

W. Chestnut LTPAP Public Meeting #2 St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church May 23, 2023 @5:30 PM and 7:00 PM

Meeting Overview

The meeting was hosted by Herkimer Oneida County Transportation Council (HOCTC) staff and Oneida County Planning Staff with support provided by the Consultant Team including Planning4Places, LLC, Sam Schwartz, CLA Site, and Weston and Sampson. Mayor Jacqueline M. Izzo and City Common Council member Frank Anderson were in attendance.

Two meetings were held consecutively to provide an opportunity for the public to both hear the presentation and engage with HOCTC staff, the Consultant Team, and other attendees at the Open House portion of the meetings.

A demonstration project was established at the entrance to the meeting to show attendees the different widths that a sidepath and sidewalk could potentially be to help provide a first-hand experience of what each width would feel like for a pedestrian.



The meetings started with a PowerPoint presentation by Dana Crisino (HOCTC) and the consultant team. The presentations summarized the intent of the meeting and discussed next steps. The existing conditions analysis and findings were summarized and potential draft transportation enhancements concepts for the corridor were presented. HOCTC staff provided an overview of findings from the first public survey.

Overall, attendees expressed support for adding the implementation of sidewalk and sidepath infrastructure to the corridor, crosswalks to provide dedicated places to cross the road, and sidewalk connections from W. Chestnut Street to other streets (including filling sidewalk gaps). These findings are consistent with input received at Public Meeting #1 and Survey #1. Other comments received at the meeting included a desire to address truck traffic, noise abatement (putting in trees and bushes to block sound from motorcycles) and identifying whether or not signage could be added to restrict right turns on red at signals. Attendees also would like to see bike parking and noted a need for a bus stop at Hannaford and the adjacent nursing home.

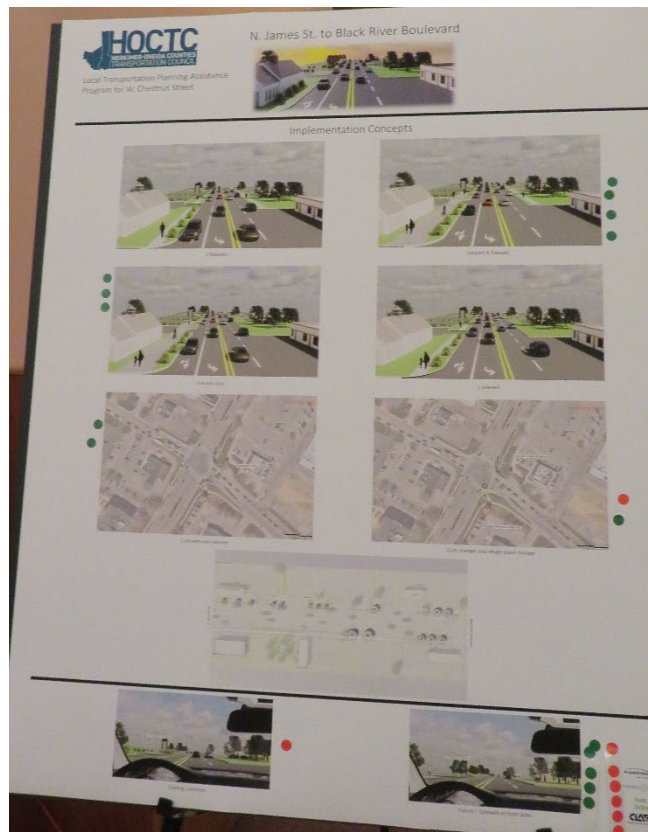
Attendees voiced preference for road realignment at the Turin Road and W. Chestnut Street intersection over the concepts of a roundabout. Enhancements to improve safety at the W. Chestnut Street and Black River Boulevard intersection were desired.

Regarding truck traffic, comments were raised during the presentation asking about the status of rerouting truck traffic to Potter Road as prohibiting pass-through truck traffic in this corridor should be implemented. A comment card further noted that while Potter Road is an alternative, the larger issue of garbage trucks running up Rte. 26 to the Ava Landfill is a concern and that trucks should be rerouted to Rte. 12 instead.

