



DOWNTOWN MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION TASK FORCE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023 AT 2:30 PM

106 JONES STREET, WATERTOWN, WI 53094 - CITY HALL BASEMENT ROOM 0041

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

A. Downtown Main Street Reconstruction Task Force minutes from August 23, 2023

3. OPENING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Each individual who would like to address the Committee will be permitted up to three minutes for their comments.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Public/Business Input Session Update: Lunch and Learn Recap (Mayor McFarland)

B. Update on Landscape Architect (Vandewalle & Associates/Ruekert & Mielke)

1. Recap of Submittals to WisDOT

2. Upcoming items: Presentation on December 5, 2023 to the Common Council

3. Date for 60% Submittal Meeting (Ellias)

C. Business Visits: Feedback from members on visits so far

D. Transportation Network Study Update

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion on One-Way Streets

B. Next Newsletter: Please Take Out and Distribute by November 15, 2023

6. ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

7. ADJOURNMENT

Persons requiring other reasonable accommodations for any of the above meetings, may contact the office of the City Clerk at mdunneisen@watertownwi.gov, phone 920-262-4006

A quorum of any City of Watertown Council, Committee, Board, Commission, or other body, may be present at this meeting for observing and gathering of information only

DOWNTOWN MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION TASK FORCE**Wednesday, August 23, 2023****2:30 pm IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL MEETING****Lower Level, Room 0041, City Hall, 106 Jones St, Watertown, WI****By Phone or GoToMeeting:** <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/471703029>

For the Public, Members of the media and the public may attend by calling: (US)+1 (224) 501-3412

Access Code: 619-906-421

1. Call to order at 2:32 pm.
 - a. Attendance- Present: Becker, McFarland, Holloway, Lampe, Hoffman, Beyer, Moldenhauer, Grinwald, Mazzoni, and Citizen John Katisch. Virtual: Smith, Elias, Absent: Salas & Board
2. Approval of prior meeting minutes
 - a. Approval of Minutes 6.28.23 **Motioned by Lampe; seconded by McFarland; carried unanimously.**
3. Opening for public comment
 - a. John Katisch questioned whether the water main, storm sewer, or sanitary would be replaced.
 - i. Jaynellen replied the sanitary is like new because it's lined. Eventually they will look into replacing them.
 - ii. Emily said the city is testing its ability to see if they can cover the maintenance costs instead of the property owners.
4. Old Business
 - a. Public/business input session update – Reminder: Lunch and Learn scheduled Sept. 27, 2023 at the library
 - i. Input for Mayor McFarland on what topics she should be sure to touch on:
 1. Accessibility to businesses, one-way streets, uniform signage for back of buildings, timeline, and the state will hold public information meetings.
 - ii. Chamber will promote through newspaper, social media, and newsletter.
 - b. Update on landscape architect (Vandewalle & Associates/Ruekert & Mielke)
 - i. Review of submittals to DOT and concept map
 1. Map shows bump outs, plantings, curb cutouts, entry features, design, and signs. Kiosk to go halfway point of downtown.
 2. Letter tells the signals will remain, 3rd & 4th St will stay one-way, and hopefully eliminate smaller one-ways
 - ii. Upcoming items
 1. Oct. 6 is the deadline for next set of deliverable from landscape architect.
 2. Jaynellen proposed the conduit be placed during construction and not at a later date. **Motioned by Moldenhauer; seconded by Hoffman; carried unanimously.**
 3. Going with galvanized trombone for the signal arms. (cost to the DOT) **Motioned by Hoffman; seconded by Moldenhauer; carried with opposition from Grinwald and Lampe.**
 - c. Business visits – Feedback from members on visits so far
 - i. Accessibility to businesses
 - ii. Bridge work
5. New Business
 - a. Next newsletter: Scheduled for September. Discussion on content for next newsletter
 - i. To go out mid Sept.
 - ii. Task Force member photo/ design photos

- iii. Lunch and Learn
 - iv. Awareness of bridge
 - v. TWall plan updates
 - vi. lampposts
 - b. Discuss moving to bi-monthly meetings
 - i. Everyone is okay with this
6. Next meeting date: TBD- Lunch & Learn is Sept. Looking at October (what's in the budget).
7. Adjournment
- a. **Motion to adjourn by Lampe; seconded by Grinwald; carried unanimously at 3:41 pm.**



MAIN STREET

Reconstruction News



Ribbon cutting at the newly re-opened Schuett's. Photo via Aleksandr Olson.

LUNCH AND LEARN RECAP

Mayor Emily McFarland was the guest speaker at a recent Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce "Lunch and Learn" held at the Watertown Public Library. The main topic of conversation was the reconstruction of Main Street, scheduled for 2028.

"We're just not building a road and adding new sidewalks," McFarland said. "We're looking to further accentuate the downtown as the destination that it really is."

The mayor gave a recap of the history of the bridge, which was last reconstructed in 1967. She explained how the upcoming reconstruction is a Wisconsin DOT project, as Main Street is part of State Highway 19. She also covered the creation of the Downtown Main Street Task Force, and the work the group has done so far.

