

Town of Plaistow, New Hampshire

Community Design Charrette

Historic Village District

October 21 and 22, 2011



PLAN NH
Visioning *for* Sustainable Communities

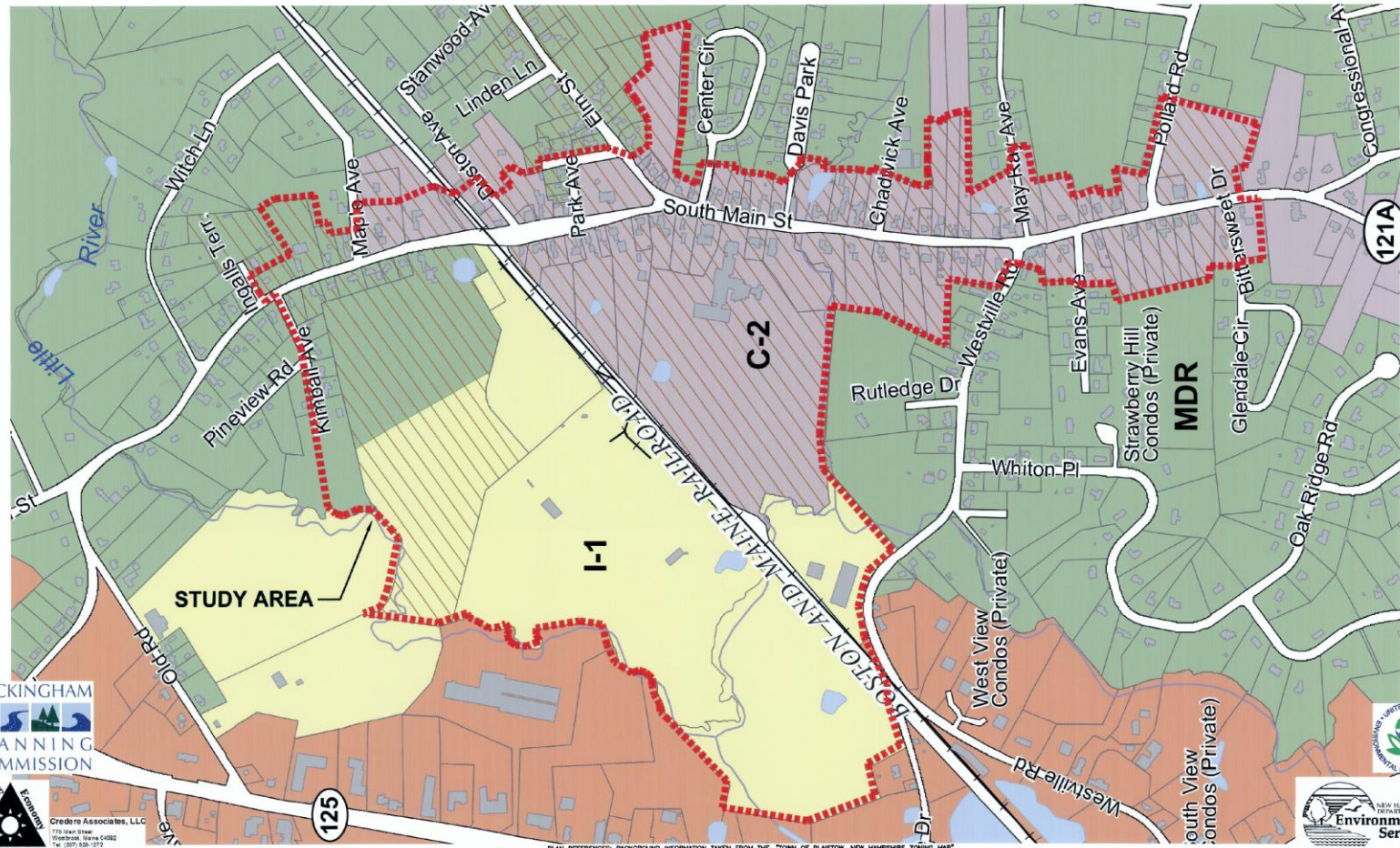
PNH · PLAISTOW 10.21/22.11

Mission Statement

"To provide recommendations for Plaistow's historic village center in order to preserve and enhance its identity as the heart of the community."

Goal: "To improve the pedestrian-friendly quality of the area: enhancing its walkability and pedestrian safety."

