



York Village Master Plan

York Board of Selectmen 50% Progress Presentation

December 8, 2014

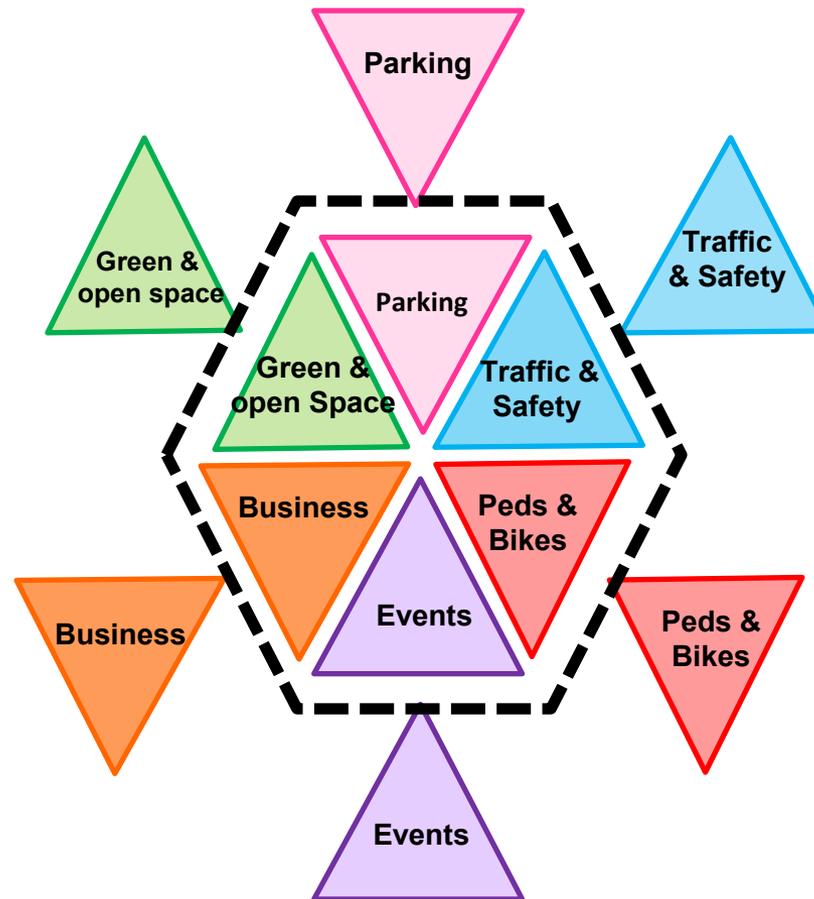
Goals & Purpose

- *create 21st century function along with cherished historic qualities,*
- *balance competing pedestrian and vehicular needs*
- *foster economic prosperity*

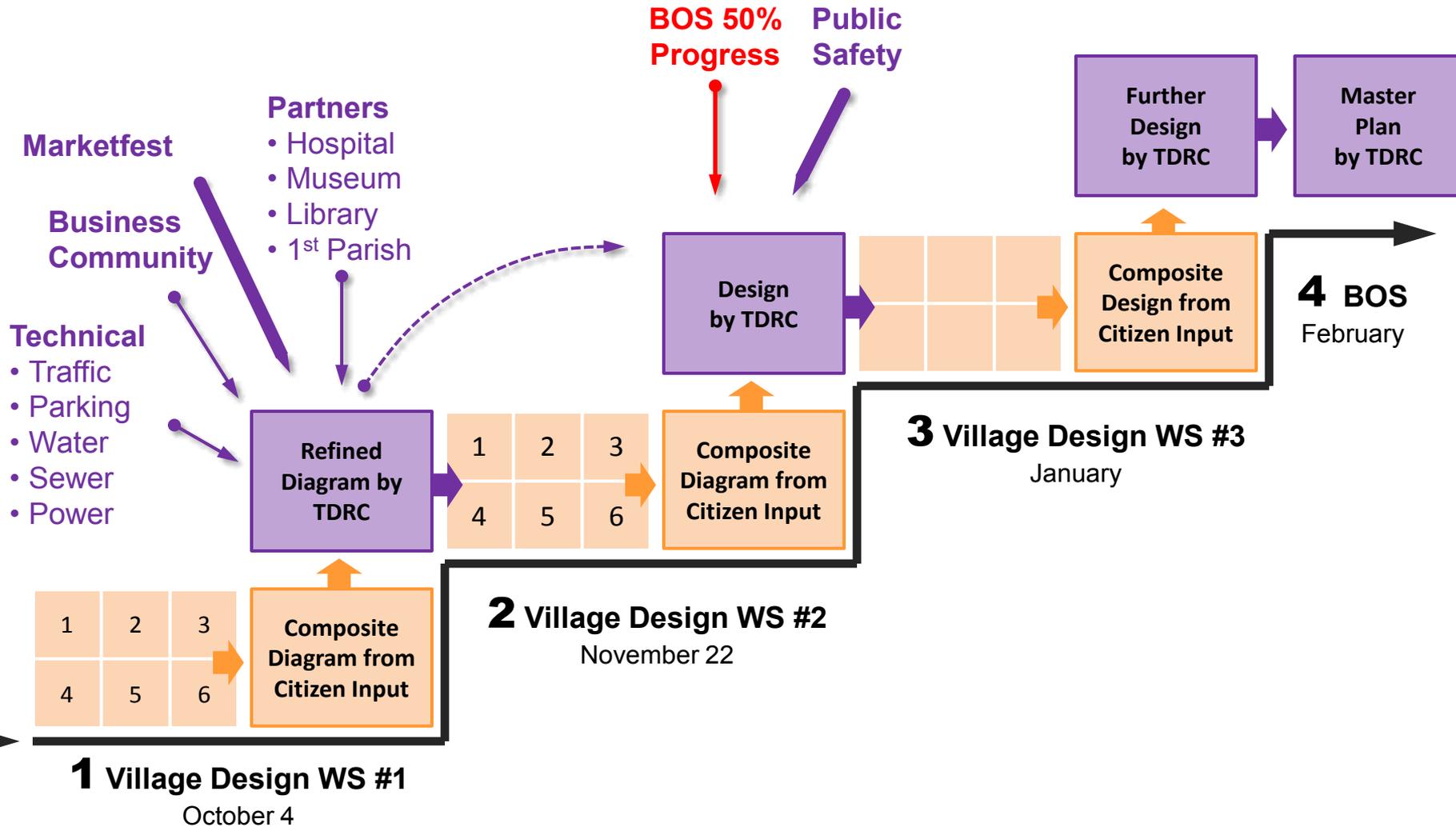


The Master Plan is (like baking a cake)