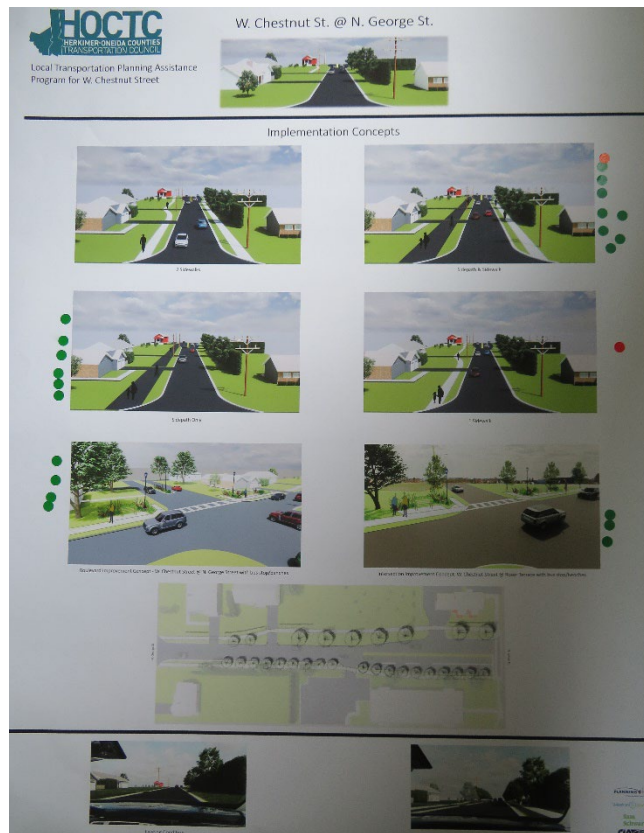
Following the presentation, attendees reviewed display boards showing renderings of existing conditions and draft concepts, and reviewed details on best practices for non-vehicular infrastructure placement. Attendees were asked to place a green sticker dot on concepts they preferred and a red dot on concepts that they did not prefer. Additional comments were provided via sticky notes and comment cards.

What We Heard

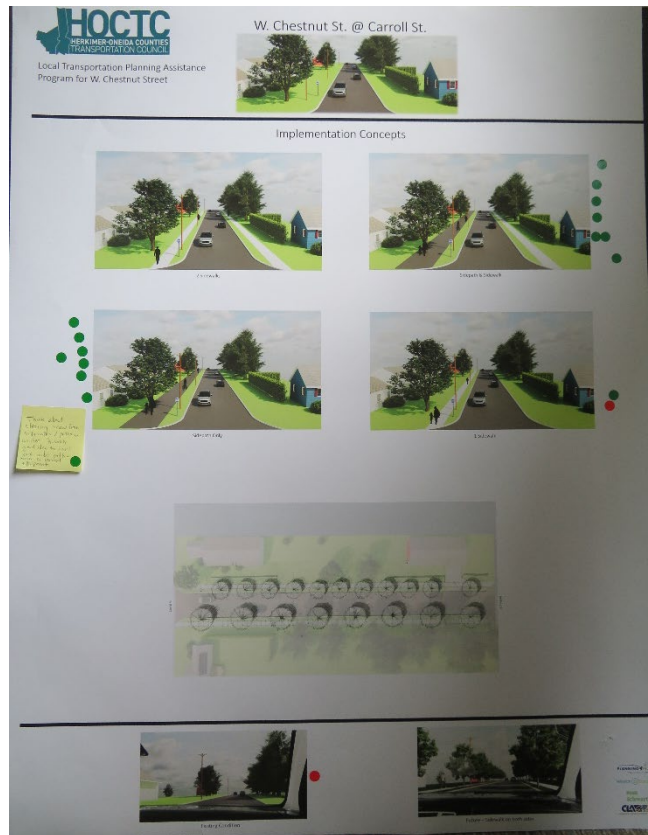
- N. James St. to Black River Boulevard
 - The concept of installing a sidewalk and sidepath along W. Chestnut Street (one on each side of the road) was the most popular, with just a sidewalk and just a sidepath also receiving positive input.
 - The curb extension concept at Black River Boulevard was preferred over the refuge island concept which had some opposition.



