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14	Transcribed before Debra J. Fusco, a Notary Public in and for the State of Maine, at the Sanford City Council Chambers, 919 Main Street, Sanford, Maine, on November 17, 2022, beginning at 6:00 p.m., pursuant to notice given.
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MR. BUCK: Good evening, everyone. My name is Steven Buck. I'm the city manager for the City of Welcome this evening to the Sanford Downtown RAISE Grant Improvement Project. This is a public hearing this evening. I would like to do a brief introduction.

Ben, if you could pull the presentation up on the screen, please. So in this introduction for this evening, I'd like to talk to you about the RAISE grant that Sanford has been awarded. How did we get here and the whys, and a brief history of the partnership that we arrived here.

So the RAISE grant is the Rebuilding American Infrastructure With Sustainability and Equity. It's a competitive federal grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation to invest in roads and transportation. It's been formerly known as the BUILD and the TIGER grants.

Stanford's RAISE grant has been approved for 25 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation with additional funding coming from Maine DOT, Department of Transportation, and the City of Sanford estimated to be about an additional 10 million.

History of the partnership path to RAISE,

this is very important. The city performed an engineered assessment of streets. We set our goals towards funding the improvements through the Capital Improvements Program, and we sought a coordinated partnership on our shared state/municipal roads. The city has successfully partnered with the Maine Department of Transportation on a number of municipal partnership initiatives, MPIs, on roadways, and that's a shared funding proposal as well as local construction. The city sought to increase this relationship and enquired of the Maine Department of Transportation how best to amplify that partnership and our priorities going forward.

Planning. It's all about planning. The city embarked with the blessings of the Department of Transportation on what's known as a Planning Partnership Initiative. You could put agreement, but it's a planning partnership initiative which was an enormous task internally here for the city. So I'd like to -- our Public Works director Matthew Hill is here this evening. I would like to call him out as being the person responsible for putting that planning partnership initiative together, the agreement, and the agreements between the city and the Maine Department of Transportation. And through that, we produced about a

six-inch-thick document that has all of the planning aspects, all of the initiatives that the city was working on. Our transportation priorities and the work that we plan to do in our downtown.

So that plan was to study, evaluate, plan and scope transportation projects on or adjacent to the state transportation system with MDOT as a partner. So that really started to further solidify the partnership that we have with MDOT, and you'll see that here tonight.

The PPI was intended to address time sensitive locally initiated planning and feasibility studies outside of Maine DOT's normal annual work plan cycle. So how do we get our priorities moved earlier up and further on, and how do we best partner with the Department of Transportation?

So during and after the implementation of the PPI, the city continued to partner with Maine DOT on municipal partnership agreements on roadways, especially in our downtown. From the finalized PPI and its focus on our downtown and the number of MPIs within our downtown, the vision had been developed.

So the concept of a village partnership initiative, I think we were the first out of the gates with that piece, was crafted with the Department. And

that's described as being -- on of the segments of that is a once in a lifetime investment if we can successfully partner to access federal discretionary funds. So the RAISE grant is federal discretionary funds.

So it was the village partnership initiative that the city embarked with the Department of Transportation towards making an application for a RAISE grant. We had a very rapid and accelerated process. The vision, multiple preexisting MPIs and the planning elements of the PPI were encompassed into a competitive grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation. And I will note that the city could not have undertaken that enormous effort without the support of the Maine Department of Transportation and their consultants.

The result as a competitive award of 25 million towards the construction of Sanford's downtown vision within the village partnership initiative. It's a partnership of roadway improvements with the Maine Department of Transportation and now with U.S. DOT funding as part of that share.

So I'm not going to get into the scope of work. This is a brief description in here because I know we're going to go over that entire scope this

evening, so I'm going to set this slide aside.

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So in summary, tonight's presentation is the collaboration of partners representing years -- emphasis years -- of planning, program and funding partnerships and the amplification of our working relationships to foster federal funds towards achieving our transportation improvements.

I would like to call out recognition and thanks that got us here this evening. First is that to the city council for the capital programming in the adoption of our transportation plans that has been a significant and recognizable investment that's being made by the city council and that is truly starting to pay dividends in our community. I would like to thank Matthew Hill for the PPI and the coordination of the city staff and resources. It was a tremendous effort and undertaking to get that PPI in place which I believe led us to where we are today. I would like to recognize the Maine Department of Transportation for their very innovative programs under the MPI the PPI and now the VPI. We like our acronyms. They're really -- they And I'd also like to recognize the shorten things up. U.S. Department of Transportation of the RAISE grant funds made available through Congress, our federal Congress. And I can't say enough about Senator Collins

for her support of our application and the rest of our congressional delegation for the funds and allocations in support of tonight's RAISE grant presentation.

So with that, I would like to turn the podium over to Ernie Martin. He's from the Maine Department of Transportation, project manager, and he'll be talking to you more about the RAISE grant scope this evening.

MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Steve.

Like Steve said, I'm Ernie Martin with the Maine Department of Transportation. We're here tonight for the preliminary public meeting to receive -- to present, receive comments on the grant project that Steve mentioned.

Obviously there's four key elements to the project. A lot of elements associated with this project. You have the Main Street downtown piece and then you have Cottage Street, Route 202. Associated with that, you have the William Oscar Emery Drive, Riverside Avenue bike path, safe routes to school project as well as a park and ride associated with it which is near Emerson Street.

The purpose of this project was to basically provide economic opportunity and quality of life to the City of Sanford, you know, with a safe and most reliable

transportation possible within the available resources.

Like Steve had mentioned, it's a really unique opportunity right now that's out there for all municipalities. Like Steve said, Sanford is the first to jump on the VPI, village partnership initiative. Like Steve said, we're very acronym oriented so that's where it's at. So if you haven't already, there's agendas on the back of the table, kind of outlays where we're going. After I get done talking, I'm going to turn it over to the design teams. We have DOT design teams doing the downtown project as well as the Cottage Street project. And then the city is what we call locally administering the trail project and the park and ride. So that's going really well right now. Still a long way to go, and I'll talk about that in a little while.