*a marriage of distinct yet interrelated components
balanced & transformed into a working whole.*



York Village Master Plan 4 Steps



York Village Master Plan 4 Steps

BOS 50% Progress **Public Safety**

Marketfest

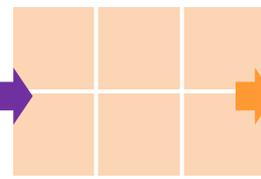
Business Community

Technical

- Traffic
- Parking
- Water
- Sewer
- Power

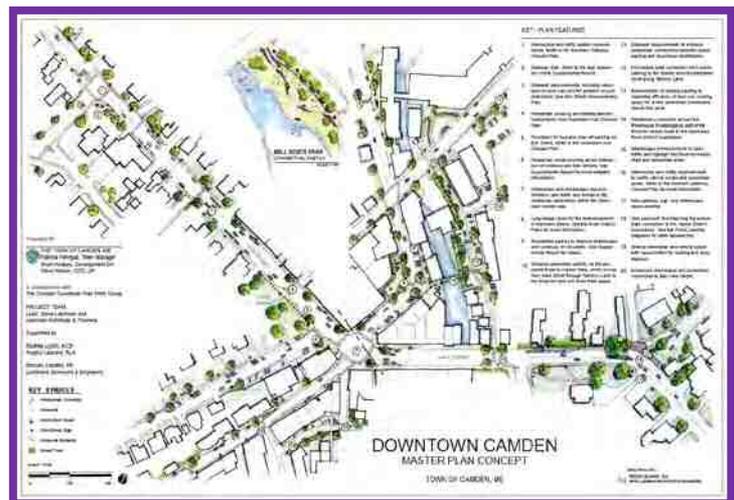
Partners

- Hospital
- Museum
- Library
- 1st Parish



3 Village Design WS #3
January

2 Village Design WS #2
November 22



1 Village Design WS #1
October 4

Village Design Workshop #1 Saturday, Oct 4



Village Design Workshop

Small Group Hands on Activity



Arrival

2

is experiencing the distinct beginning of the village.

- *Where does the village begin? Why?*
- *Think qualitatively – what shifts or changes clue us to village arrival?*
- *Using red dots on the plan, identify where arrival clues should occur.*
- *Imagine how better or new Arrivals might enhance the village and reinforce the vision.*

Anchors & Destinations

3

are cultural, civic, commercial or spiritual icons & destinations that help define a community's identity. In addition, "3rd places" (neither home nor work) offer places to pause, gather and linger.

- *What and where are village Anchors and Destinations?*
- *Using yellow dots on the plan, identify the most significant. Are any lacking? Why?*
- *Imagine how improved or new Anchors might enhance the village and reinforce the vision.*

Village Design Workshop

Small Group Hands on Activity



4

Village Pedestrian Connectivity

allows people to safely get to, from and between Destinations.

- *Is there a clear, convenient and safe network connecting Anchors & Destinations? Why? Why not?*
- *What works, and what does not?*
- *Using yellow strips, identify 3 improved or new connections that should receive top-priority.*
- *Imagine how Connections might enhance the village and reinforce the vision.*

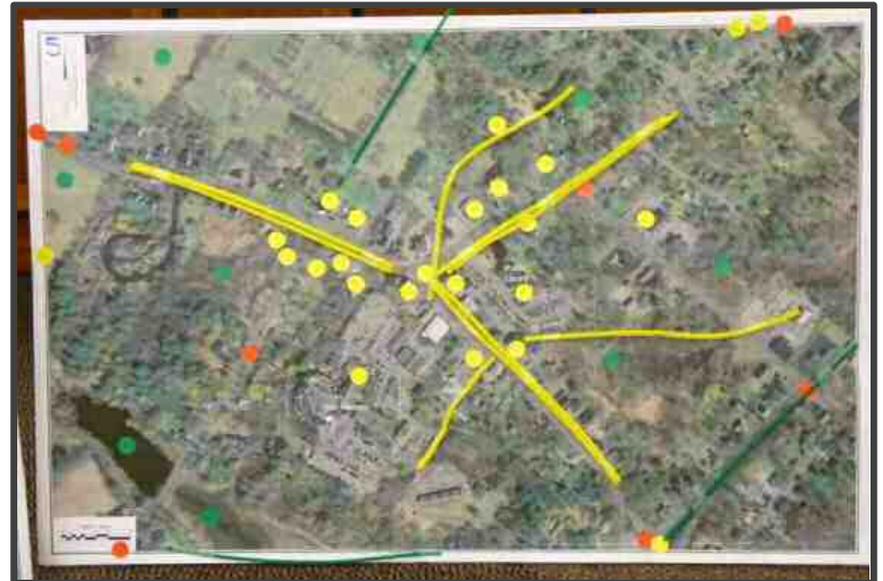
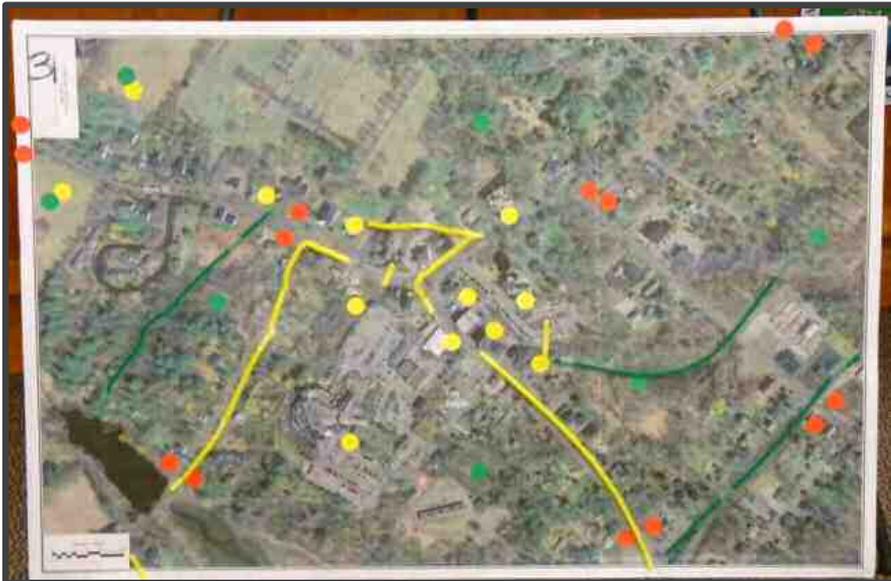
5

Natural Features, Recreation & Open Space

are essential to Quality of Life.

