

## Planning for the Future of Shelburne Village

March 24, 2005

### Public Comments-DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

- Stephen Selin: Plan has not been implemented in the past. Is there a mechanism for doing the implementation. Is it just to serve a few developers?
- Beverly Jacobson: You don't mention bike paths. Can people ride bikes on the sidewalks? Need to protect bicyclists.
- David Webster: As a property owner, I believe that the lots are not big enough to have another series of businesses. The development will eliminate parking. It was not compelling 17 years ago and it is not compelling now.
- Gail Albert: Support of the way the plan was created before. Want the village to remain a diverse community. Make sure that housing accommodates people of all income levels. People that already live here should not be displaced.
- Mike Lynch: Agree with David Webster. Not enough room for the "loop" road. Need new lighting in the village. Need more trees in the village. The historic village center had Elms.
- Pat Button: Route 7. Urge mechanisms for noise control for the trucks passing through the village. Concerned about airbrakes used through village. Business owner on Route 7.
- Tom Oakes: Shelburne has a nice village, has lived here for 55 years. Concerned about "improvements" to route 7, and the resulting increasing traffic. By-pass has been considered in the past.
- Kim Norris: How much control do we have on speed limits on Route 7 and along Falls Road that can help address Mr. Oakes point. Need to slow traffic down. Keep slow throughout the entire village.
- Chris Neme: We do not have control over the speed limits on Route 7. We petitioned the state to reduce the speed limit to 25 mph and were rejected.
- Hope Alswang, Shelburne Museum: Concerned about the noise and vibration. Ask to work with the state to find a solution. Would like to see the sidewalks so that public can access in a safe way.
- Chris Spagnoletti: Concerned about the possibility of Route 7 expanding and encroaching further. What protection do I have?
- Dennis Webster: Lives in Hillside neighborhood. Revitalized neighborhood with a better density. 75' frontage is not appropriate for a village setting. Traffic calming needs. Falls Road is too wide and traffic goes too fast.
- Mike Lynch: Disagree about the density. Have a three story "monster" built near home which shades his garden. When a house is out of scale with the rest of the neighborhood. Need to keep the setbacks.
- Jennifer Leopold: Agrees with M. Lynch about the large home behind them that takes away from the character of the neighborhood. Would like to see the overhead wires underground.
- Gwen Webster: Has lived in the village her whole life. The loop road would go right behind her house. She feels that the road behind her would "trap" her and would force her out of her home. Take parts of a lot of properties on Falls Road. Believes that it is a mistake.
- [?]: I agree with Gwen on the problems associated with the loop road. Density encourages pedestrians and slower traffic. Improper use of density is not good, agrees with Mike Lynch. Proper scale and needs to be reviewed.
- Dortha Penar: Design review commission does review development in the village.
- Gail Albert: Configuration of parking and signs that makes it helpful for pedestrians.
- Rob Donahue: Chair of the Paths Committee. Has a passion for improved sidewalks and paths. Committee is frustrated with the lack of progress. Safety is important for pedestrians and bicyclists. Sidewalk ends at the "bridge". Need to bond this issue and ask community for the money.
- Dick Lednicky.: Support the plan. Concern is Shelburnewoods. Ask that the Loop Road is put on hold until the trailer park issue is resolved.

- Kevin Clayton: Important to have a walking community, yet right now it is unsafe. Needs to be better lit. I don't understand while we are allowing the State control the Speed limits through 'our' town. We should dictate that to the State and should take a more proactive approach.
- Monica Varsakopoulos: Appreciate the plan because it will open up the village for pedestrians and facilitative everyone's use of the village. Agrees with Gwen Webster about the loop road. Concerned about the bottleneck the loop road will create. That part of the plan needs to be re-thought.
- Break
- Dick Walters: I applaud what you have done. The concept is exciting. I am frustrated that it was done 17 years ago and only a small portion has been implemented. What if only ten percent is implemented in the next ten years? I find this very frustrating. The one element that is missing is the implementation, without which it is a waste.
- Derrick Senior: I am encouraged with what I see tonight. Fight for the time and resources to do this kind of planning. I am concerned about how quickly we are moving. We are going from zero to hundred miles per hour in a few weeks. We should be consistent throughout the year with this process. Convinced that the effort will be worth it.
- Bob Owens: The idea of the loop road will be a detriment to the village as a whole. Falls Road property will back up to parking lots instead of woods. Has town looked at pedestrian walkways?
- Steven Antinozzi: Lives in Davis Park. That area has only one access, so structurally it limits the speed of the traffic. Drivers are aware that it is a residential neighborhood. What conditions are we creating that encourage cars to go fast?
- Marilene Luxton-Jones: Like to follow up on a meeting that had occurred this Fall about speed and noise through the village. We were going to ask a property owner to put a sign up. Has anything happened with this?
- Ken Albert: The challenge 17 years ago was circulation, it is the same today. The loop road may not have been the right solution. What are the options for circulation in the village? It is only going to get worse.
- Sue McClellan: I believe that the loop road is a very bad road. Every square foot in the village does not need to be developed.
- Kevin Clayton: Concerned about parking and walking to his business. How do we fundamentally change the behavior of people to get them walking. The loop road is creating more of a car mentality. People are driving too fast. Needs to be re-addressed today. Physical option put into place that will reduce speed throughout the village.
- Dortha Penar: Two years ago we had a conference that was called walkable communities. We discussed some of the problems that we had. We need to re-examine that information we gathered then.
- Stephen Selin: How do we get these things funded? Everyone seems to know what to do to make this a walkable community. Where is the disconnect between the planning and the doing? How do we fund it?
- Kim Norris: Concerned about what kind of density. Need to talk about low-income and senior, store front (diversity of) density in the village.
- Oda Hubbard: Would like speed bumps. On route 7?
- [?]: Plan as it stood before goes to the bridge. Why not extend to the borders, north of the village.
- Gwen Webster: Density is already taken care of in the village already. There are a finite number of lots and trying to change the density is not feasible. Can not add more buildings when most of the lots are already non-complying.