PLAISTOW ZONING - STUDY AREA



ROCKINGHAM
PLANNING
COMMISSION



Credore Associates, LLC
175 Main Street
Plaistow, NH 03082
Tel: 603-535-1512
Fax: 603-535-1513
www.credorellc.com

PLAN REFERENCES: BACKGROUND INFORMATION TAKEN FROM THE "TOWN OF PLAISTOW, NEW HAMPSHIRE ZONING MAP"
ORIGINALLY CREATED BY APPLIED GEOGRAPHICS, INC., AND UPDATED BY PEOPLES (2007) AND COSMAPPING (MAY 2008).

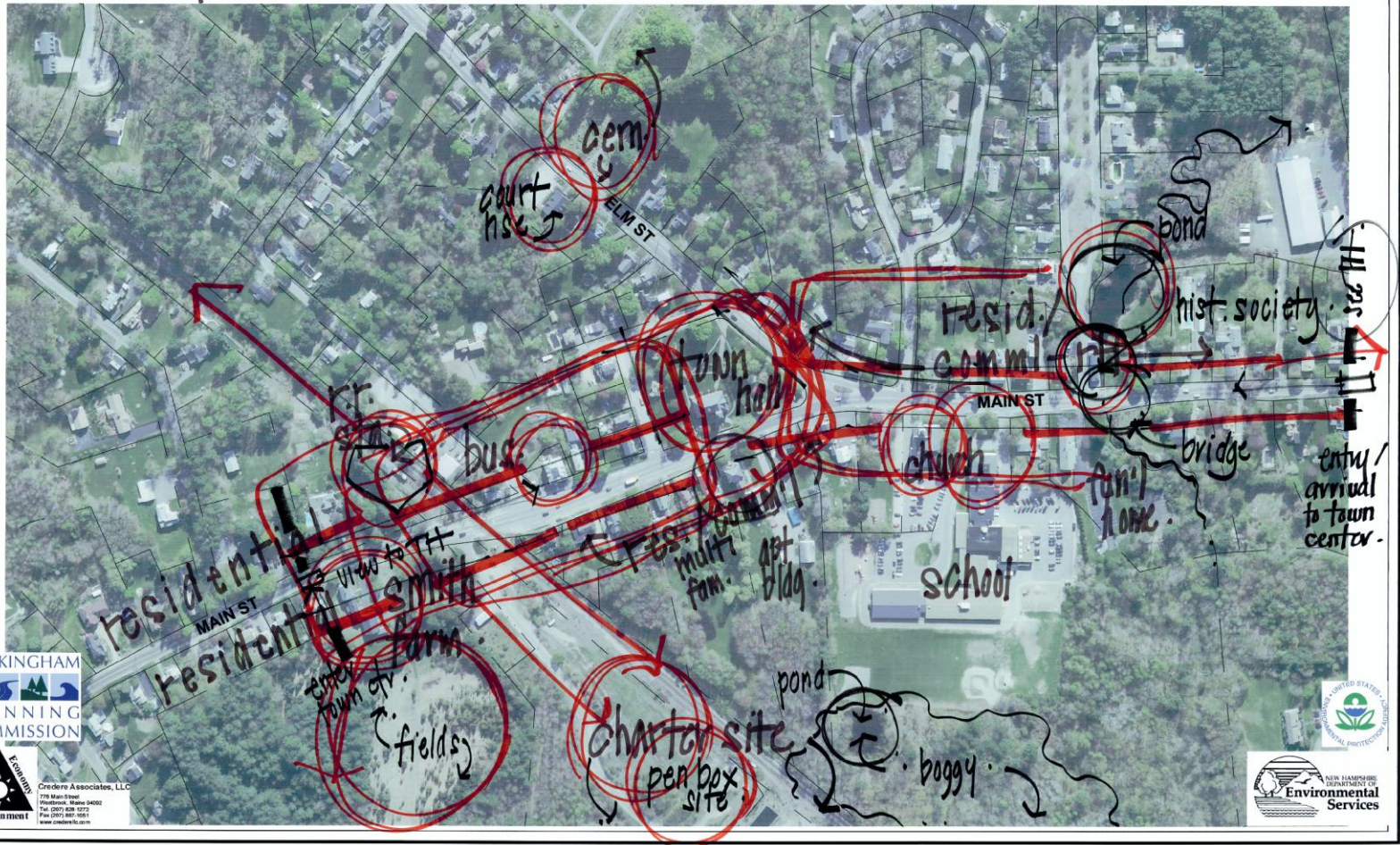


LEGEND

PROPERTY BOUNDARY

plaitow f./p.d.