- *Using green dots and strips, identify Features & Open Space in and around the village.*
- *Are there undiscovered or unused features?*
- *Imagine how a network of Features, Trails & Open Space might enhance the village and vision.*

Village Design Workshop #1 Saturday, Oct 4



The Downtown Revitalization Collaborative

**A fresh design for York Village that ...
creates 21st century function along with cherished historic qualities,
balances competing pedestrian and vehicular needs
and fosters economic prosperity...**



6

5 min

Village Special Events & Activities

such as parades, festivals, celebrations and markets, bring people together and help define community identity.

- *What Special Events and Activities occur in the village? List them and their season.*
- *Imagine how improved or new Special Events and Activities might enhance the village and vision.*



- **Winter** - Christmas (parade), Festival of Lights
- **Spring** - Memorial Day (parade), Village Firemen's Muster (parade)
- **Summer** – Book sale at Library, Movies, Concerts – 4th of July
- **Fall** - Halloween Parade, Market Fest, Turkey Trot
- **More events for residents**

7

10 min

Models of Success

of villages that “work” well are informative and inspiring for others.

- *Identify a villages or villages that work well. Why?*
- *How does York Village compare?*
- *Identify 3 things that might help make York Village a model of success for others.*

- **Kennebunk:** historic nature emphasized, pedestrian friendly, revitalization: lights, storefronts, flowers, sidewalks”
- **Kittery** great example of restructuring. Focus on parking once and walk from there.
- **Portsmouth** – Sidewalks, lights, crosswalks, parking
- **Newburyport:** shops, food, walkability, beauty, off-street parking



COMMUNITY INPUT

Common themes (Community Input)

TRAFFIC CALMING & VEHICLE SAFETY.

Slow traffic through the village

Clarify traffic patterns so that vehicle movement is more predictable

PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE SAFETY.

Provide a safe, continuous sidewalk network between Village, neighborhoods and Town destinations

Improve pedestrian crossings

Mitigate potential hazards between vehicles, bikes and pedestrians

Improve bike path pavement markings & signage



IMAGE SOURCE: <http://blog.thoughtforms-corp.com/files/2010/12/amazingme-camden>

COMMUNITY INPUT

Common themes (Community Input)

PARKING

Provide safe, convenient parking in the Village

Consider opportunities to enhance off-street parking

STREETScape & BEAUTIFICATION

“It’s the little things that count.”

Partner with local businesses and community groups to beautify the village

Move overhead utilities underground

Provide signage, street lighting, landscaping and pedestrian amenities

Integrate parks and open spaces



COMMUNITY INPUT

Common themes (Community Input)

ASSETS & OPPORTUNITIES.

Emphasize history as a key asset and opportunity for the future

Support existing businesses

Integrate new businesses to fill existing gaps in products and services

Develop a Village that is supportive for residents, locals and tourists

Enhance trail network and improve use of Town land for recreation and green spaces

