streets Guidelines, (markings, visibility, signage, etc.)

• Lack of traffic calming measures on the approaches to the downtown.

• Creative engineering and design adjustments are needed to address existing conditions in the downtown area
Specific Recommendations.

Crosswalks on streets approaching downtown

- Add more crosswalks along North Main and South Main Streets with high visibility markings and signage.
- Improve visibility, markings and signage for crosswalks on Franklin and Mercer Streets. Expand traffic calming and crosswalks at Franklin and Maxwell.
Specific Recommendations.

Crosswalk Accessibility (ADA).

- North Main and Bank Street are not ADA compliant.
- Upgrade crossing signal at Franklin and Main to latest standards.
- Investigate broken crossing signal at Main and Stockton.
- Repair ramp at crosswalks at the Point and Rogers (damaged, not flush)
Downtown Walk Audit

Specific Recommendations.

Improve safety at crossings on Route 33.

• Franklin and Main:
  • Full stop for all traffic to allow for pedestrian crossing.
  • Add a crosswalk on the south side of the intersection with expanded island for pedestrian refuge.

• Main and Stockton:
  • Add crosswalk on north side of intersection.
Downtown WalkAudit

Specific Recommendations.
Improve safety at crossings on Route 33.

• South Main, Mercer and Rogers:
  • Provide high visibility paint markings.
  • Lighted signal at the Point.
  • Permanent removal of parking spaces at the Point.
  • Reduction of span across Rogers with a mountable curb extension.
Downtown Walk Audit

Specific Recommendations.

Improve safety at crossings on Route 33.

• Ward, Mercer and Academy:
  • Extend the “feel” of downtown into this area with landscaping, lane narrowing and high visibility crosswalk markings.
  • Add a crosswalk on Mercer at Ward with a pedestrian island.
  • Consider other measures to slow or stop traffic through this area, including a traffic light.
NEXT STEPS

- Review findings with Council and Planning Board.
- Complete priority matrix.
- Prepare NJ DOT Transportation Problem Statement Form.
- Prepare a written request for a review by the Mercer County Planning Department.
- Work with the Borough Engineer in prioritizing capital projects and submitting grant applications.
- Proceed with the development of a comprehensive mobility plan for the Borough of Hightstown.
QUESTIONS?