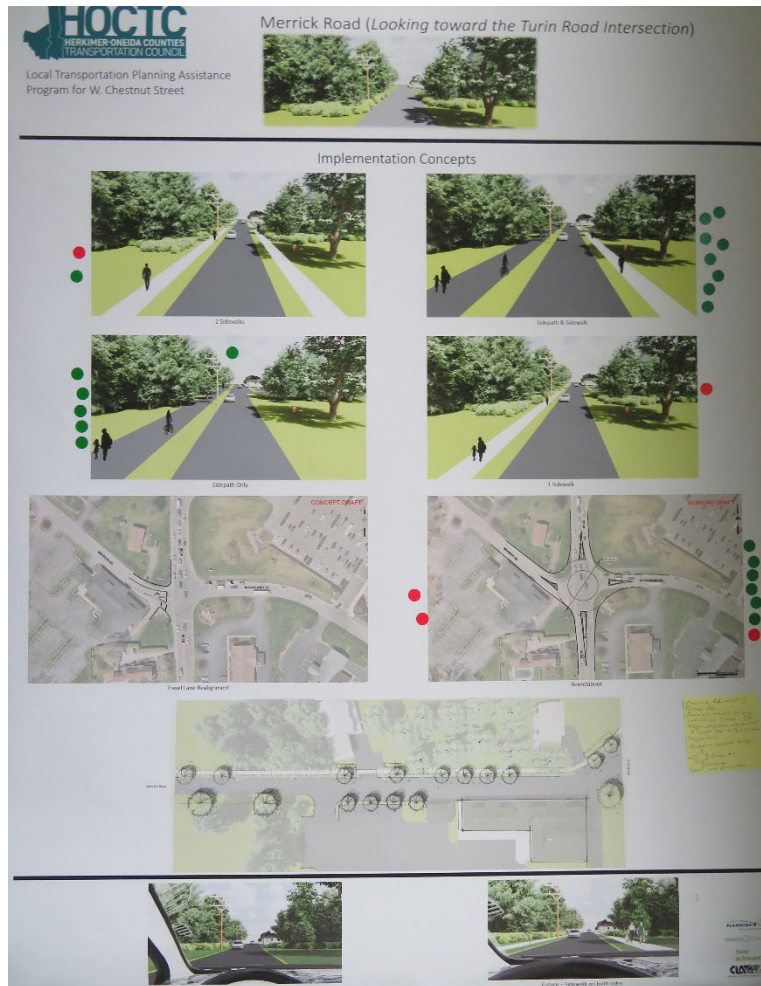
- W. Chestnut St. @ N. George St.
 - The concept of installing a sidewalk and sidepath along W. Chestnut Street (one on each side of the road) was the most popular, with just a sidepath also receiving significant positive input. Just a sidewalk was not a desired option.
 - The intersection with a boulevard improvement concept representative schematic using the intersection of W. Chestnut Street @ N. George St. received positive feedback.
 - The intersection improvement concept representative schematic using the intersection of W. Chestnut Street @ Roser Terrace received positive feedback.



- W. Chestnut Street @ Carroll St.
 - The concept of installing a sidewalk and sidepath along W. Chestnut Street (one on each side of the road) was the most popular, with just a sidepath also receiving significant positive input. Just a sidewalk was not a desired option.
 - A note was posted requesting consideration of snow clearing from sidewalks/paths in winter. It was noted that a wider path would make for easier [plow type] removal equipment access.



- Merrick Road (Looking toward the Turin Road intersection)
 - The concept of installing a sidewalk and sidepath along Merrick Road (one on each side of the road) was the most popular, with just a sidepath also receiving significant positive input. A single sidewalk or sidewalks on both sides was not a desired option.
 - A suggestion was made to consider building a second bridge and undertake repairs once it is completed.



For a closer view of the Concept Meeting Boards, view the PowerPoint Presentation at: <https://www.romerises.com/w-chestnut-street-corridor-study> W Chestnut Public Meeting # 2 Slide Presentation.