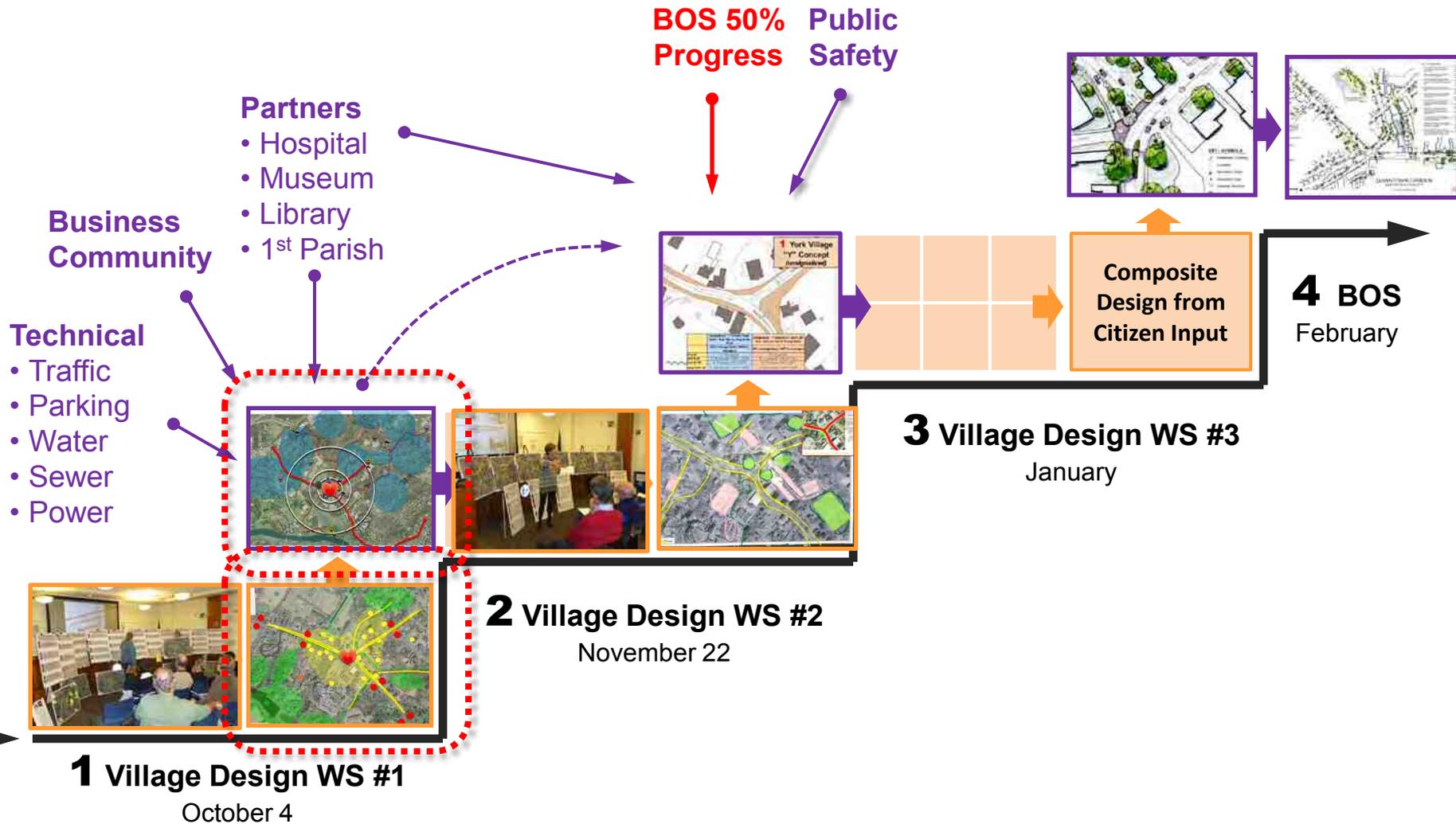




SUMMARY OBJECTIVES for YORK VILLAGE REVITALIZATION

- Create 21st century function along with cherished historic qualities.
- Balance competing pedestrian and vehicular needs.
- Foster economic prosperity.
- Put the “village” back in York Village.

York Village Master Plan 4 Steps



DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



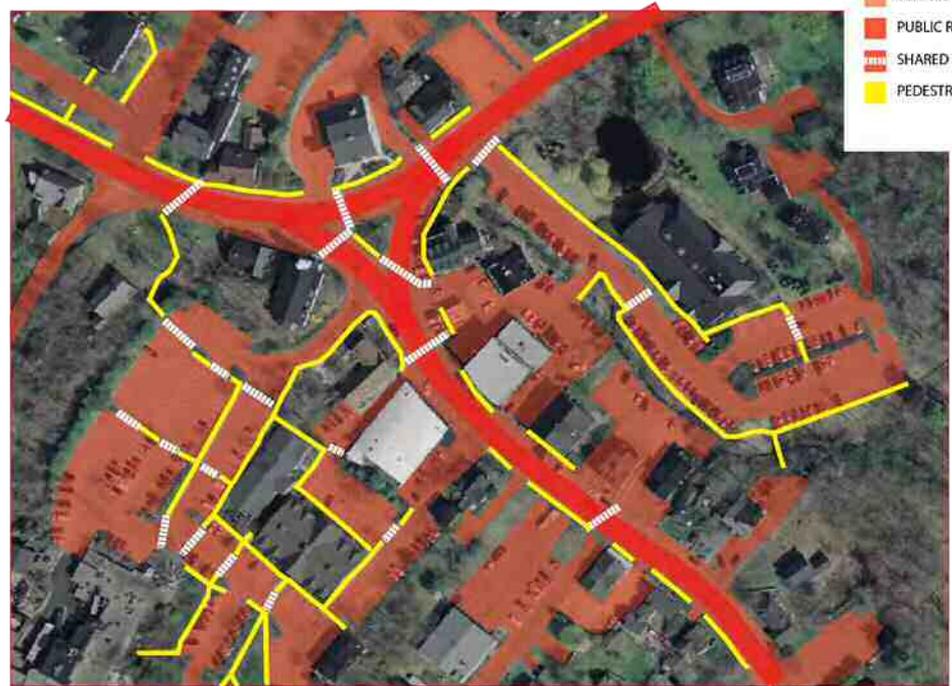
IMAGE

Achievement of **Objectives** will require a **Balance of Uses.**

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



This will require an **Adjustment** of **Dedicated Space**.



- DIAGRAM KEY
- VEHICLE SPACE
 - PUBLIC R.O.W.
 - SHARED SPACE
 - PEDESTRIAN SPACE



Graphic showing Dedicated Vehicle and Pedestrian Spaces in the Village Center

Vehicle space needs to be **Streamlined** to make way for **Pedestrians, Bicyclists and Green Space**.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

ROADWAY

Traffic patterns need to be clarified so that movements are better managed, safer and predictable near crossings & along shared routes

Traffic calming techniques need to be implemented to slow vehicle speeds through the Village

Travel lane widths should be reduced

Bicycle routes and shared lanes should be clearly marked



Improve the York Street – Long Sands Road Intersection



Integrate Streetscape elements

Highlight pedestrian spaces & crossings

Narrow travel lanes and use shared routes



(Kennebunk)

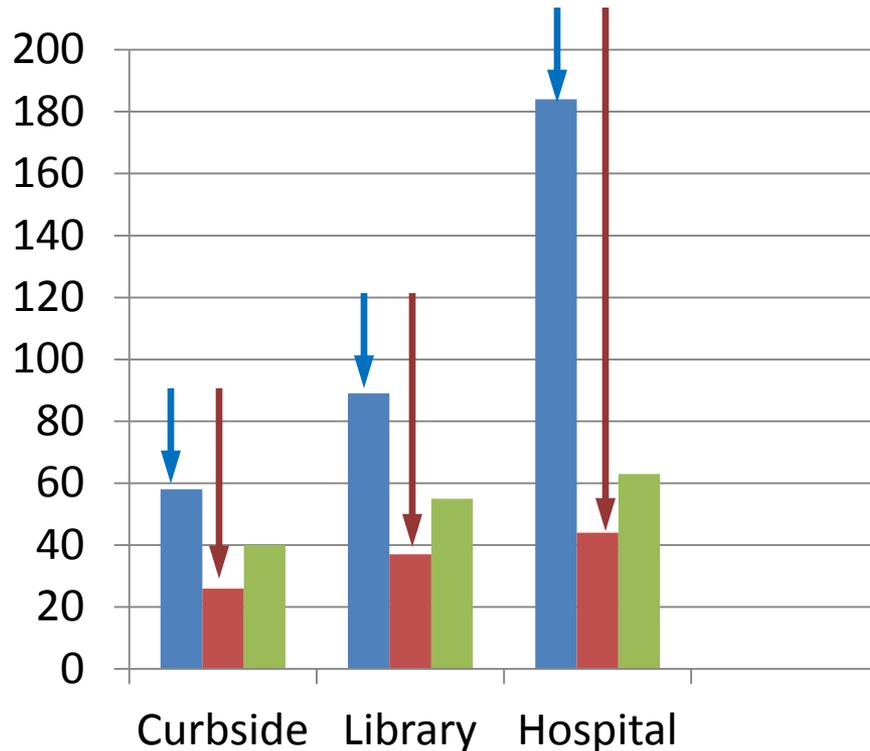
Sample graphic showing traffic calming using streetscape elements, intersection design & lane reduction (Portland).

