APPENDIX D

PUBLIC OUTREACH

APPENDIX D

PUBLIC WORKSHOP #1



1533 Crescent Road Clifton Park, NY 12065 Phone: 518.371.0799

mjelspc@mjels.com

MEETING SUMMARY

Scotia Downtown Connections Plan Village of Scotia, NY

Agenda: Public Workshop #1

Date & Time: Thursday August 12, 2021, 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Platform: Zoom Webinar

Panelists:			
Name:	Representing:	Email	
Andrew Tracy	Capital District Transportation Committee	atracy@cdtcmpo.org	
Mayor Tom Gifford	Village of Scotia	tgifford@villageofscotiany.gov	
Justin Cook	Village Scotia	jcook@villageofscotiany.gov	
Lisa Wallin	MJ Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C.	lwallin@mjels.com	
Andris Blumbergs	MJ Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C.	ablumbergs@mjels.com	

Pre-Workshop Info:

- 1. Panelists joined at 5:00 to test webinar functions, video, sound volume and confirm roles.
- 2. The recording was started, and all public attendees were admitted at 5:30 pm.

Webinar Summary:

- 1. Lisa Wallin welcomed the public to the workshop, introducing herself and Andrew Tracy with the CDTC.
- 2. Andrew gave an overview of the study and its purpose as well as a background of the CDTC and their involvement with the study.
- 3. Mayor Gifford briefly spoke on the project and its importance to the Village.
- 4. Andrew handed the remainder of the presentation off to MJ. Lisa gave the technical presentation which covered the following:
 - a. Zoom Webinar "How To"
 - b. Purpose of Meeting
 - c. Study Overview
 - d. Existing Conditions Summary
 - e. Complete Streets
 - f. Next Steps
 - g. Opportunities for Participation
- 5. Poll questions were asked throughout the webinar. The pole results are as follows:
 - How would you best describe your association with the project area? Select all that apply.
 - Village Resident 67%
 - Commuter 17%
 - Business Owner or Store Manager 0%
 - Other 17%
 - o How often is a business or residence on Mohawk Avenue a destination of yours?
 - Daily 29%
 - About Once a Week 57%
 - About Once a Month 0%

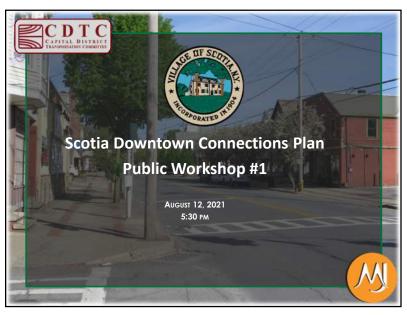
- Once or Twice a Year 14%
- o Do you walk or bike to Mohawk Avenue to access your destination?
 - Yes − 57%
 - No 43%
- o If you have walked along Mohawk Avenue, how would you best describe your experience?
 - Welcome, no issues with accessibility 0%
 - The streetscape is nice, but condition has degraded over time 100%
 - It is not safe to walk along Mohawk Avenue 0%
 - I don't walk along Mohawk Avenue 0%
- o If you have biked along Mohawk Avenue, how would you best describe your experience?
 - Easy, no issues with biking in the vehicle travel lanes 0%
 - Biking is difficult where parking is permitted 22%
 - It is not safe to bike along Mohawk Avenue 67%
 - I don't bike along Mohawk Avenue 11%
- o Do you bike along Mohawk Avenue to reach a destination or as part of a longer ride?
 - To reach a destination 22%
 - Mohawk Avenue is part of my route 11%
 - I don't bike along Mohawk Avenue 67%
- o Do you feel there is sufficient public parking available within the study area?
 - Yes 60%
 - No 40%
 - I'm not sure / I don't park within the study area 0%
- o Has the number of vehicles parking on the street decreased due to the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - Yes − 33%
 - No 22%
 - I'm not sure 44%
- o In your opinion, what is the primary contributing factor to vehicle crashes with the study area?
 - Road layout / geometry 0%
 - Parking 0%
 - Insufficient or unclear signage 0%
 - Other 100%
- What types of complete streets features do you think would be beneficial to implement along Mohawk Avenue?
 Choose all that apply.
 - Curb Extensions 26%
 - Median Refuges 10%
 - Improved Pedestrian Signals 13%
 - Improved Signage for Bicycles 10%
 - Bike Lanes or Shared-Use Lanes 19%
 - Bike Amenities, Such as Bike Racks 3%
 - Bus Pullouts 19%
- o Would you consider a small reduction of on-street parking to implement complete streets features?
 - Yes 100%
 - No 0%
 - Need More Information 0%
- 6. The Q&A session included both written comments through the chat function and live questions through the "raise hand" function. All questions were addressed by the end of the meeting.
- 7. Justin Cook from the Village of Scotia spoke on his excitement for the study elaborated on the importance of public involvement in regard to the study.
- 8. The meeting concluded at 6:30 pm.



