

Feedback from Public Forum, 7.30.12 Moving Downtown Forward

Group 1:

- Majority likes Opportunity 4
- Research to see how potential features work in other US towns
- Roundabout option 3 the most popular
- Concern about location of crosswalks
- Concerns on parking

Group 2:

- Greenville, SC went from 4 lanes to 2 lanes with roundabout = successful
- Strategies for crossing (roundabout)
- Concern that current inner lanes used as passing lanes
- Like roundabouts 1 & 2 (emergency vehicles)
- Parking concerns
- Back-in parking concerns

Group 3:

- Bike Talk – should help with biker accessibility
- Center bike lane doesn't work
- 2 way Pleasant – Police Station complexities?
- Different populations – elderly, newcomers
- Back-in parking won't sell
- Opportunity 4 is best for bikes
 - 1 way bike lanes = good
 - Turning lanes keep traffic moving
 - Trees in median – not asphalt
- Roundabout option 3 – roundabout at Stanwood/Pleasant

Group 4:

- Purpose to make downtown more accessible/attractive
- Back-in parking no good
- Opportunity 4 is better than 1 (crosswalk concern)
 - Raised crosswalks = good
 - Like Opportunity 4 bike lanes, concern w/ 1 way
 - 9 people for 1 lane with turning lane, 1 against
- Concern about roundabout not being pedestrian friendly
- Like 2 way Pleasant
- Businesses encourage people to park off Maine

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Group 5:

- Like raised crosswalks and pedestrian safety.
- Don't like loss of parking, want to keep same amount
- Like Opportunity 4 better than 1 besides the major loss of parking
- Frosty's/Morning Glory crosswalks safest
- Bikes should use other side streets – NOT Maine St.
- *PARKING
- 1 lane roundabout better than 2 lane, some don't like roundabout at all
- Look at what Freeport does for parking
- Advantages to 2 way Pleasant but most are opposed

Notes/Ideas:

- Given current Maine/Pleasant intersection, will MDOT allow 2 way Pleasant?
- Increase backing-out visibility by lengthening parking spaces
- How will different models affect parking numbers?
- 18 wheel truck parking (delivery)?
- Parking garage?
- One way streets (School, Center, etc.)
- Criteria for measuring appeal/efficiency
- Directing people off of Maine St.
- Concern over the acceptance of back-in parking & sharrows
- Like raised crosswalks
- General concern of bike safety
- Are bicycle & car accessibility mutually exclusive?
- Education for safe practices by pedestrians, bikers, drivers
- Bikers directed off of Maine St.?
- Citizens should always be considering parking options
- Cooperation between Town and private parking owners (different after hours?)
- Pro of 2 way Pleasant: people downtown can easily find their way back to the highway (295)