So once the design is done, I'll come back and talk about that timeline and the communication that still is in front of us that needs to take place which is a lot. This is very early in the stage, we have a long way to go, and I'll talk about the schedule as we move forward as well. And then following all of the presentations and discussions from the design teams, I'll turn it over to Q & A for those that are in the audience as well as for those that are online tonight.

So as Steve said, Matt Hill, city engineer is here tonight; Matt Provencher, his assistant from VHB who is doing -- as I mentioned, is doing the downtown and Cottage Street portions. Tony Grande and Ethan Flynn are here with that team tonight. For Gorrill Palmer, they're doing the trail project as well as a park and ride, we have Don Ettinger.

So right now what I'm going to do is I'm going to turn it over to Ethan, and he's going to start the presentations for the downtown and Cottage Street, and then he'll turn it over to Don to talk about the trail as well as the park and ride, and then I'll return to go over some other details.

MR. FLYNN: As Ernie stated, my name is Ethan Flynn. I'm the project engineer for the VHB projects so I'm going to be talking to you tonight about two of the four components, one component being the downtown improvements, and the other component being the Cottage Street reconstruction project. And as Ernie said, Don will be explaining the other two components.

So to start off, I'm going to start with the downtown improvements project which you can see on the screen now. This project is composed of three separate corridors. There's Main Street from Emery Street to Route 202 which is approximately .6 miles. There's

Washington Street which is from Main Street to High Street, and then there's an additional 300 feet of River Street across -- beyond High Street, and those two segments combined are about .26 miles. There's -- and then there's School Street from Elm Street back to Washington which is .19 miles.

Here is a zoom-in of the first half of Main Street, from Emery to Robert Street. I just want to go over some of the symbology and colors quickly.

The travel lanes on the road are shown in yellow, in a bright yellow, the shoulders are more of a golden yellow, sidewalks are gray, grass slopes are green, the roadway center line is red, right-of-way is pink and then your text, your stripping, your lane lines and your stenciling is black. There is also a north arrow on these slides in the upper right to give you a little bit of orientation.

The horizontal and profiles of all of the sections of the downtown improvements project aren't changing. They're generally staying where they are.

The light yellow section at the beginning here is going to be a mill and fill of the intersection. And then when you get into the brighter yellow, that's where our full reconstruction starts. The full reconstruction is going to be new roadway and pavement

-- new roadway pavement and gravel, new sidewalk,

granite curb and drainage on both sides of the road.

Throughout the project, the impacts will generally extend to the face of buildings where the sidewalk abuts a building and where there is -- where the buildings are set back, then the impacts will be a few feet behind the sidewalk.

on the screen will be 13 feet in two-lane sections. In the three-lane sections, they'll be 12 feet. All parking areas will be eight feet wide, and all sidewalks will be six-feet wide. All sidewalks will be concrete throughout the project. And throughout the project, all sidewalks will be made ADA compliant, and all the crosswalks will be put in safe locations per Maine DOT standards.

Pedestrian bump-outs will be placed at various locations at all the crossings. For the most part, the crossing locations aren't changing, but in the middle of your screen here, there will be a new mid-block crossing across Main Street.

At the intersection at the beginning of the project, the traffic mast arm in the lower right-hand corner will be replaced, and all those crossing locations, again, will remain generally where they are

today.

On your screen is a rendering of that mid-block crossing at the Sunset Towers. This is a kind of -- an early concept that we developed in the planning portion of the project. Some of the elements here are -- may change as the design progresses, but this will just give you an idea of kind of what the finished project may -- the finished product may look like.

Here is the second half of Main Street.

Once again, there's a section that's in light yellow at the end at the intersection of Route 202. That will be mill and fill as well, but the bright yellow areas will be full reconstruction.

That light area at the end, at the intersection of 202, is part of the department's build project. And as part of that, there will be some signal and pedestrian ramp improvements that will be happening next summer that's not associated with this project, but this project will tie into those improvements. Once again, the bright yellow is going to be full reconstruction, and those same elements of new roadway pavement, gravel, sidewalk, curb and drainage on both sides will be replaced.

In this section, once again, the two-lane sections will be 13 feet wide, but in the three-lane

sections in the second half, the middle lane will be 11 feet wide, and the outside lane will remain 13 feet wide. Sidewalks will be six feet minimum, but in a large -- in large sections of this second half, the situation will be much wider and extending to the face of buildings.

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Again, we'll have pedestrian bump-outs at all of the crossings. There's going to be a -- the crossing in the middle of the screen will be shifted slightly to where it is today to the right from the screen perspective to in front of the Congregational Church. Other than that, all the crossings will generally remain where they are today. The RFB that's right out front in front of City Hall will be reset. And across from the park, you can see on the left side of your screen and kind of that -- I'll call that in the upper left, the sidewalk there slopes fairly steeply to the entrances of those businesses. So as part of this project, what we're going to be doing is we're going to be putting the curb where it is today, having a three-foot snow shelf, and then putting another curb that will raise the sidewalk to meet those entrances to that building. And there will be ADA compliant ramps on either end of that section. Also in this section from Robert Street to the end, we're working with the city to extend their Sanford net fiber conduit throughout that corridor.

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Once again, here's another rendering of what the finished product may look like. This, again, was developed during the planning phase of some of the street-scape elements and finite details may change from what ultimately happens, but this rendering is from the perspective of the Congregational Church looking across the road.

On the screen now is Washington and River. At the far end of this project on the right side of the screen of River, this project will tie into River Street improvements project that Don will touch on, but that's currently being advertised and is slated for construction next summer. Once again, the areas in bright yellow will be full reconstruction which will, again, include your roadway pavement, your roadway gravel, sidewalk curb and drainage. In this section, travel ways will vary from 12 to 14 feet, sidewalks will be a six-foot minimum. But -- and, again, in a lot of cases, they'll be wider, extending to the face of buildings. Again, there will be pedestrian bump-outs. Currently at the end of School Street, there's a crosswalk across Washington. And as you can see on that screen, that crosswalk is going to move slightly to the

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right.

The light yellow section on this in the middle are the two bridges over the Mousam River. Those will receive a mill and overlay. And as part of that, we will also be widening the sidewalk on the Mousam River to 10 feet wide.

