

## Walters Avenue Public Meeting Open House (March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025)

On March 5, 2025, the Village held a public meeting open house to discuss the current status of the Walters Avenue Corridor Improvements Phase I Study. As part of the open house, the Village gave a presentation focused on the project goals, Phase I process, overall project schedule, data collection, and project alternatives. The goals of the project are to resurface Walters Avenue using federal STP funds received and replace 100+ year old watermain along the corridor. Additionally, bicycle improvements are being considered due to recommendations outlined in the Village's 2018 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The Phase I process is a state-mandated process when receiving federal funding and that process includes collecting relevant data along the corridor and developing various alternatives for design. The project is currently in the Alternatives Analysis phase, which is expected to be completed in the next 2-3 months. Following the decision of the Preferred Alternative, another public meeting open house will be held to present this alternative and receive additional feedback. Notice will be provided via the Village website, newspaper, letters to residents on the corridor, and the NotifyMe list serve.

At the meeting, four alternatives were presented:

- Alternative 1: Existing Typical Section
  - This alternative would keep everything on the corridor as it today. Walters Avenue would be resurfaced and watermain would be replaced, but no changes to the cross-section or roadway width would be completed.
- Alternative 2: Bike Lanes + North Side Parking Only
  - This alternative would require the roadway to be widened approximately 2 feet to the north. This would result in approximately 30 trees needing to be removed. Additionally, parking on the south side of the road would be removed.
- Alternative 3: Sharrows + North Side Parking Only
  - This alternative would narrow the overall width of the roadway and provide additional parkway area on the north side of the road. Parking on the south side of the road would be removed and sharrows (shared lane markings) would be provided on the travel lanes.
- Alternative 4: Existing + Sharrows
  - The only change between this alternative and Alternative 1 would be the installation of sharrows (shared lane markings) on the existing travel lanes.

Under all of the alternatives, curb ramps (including the bump outs at Walters Avenue/Cedar Lane) will be evaluated for improvements or modifications.

During the meeting, Village and consultant staff took questions from residents and heard feedback on the alternatives. In general, the feedback from residents included the strong desire to avoid removal of any trees or on-street parking along the corridor. Alternatives 1 and 4 were the most preferred based on feedback at the open house.

A survey for the project has been open since January 29<sup>th</sup> (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NPDHXVM>) and will remain open until March 19<sup>th</sup> for comments and responses.