HISTORIC VILLAGE DISTRICT



Crederre Associates, LLC
178 Main Street
Westbrook, Maine 04090
Tel: (207) 838-1272
Fax: (207) 838-1269
www.crederre-llc.com



PLAN NH PLAISTOW

October 21 - 22, 2011 3:30 list sess.

what do you see?

strong, tradtl architecture

- 1 not many places: a town rec. resource
pools, bicycles.
- 2 town ac 125 bypass
lack of small business destinations
for social interaction
- 3 local town services @ TH
need for pedest. walkways to connect to services.
Main St. take back!
create ped. envt w/ rural character.
- 4 nice place: no reason to stop.
increased use of TH greenspace over years.
"epicenter" of community

what would you like to see?

- safe route

- make Smith Farm a town rec. resource

- signage, uniformity

- Main St. destinations

- take back!

- create ped. envt w/ rural character.

- more reasons to visit

- friendlier ped. envt.

- program activities.

- recreation center.

what do we need to know?

- last thing we want: chain

- r.r. sta: burishp

- town is not a bedroom community.

- "is a bdrn community"

- "zoning"

- use old r.r. vcd station.

- Smith Farm: conserv. easement

- trail designation.

- town wants incremental steps: long range plan.

- justify/rationalize for recommendations.

PLAN NH PLAISTOW

October 21 - 22, 2011 6:30 list sess.

"what do you see?"

- too much traffic @ specific times of day (noise, speed volume)
- "wanting to walk our town"
- beautiful old houses
- lack of aesthetic appeal
- traffic accident @ Westville rd.
- "tradition": unique appearance
- need for greater continuity w/ sidewalks
- loved town green
- parking: weak organ.
- "lot of history": town hall.
- "great potential"
- church bells.

"what do you want to see?"

- walkability ✓ (sidewalks)

- safety

- aesthetics

- centralized destination.

- found about and crosswalks (good visibility)

- connections btwn key points.

- cafe/bakery

- a way to know you're entering town.

- incentives to bus. owners.

"what do we need to know?"

- there are trails on Smith Farm.

- "history is slipping away" (local).

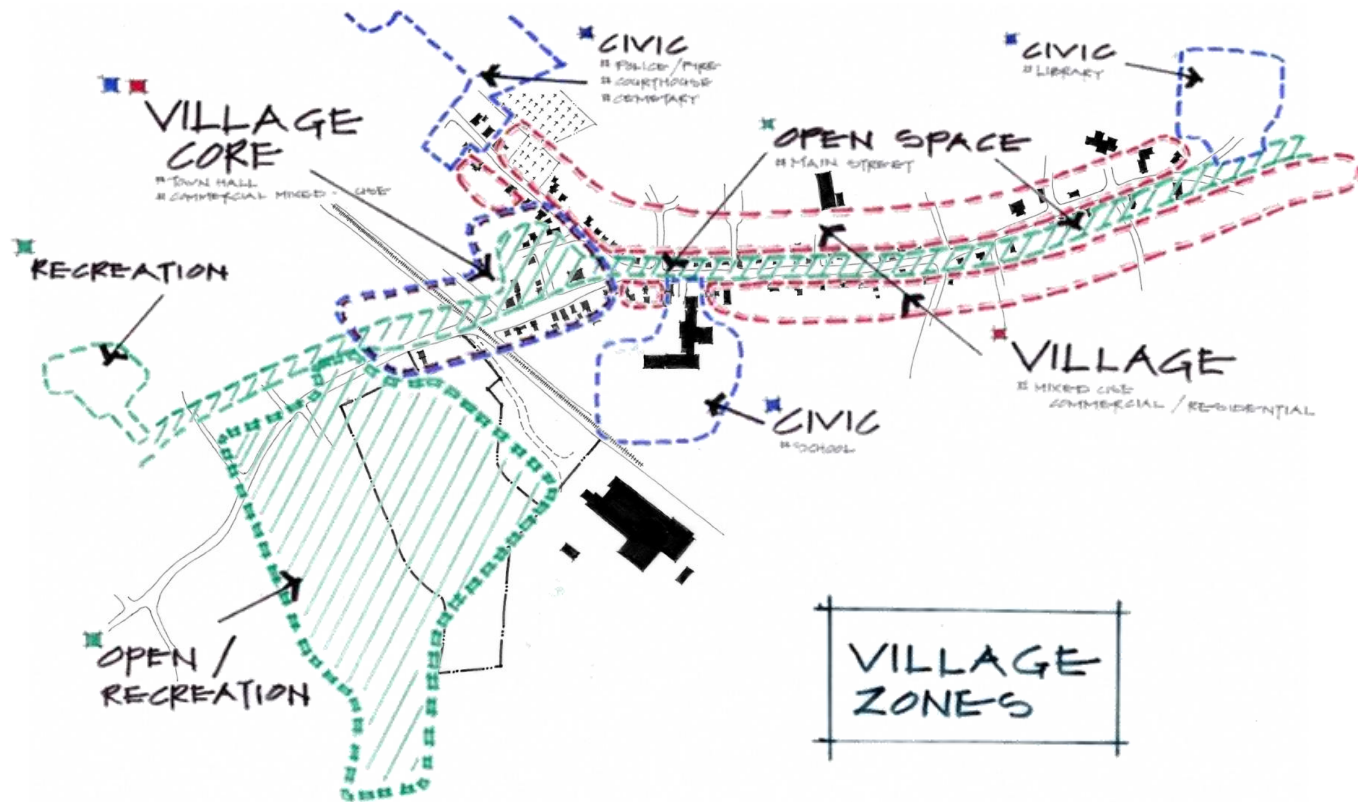
- [enforce speed limits]