The existing sidewalk on the bridge is six feet. So as part of that, we're going to be adding another concrete beam to the dam side of the bridge and widening that sidewalk four feet, and then replacing the existing bridge rail with something very similar to what's there today.

As part of that, that little lookout between the two bridges is going to be narrowed slightly because the sidewalk is going to be widened into that.

Now you can see on your screen the section of School Street. Again, School Street will be full reconstruction. There will be bump-outs at all of the pedestrian crossings. School Street is a one-way roadway heading from right to left on the screen. It will be a 13-foot wide road. Sidewalks will be a six-foot minimum but for the majority of the road, the sidewalks will be eight and a half feet wide.

And one thing that's kind of unique here is the drainage upgrades shown on the typical view in the

upper left, you'll see that white rectangle kind of in the middle. The underdrain will be placed at the middle of the roadway. And the reason we're doing that, instead of having drainage on each gutter line is because there's significant utility conflicts with doing that because the existing utilities are under the existing curb lines. So we're going to have a single trunk line down the middle of the road. And then the drainage structures in either gutter line will drain to that trunk line in the middle.

Now, I'll talk -- I'll zoom in and talk about the intersections. On the screen is the intersection of Main, Washington and School. This intersection will have the mast arm replaced. That existing aluminum-colored mast arm will be replaced with a black-colored mast arm. The crossings are generally going to stay where they are today.

Here's the intersection of Washington, River and High. In this intersection, the signals are on a span wire that goes diagonally across the intersection. In the after, those signals will be put on mast arms, and the entrance that is across from High Street will be closed off and a new 10-foot shared-use path will be put on that side of the roadway.

Again, the signal will be upgraded with new

pedestrian push buttons and pedestrian signals.

That concludes the overview of the downtown improvements project, and now I'll start to talk about the Cottage Street reconstruction.

Here's an overview of the project. The project limits start just beyond the bridge joint on Winter Street and extend three-quarters of a mile to the northeast.

There has been a recent pavement project. I think it may still be ongoing that the DOT is currently doing. Our project will extend to that point and butt into that pavement joint.

Here is a zoom into the first half of the project. On these plans, the colors and symbology that I went over on downtown are exactly the same.

Again, there's no major changes to the horizontal and vertical profiles. The roadway will be fully reconstructed. So, again, new pavement, new gravel, new granite curb, new concrete sidewalks, new drainage on both sides of the street.

We've evaluated the retaining walls and we will be replacing any retaining wall that we deem to be in disrepair, but some of the existing concrete retaining walls were deemed to be okay so those will remain. So we'll be replacing the ones that are

cracked. And some of the other ones were the grade of the sidewalk is changing. We will be replacing those as well.

Throughout the project, the impacts will basically be in the face of wall in the wall sections. But where there isn't walls, sloping may extend beyond the sidewalk to match into the existing grade.

Travel lanes will be 11 feet wide.

Shoulders from River Street to Brook Street will be three feet wide; but in all other locations, they'll be five feet wide.

Sidewalks on both sides of the street will be five and a half feet wide. And, again, those will be upgraded to meet ADA standards and crosswalks will be placed in safe locations per Maine DOT standards.

Here's the view of the second half of the project. Again, in this location, travel lanes will be 11 feet, shoulders will be five feet wide. Sidewalks will end near the intersection of June Street. On the high side of the screen, they'll extend to Genest, but on the low side of the screen, they'll stop at June Street.

A rectangular rapid flashing beacon will be installed on the right side of North Ave. which is on the left side of the screen. The crosswalk on the left

side of North Ave. from this perspective will be eliminated. The reason for that is we're trying to direct all crossings at the rapid rectangular flashing beacon so that all pedestrians crossing the street will be -- will have that signalized crossing.

Zooming into the intersection of Winter,
River and Cottage, again there's a separate build
project that will be happening next summer that will
take the existing signal that's on span wires — it will
remain on span wires, but they'll be upgrading the
traffic signals. They'll be installing pedestrian
equipment, pedestrian signals, pedestrian pushbuttons
and making sidewalk improvements to the crossings, but
that's not associated with this project that I'm
presenting tonight. And then Don will talk more about
some of the River Street improvements, but there will be
a new 10-foot path installed on the left side of River
Street. So the end result will be a 10-foot path all
the way around the Number One Pond.

Here is the intersection of Cottage and Brook. This part of this project will be updating the flashing Beacon that's there. It will remain a flashing Beacon, but it will have brand-new equipment and the crossings will generally stay where they are today.

In addition, there's going to be some

drainage improvements that you can see on your screen in yellow here that go down Northern, and then extend throughout the neighborhood all the way down to High Street. The reason for that is with all of the improvements, we're changing some of the drainage that's going off site so we'll be evaluating and upgrading the drainage along this route. The Sanford Sewer District also has the plans to upgrade some of the sewer components in this stretch as well so the end result will -- this section will most likely receive some preservation pavement after the fact, after all that trenching.

And with that, that concludes my presentation on Cottage Street. I'll turn it over to Don to talk about his two components.

MR. ETTINGER: Good evening. My name is Don Ettinger. I work with Gorrill Palmer. Thank you for the opportunity to present on a couple of these projects.

This slide here just summarizes some of the key contacts on the two projects we're going to be talking about, William Oscar Emery and Riverside Ave., as well as the park and ride facility over on Emerson Street.

I wanted to just point out a couple of key

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names here. Jerry Dostie is the representative from Maine DOT who is our current point of contact on the two assignments, the two projects that we'll be talking about tonight. Jerry Winchenbach is actually our project manager on this assignment, but unfortunately he's not able to attend tonight. And we have Seth Kimball here as a potential replacement with Aceto Landscaping. So we are actually proposing landscaping on both of our projects and so in the Q&A, we'll certainly field some questions there if you have any.

