
Memo

DATE: January 5, 2018

TO: Rick McGuire, Town Manager

FROM: Erik Wells, Assistant to the Town Manager

RE: NORTH WILLISTON ROAD INTERSECTION UPDATE

Policy Issue: At its December 19, 2017 meeting the Selectboard requested an update on the preferred alternatives selected, and their implementation stemming from the 2012 North Williston Road, Mountain View Road and Gov. Chittenden Road Intersection Study. This memo will provide that update and next steps as they relate to the current North Williston Road Corridor Study.

Selectboard Options Relating to the Policy Issue: No formal action is required by the Selectboard at this time.

Background: The 2012 intersection study and preferred alternatives were adopted by the Selectboard in July 2012. Phase 1 of these improvements took place that year. These included the installation of a rapid reflective flashing beacon (RRFB) and sidewalk crossing, improved signage and new pavement markings along with line striping to bring more attention to the intersection.

Phase 2 of the preferred alternative involves improving lane delineation, turn radii and line of sight at the intersection. Features to accomplish this include raised median islands, the installation of curbing, removal of bollards and guard rails, new sidewalk and the relocation of a fence on private property. An estimate for phase 2 of the work in 2012 dollars totaled \$36,000 of contracted services, and \$3,000 worth of staff time.

The current North Williston Road Corridor Study is a component of the Circ Alternatives Plan that looks at this major town roadway in its entirety. After the comment period closes later this month, the project team will take public feedback into consideration as it revises the draft alternatives and presents these options to the Selectboard for review. In light of this study, which was pending for years, phase 2 of the intersection improvements identified in 2012 have been on hold until the vision for the entire corridor can be established. Both components are closely interwoven.

Multimodal transportation options in the first draft alternatives report for North Williston Road were presented for comment in December. These included widening of the roadway shoulders at the Mountain View intersection for improved bicycle lanes, and creating an adjacent multi-use path. These measures would change and affect the design of the phase 2 improvements stemming from the 2012 report. With that in mind, it's recommended to wait on proceeding on final engineering design for phase 2 at the intersection until a decision is made on these other corridor improvements by the Selectboard.

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Staff Recommendation: The Selectboard could choose a path forward on the corridor study and the intersection later this year. Funds have already been allocated to this capital project that could be used for final design and engineering at the intersection, should the Selectboard decide on next steps. Since this is a Circ Alternatives Route Project the Town should pursue outside funding sources to cover design and construction costs.

Intersection Crash Data