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DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

PARKING

Parking needs to be evaluated for safety, frequency of use and accessibility



Sample graphic showing results of parking study conducted in late August 2014.



- Available spaces
- Average Occupied
- Peak

Parking Study data suggest the following:

PARKING IS UNDER UTILIZED:

Demand is at least 30% lower than existing supply (at peak hours of use)

24% of curbside parking spaces are used for 4 hours or more at a time

1% of curbside spaces appear to be unused

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

PARKING MANAGEMENT

On-street parking needs to be evaluated for safety, frequency of use and accessibility

Actively manage curbside parking

Off-street parking should be better organized, centrally located, find-able, and connected to destinations

Bicycle routes and shared lanes should be clearly marked

Active parking management helps to **reduce the perception** that it is difficult to find customer parking in the village and **increases the use** of available parking resources.



CURBSIDE PARKING

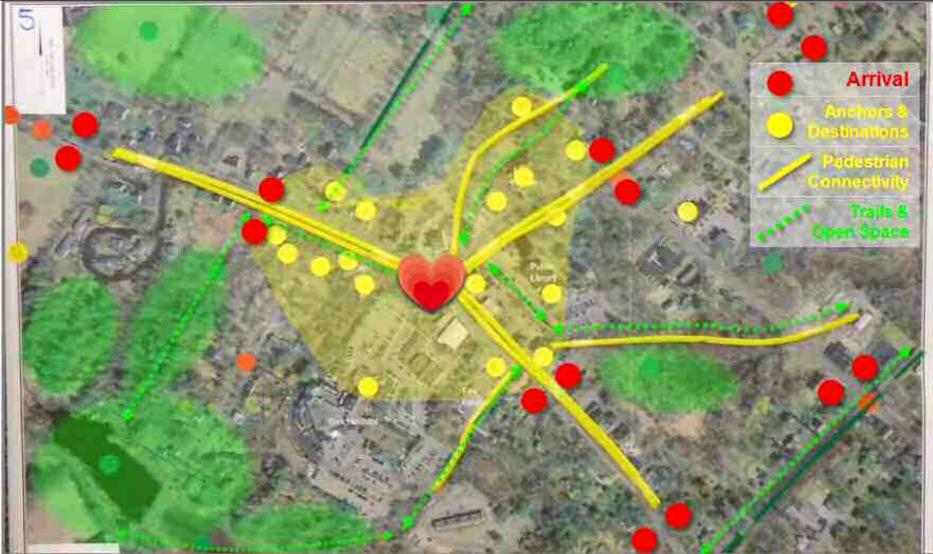
- Manage existing space more efficiently
- Treat parking as a Village commodity
- Encourage turnover of spaces
- Set large vehicle restrictions & designate loading zones



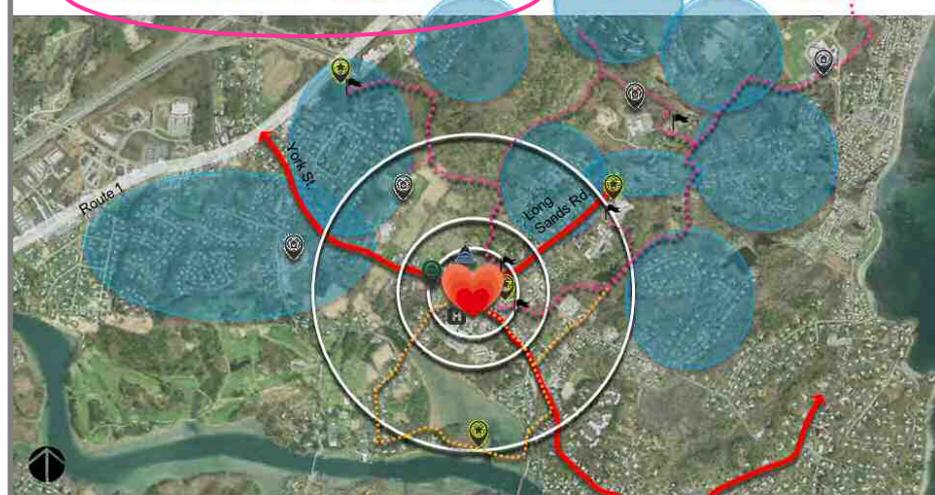
TARGET OUTCOMES:

- Balance demand with the fixed supply
- Achieve a 15% vacancy rate

A fresh design for York Village that ... creates 21st century function along with cherished historic qualities, balances competing pedestrian and vehicular needs and fosters economic prosperity...