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All right. You've heard some mention of the Mousam Promenade. This graphic here is a good picture. We've kind of rotated the view from Ethan's slides so if we're looking here there's -- Number One Pond, Main Street, for bearing, is up here. City Hall is probably right over here someplace, right there. And then this is River Street in blue. This is the project that Ethan's projects will overlap. Cottage Ave. comes down and ties in at this location. And then Ethan's project also includes Washington Street back up here to Main So you can see there's some overlap or some connectivity between the projects. In project in blue is a project that's already been designed. I think if maybe the city knew that they were going forward with being successful in greeting a RAISE grant, you might

have delayed that and rolled that into it. But that project's been designed, and it's actually out on the street for advertisement. Bids will be open in the next month or so, and hopefully construction will begin on that project next season.

So I'm not going to spend a lot of time on River Street, but I do have copies of plans should anybody have questions in the Q&A on that project.

We're going to focus on the red project and the green project. It's kind of festive, Christmassy but wasn't intentional.

So Riverside Ave. is the red highlighted project, and William Oscar Emery Drive will be the green one.

Promenade project is the goal here is to provide a connection of a multi-use trail 10-feet wide around the entire perimeter of Number One Pond. So between Ethan's projects that he's mentioned and these three projects here, we'll be successful in doing that. The trail will be located on the inside of the roadways nearest the pond.

So we're going to talk about Riverside Ave. first. And for bearing, again, Washington Street is over here, and we'll be heading over towards Maple

Street. Gateway Park is located in this area, and the Midtown Mall is located here. I had a little cursor in red that you guys might be able to see.

All right. First let's talk about the typical cross-section. Ethan had this on a few of his slides. So this is what the roadway cross-section will look like when we build the project. Riverside Ave. will be full reconstruction so it will be replacement of gravels and pavements. We're looking at 11-foot lanes in width. The shoulders will vary in width, a minimum of one to two feet, but we'll make them as large as eight feet if we're providing on-street parking, and we have areas where we're doing that.

We have curbing on both sides, and the curb type will be slip-form concrete curb. So it will be a concrete curb. We have some areas where we'll have an esplanade, a green space between the curb and sidewalks. Some locations will be right up against the curb. So we're proposing a 10-foot multi-use path on the right-hand side, on the pond side; and a five-and-a-half foot minimum sidewalk width on the non-pond side.

So here's a plan view. The colors -- Ethan did a great job of describing the colors so I'm not going to spend time on doing that. But generally speaking, the roadway footprint will stay the same.

It's location horizontally and vertically will stay relatively the same. We're just going to change what exists within that footprint.

There's a right-of-way width on these plans, there's that heavy dashed line that's black that runs through here on both sides. That represents the width of the public right of away. So that would be what the city owns for public use for this roadway, and we're pretty much maxing out that width with our new roadway footprint.

Washington Ave. is over here, so we'll be looking at 11-foot travel lanes. In this case here, two-foot shoulders. On the right-hand side, we're going to have the bituminous 10-foot wide multi-use path.

Parking that exists into -- into the Gateway Park will remain and we'll continue the path along -- along the roadway. On the opposite side, the non-pond side, we're proposing a variable width esplanade, green space, as well as a sidewalk. You will see driveway entrances are highlighted here in that kind of rustic yellow color.

As we continue down the road, we now intersect with Winter Street, this location here. So our plans currently propose to design roadway improvements up to the intersection but not through Winter Street. We are aware it's a high crash location.

We've actually had one public meeting on this project already. We've received quite a bit of feedback. So we're going to look at safety improvements at this location. As noted, we're proposing the multi-use path crossing there. So we'll be looking to try to enhance that improved safety through that intersection. And then it continues on, all the way to -- all the way over to Maple Street.

So the theme is consistent, 11-foot lanes, probably one to two-foot shoulders, curbing on both sides, multi-use path on the pond side, and a sidewalk on the non-pond side. The sidewalk actually ends at Acorn Street, and there will be a gap. This block here is not proposing any sidewalk on that side.

Ave. actually ends. It's a continuation of a roadway, but it turns into William Oscar Emery Drive at that point. So we're going to -- the next few slides we'll talk about William Oscar Emery. And if I can slide my cursor over, over in this area is where we stopped at the last slide. And so we'll be continuing down the theme, as we get into William Oscar Emery will change as shown in the next graphic here.

This is our typical section. What's primarily different with this typical section is we're

not planning to rip up all of the pavement and gravel on William Oscar Emery. It's in pretty good shape. So what we're looking to do is probably mill and overlay, maybe reshape the crown a little bit. But really the primary work effort will be on the outsides, the curbing area in the multi-use path and sidewalk areas.

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So Riverside Ave. is very residential. lot of properties right up against the roadway network. And you can see that continues to the next block here at Pleasant Ave. But once we get past Pleasant Ave., the theme kind of changes, the character kind of changes. We have less residential properties. We now start getting to the frontage of Number One Pond. opportunity to kind of change the template, the roadway template improves as we get in that area. So for that first block, the theme is consistent with Riverside Ave. But as we depart from Pleasant Ave., we come down towards Lincoln Street. We're proposing a gateway treatment. We want to inform the users of this facility that you're now entering a different area. And so we're proposing a center median. It will be landscaped and the road -- the travel lanes will travel around it. it's kind of like a gateway, you've arrived to a different destination. Our multi-use path, which was right up against the road, now starts to separate.

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it now splits the distance between the roadway and the pond.

Many people have asked about the hedge line. There's a hedge line that runs around the perimeter of the pond and whether we would be impacting that and the answer is no. We're planning on maintaining that hedge line around the perimeter. We'll be working from behind that up to our roadway area with improvements.

So you can see the theme here, the blue obviously is the pond. This little fainted line here is your hedge line. So behind that, we'll be proposing the pathway, should be very scenic. And then we've got our roadway. We have many areas once we get into this stretch where we have eight-foot shoulders to allow for on-street parking. And, yeah, we actually have had a conversation in our workshop this afternoon. This seems to be the area where skating takes place, winter skating, and the possibility of maybe extending that wide shoulder back in here to provide a few more places for on-street parking was discussed.

Ethan had mentioned pedestrian bump-outs at crosswalks, curb extensions. So wherever we have crosswalks, we're proposing the same through here. So where there would be a pedestrian crosswalk, we would like to eliminate the on-street parking, make the

shoulder narrower and make our pedestrian crossing distance shorter and safer. So we're proposing that at all locations of pedestrian crosswalks.