Summary of Q & A Session:

The Q&A session began at 6:15pm. The following discussion points were raised during the Q&A Session that warrant further consideration and/or discussion between the Village, CDTC, and MJ.

- 1. Mayor Gifford stated that he never bikes Mohawk Avenue and prefers Glen Avenue because it's safer. He also stated that the CDTA did not provide enough bikes at the racks located near the public parking lot.
 - **Action Item:** Comment noted.
- 2. Justin Cook asked if it was possible to change the classification of a roadway once it's been designated as a truck route.
 - Action Item: CDTC will discuss with NYSDOT the next time they meet.
- 3. George stated that it is very difficult to cross at the Mohawk Avenue / Route 147 intersection. He also stated he would like to see the updated crossings/signals in Scotia like they have for Sunnyside Road and Freemans Bridge.
 - **Action Item:** Comment noted.
- 4. It was stated that the locations of CDTA bus pull offs might require the property takings of adjacent businesses.
 - <u>Action Item:</u> Andrew explained that the bus pull offs would be installed within Village right-of-way and would not require property takings or the removal of any adjacent buildings.



Meeting Agenda > Zoom Webinar "How to" > Purpose of Meeting > Study Overview > Existing Conditions Summary > Complete Streets > Next Steps > Opportunities for Participation Comparison Compa

Introductions

Project Sponsors

Village of Scotia, Capital District Transportation Committee

Consultant

MJ Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C.

Study Advisory Committee







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Zoom Webinar "How To"

There will be several interactive polls during the presentation – please participate!

We will break to address questions at the end of the presentation

- > To post a question, utilize the "Q & A" function in your Zoom Webinar panel
- Use the "Raise Hand' feature
 - If on a telephone, use *9 to Raise hand and *6 to mute/unmute

Following the webinar, written comments can be submitted via the project website: <u>www.ScotiaConnections.com</u>

A recording of the webinar will be posted on the project website







Purpose of Public Workshop #1 Introduce study and review the existing conditions information Provide the public an opportunity to share their experiences with the corridor Receive broad input from the public that will inform the development of the draft concept plan

Study Overview: Project Limits

N. Ballston Ave
(NY Rt 50)

Collins Park

Glen Avenue

Glen Sanders,
Jumpin' Jacks

Western Gateway Bridge

Expression Consents

Western Gateway Bridge

6

8



- ➤ Improve pedestrian, bicycle and transit experience in the Village's Central Business District along Mohawk Avenue
- Preserve the quick and efficient movement of commuters and freight through the Village
- Enhance the safety, accessibility, and enjoyment of the area for all user groups
- Improve connections to the Mohawk Ave corridor from points throughout the Village



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Goal:
Develop a Plan,
endorsed by the
Village, that will be
used to pursue
funding opportunities
and guide
implementation of
improvements



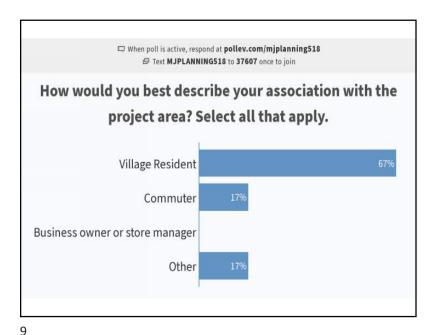


- Please go to pollev.com/miplanning518
- Text MJPlanning518 to 37607
- Scan the QR code below