GREATER VILLAGE DESIGN STRATEGY



VILLAGE ASSETS

Capitalize on York Village DESTINATION
 RESOURCES: Town Hall, First Parish Church, Library & Historic Sites

PARKS & RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Integrate open spaces and trails to enhance quality of life for locals and to draw visitors to the Village area

ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY

Enhance the existing trail network to provide connectivity between residential areas, schools and the Village

VILLAGE DESIGN STRATEGY



ENGAGE KEY VILLAGE PARTNERS

First Parish Church, Library, York Museum & Historic Sites, Hospital

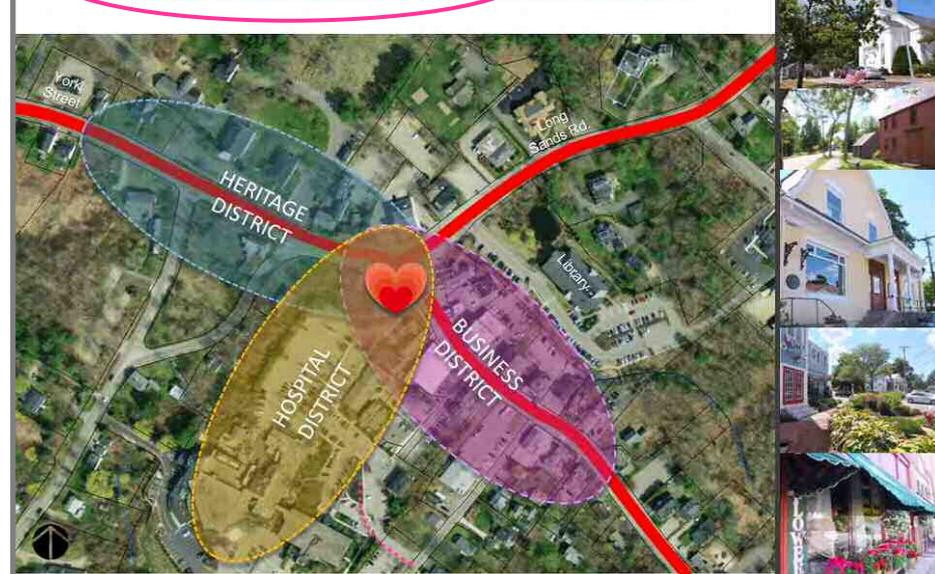
STRATEGIC CONNECTIONS

Improve walkability and connections through higher activity centers, such as the library, museum sites and hospital.

FOSTER SENSE OF PLACE

Preserve the traditional village character and balance uses to foster vitality and sense of community.

VILLAGE CENTER STRATEGY





Three Concepts at the Village Heart



DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

- Minimal change in existing street pattern.
- Roadway alignment may favor higher vehicle speeds, but less congestion.
- Equal weight given to York Street & Long Sands Road.
- Town Common and businesses along it are read as the most important part of the Village.

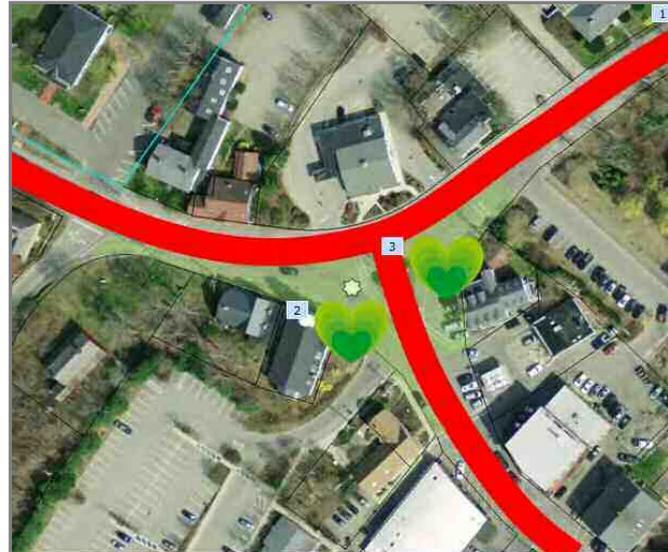
Town Common Concept - "Y" Pattern



DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

- Continuity of York Street
- Roadway alignment curved to slow vehicle speed through town
- Heart space is the historic common, extending across the southern edge of the Village Center
- Breaks Village into equal parts, with emphasis at the marriage of the Heritage & Business Districts