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Now we're heading to the traffic circle. That is where the water skiers participate, the one corner. It's Edward Gowen Road. It takes you up to the schools and the park. We're proposing to change that intersection pretty significantly. Right now it's a traffic circle. We're proposing to eliminate the circle and create a T intersection. In doing so, we can reduce our roadway footprint, our pavement footprint significantly. So the bright yellow represents the roadway footprint as proposed. This lighter green is the existing pavement footprint. That would all turn into lawn areas or be reused for another opportunity. So we see a much smaller transportation footprint here. The gray area is our sidewalks. So you can see sidewalks with esplanades which are these lighter green spaces, just grass or landscaped area. We have our pathway on the pond side continuing. So that theme will continue down William Oscar Emery. Now we're heading on the straight stretch that takes us to River Street.

As we continue down, we have recreation areas on the non-pond side so we have strategic crosswalk locations with curb extensions to access those

trails, those recreation trails, and there's a dog park a little further down the street.

Now this is the terminal end of William

Oscar Emery, and we're tying into River Street here. So
we had mentioned a gateway treatment on the other end.
We're proposing a similar gateway treatment on the River
Street end. So a wide raised median that would be
landscaped that separates each travel lane on entry.
And then we're also proposing a pretty wide mid-block
crossing here. This would be the multi-use trail
crossing which would give them access to the dog park
that's located here but also they come down, get access
to the multi-use trail that takes you eventually to the
YMCA, to the schools and thereabouts.

This is a zoom in of the area of Edward Gowen Road, just showing how it's being reconfigured with Front Street in this area. There's a parking lot that exists up in this area here. We've had prior discussions with city staff about an opportunity to maybe extend it, provide more parking in that area. There could be opportunities to just re-use this space for food trucks during events and things like that on both sides of the intersection.

This is some of the landscaping aspects of it. We have a full set of landscaping plans that we can

make available in the Q&A. The bottom left corner kind of shows you some of the landscaping at the Gowen Road intersection. But not only landscaping but amenities. Seating areas, benches, bike racks. They're scattered throughout the Number One Pond corridor or this corridor of the road.

As mentioned, we had a public meeting back in May on this project. We've kind of bumped the brakes a bit to let the RAISE grant projects catch up to speed.

Some miscellaneous items, we're still early in the process. We're probably about 50 percent complete on this one so there's still a lot of work ahead of us. And there's environmental coordination and utility coordination that we'll be doing. And potentially appearing in front of site plan -- planning board for site plan approval.

And that completes the slide show for William Oscar Emery. I will transition to the park and ride.

Okay, so this is an overall view of downtown Sanford. Main Street is right in this area here. As you start heading down South Main Street, this is where the Cumberland Farms gas station is located. Emerson Street is just above it. I think this might be Emery Street heading out this way. It's a signalized

intersection. Where the Cumberland Farms was, I believe that was city-owned property at one time. They also own the parcel behind it so it was, I think, bisected when Cumberland Farms came through. I'm not positive on that.

So the next slide here shows what it looks like behind Cumberland Farms today. It's kind of an open field area. I think it's used for overflow parking for a nearby church on occasion, but it's a pretty vacant lot. The upper portion of it is all cleared and field, the lower portion is wooded.

And then here's a view of what is proposed in this area. So I'll give folks a bearing. This is Main Street located here. Heading into town is in the up direction. This is Emerson Street here. The Cumberland Farms gas station is located here. And then there's a parcel of land following my cursor that's city owned, comes to here. It comes down to here, back to there, and then it continues back up to here and then continues across.

So the city secured an easement, a permanent easement, with Cumberland Farms to provide access into that parcel in the future. So they had some forethought in thinking ahead. So there is actually -- with this park-and-ride facility or parking facility, there's

going to be proposed two access points. One which will tie into the existing parking facility at the Cumberland Farms, but it also gives direct access to the signal on Main Street. So we felt that was kind of helpful and a secondary access on Emerson Street.

This park and ride facility would be paved. It's proposing 87 parking stalls with a portion of them being handicapped stalls. We want it to be as complete of a facility for future use as possible. It's got two isles, it's circular -- circulation. It will be used for transit purposes. We have a transit stop here with a bus shelter pad and shelter located here, our handicapped spaces are here. We have four stalls up in this area which will serve as just normal stalls for now but with the opportunity to maybe have those as EV charging stations in the future.

In terms of pedestrian access, we are providing for a sidewalk on one side of the facility that will connect into the handicapped stalls, give access to the transit stop but also continue across and access Emery Street with a crosswalk to the sidewalk that exists on Emerson Street. The site also includes a small retaining wall. When we were doing the grading plan for this site, it required a small, two-to-three-foot high retaining wall on a corner here.

And then this area back here is for drainage purposes. So we'd like all of our drainage to come back to this area, and we're planning on a retention pond in that area for water quality, quantity purposes. The goal is for as much infiltration into the ground with our drainage with this design as possible.

A couple of typical cross sections. Again, it's going to be reconstruction or new construction with travel and pavement. We will be picking the grades up a little bit. We'll have -- in areas where we do have curbing, it will be slip form concrete curb.

This is a view of the grading plan as well as our drainage plan so it shows some proposed contours of how the site might grade with the goal of treating our drainage at this detention pond in the back site.

The site will be lit. It's worth noting the previous project as well, there will be lighting for the multi-use path around the entire perimeter of Number One Pond. It will be cutoff fixtures so we want to minimize light pollution onto adjacent properties. So this graphic here just kind of show what we are thinking at the moment.

And then this graphic here talks a bit about -- or shows and demonstrates a bit about the landscaping. Some of our earlier conversations with

city staff, the goal and intent of this site was to try to mimic the landscaping that exists at Cumberland Farms. So that is what we've attempted to do, and we're providing some amenities and some fencing that the perimeter would be fenced along this site.

Similar to the previous project, there's utility coordination, environmental coordination that we'll need to do. We'll also need to do -- we'll likely sit in front of the planning board for site plan approval with this project.