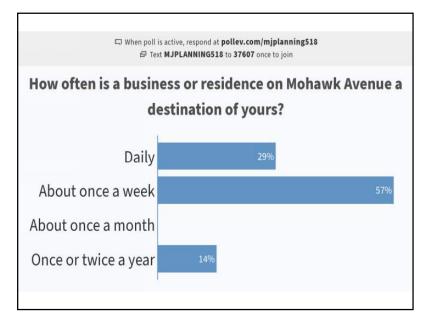


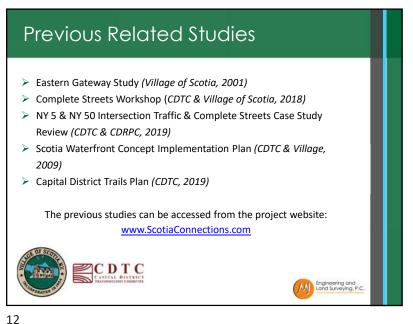










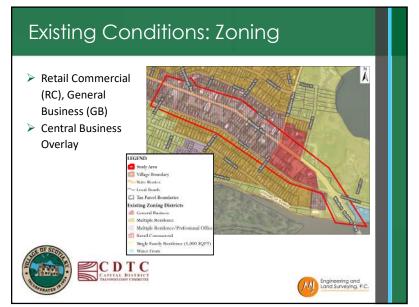


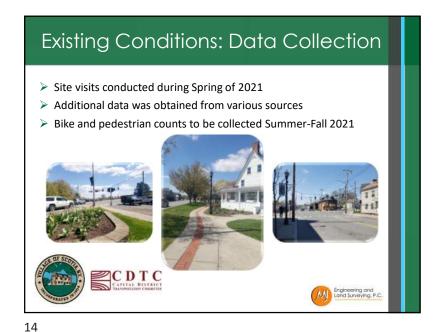


CAPITAL DISTRICT
TRANSPORTATION CONCENTS

CAPITAL PRINTER:

CAPITA





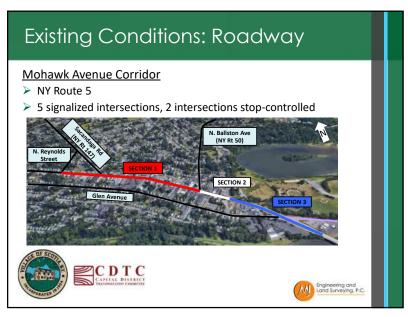
Primarily
commercial and
community
services

Generally
consistent with a
Business District

Improvements
within the public
right-of-way

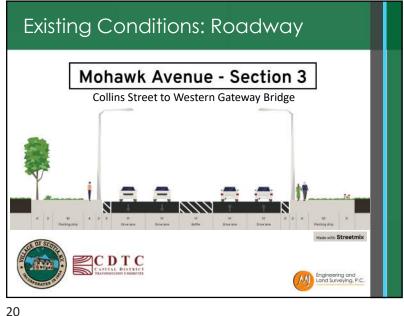
Primarily
Constitute

Improvements
Within the public
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Re