McFarland also touched on the current planned replacement of the Cole (Main Street) Bridge, which was built in 1931.

While bridge replacement is anticipated for 2024, the date is still somewhat uncertain, because a lot of exploratory work is still underway. The bridge bottom is connected to both the basement of a building on the Bank First property and the Masonic Temple.

"We're doing the very best we can for you and the entire city," McFarland said.

Video of the Lunch and Learn is available on the City of Watertown's YouTube channel.

IMPORTANT DATES

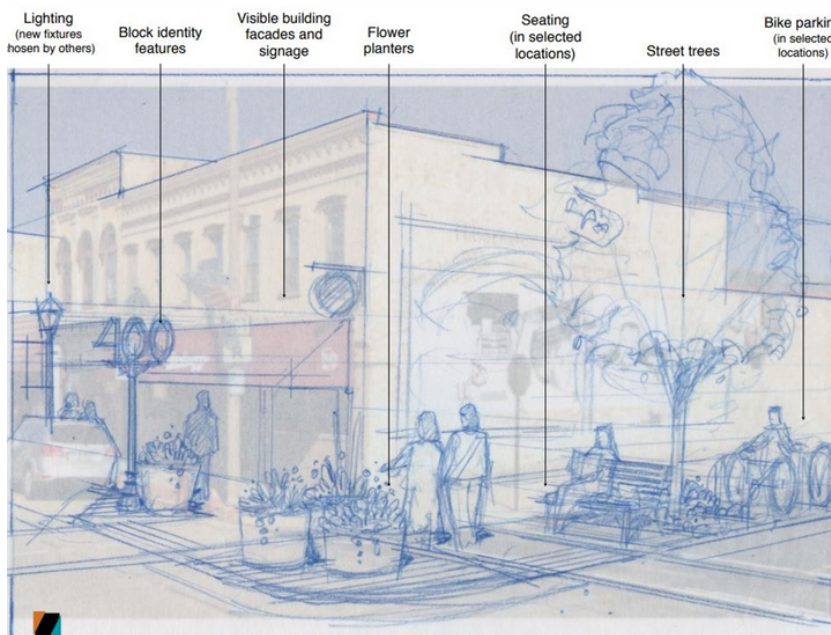
Landscape architecture presentation to the Common Council: December 5, 2023

Next Main Street Task Force Meeting: January 2024 (exact date TBD)

Spring 2028: Full reconstruction of Main Street, from Church Street to Market Street/Sharp Corner Park expected to begin.

2029: Reconstruction of Main Street, from College Avenue to Tivoli Drive.



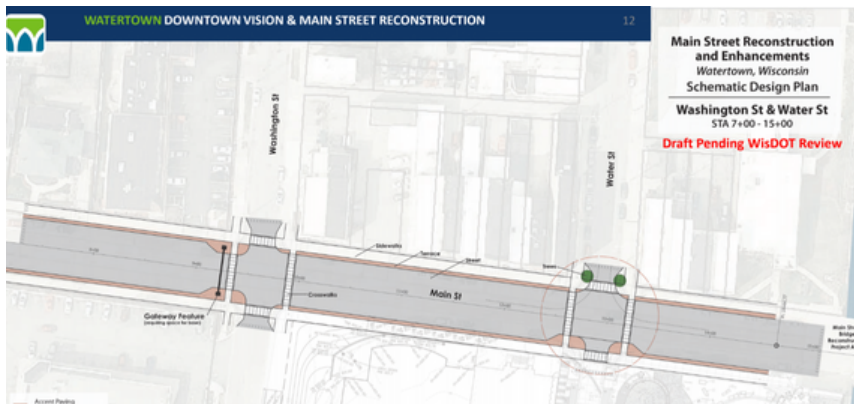


LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE UPDATE

Section 5, Item B.

Recently, the City contracted with Eye Level Studios, in conjunction with Vandewalle & Associates, to conduct landscape architecture planning for the 2028 Main Street Reconstruction project. This work was paid for with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Over past three months, the team has met with members of the Task Force, and created a set of proposals for downtown design elements. Some of these include new sidewalks "bump outs", enhanced crosswalks, branded signage, parking lot enhancements, decorative elements, and more. As a sneak peek, here are some images from their work. A full public presentation is scheduled for the December 5, 2023 Common Council meeting.



YOUR TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Pictured front row:

Jaynellen Holloway - Director of Public Works
Alderman Myron Moldenhauer
Melissa Lampe - Watertown Main Street Program

Pictured back row:

Andrew Grinwald - Chamber of Commerce Rep.
Mason Becker - Strategic Initiatives & Development Coordinator
Andrew Beyer - Assistant City Engineer
Mayor Emily McFarland
Laurie Hoffmann - Citizen-At-Large

Not pictured:

Amber Smith - Downtown Business Representative
Michelle Ellias - Wisconsin DOT
Alderman Steve Board
Michael Trego - Historic Downtown Design Commission