Town Square Concept - York Tee Pattern

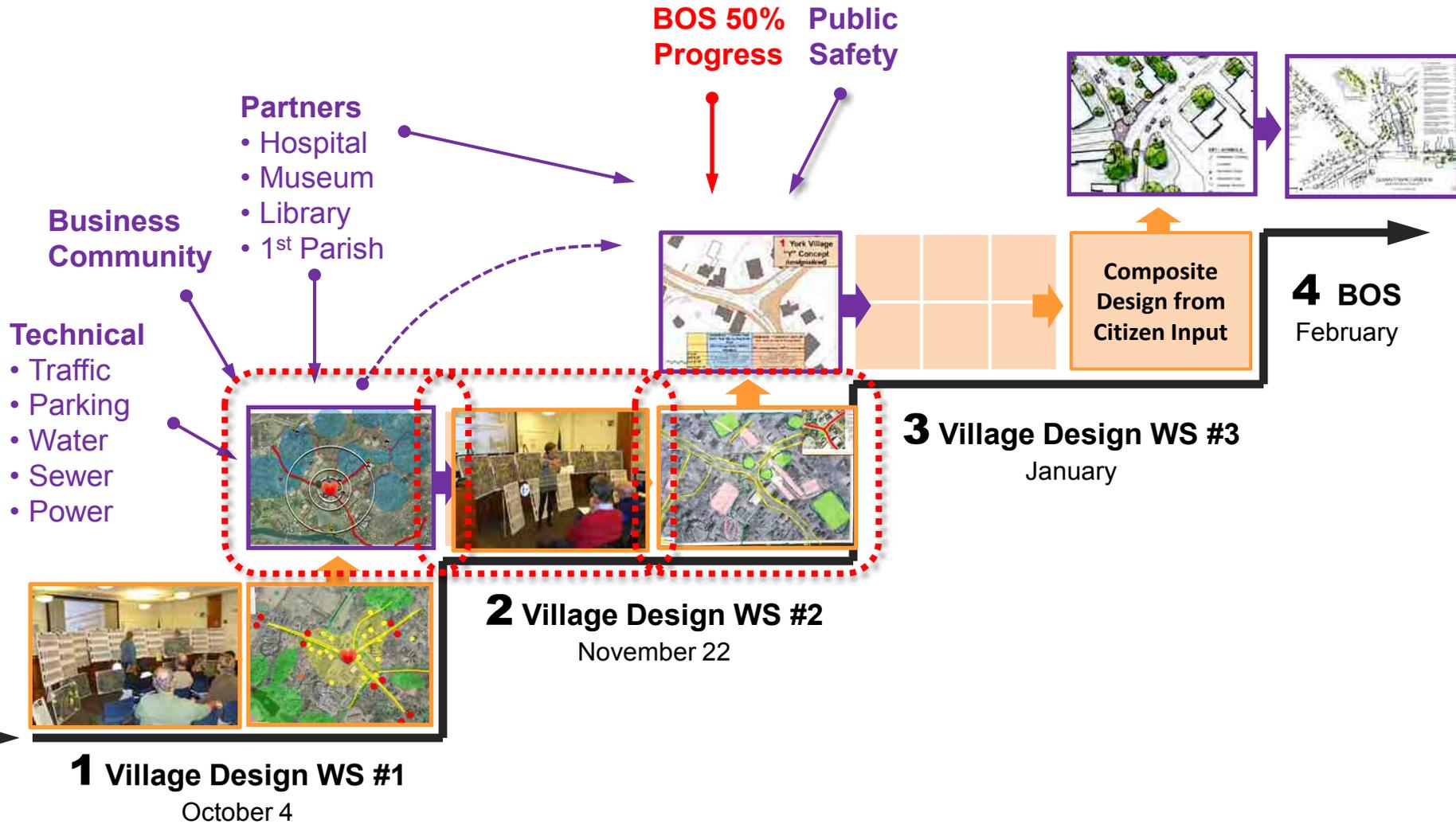


DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

- Continuity of Long Sands Road
- Roadway alignment slows vehicle speed through Southern portion of Village, but not along Long Sands Road
- Emphasis is on arrival into southern village center. The north side of the Village is separated.
- Heart space is equally divided at the Town Square, offering place-making & activity opportunities

Town Square Concept - Long Sands Tee

York Village Master Plan 4 Steps



Put the “village” back in York Village by....

**creating 21st century function along with cherished historic qualities;
balancing competing pedestrian and vehicular needs;
fostering economic prosperity.**

1

15 min

Start with Scenarios at the Village Heart

- Review the 3 scenario diagrams. Play around with them.
- Think qualitatively over 5 years, 10 years and 20 years. Based on what you know or can envision, select 1 diagram that best balances competing pedestrian and vehicular needs.
- Tape the selected diagram in place.

Summarize top points here. If more space is needed use pad.

2

15 min

Add Other Considerations Around the Heart

- Think qualitatively over 5 years, 10 years and 20 years and add the following considerations:
 - ✓ monument – use a red dot  (example here)
 - ✓ sidewalks & crosswalks – use yellow color lines or areas  (example here)
 - ✓ on-street & off street parking – use pink color lines or areas  (example here)
 - ✓ open spaces, green spaces and trails – use green color lines or areas  (example here)
- Where space is limited - balance is required. What might be gained and what might be sacrificed?



DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

- Minimize change to existing street pattern.
- Proposals suggest that new street improvements, including new street connections.
- Local street layout with roundabouts & long sandy streets.
- Local street layout with roundabouts & long sandy streets.
- Local street layout with roundabouts & long sandy streets.

Town Common Concept - "Y" Pattern

DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

- Continuity of York Street.
- Roundabout alignment to allow traffic to flow through roundabout.
- York Street to the historic commons, extending across the western side of the Village Center.
- Roundabout to provide a focal point and to provide a focal point in the middle of the Village & Commons Center.

Town Square Concept - York Tee Pattern

DESIGN IMPLICATIONS

- Continuity of Long Sands Road.
- Roundabout alignment to allow traffic to flow through roundabout.
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Town Square Concept - Long Sands Tee

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3

10 min

Name Your Concept

- *Stand back and admire your concept*
- *What is the most exciting or ambitious part of your concept?*
- *Summarize your concept. What is the theme or themes?*
- *What are your concept's greatest strengths and challenges?*
- *Name your concept. Have fun! What were the candidates? Why did you choose this name?*

Summarize top points here. If more space is needed use pad.

4

5 min

Wrap Up

- *Adjust any previous work.*
- *Select a Spokesperson (not the facilitator). Review and help prep for the presentation.*
- *Add group names and move back to meeting room – bring boards & easel.*