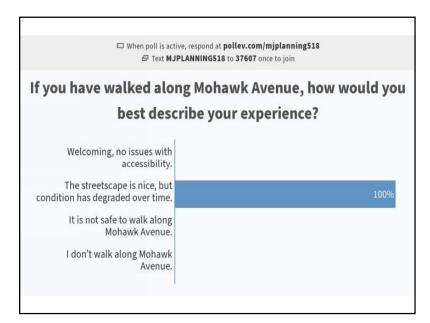


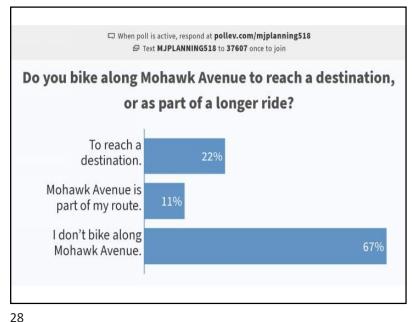






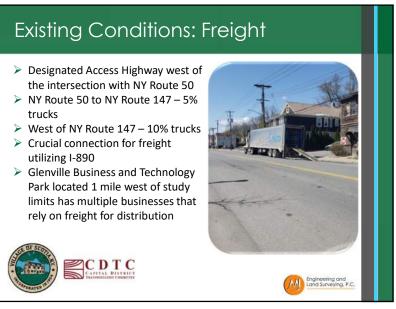


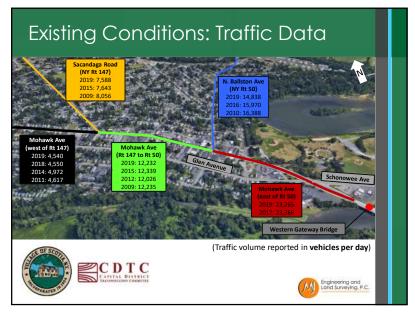




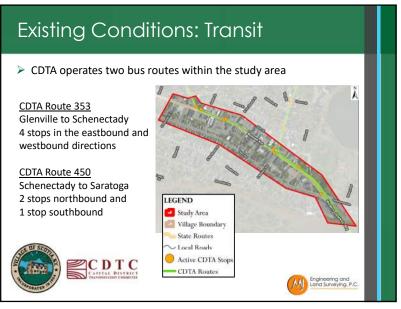
Existing Conditions: Traffic Data **Traffic Summary of Roadways with Study Area** Truck Traffic Traffic Roadway Name % Trucks Volume Volume Mohawk Avenue (NY Route 5) -4,540 470 10% I-890 to NY Route 147 Sacandaga Road (NY Route 147) 7,588 386 5% Mohawk Avenue (NY Route 5) -12,232 599 NY Route 50 to NY Route 147 North Ballston Avenue (NY Route 50) 14,838 708 5% Mohawk Avenue (NY Route 5) -23,265 829 4% Western Gateway Bridge to NY Route 50 (Traffic volume reported in vehicles per day) **⊠**C D T C

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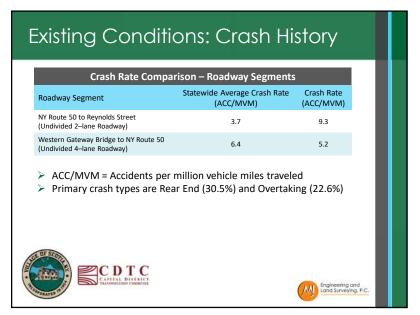


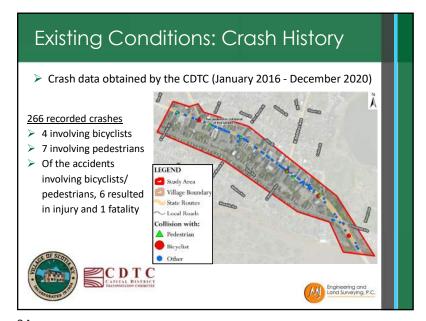
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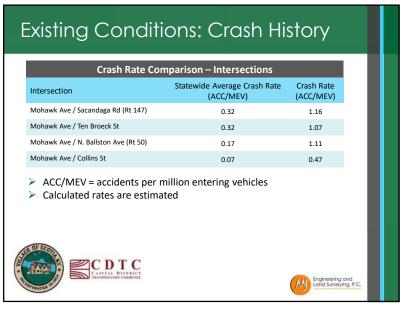
Existing Conditions: Parking Parked Vehicles Observed Thursday Utilization 4/23/21 6/15/21 6/15/21 6/17/21 6/17/21 8/10/21 Observed 11:00 am South Reynolds St to 15% Sacandaga Rd North Reynolds St to 10% Sacandaga Rd Fmr. Tartan Lanes to S. Ten Broeck St Center St to N. Ten 27% Broeck St S. Ten Broeck St to S. 35% Ballston Ave N. Ten Broeck St to N. Ballston Ave Consider historic observations due to pandemic effects **⊠CDTC**

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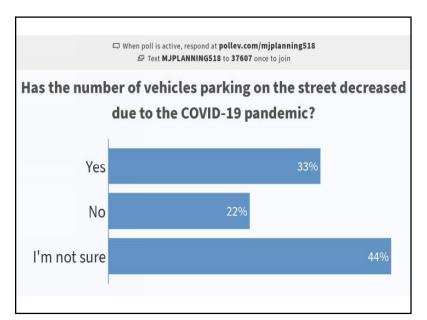


