

IVAN ZDRAHAL ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERING AND PLANNING

959 Route 146
Clifton Park, New York, 12065
518-383-0769
www.iza.cc

IVAN ZDRAHAL, PE
Member

October 7, 2019

**MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT
VILLAGE OF LAKE PLACID**

MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION FOCUS GROUP

Prepared by Ivan Zdrahal, P.E.

Subject: Minutes of Meeting Held on October 7, 2019

(Written comments on items in the minutes are appreciated.)

Attendees:

Craig Randall	Mayor, Village of Lake Placid mayorrandall@villageoflakeplacid.ny.gov	# (518) 523-2597
Peter Holderied	Trustee, Village of Lake Placid trusteeholderied@villageoflakeplacid.ny.gov	# (518) 637-6482
Art Devlin	Trustee, Village of Lake Placid deputymayordevlin@villageoflakeplacid.ny.gov	# (518) 523-3700
Brad Hathaway	DPW Supt., Village of Lake Placid dpw1@villageoflakeplacid.ny.gov	# (518) 524-2509
Jay Rand	Councilman, Town of North Elba jrand88@outlook.com	# (518) 523-9516
Ivan Zdrahal, PE	Ivan Zdrahal Associates Project Engineer zdrahal@aol.com	# (518) 383-0769
Wade Newman, PE	Ivan Zdrahal Associates Project Engineer wnewman@citedev.com	# (518) 383-0769
Jim Edgcomb	Architect, Edgcomb Design Group Inc. jim@edgcombdesigngroup.com	# (802) 496-5255
Bill Billerman	Mirror Lake Watershed Association billerman@aim.com	# (518) 524-4328
Marc Galvin	Lake Placid Business Association marc@thebookstoreplus.com	# (518) 523-2950
Timothy Robinson	Lake Placid Business Association terryrobardswines@gmail.com	# (518) 523-9072
Brandon Montag	Lake Placid Business Association brandon@golden-arrow.com	# (877) 832-9912
Vero Piacentini	Olympic Regional Development Authority vero@orda.org	# (518) 523-1655

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Roger Catania	Lake Placid Central School District Email: rcatania@lpcsd.org	# (518) 523-2475
Val Rogers	Lake Placid-North Elba Dev. Commission v.abrahamrogers@gmail.com	# (518) 523-2584
Dean Dietrich	Lake Placid-North Elba Dev. Commission deandietrich@verizon.net	# (518) 523-2584
Mary Jane Lawrence	Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism Email: maryjane@roostadk.com	# (518) 621-3652
Donna Beal	Mercy Care for the Adirondacks Email: dbeal@adkmercy.org	# (518) 523-5580

Distribution:

All Attendees as well as the following:

Anita Estling	Village Clerk, Village of Lake Placid lpclerk@villageoflakeplacid.ny.gov	# (518) 523-2584
Paul Ellis	Treasurer, Village of Lake Placid treasurer@villageoflakeplacid.ny.gov	# (518) 523-9952
James Geiger	Environmental Facilities Corp. james.geiger@efc.ny.gov	# (518) 402-7444
Brian Gyory	Environmental Facilities Corp. brian.gyory@efc.ny.gov	# (518) 402-6963

The following was discussed:

1. Introductions by Mayor Randall and IZA.
 - a. The Main Street Reconstruction Project (The Project) consists of infrastructure and streetscape improvements. Infrastructure work includes watermain replacement, modernized drainage and stormwater management system, new pedestrian sidewalks, road pavement reconstruction, and new landscaped areas, benching, light poles, and signage. Improvements to the sanitary sewer system have been previously completed.
 - b. The primary driver for the Main Street Reconstruction Project is to protect Mirror Lake. Currently, Main Street frequently experiences severe volumes of stormwater runoff generated from the hill side to the west. The Village and NYSDOT spread large amounts of salt during the wintertime. The salts (and other contaminants) have been washing into Mirror Lake, endangering its water quality.
 - c. The Project is partially funded by New York State grant dollars that have been awarded by the state. These grants have expiration dates, and therefore it is critical the project begin construction in Spring 2020. To start construction by this time, the engineering design must be completed, and the Project publicly bid in late January/early February 2020. Construction will take two construction seasons, and be finished by the end of 2021.
 - d. Early stages for planning and feasibility of a future parking structure located at the small municipal parking lot (NBT lot) have been underway.
 - e. The task for this committee is to explore and discuss the opportunity afforded by the Main Street Reconstruction and potential future parking structure projects to shape the future of Main Street.
2. The Main Street Reconstruction design was presented by IZA.
 - a. The Project began a few years ago with the primary goal to protect the quality of Mirror Lake. The Village submitted for and was awarded two GIGP grants from the state. These grants are providing a large portion of the required funding for the Project. To meet grant funding eligibility, the Project must utilize stormwater green infrastructure (GI) practices in its design.
 - b. Installation of the proposed GI improvements will require excavation of the entire road corridor from building face to building face. This has led to the opportunity to address and improve Main Street. The design has been progressed with attention paid to the need for parking, pedestrian safety and overall improvements of the streetscape (planting areas, benches).
 - c. The proposed design allows for turning movements into the future parking structure. It incorporates a new "T" intersection between Saranac Avenue and

Mirror Lake Drive. GI practices including underground infiltration practices, permeable pavements, and street trees.