And as mentioned, we're currently at 50 percent design. We actually just submitted this design to city staff a few days ago. They haven't really had a chance to review it so you guys are seeing it before they are.

And that completes my presentations.

MR. MARTIN: So up next we're going to talk a little bit about where we see the project timeline, meaning all four presentations that you saw tonight. It looks relatively easy, right? Not a whole lot going on. So with that, when you look at the dates that are on the screen now, you've got the open house, public hearing that took place tonight. Then we're all going to proceed to what we call plan impacts complete. That's where probably a lot of people are most interested in

right now. What plan impacts complete are is the outer limits of all construction of each project. Meaning all of the grading, you know, any walls, any driveways, anything to do with the roadway, raising it, lowering it. It impacts the side of the road. So that outer limit is what we're all trying to achieve now. So we're hoping to get there by December of '23.

So what we have in front of us right now is we have to look at all of the roadway drainage.

Basically what you've heard tonight is basically the road design itself, curb to curb, maybe the back of sidewalks a little bit. But now we have to focus on everything under the road and exterior of where that roadway footprint is going which is a challenge.

And thank you for the utilities that are in the room or online or have been a part of our utility coordination meetings. That's what it takes. We all have to get in the room, start looking at what's under the road, what's above the road, what has to move, what gets added, what conflicts we have. We still have a long road ahead of us to make that happen, but I think we have a good footprint to start with and the communication is very key here.

So once we get that plan impact complete, we're going to come back down again. But associated,

when we come back down again, we'll dive into a little bit of the constructibility of how all of this is going to take place. You know, so when you look at the time lines on the screen, you know, the project advertise, you know, from the plans and specs, from plan impact complete to the plans and specs, that two years. when you look at the properties that -- the abutting properties that are immediately next to the project limits of each one of these projects, there's about 300 property owners. You know, so we've got to navigate 300 property owners to get to that PS&E complete package as That's a really big mountain to climb when it well. comes to our process for roadway design and construction. So hopefully we can expedite that, but that's a two-year process, maybe even a little bit more. So when we come back next time, we'll have a better idea, a better sense of that as well as obviously all the impacts that I talked about. There's walls out there, there's driveways that are going to change. There's aerial utilities that might have to move. All of that impacts that PIC. So hopefully when we come back in later '23, we'll have better answers for you. So based off -- when we get to plan specs and estimate complete in '25, project advertise right after that, you know late -- late December or January hopefully.

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openings in January '26. You know, then you're looking at project award February, construction begins March, April of '26.

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With the federal discretionary funds, it also comes with a limit where you have to obligate those funds by. That date is actually September 30th of 2026. So I'm trying to push as much as I can to get this on the street. The city has a lot going on. As we've all talked about tonight and as Steve mentioned, there's more to come beyond what we've talked about. So I know the importance of making that connectivity to that River -- River Street project that's coming out with all of these other projects so all of that connectivity can happen consecutively. So based off that, you're probably looking at a three-year project right now. Like I said, the constructability, we all know it's not going to be easy. You know, so you have daytime, nighttime, you're probably going to have some detours mixed in. And obviously these are all in very easy locations, right? You know, you have the business impact, you have the traveling public impact. You know, but in the end, I think you got a great project here. As I have done a few of these in the past, not quite this big, but I think in the end, I think everybody in the room will be happy.

So with that, I think we're at the point now where this is what Steve had kind of mentioned earlier. You got the 25 million for Federal discretionary funds. The state and city are right around three million apiece. There's also some federal flexible funding in there. We'll have 647,000. I'm not sure exactly where that came from, but that's -- that's basically what the project holds for funding.

So with that, what I'd like to do is turn it over to you, whether here in the room first for any questions and comments to me or the team, and we'll answer them as best we can. And then from there, we'll go to the audience on the video.

With that, I'll open the floor. Does anybody internally have any questions at this time for the group?

MS. HERLIHY: We have properties on two of the projects. One is on Cottage Street up at Genest Lane, where it meets Genest Lane, we're the two houses on Genest lane.

So I asked some questions earlier about the slope. There's a huge change from when the first public hearing was, I don't know if anybody remembers that.

But they were taking the whole slope down, and we were concerned about noise impact in particular. So that

doesn't seem to be happening. However, a question I'd like to ask is what kind of vegetation is going to be removed from that slope, and if there's a significant amount, is there going to be vegetation returned in the areas, just like a wall would be returned so there is some protection on noise? So I guess that's one of my questions. I don't know if anybody is going to answer that or if you're just going to write it down.

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. No. You know, the plan would be to -- obviously we don't want to leave that slope so it doesn't, you know -- we have to leave it stable.

MS. HERLIHY: Exactly.

MR. MARTIN: You know, so there could be some plantings of some kind or some sort of vegetation to stabilize it.

MS. HERLIHY: Okay. So that was one of my questions. It doesn't -- again, nothing looks like it's being heavily impacted in that general area.

The other question I had on Main Street is how soon in advance am I going to be made aware of what you're planning so that I can coordinate projects that I've been waiting to do -- I didn't want to do any projects that would then get destroyed by a major overall. But I -- part of the sidewalk which I'd like

to redo when you're going to be doing your sidewalk so they match up and they're untouched for years to come and nobody -- so that's sort of a question of mine and other little things so that I -- you know, I and other property owners can be prepared, save our little portion aside and do projects that would help add to these great projects we're having in our community.

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MR. MARTIN: Yeah, I think probably when we come back next time, I'll be able to answer that a little better. The team will be able to answer it a little better because we're kind of still playing around with what's exterior of that curb line. So when we come back, we'll be able to tell you, you know, go ahead and do what you want from this area out. Because we've had that happen a lot of places where people go out, plant trees and fences and stuff like that. Then all of a sudden, we come back and rip it up. But any time you have any questions related to that, as we get down through there, by all means reach back out to us or me, and we'll be able to try to give you a better sense if you are going to do something like that. But I would say probably next year, I'll have a better answer for you.