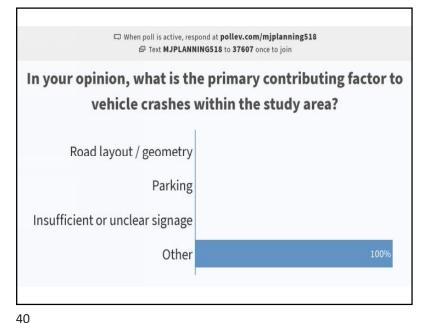
Do you feel there is sufficient public parking available within the study area?

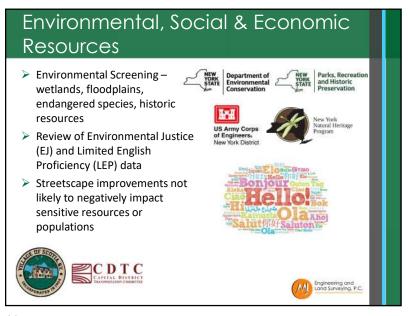
Yes

No

1'm not sure / I don't park within the study area









Complete Streets

"Complete streets design is defined as roadway design features that accommodate and facilitate convenient access and mobility by all users, including current and projected users, particularly pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and individuals of all ages and abilities."

- NYSDOT

- Concepts Vary Based on Community Context & Roadway Classification
- Potential for Crash Reduction
- Promote healthy living
- Reduce Environmental Impact
- Economic Benefits







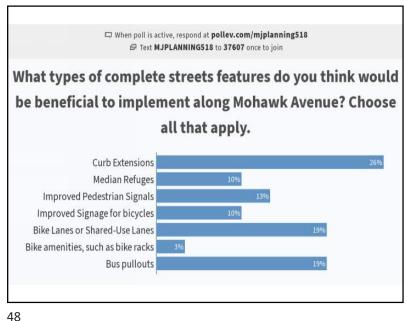
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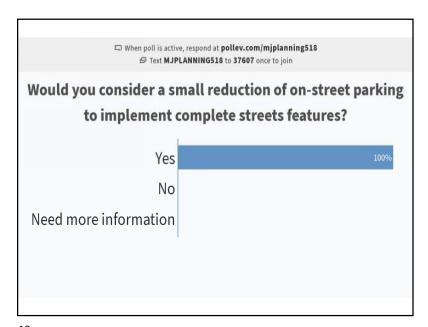






Modal Hierarchy: - Used to make well-prioritized design and operation decisions - Not all modes can be accommodated on all streets (ROW, safety, etc.) Maintenance: - Future maintenance of physical elements and materials - Public vs. private responsibility - Snow removal operations and storage









APPENDIX D

PUBLIC WORKSHOP #2

1533 Crescent Road Clifton Park, NY 12065 Phone: 518.371.0799

mjelspc@mjels.com

MEETING SUMMARY

Scotia Downtown Connections Plan Village of Scotia, NY

Agenda: Public Workshop #2

Date & Time: Wednesday March 23, 2022, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Platform: Zoom Webinar

Panelists:		
Name:	Representing:	Email
Andrew Tracy	Capital District Transportation Committee	atracy@cdtcmpo.org
Chris Bauer	Capital District Transportation Committee	cbauer@cdtcmpo.org
Mayor Tom Gifford	Village of Scotia	tgifford@villageofscotiany.gov
Ryan Kedzior	Village of Scotia	rkedzior@villageofscotia.gov
Lisa Wallin	MJ Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C.	lwallin@mjels.com
Andris Blumbergs	MJ Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C.	ablumbergs@mjels.com
Brian Cooper	MJ Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C.	bcooper@mjels.com

Pre-Workshop Info:

- 1. Panelists joined at 6:15 to test webinar functions, video, sound volume and confirm roles.
- 2. The recording was started, and all public attendees were admitted at 6:30 pm.