- d. The Main Street watershed was discussed. There are three discharge points from Main Street to Mirror Lake (One Main Street Park, Mids Park, and Mirror Lake Outlet south of beach house). The project will be collecting and treating runoff per NYSDEC requirements, with overflows released into Mirror Lake in a controlled fashion. The Project's watershed was noted to account for a small percentage of the entire watershed to Mirror Lake.
 - e. The watermain within Main Street is being replaced due to three factors:
 - i. Aging watermain and service connections.
 - ii. Upsizing the main from 10" to 16".
 - iii. Providing capable water connections for building sprinkler systems as required by code.
 - f. Completing the water system improvements now will prevent many future service connections installation from disrupting the new street.
 - g. Street lighting will be relocated, but currently planning to reuse existing fixtures. Poles will be located to prevent conflicts with pedestrians and street maintenance (sweeping and snow removal).
 - h. Proposed design will incorporate curb "bump outs" at street crosswalks. This will provide for much safer environment for pedestrians.
 - i. Generally speaking, the proposed sidewalk widths will be equal to or wider than the existing condition.
3. The opportunity to consider "Smart Street" concepts was discussed. Some elements discussed include surveillance cameras on light fixtures, utilizing phone apps and sensors on parking spaces to direct motorists to nearest available parking space, public wi-fi, and wayfinding signage.
 4. The proposed sidewalks were discussed. Sidewalks are proposed to be permeable, to allow for stormwater runoff to infiltrate. Slopes and widths of the sidewalks will meet accessibility criteria. Benches will be installed throughout Main Street. Generally, sidewalks will be wider than currently on Main Street. Off-site parking will be provided to offset the interim parking loss during construction. Public transportation (shuttles) will be provided.

5. The existing and proposed parking was discussed and is summarized as follows:

Location	Existing	Proposed	Net
Main Street	85	54	-31
Small Municipal Lot	110	139	+29
Large Municipal Lot	146	148	+2
Mirror Lake Drive	5	2	-3
Clock Parking Lot	22	27	+5
Total	368	370	+2

6. The proposed future parking structure was discussed. Currently the plan is to build either three or four parking decks. Cost will be a factor. The structure will likely incorporate some of the modern technology for directing users to available parking spaces, wi-fi, etc. It was discussed how the only way to provide a meaningful increase in parking is to construct a parking structure.
7. The need for convenient, downtown parking was discussed. It was further discussed how the needs of Main Street’s users are diverse, and not solely people arriving in cars. As such, a balancing act is required to provide wider, safer, better pedestrian sidewalks while also providing convenient, “pop-in” parking. Bike traffic should also be considered. Perhaps a bike share program. Consider more of an “open mall” environment for pedestrians on Main Street. There are many needs, and a lot to consider for this group.
8. Other improvements either already constructed or in the planning stages must be factored in by this group. ORDA is planning a parking structure of its own. A major hotel is before the planning board now to replace the Howard Johnsons. There is thought that North Woods may see some improvements within the next few years. New sidewalk and some drainage improvements are planned for the east side of Mirror Lake along Mirror Lake Drive.
9. The time frame for the parking structure has not been set. It should follow closely behind the Main Street Reconstruction project.
10. The planned construction phase for the Project was discussed. It is currently planned that construction will take place during the shoulder seasons, and Main Street construction will avoid July and August. One-way (northbound) traffic will be maintained along Main Street, with a detour for southbound traffic utilizing Hillcrest Ave or Old Military Road.

The selected contractor will submit a work plan to the Village for review and approval prior to construction.

11. Marketing and PR will be critical for this project to educate the public. The message that this Project's primary goal is to protect Mirror Lake must not be lost and needs to be repeated frequently. A set of talking points should be developed for the committee's use in presenting a consistent message to the public.
12. Next meeting is set for October 30, 2019 at 11:00am at the Beach House.

Questions for the Committee to Consider:

1. Do we believe businesses would consider purchasing parking spaces in the proposed parking structure?
2. How do we think we can improve the existing public transportation system?
3. How can we keep the trolley on schedule?
4. How will the changes to Main Street affect a successful downtown business district?
5. How can we get locals and businesses to use public transportation and remote parking more actively?
6. How can we engage all ages of the public?

Next meeting is set for October 30, 2019 at 11:00am at the Beach House.

General Project Highlights

Lake Placid Main Street Reconstruction Project

Project Objectives:

The project is comprised of two improvement categories:

1. Protection of Mirror Lake Water Quality which is the primary objective of this Project.
2. Enhance Main Street to preserve it as an educational, cultural, recreational and tourism center of the Village of Lake Placid.

1. Mirror Lake Water Quality Protection:

Improvements which will be implemented to achieve this goal will utilize green infrastructure practices endorsed by NYSDEC, NYSEFC and Ausable River Association.

The green infrastructure practices include the following:

- Underground infiltration with pipes and storage.
- Permeable sidewalks.
- Street trees and planting areas.

The completed system will prevent direct discharge into the lake by detaining initial portion of the surface runoff for infiltration.

Part of surface runoff presently discharging into the lake will be diverted away from the lake completely. It will be treated and conveyed to outlet of Mirror Lake.

2. Main Street Streetscape Improvements:

Implementation of green infrastructure improvements will require removal of existing surface improvements – sidewalk, pavement. This offers an ideal opportunity to address other Main Street concerns which include an aging water main, deteriorated sidewalks, drainage and flooding issues, curbing and pavement.

An improved drainage system will prevent flooding.

The reconstructed streetscape will eliminate presently unsafe sidewalks with numerous low and uneven areas, proposed wider sidewalks, planting areas with street trees and benches will create a pleasant and safe pedestrian experience.

Traffic and parking improvements will provide safer intersections of Saranac Avenue with Mirror Lake Drive.

A turning lane to the future parking facility and safer parking arrangements will be provided.

Benefits:

The environmental protection of Mirror Lake is of great importance. This lake is one of the major focal points of the Village of Lake Placid and its preservation for future generations is vital.

Reconstructed Main Street corridor will preserve, improve and maintain the economic viability of the Village of Lake Placid long into the future.