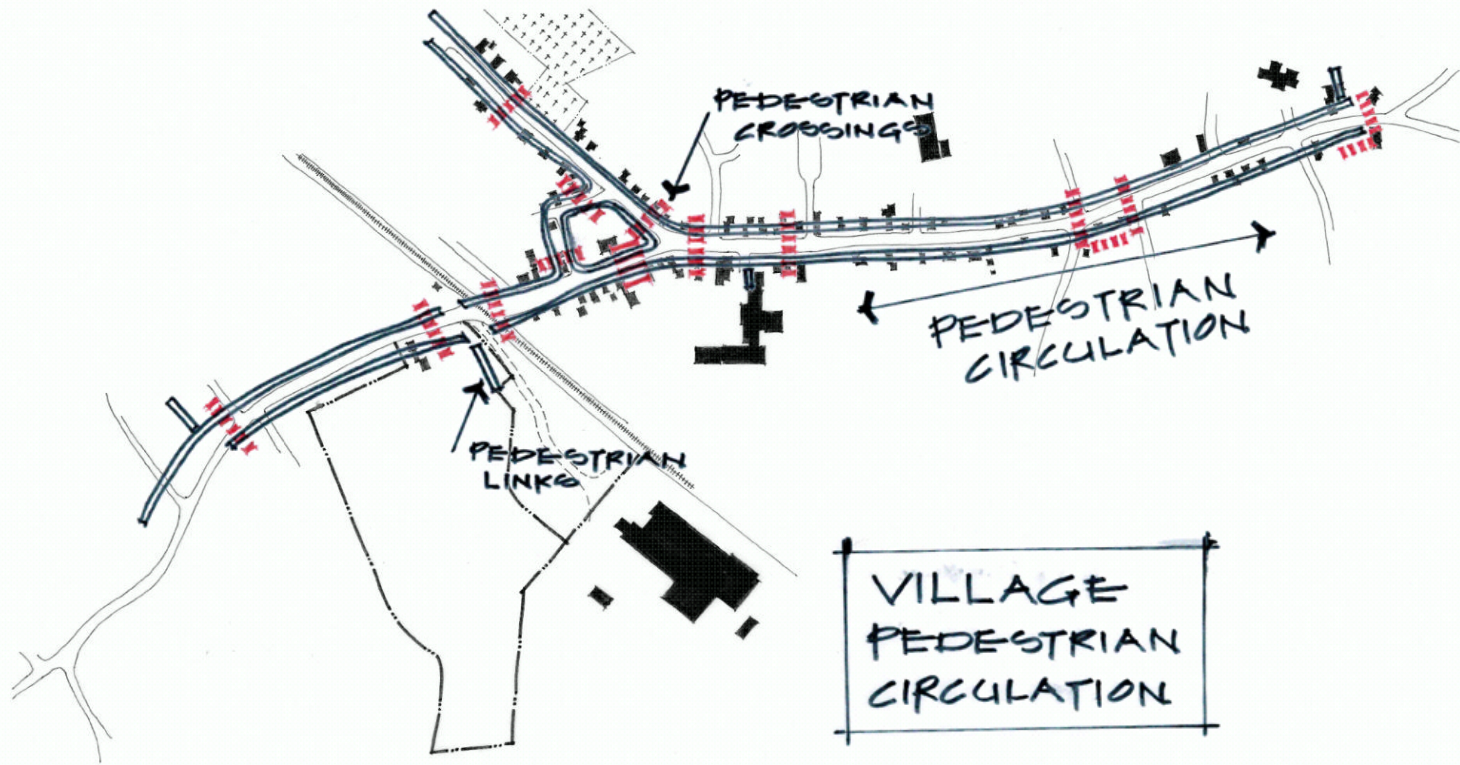
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Recap / Findings