Webinar Summary:

- 1. Andrew Tracy welcomed the public to the workshop, introducing himself and MJ Engineering. He provided an introduction of what CDTC is, a brief overview of the linkage study program and CDTC's involvement.
- 2. Andrew handed the remainder of the presentation off to MJ. Lisa gave the technical presentation which covered the following:
 - a. Zoom Webinar "How To"
 - b. Study Overview
 - c. Review Materials presented at Public Workshop #1
 - d. Overview of Draft Downtown Connections Plan
 - e. Discuss Concepts
 - f. Closing Remarks
 - g. Comments & Question Period
- 3. Mayor Gifford briefly spoke on the project and its importance to the Village.
- 4. Andris Blumbergs assisted Lisa Wallin with the Q&A session. The Q&A session included both written comments through the Q&A webinar function and live questions through the "raise hand" function. All questions were addressed by the end of the meeting. See summary of Q&A below.
- 5. The meeting concluded at approximately 7:20 pm.



Summary of Q & A Session:

The Q&A session began at 7:10pm. The following discussion points were raised during the Q&A Session:

1. Mike Horan, the attorney for the owner of Ming's at 9 Mohawk Avenue had comments regarding the concept near his client's property. Mr. Horan noted that he and his client were pleased to see that a left turn lane has been incorporated into the raised median to permit left turns into 9 Mohawk Avenue. Mr. Horan also noted that the property owner has concerns with the proposed changes to the driveway and parking lot layout. Since there is no means to access the parcel from the rear, the driveway and parking modification (as shown) will severely hinder delivery operations. Ms. Wallin noted that the design is a concept and is not final, and that stakeholders (property owners) would also be coordinated with during the final design of such improvements.

Action Item: Comment noted. MJ will re-visit the driveway and parking layout at 9 Mohawk Avenue.

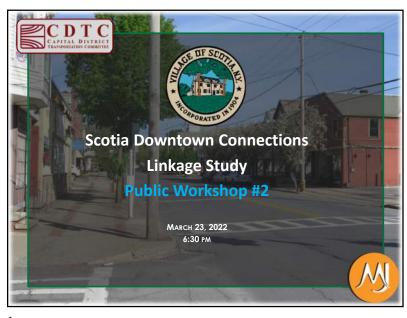
2. Mayor Gifford stated that the red brick inlay that has been installed within the existing sidewalks is required by Village code. He asked if the code should change now. Ms. Wallin stated that the conflict between the current code and the proposed concept would be noted in the Final Downtown Connections Plan, and that changing the code should be revisited at a later time. Once the sidewalk work is funded and is formally designed, the Village may want to consider different treatments, and the code should be changed to match the design at that time and it is suggested that the code allow more flexibility for this specific element.

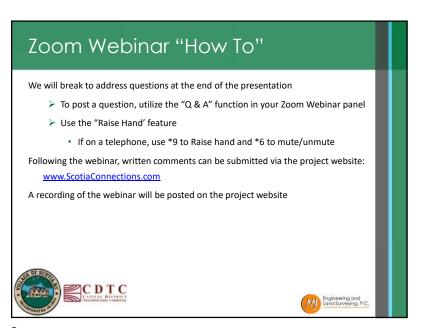
Action Item: MJ will document the potential need for Village Code changes within the implementation section of the Final Downtown Connections Plan.

3. An attendee asked if the location of the new fire station was considered in the concept. Ms. Wallin stated that the study team has been following the fire station discussions. Both locations recently proposed are within the study limits. Ms. Wallin stated that this study will likely be complete by the time a new fire station location is decided upon, but the Final Downtown Connections Plan would touch upon this ongoing redevelopment effort.

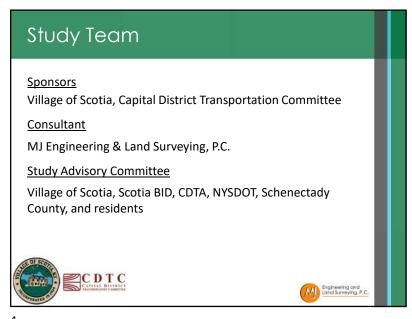
<u>Action Item:</u> MJ will document the need to coordinate with future developments, specifically the new fire station, within the Final Downtown Connections Plan.

