

**Plandome Rd Vision Project
Stakeholders Meeting Notes 1-21-10**

THREE Conceptual Re-designs from previous stakeholder meeting discussions were reviewed:

C1: Recommended for Northern Blvd to Park Ave (civic-school zone). Key Elements:

- Traffic Calming (roadway restriction) is accomplished by a **wide CENTER MEDIAN** to improve pedestrian crossing even where crosswalks are not present. The wider median provides an area for pedestrians to cross the roadway halfway at a time.
- Existing sidewalk width is generally retained with “bulb outs” at key intersections.
- **Least costly; maximizes area covered for funding available.**

This includes the **FIRST** phase of implementation where NYS “Safe Routes to Schools” funding is imminently available (roughly MJ Davies Park to Park Ave).

C2: Recommended for LIRR overpass to Colonial Pkwy (Business zone). Key Elements:

- Traffic Calming (roadway restriction) is accomplished by **widening sidewalk and providing a narrower center median.**
- Wider sidewalks in Business District for maximum commerce benefits. **Improves pedestrian shopping, and better accommodates street fairs, add bench seating along pedestrian path and/or sidewalk café tables** (if desired in future); Wider sidewalk allows for **improved sidewalk grade/ slope** for areas with steep slopes from business entrance to curb.
- **Increases project cost significantly** (roughly 3 to 4 times C1 cost) due to required relocation of utility poles, fire hydrants, etc...

C3: A hybrid compromise between the two approaches in Business District. Key Elements:

- Traffic Calming (roadway restriction) is accomplished by taking the desired roadway restriction width via half sidewalk widening, and half center median widening.
- Utilities still need to be relocated.

Stakeholder consensus was that since the project cost is roughly same as C2 but the benefits of C2 are not as significant as C2, the **concept is less desirable.**

Resulting draft conceptual drawings (attached): The recommended stakeholder design approach Does/ Does Not accomplish:

1. **Memorial Place:** Makes the “Villa Milano” **pedestrian crossing significantly safer than current conditions, but DOES NOT create a formal crosswalk.** Focuses on improving causes of current reduced safety rather than the pre-conceived solution that requires a crosswalk. All internal & external traffic engineers concluded that a traffic light /stop sign would be too close to adjacent lights (insufficient traffic flow and likelihood of far increased congestion); a crosswalk without a light/stop sign was more dangerous.
2. **Manhasset Ave:** Widens Manhasset Avenue to both **better aligned to Andrew Street AND accommodates an eastbound right turn lane onto Plandome Rd.** Space comes from TNH owned MJDavies Park and removal of existing defunct police booth.
3. **Gaynor Ave:** **Creates a formal crosswalk at Gaynor Ave. and requires (and subject to) a traffic light** which TNH will apply for approval from Nassau County.
4. **Colonial Parkway:** It improves pedestrian crossing safety. Roadway was deemed by engineers to be **UNABLE** to accommodate a small traffic circle; Outer circle boundary for trucks would be wider than the current available space. Thus, it does not provide the opportunity to accommodate an acceptable “turn around” intersection. Since this is the farthest phase of implementation, the intersection can still be studied further to produce greater improvement.
5. **Aesthetical Element-Burying all electrical communication utilities was NOT endorsed.** Cost for this alone was reported to increase project cost by about \$1M per block and thus simply unaffordable.

Chamber of Commerce requested a delay in Community wide meeting to accommodate increased chamber internal discussions with business owners. As a significant stakeholder, it was agreed to set a later date (TBD).

Community-wide meeting in Focus group format will provide input on proposed plan; select more specific input on type of treatment at medians, sidewalks (aesthetical options such as pavers, etc.).