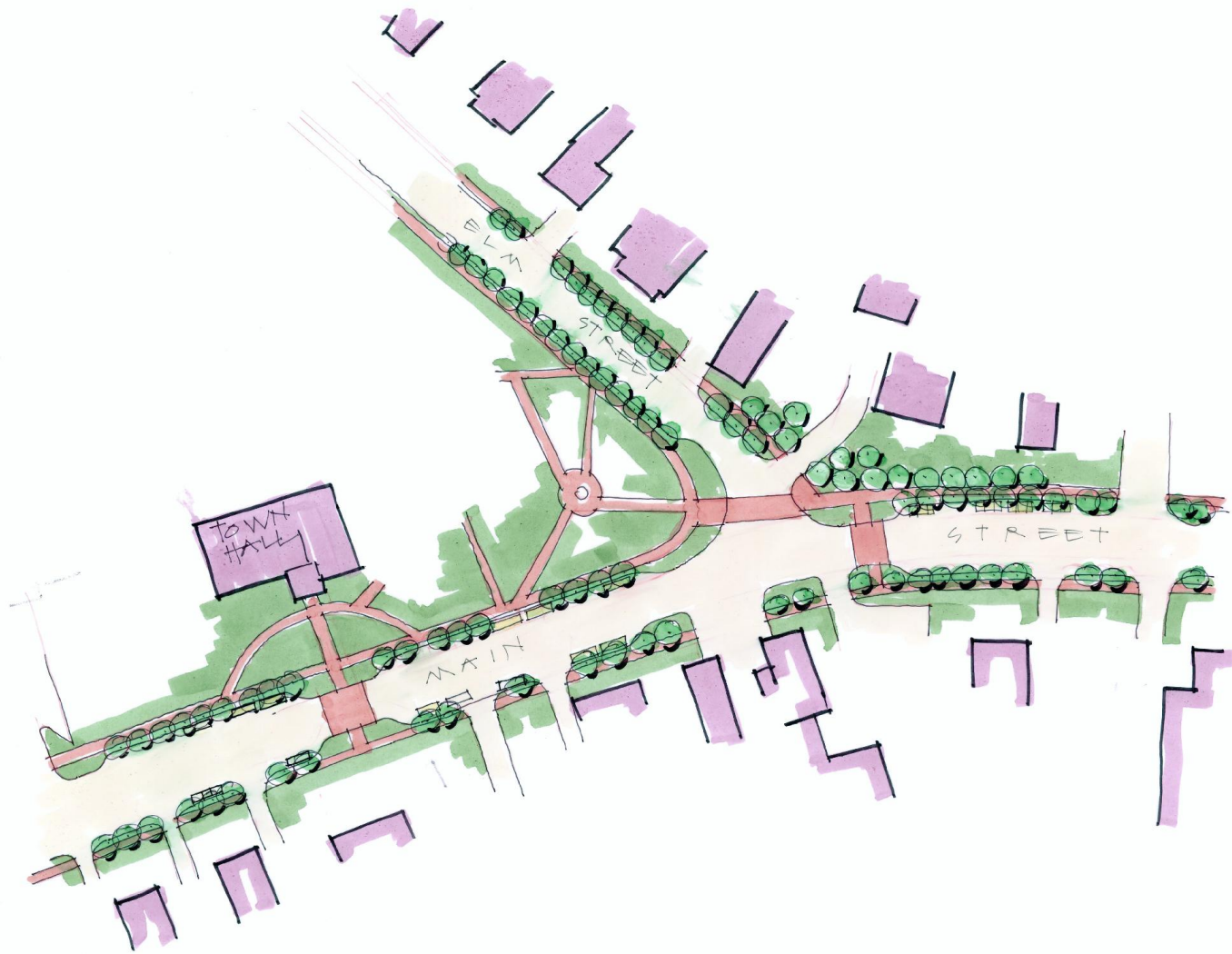
- traffic : "too much, too big, too fast"
- parking : "not enough"
- "history is slipping away"
- pleasing traditional appearance
- town hall : "popular center of activity"
- "nice place ... no reason to stop"
- "no place for pedestrians "bicyclists"
- "town is not a bedroom community"
- "we want to know not only what we can do, but why it will work"
- "great potential"