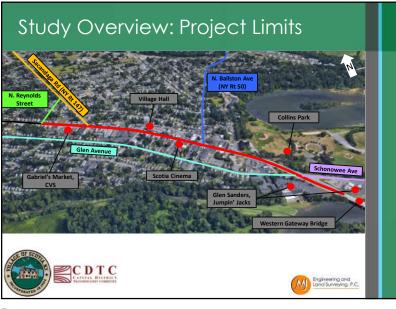
- 4. Mayor Gifford asked if it makes sense to permanently remove parking in front of CVS, and asked why parking is not allowed at this location? Ms. Wallin stated that the crash history shows a number of incidents with vehicles traveling down Sacandaga Road turning left onto Mohawk Ave and side swiping parked vehicles in this location. The Village has posted this stretch with "No Parking" signs for this reason. The concept formalizes the current parking restrictions.
- 5. Mayor Gifford asked if we studied traffic on Ballston Avenue and if we should consider having only one left turn lane and maybe reduce the four lane Mohawk Avenue to three lanes. Ms. Wallin stated that a separate study has been conducted specifically for this intersection already. This study did not re-visit those recommendations because it would require collection of new traffic data, which was out of the scope of this project. More importantly, the data collection effort for this study was conducted during the heart of the COVID-19 pandemic, so any traffic data collected would not be representative of the typical non-pandemic traffic volumes.

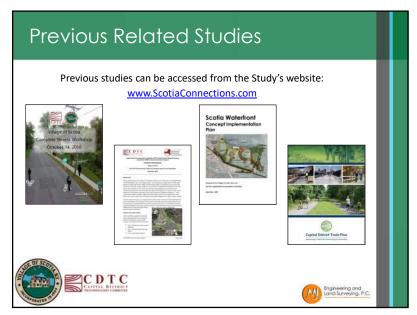


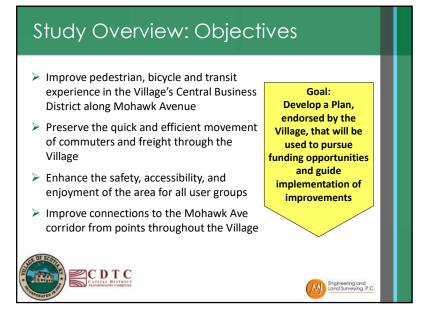




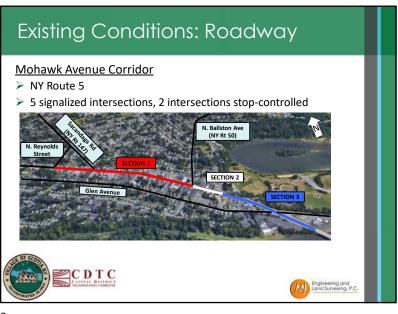






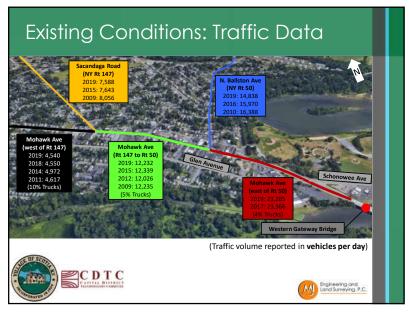






Lond Suveying P.C.



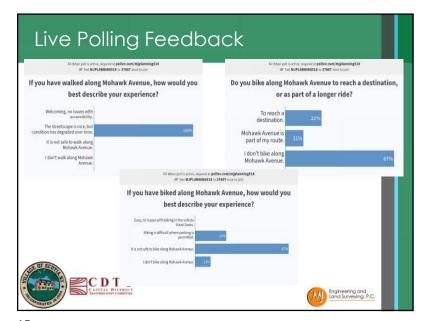


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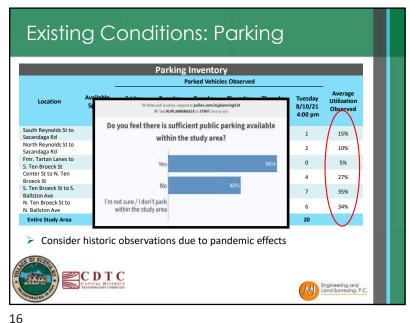
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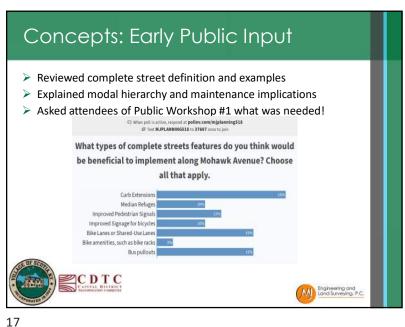