MS. HERLIHY: Yeah, the better -- I mean we had -- around the neighborhood, the city did a project

that didn't look anything like I expected on certain sections of my property, and I have more landscape to do to fix the slopes, et cetera, et cetera, and I want to be prepared for that. So I want to make known in advance any major projects I might have to accomplish during that time. And I'm sure there are other property owners who feel the same way.

I guess one of my final questions, I don't know if anybody knows this, but are you removing the tree between North Parish and -- I'm at 883 Main Street. Are you taking that nice big tree down?

MR. MARTIN: I am not sure right now.

Again, with the utility coordination that we still have
to -- that has to take place with the aerial utilities.

I'm not sure at this point in time.

MS. HERLIHY: There are no aerial -- well, there's just a little bit cutting off the property --

MR. MARTIN: Right. We can certainly look at that after we -- after we get done tonight right now if you want.

The other aspects of some of the things
you're asking about is -- so like I mentioned that PIC
point. Then we're going to do the right-of-way maps.
And then when we get the right-of-way maps done, they're
going to have to appraise every one of those properties

that have impacts. So you're actually going to have an appraiser call you and say I'm going to come out and visit. I just need to come out and look at your property. And then from there, then you're going to meet a negotiation who will come and actually sit down and show you those plans. So you're going to have pretty much two direct contacts. And then with the design team, you could actually have probably up to two or three more contacts before this project even begins.

MS. HERLIHY: So every property owner will be going through that which is what you were talking about. And I'm trying to like ask questions for other property owners who --

MR. MARTIN: Yup. If they're impacted. If there's impacts to that property, we will talk to them. And sometimes we don't impact properties, but yet the roadway's getting rebuilt in front of their property. So we won't talk to that property owner because we're not impacting their property. So that's why it's important, as we make our way down through design, that people pay attention to the -- you know, the hearing times and dates so they can physically come and ask those questions when needed.

MS. HERLIHY: Yeah. And on a final note, because you mentioned it, I received one -- other than

the flyer you sent in the mail knowing about this as a city councilor, paying attention like I do, I received a letter in the mail today postdated the 15th for tonight's meeting. That was for me personally. two house lots back from my parents. My parents did not -- who are the ones right on the corner of Genest and Cottage have not received any notice of this public hearing as of yet. And Town House Properties, which is the property 883 Main Street, did not receive a notice of this meeting in the mail separately from just flyers. So there wasn't anything official that actually got to us before this meeting. I just thought you should know that so you can be a little bit more cautious on the final. I think it's important that the property owners have a little bit of heads up to plan their schedule.

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MR. MARTIN: Yeah. The one thing we're at right now with the mailings is that we're basically going off tax maps. And the mailing list that we pulled, was that off the tax maps of the city map?

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{MR}}$.$ HILL: It was off the GIS for the City of Sanford.

MR. MARTIN: Yup.

MS. HERLIHY: I think what your problem is is the U.S. Postal Service, possibly. I mailed an insurance bill in plenty of time, and they canceled my

insurance because it hadn't arrived in time and it was
two weeks after I had mailed it so --

MR. MARTIN: Yeah, I do know the letters went out on time so people would get them. And I was going to say that there is some issues with some of the areas with the U.S.P.S. I have it in my area. I haven't got mail in two days --

MS. HERLIHY: Yup.

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MR. MARTIN: So it's widespread.

MS. HERLIHY: It's a crap shoot.

MR. MARTIN: It is. I guess moving forward, just to followup with some of your question here is, you know, there is going to be a website related to this project on the DOT website. Also, it will be linked to the city's website with all of this information that we've mailed, presented. It will all be up there hopefully soon, sooner than later. We've had some -some folks out at DOT that handle our website. master's been out on leave a little bit. So hopefully after today or tomorrow, we'll have everything up to date on our website so it will be live. Once that happens, obviously I'm going to reach out to the city and maybe at a counsel meeting in the future, you know, it can be mentioned that these websites are live with accurate information.

MS. HERLIHY: Yeah, it would be nice to get property owners who are impacted directly to have -- you know, early knowledge of that website so that they can continually check on your progress, when meetings are. I know it's helpful for me. I know some seniors that might not find this helpful, but I suspect a great majority of the people along your project routes would find it helpful.

MR. MARTIN: Yeah, exactly. And so on our website, you can actually comment -- make a comment on it, and it will come directly to me. So that's another way to reach out directly and not have -- hopefully not -- hopefully as the mail system gets a little bit better as we move forward here, but I would definitely reach out to me personally via the website if you have any -- anybody has any questions as far as property owners that are here and not here tonight.

MS. HERLIHY: Yeah, because when we had the first Cottage Street public hearing, there were quite a few people from the neighborhood, especially further out than I am, out of town, because we have the same concerns about the traffic, about the June Street turning. We don't -- we don't fear the hill, we fear the people who come over the hill when we're trying to turn onto June Street. And that was a big topic of

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conversation at the first public hearing. So to not see
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     any -- I don't think any of the neighbors past me are
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     here and that's -- my concern is they didn't get notice.
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                 MR. MARTIN:
                               I remember it well.
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                 MS. HERLIHY: Okay.
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                 MR. MARTIN:
                               I was there.
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                 MS. HERLIHY: Okay.
                                       Thank you all.
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                 MR. MARTIN:
                               Thank you.
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                 Anybody else internally?
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                 All right, you're letting me down.
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                 ATTENDEE:
                            It's the notice.
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                 MR. MARTIN:
                              I know there's got to be a lot
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    of questions out there.
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                 MR. TERMATH:
                               I just want to say to
    everybody here, you know, talking in the open forum
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    portion earlier was very helpful.
                                        Well -- well planned.
    However, the Winter Street portion of that where you're
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    going to mitigate the -- you know, the traffic in that
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    or the safety I should say, the safety part of that.
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    How much of a plan right now do you guys, you know,
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    focus on when it comes to safety when you're speaking of
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    vehicular traffic or pedestrian traffic?
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                MR. ETTINGER: Yeah, it was brought up at
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    our last public meeting. We haven't spent a lot of time
    implementing anything. We will as part of final design.
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It's got a flashing light right now at that intersection as a safety measure. We're going to look to enhance Looking at Winter Street itself, it's a state road, it's an arterial, it's a highway priority, corridor priority No. 1 which is I think pretty high up, So we're going to take a look at the flashing beacon, we're going to take a look at the stop -- what's happening is the stop conditions on Riverside, people aren't stopping and failing to yield. They're pulling out in front of traffic. So if we can mitigate that with more visible signage, stop signs, maybe LED flashing stop signs as one option. We had a similar project up in Auburn, high crash location. We did LED flashing stop signs -- we actually did a raised intersection so all of the crosswalks were elevated so it requires all four legs of traffic even nonstop legs to slow down to go over basically a raised table. The whole intersection was raised up to current height.