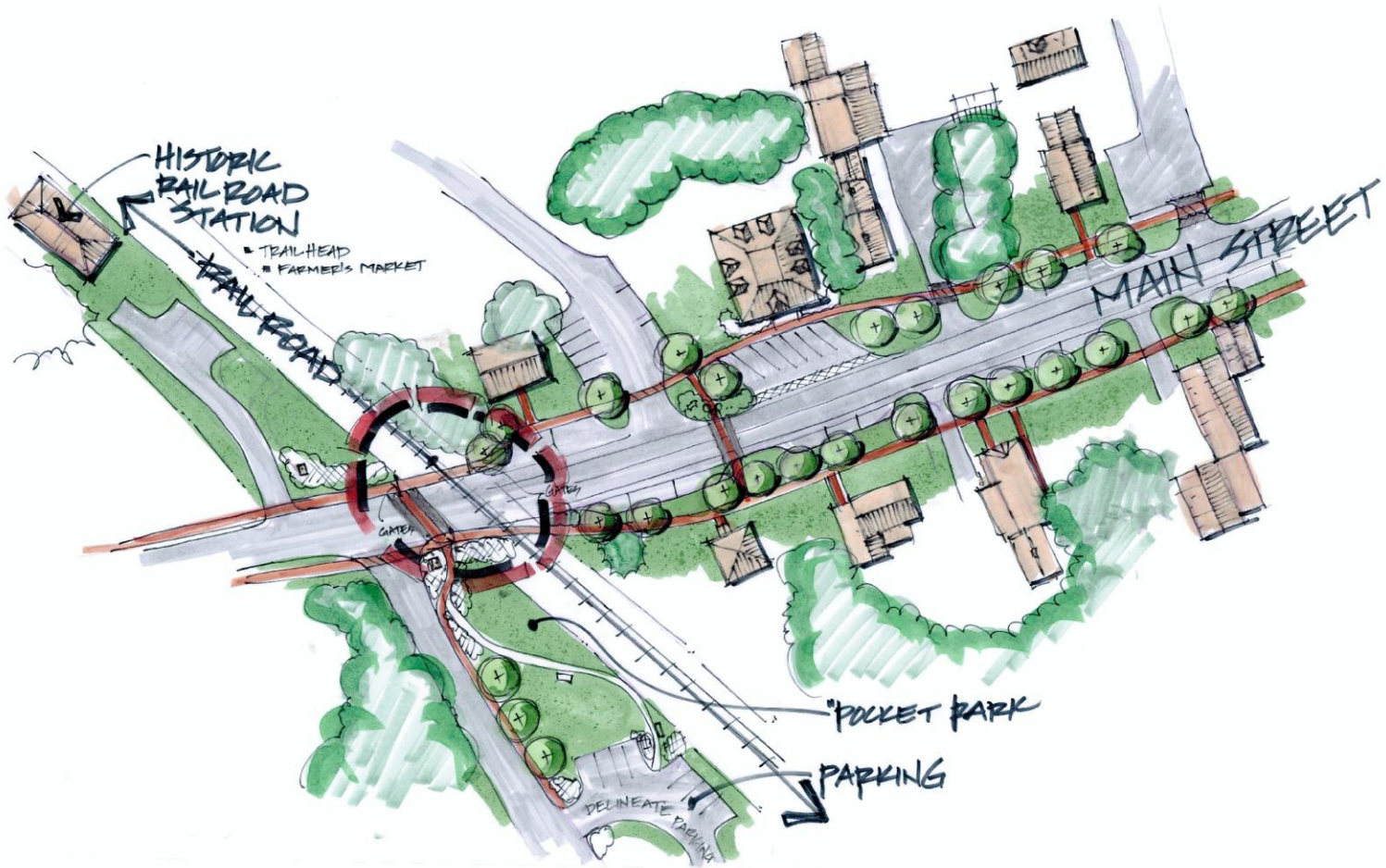


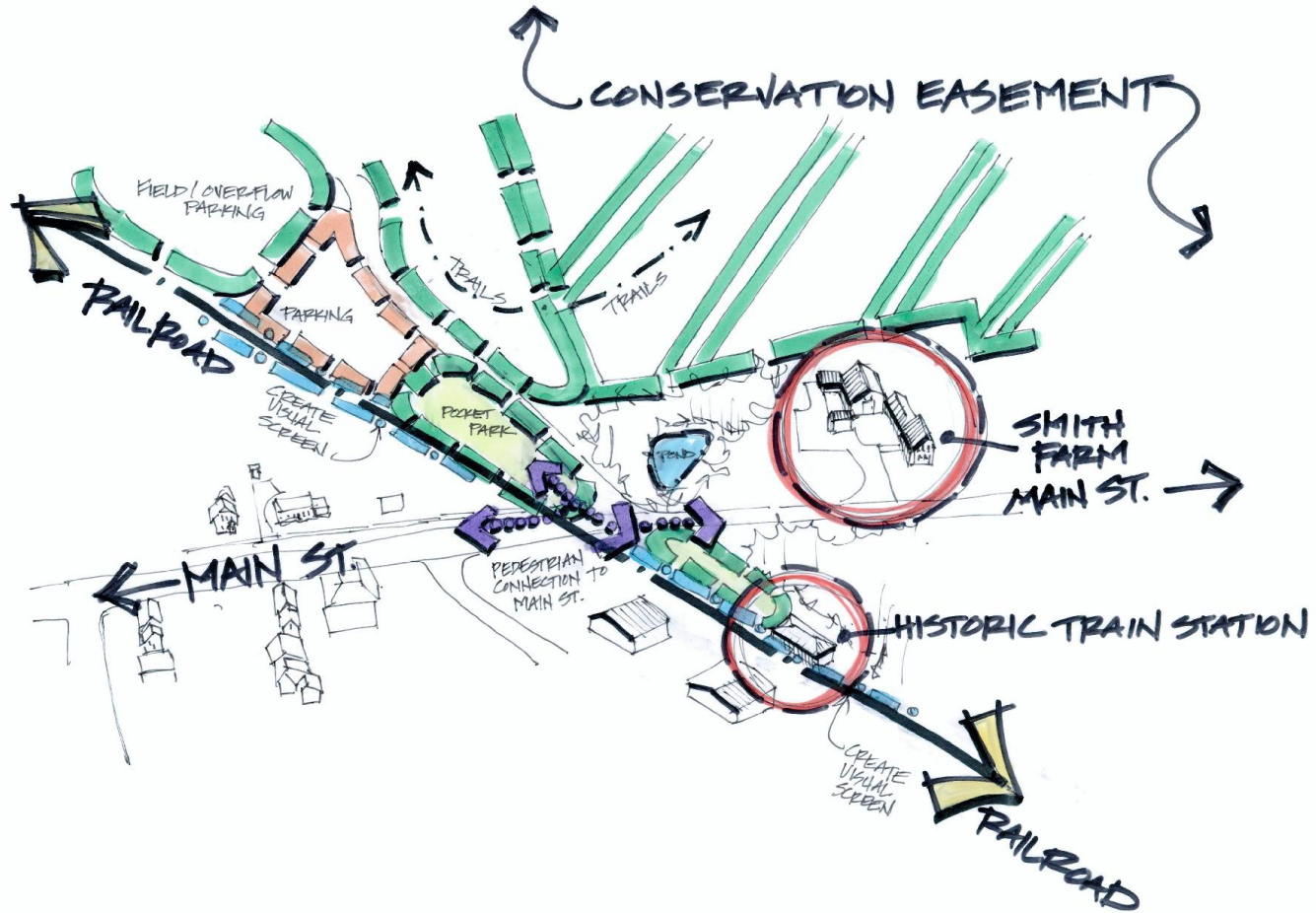


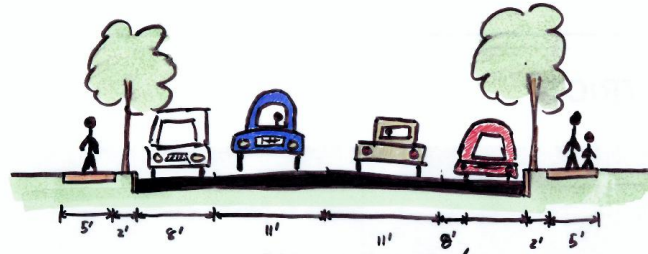


VILLAGE
GATEWAYS
&
TRANSITIONS

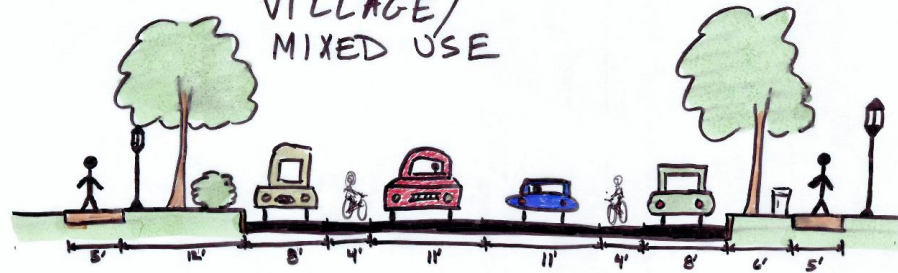




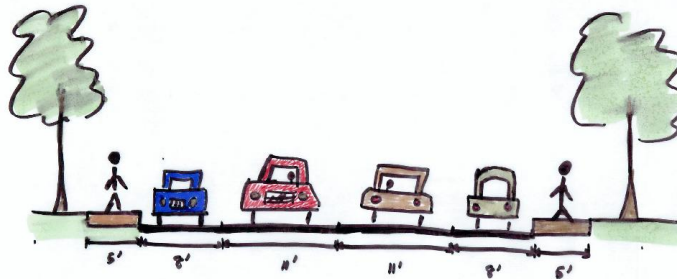




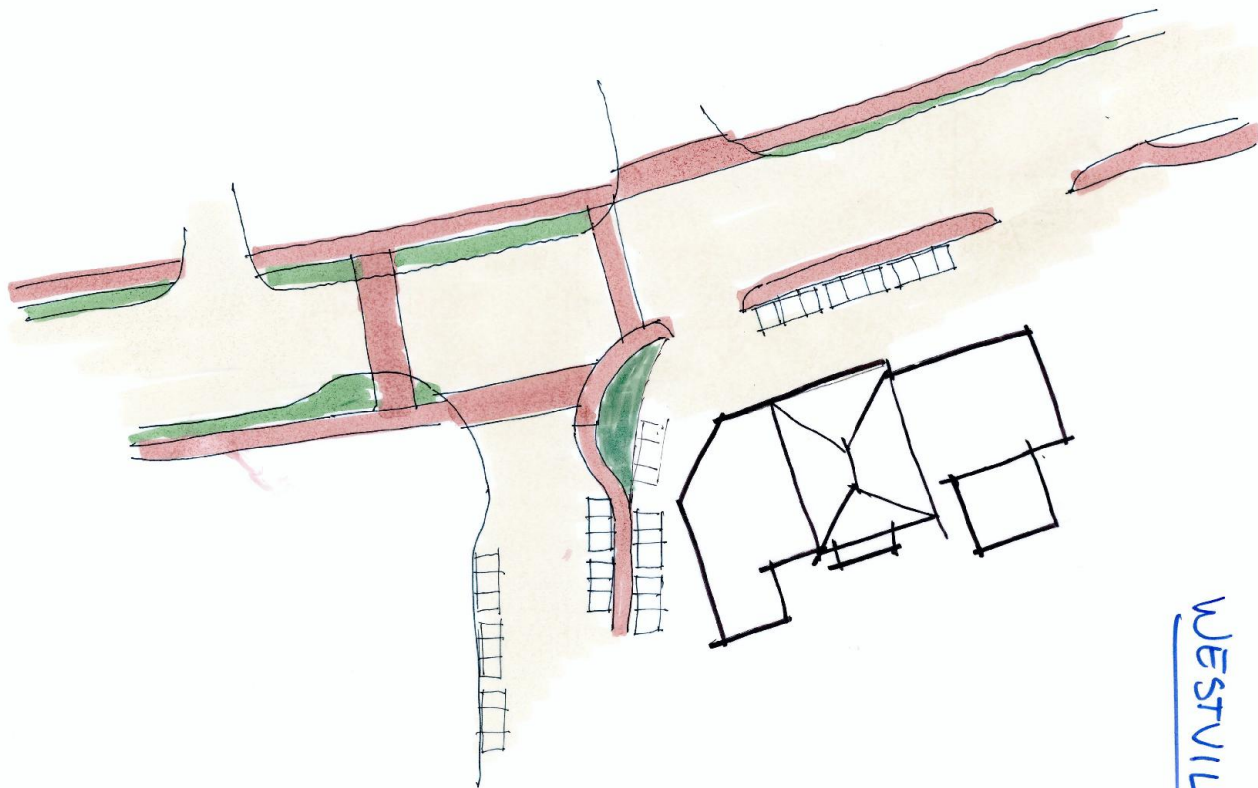
VILLAGE/
MIXED USE



VILLAGE CORE



ELM ST/
VILLAGE NORTH



WESTVILLE RD

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Recommendations

→ "Take Back Main Street!" ←

- make Plaistow a destination.
- build on Plaistow's historic village center.
- make pedestrians #1.
- create Main Street part of Plaistow's open space.
- Main Street: "my (Plaistow's) front yard"

"Knowing the what" is key to making design matter in Plaistow!

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Conclusion: "What is a vibrant, livable village?"

↳ Ideal

Plaistow

- engagement: identity/pride
- identifiable center
- aesthetics: human scale and landscapes
- social capital: stimulating places of interaction
- economic vitality: environment, services
- mixed uses: choices
- walkability: alternative transport modes
- environmental resources

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