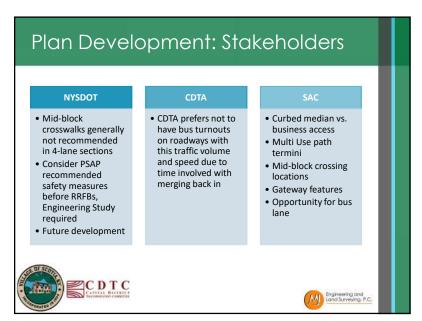
Existing Conditions: Bicycle Routes & Accommodations NY Bicycle Route 5 Signed on-road route, 365 Existing Utility Line Right-of-Way miles from Niagara Falls to NY/MA state line Scotia Loop Path 8.2 mile on/off road route, existing Scotia Glenville Trail to MHBT Additional planned adjacent bike LEGEND connectivity projects 🗖 Study Area Village Boundar - Scotta Loop Path CDTC

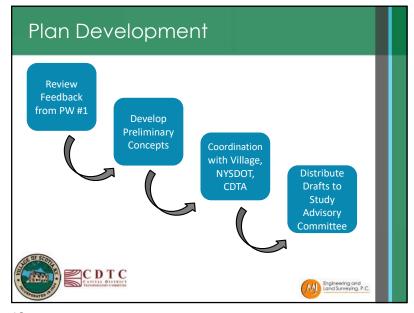
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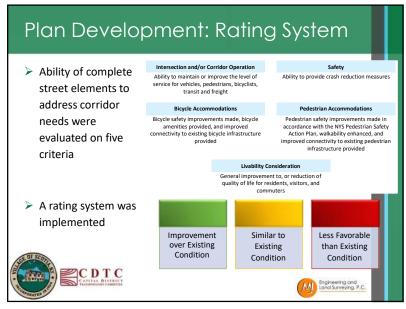


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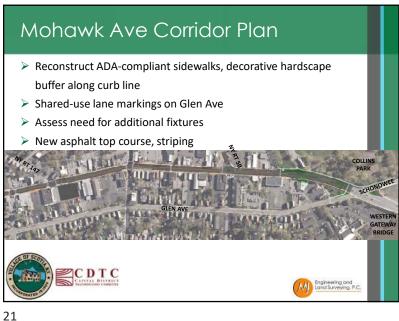






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Mohawk Ave Corridor Plan

Raised center median, access management

Mohawk Ave: Existing 4-lane section

22



Mohawk Ave Corridor Plan

Raised center median, access management

Salowall Rufer Travel Lare Theol Lare Landicagned Shand Travel Lare Grass Multi Use Path Buffer

With Salowall Rufer Travel Lare Theol Lare Landicagned Shand Travel Lare Grass Multi Use Path Buffer

Salowall Rufer Travel Lare Theol Lare Landicagned Shand Travel Lare Grass Multi Use Path Buffer

Salowall Rufer Travel Lare Theol Lare Landicagned Shand Travel Lare Grass Multi Use Path Buffer

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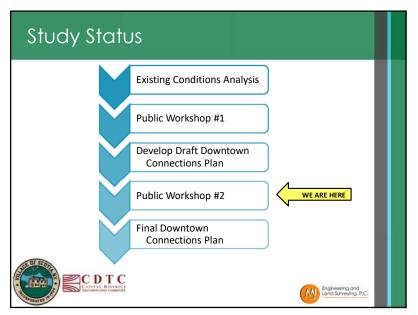
Mohawk Ave Corridor Plan > Amenities and Gateway Improvements 100-Block Gateway

26









Mohawk Ave / Sacandaga Rd

Cotto

Cotto

Contains

**Contain