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The issue that we have at this road is it's an arterial, it's a state road and they have restrictions -- it's considered vertical traffic and there's certain restrictions for that. So it would require a special approval, kind of a design inspection with DOT. But that is an option, one of the more extreme options that we could look at. We might

consider flashing beacons, pedestrian flashing beacons for the side path crossing.

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MR. HILL: We also had worked recently with the Bicycle Coalition of Maine to do some pilot projects, some traffic installations around Sanford and they had looked at that intersection in particular and bounced an idea, a four-way stop there off of Maine DOT Region 1 traffic engineer who just shot it down completely. You know, that's -- that's an arterial, you're not going to be adding a stop condition to an arterial even in a demonstration situation. So those ideas that Don was mentioning I think are good ones. think the flashing beacon on our rapid rec -rectangular rapid flashing beacon might be a good one. That's the same kind of installation you see out in front of City Hall. Gets the driver's attention. also very important we don't overuse those because people do tend to get desensitized to those. to be careful about where we put them in and make sure it's where people will pay attention and not take them for granted.

MR. TERMATH: Thank you very much. I appreciate you guys being here tonight.

MR. MARTIN: All right, anybody else internally?

Externally?

MS. SALANTRI: My name is Bridget Salantri.

I'm a member of the Southern Maine Garden Club.

Currently at Washington and Main Street there is a traffic island, a landscape island meridian. Is that going to continue or will that be removed? I didn't see it on the plans.

MR. FLYNN: The median island inside the intersection will be removed. The sidewalk in front of the trust building will be widened. The trust building's basement is actually underneath the sidewalk. As part of the project, we'll be extending the curb line away from the trust building so there will be a public right of way for pedestrians inside of the right of way. As part of that, there are going to be some landscape elements on that side of the street so there may be an opportunity there to shift to the corner. But the median island is planning to be removed as part of the project.

MR. HILL: And I think some of the -- those opportunities that he mentioned, Ethan, where basically the sidewalk will have two different levels. There will be a higher side to the sidewalk and a lower side to the sidewalk. We were talking about maybe instead of just putting in kind of a vanilla curb that someone would

opportunity. So it would be raised, it would be elevated, it would catch the eye and it would also be safe to maintain. You wouldn't have to be out in the middle of traffic in order to maintain the garden opportunity. Along with that, I think it was also mentioned here tonight in the open house comments is that along the William Oscar Emery corridor, Seth with Aceto Landscape Architects, has got some landscaping medians in there. One on River Street, one at the transition between William Oscar Emery and Riverside Avenue. And then there was also a comment earlier that we might be able to take -- go on Park Drive and add a median strip there in order to create, essentially, three gateways to the recreational area.

Seth, would you like to elaborate?

MR. KIMBALL: I think it's a great idea.

Anytime you can kind of create that access and that transition from street to gateway to notify you're in a different area, in particular along William Oscar Emery makes a lot of sense. It feels more parklike. And the plantings that we are proposing currently within there are salt tolerant and more durable plants and native so I just wanted to put that out there as well because there's been some concerns in the past about what is

going to be proposed.

MR. GRANDE: I just wanted to add too that although we haven't talked about it, you will see a lot of green space on our plans as well in different areas. So there will be landscaping throughout the downtown projects as well, some space in between the roadway and the sidewalk. And there could be opportunities there as well that you saw some of the renderings that are there. So that's something that we'll be working with the Department's landscape team in kind of determining maybe there's other opportunities in certain locations as well for something like that.

MR. MARTIN: Yeah, I think with the overall project, there's intent to add landscaping futures to this -- to the entire project. Like Tony said, we're early. As we come back next time, then we can analyze some of those bump-out areas that were mentioned and look at the crossings and see if there's opportunities for that grass esplanade. We'll see -- I think there's a few places out there where we can replace what's being lost for sure.

MR. TERMATH: On William Oscar Emery Drive, we have the Sanford Armory and so they have -- you know, quite -- the state owns that property right there, there's a lot of frontage. So are you going to try to

help tie in some of that curb appeal towards the dog park from the armory side? Are you going to work with the military, Bureau of Veterans Affairs to try to, you know, get them on board to maybe do a curb or something right there in front of that location?

MR. ETTINGER: Yeah. Through that area, the corridor is going to be consistent. So we want the same theme, whether it's landscaping, curbing, sidewalk through that whole area. Looking at the graphics, it looks like we might provide -- it's a wide open area. I think right now we're providing two entrances. So we'll provide some -- basically some access management in there looking at the graphic on the wall.

MS. HERLIHY: Thank you.

MR. MARTIN: I guess that concludes our public hearing for tonight. Thank you all for coming.

As I said, my contact information is on the agenda. We'll get those websites up and running which will be another mechanism for people to comment on.

We'll get that information to Steve so he can mention it at the upcoming council meeting just so everybody can go take a look at all of the information presented tonight.

(Whereupon, the above-named public hearing was concluded at 7:18 p.m.)

Again, thank you all for coming.

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CERTIFICATE

I, Debra J. Fusco, a Notary Public in and for the State of Maine, hereby certify that on the 17th day of November, 2022, personally appeared before me the within-named persons in the aforementioned cause of action and that the foregoing is a true and accurate record as taken by me by means of computer-aided machine shorthand.

I further certify that I am a disinterested person in the event or outcome of the aforementioned cause of action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of November, 2022.

Debra J. Fusco

Court Reporter/Notary Public

My Commission expires: February 23, 2023

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