

Walkabout Downtown
Meeting Notes – 2/24/26

Attendance:

Tistrya Houghtling
Corey Stall (until 6:45)
Tony Murad
Steve Powers
Chris Jansson
Josh Young
Ingrid Benson (joined 6:50)
Jared Anderson

- As discussed in the previous committee meeting of January 27, 2026, the Committee recommended to the Town Board not to proceed with a TAP Application.
- Since the Town Board meeting, the TAP Team at NYSDOT provided additional information which makes the application a more attractive option.
- The Town can apply for a new project in the full amount, for the full desired length of the project (original 2023 TAP project plus extension to the park). The current project would continue design activities up until a decision is made on the 2025 TAP application. If successful, the current project would be closed out, and efforts would continue under a new project number with appropriate funding.
- NYSDOT may also contribute to the project as it is on a State Highway, which could in turn decrease the local share below the Town's cap of \$500,000. This is not guaranteed but is a possibility.
- If the grant application is successful, but DOT does not contribute to the project, the current project could continue, and the award can be turned down. As such, there is no risk for applying for the new TAP grant.
- Projects currently in design are further along than brand new projects that haven't started yet, so they often have a better chance at receiving funding.
- CM will resume efforts on the TAP application at no cost to the Town. Applications are due March 12.
- Consideration can be given to advancing two sets of design linework (not two fully developed sets of plans) so if the TAP application is successful, lead time on changing to the new TAP project is reduced. The appropriate path forward can be discussed with NYSDOT as they will understand our situation.
- DOT has recommended in the past to include additional preliminary design funding to accommodate the transition between TAP projects.
- Tistrya will work to get Town Board approval to apply for the TAP grant in advance of the March 10 TB meeting so as not to hold up finalizing the application.
- There was discussion on a broader corridor project and engaging DOT for capital funding. Tistrya noted that this would warrant a separate offline discussion, and CM noted these services could be provided if the Town so desired. It was also

noted that these discussions can happen post TAP application during design development.

- Discussion then shifted to the 8 potential options that the Town could potentially advance with current funding levels. Four of the 8 contained an asphalt surface and were disregarded, as DOT has effectively made concrete a requirement of the project.
- The option that stood out as the preferred alternative to advance under current funding levels is to utilize concrete under the current length project and maintain existing curblines unless they need to be moved to avoid the taking of private property.
- Moving curblines toward the road should still allow for bicycle accommodations in the shoulder.
- This option coincided with the third line of the eight options shared for an estimated construction total of \$1.778 million. The current construction budget is \$1.967 million. Therefore, CM will consider making the most of the available construction funding as part of the preferred option.
- Preference is still to narrow the travel lanes to 11 feet to calm traffic.
- If the Town decides to move forward with sewer and/or water in the project area, the Town would like to time the construction of the sidewalk project to allow for the installation of sewer and water connections first.
- The project is along State Bicycle Route #5, so we will need to meet minimum requirements for bicycle facilities.
- Consider signage at Tilden Lane to direct pedestrians to use the rail trail to get to Lovers Lane.

The meeting ended at 7:40. The next meeting will be held on 3/24/26 at 6:30pm.

Tistrya Houghtling, Town Supervisor