

Williamsville Community Plan Workshop #2, April 24, 2007

Group Discussion Notes

Topic Station 4: Transportation Alternatives

- If we reduce the Main Street traffic, where does it go? There needs to be traffic coordination with Amherst, Erie and DOT to get traffic to moving but not thru the village as the shortest way between two points - work and home.
- Moving the toll booths and putting an exit at Young would get traffic now using Main Street as a conduit out of the Village. The question is we need to organize a concerted effort to get it to happen. This is local to state to federal.
- The community plan is full a great ideas but who pays for it?
- There is a lot of discussion of pedestrians on Main Street but where are they? If you look at pedestrian traffic as different times of the day, sometimes the sidewalks are completely empty. Pedestrian traffic for business seems to be mainly on one side of the street.
- Need a Signature Gateway that tells people that we are in the Village - that we are here. It was mentioned that the Tree Board is developing a Tree Masterplan that plants flowering trees in the center of the village - Cayuga to Mill and then transition to native trees at the edge of the village. This will indicate to the traffic that here we are.
- The village has a unique problem in that our traffic is going both ways all of the time, not one way in the morning and the other in the evening. The consultant said that they have never seen this type of problem in a village environment.
- It was identified that the police do not enforce the traffic laws. The example was given at Union and Main Street, where people pull out to make a turn and then block the traffic when the light changes or pull out into the pedestrian walkway forcing people to walk out into the traffic.
- The coordination of lights with longer traffic periods, has the effect of moving cars faster but defeats the purpose of slowing traffic to make it people friendly. It was mentioned that slowing traffic down to 30mph moves cars quicker down a street because at this speed there is less distance between cars resulting in a high density of cars being moved.