

Downtown and Outer Pleasant Street Corridor Master Plan Implementation Committee
Report to Brunswick Town Council
April 1, 2013

Members:

Margo Knight, Town Councilor, District 6, Chair (Neighborhoods)
John Perreault, Town Councilor, District 4, Vice Chair (Ped. & Vehicular)
Anna Breinich, Director of Planning and Development, Committee Staff
Newell Augur, At-large Member (Finance & Marketing)
Paul Dostie, Downtown Resident (Neighborhoods)
Ann "Vicky" Marr, Non-Profit and Creative Economy Representative (Neighborhoods)
Mike Lyne, BDA Representative (Visual Quality)
Jaki Ellis, At-large Member (Ped. & Vehicular)
Toby Tarpinian, Downtown Business Owner (Visual Quality)
Katherine Wilson, Outer Pleasant Street Resident (Ped. & Vehicular)
David Flaherty, Outer Pleasant Street Business Owner (Finance & Marketing)

Accomplishments since June 2012

Visual Quality

- The subcommittee continues to work closely with the BDA Design Committee and Brunswick Public Art Committee.
- BDA has partnered with the Parks and Recreation Department to use seasonal staff to clean Maine Street several times a week.
- Local citizens independently paid for and installed artistic lighting on Maine Street for the holidays and one is a year-round installation.

Neighborhoods

- Programming downtown gathering places with special events throughout the year: BDA events, Five River Arts Art Walks, MCHPP "Sing for Your Supper," "Movies in the Park"
- New gathering places were created for the new Town Christmas tree and the Spanish War Memorial.

Pedestrian & Vehicular Movement

- MPIC hosted two public workshops and an online survey about concept plans the committee believed included aspects that would calm traffic movement and increase bicyclist and pedestrian safety.
- Convened an ad hoc parking subcommittee to address concerns of Maine Street business owners about loss of parking; resulted in parking ordinance changes approved last year.
- Approved Maine Street raised crosswalk locations: Lincoln to Bank streets and Cumberland to Center streets.
- The subcommittee continues to work closely with the Brunswick Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

- Won an EPA Sustainable Building Blocks Parking Audit award; consultants will be in town April 3 & 4, with public sessions scheduled.
- Applied for Maine DOT Safe Routes to School Program (should hear soon on decision).

Marketing & Finance

- BDA continues to work with Amtrak and NNEPRA to market Brunswick to Downeaster Riders.
- A group of citizens with the BDA Design Committee is pursuing a National Trust Downtown Historic designation for Brunswick, which will provide tax credits and grant opportunities for development.

Priorities for Next Six Months

Visual Quality

- Continue to work closely with the BDA Design Committee and the Brunswick Public Arts Committee on projects: Brunswick Station, Ft. Andross, and banners.

Neighborhoods

- Investigate again the feasibility of a town-wide building inspection program for structure with three or more rental units.

Pedestrian & Vehicular

- Work on a new plan, "Plan A," as a basis for the next Maine Street plan to take out for public input.
- Develop interpretive walking loops for Downtown.
- Widen pedestrian safety and traffic improvement focus to include outer Pleasant Street.
- Continue to pursue the feasibility of roundabouts on Maine and Pleasant streets.
- Continue to pursue converting inner Pleasant Street to two-way.
- Implement best practices learned from EPA Parking Audit Report.

Finance & Marketing

- Install way-finding signage and mapping, historical markers throughout downtown.
- Continue to identify other funding sources.