York Village Design Workshop #2 Nov 22



York Village Design Workshop #2 Nov 22



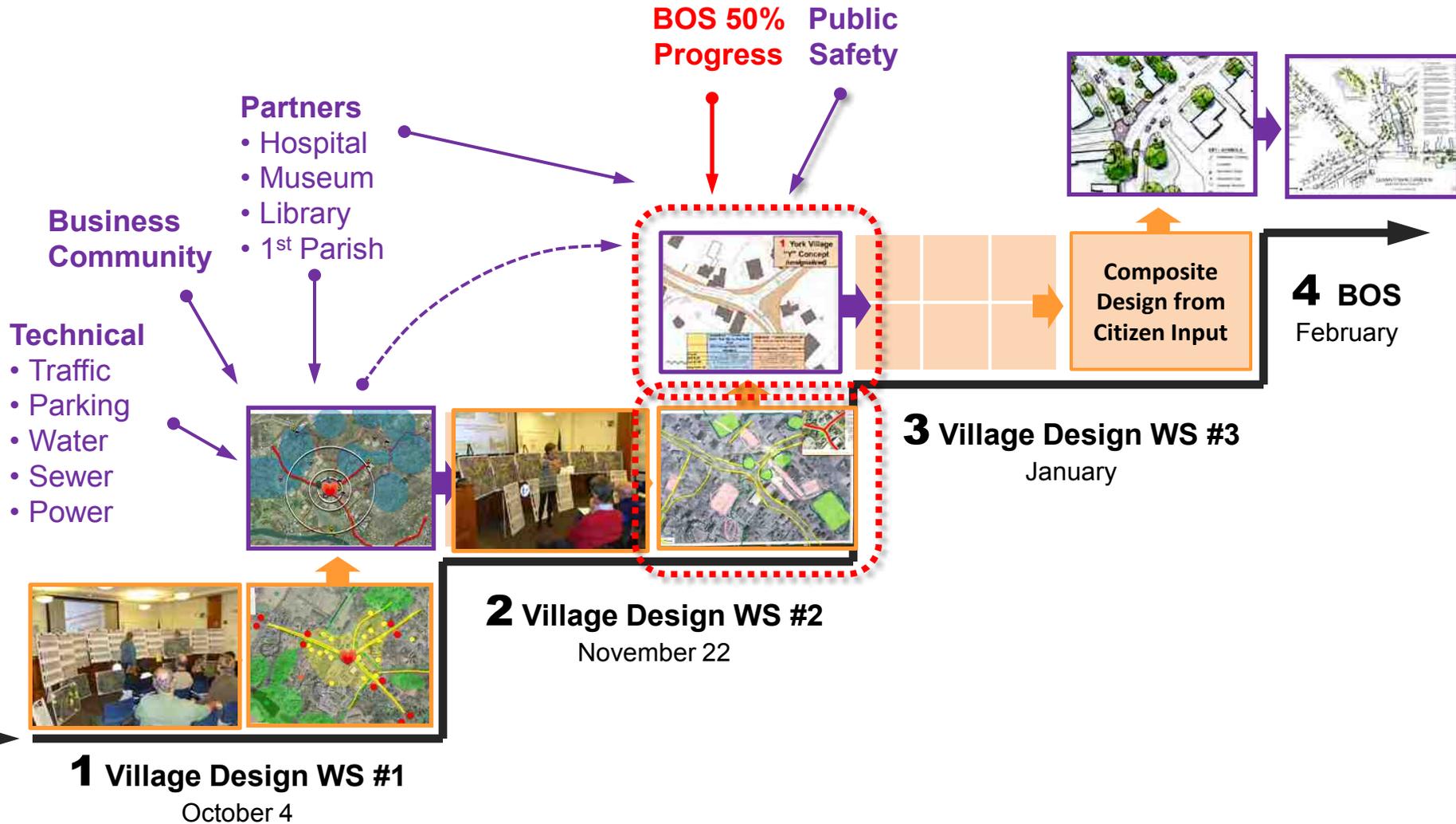
York Village Design Workshop #2 Nov 22



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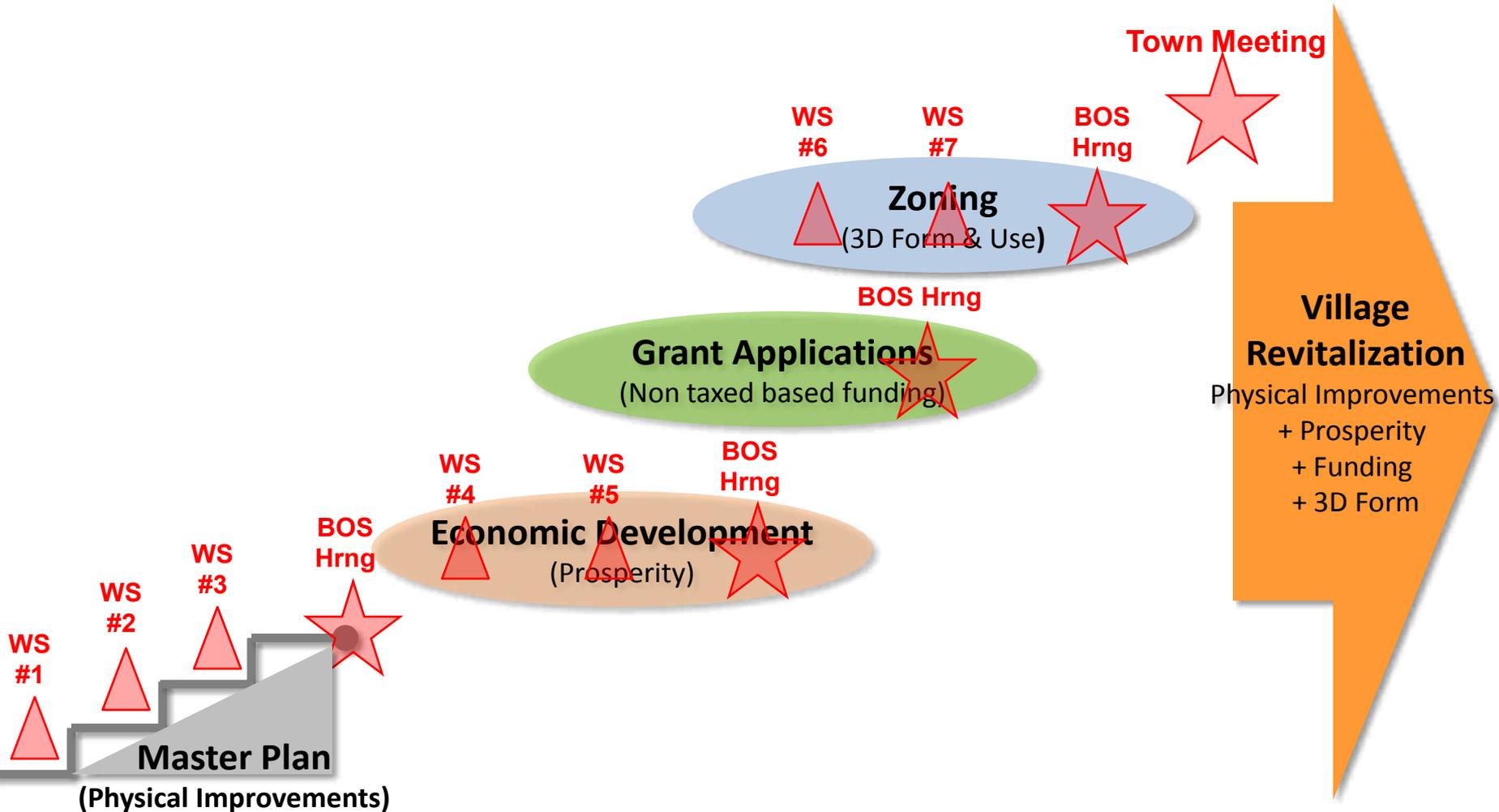


York Village Master Plan 4 Steps



York Village Revitalization – From Here to There

Fall 2014 Winter 2015 Spring 2015 Summer 2015 Fall 2015 Winter 2016 Spring 2016 Summer 2016





YORK VILLAGE REVITALIZATION

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- Balance competing pedestrian and vehicular needs.
- Foster economic prosperity.
- Put the “village” back in York Village.



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