



January 26, 2022

Strategic Mobility + Placemaking Plan

REVISED TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

Submitted to: Village of Scarsdale



Village of Scarsdale
Strategic Mobility + Placemaking Plan
November 3, 2021



Project Vision & Approach

Project Vision

The Village of Scarsdale faces the challenge of balancing a variety of demands: improve traffic flow and provide parking for drivers, promote bicycle and pedestrian safety, and create an activated public space and downtown that draws residents and visitors to businesses. Fortunately, Scarsdale is well positioned to tackle this challenge. As an already multi-modal community where walking and transit use is common for many residents, this plan will build upon the existing transportation choices to further increase walking and biking through infrastructure recommendations. Moreover, the success of 'Dine-the-Dale has shown a proof of concept of a business-supportive placemaking initiative that can be potentially expanded upon. This plan will seek placemaking solutions that will continue to promote the Village Center as a destination. Additionally, this plan will improve transportation choices, recommend bike- and pedestrian-supportive infrastructure, and facilitate people-centered design on Sprague Road.

FHI Studio will share concepts that will be convenient, safe, and comfortable to people of

all ages and abilities and prioritize safety. The engagement effort will be iterative and multi-pronged, involving a combination of site visits, in-person meetings, and virtual engagement. More than just an element of the review process, engagement is fully embedded into the data collection and design development process. We see the planning effort as an opportunity for building community buy-in and will seize opportunities to engage stakeholders and community members meaningfully during each phase.

Most importantly, FHI Studio will share approaches that facilitate implementation. Our deliverables will share immediate, short-term, and medium-term approaches to delivering desired outcomes. The approach as designed will provide implementation steps that work with stakeholders and community members to help make safety and placemaking improvements in the community. This planning effort is the beginning of the implementation process, and **we believe that implementation starts today.**

Project Approach

The approach below proposes some modifications to our original submission, including drone traffic analysis in place of the Miovision task. Based off conversations with Village leadership, a substantial amount of community engagement work has already occurred, so the revised approach has shifted hours from engagement to engineering and concept-level design where appropriate.

Village Center

Phase 1: Information Gathering

FHI Studio will have an initial virtual kickoff meeting with Village staff to introduce the team and discuss the administrative aspects of the project, including scope, invoicing, and communications. On the call, FHI Studio and the Village staff will discuss an in-person walk audit of the study area to take place in the following weeks.

Following the kickoff meeting, FHI Studio will set up a project website that will include a project

overview, news and updates page, document library, and comment submission form. FHI Studio will also submit a data request that will include relevant planning documents, available traffic, speed, and crash data, and GIS layers.

As the first stakeholder engagement event, FHI Studio will host an in-person walk audit of the study area for key Village staff and other key stakeholders from Westchester County, NYSDOT, police department, fire department, business leaders, neighborhood association leaders, or safe streets advisory groups. The walking tour will include an audit form where participants will fill out their level of comfort and any challenges or opportunities they noticed. This walking tour will take place during the day and be invite-only. Village staff will determine the invites and select the date.

Following the walk audit, FHI Studio will summarize the input received and present the results to Village staff and leadership during a virtual meeting (Working Session #1). After the presentation, FHI Studio will host a listening session to collect additional feedback that was not covered in the walk audit. This meeting will be up to two (2) hours.

Drone Analysis will be conducted for one (1) 45-minute time period at the discretion of the Village and FHI Studio. It is anticipated that data collection will be conducted during either the AM or PM peak travel time. The drone analysis will be conducted with two (2) drones recording with high-resolution (4k) video. Expected results from the drone analysis include:

- Turn movement counts at intersections included in drone study area at the direction of the client
- Major driveway ingress/egress data
- Origin-Destination statistics throughout the study area
- Speed data – Average and 85th percentile speed data will be derived
- Locations of heavy breaking will be noted and recorded
- Acceleration/deceleration information will be obtained and analyzed for areas of high conflict
- Conflict analysis will include evaluation of Time-to-Collision (TTC) measures throughout the Village Center with hotspots and key challenges noted.
- Locations of high weaving movements will be recorded and evaluated utilizing conflict analysis to understand any problematic operations.
- Pedestrian movements (Note: this will be qualitative.)

The precise methodology will be determined upon selection and in coordination with PhotoFlight Aerial Media. Data collected from drones and analyzed by FHI Studio will be provided to the Village at the conclusion of the study and may be used in further studies.

Phase 1 Deliverables:

- Virtual kickoff meeting
- Data request memo
- Walk audit of the study area with stakeholders, including audit form and other relevant materials
- Project website
- Working Session #1 presentation (audit summary)

Phase 1 Assumptions:

- FHI Studio will prepare a PowerPoint presentation for the Virtual Working Session #1. The meeting will be held virtually.
- The project website will be a SquareSpace site and will be maintained for the duration of the study and will be turned over to the Village upon completion. The fee provided in the cost proposal is for twelve (12) months of web hosting.

Phase 2: Analysis

The information collected in Phase 1 will be synthesized in a summary report. The report will be graphically rich and include maps, charts, infographics, and photos. The report will outline the opportunities and challenges throughout the study area and include a brief discussion of relevant planning documents. It is assumed that the study area's challenges are well-known, so the report will concisely summarize challenges/ existing conditions that have been documented prior to FHI Studio's engagement and from the walk audit. The report will focus more on findings from new data collected (e.g., drone data collection), which may either validate or refute some of the documented challenges.

The document will be reviewed by the Village and other relevant stakeholders with a unified set of comments compiled by the Village's project manager. Once finalized it will be posted to the project website.

Following the completion of the data analysis memo, FHI Studio will host Working Session #2. FHI Studio will share a list of potential opportunities that emerged during the information gathering and analysis phases. Opportunities to discuss may include enhanced park access, tactical urbanism projects, shared streets, placemaking initiatives, improved circulation, and pedestrian/bicycle safety measures. FHI Studio will facilitate the meeting which will result in further idea generation. It is assumed that this meeting will be held virtually.

Based off the outcomes of Working Session #2, FHI Studio will host a virtual workshop to share sketch-level concepts for up to three (3) locations. Locations may include Popham Road, Boniface Circle, and Fox Meadow Road. It is assumed that each location will have up to three (3) alternatives associated with each. Participants will be asked to vote and comment on their preferred design for each location.

Phase 2 Deliverables:

- Data analysis memo
- Maps and videos from drone data collection
- Presentation of opportunities for Working Session #2
- Sketch-level renderings at up to three (3) locations; up to three (3) alternatives developed for each location
- One (1) virtual public meeting

Phase 2 Assumptions:

- Working Session #2 will be held virtually
- FHI Studio will not be collecting public feedback on existing conditions. Village leadership have confirmed that public feedback on existing conditions/challenges has already been collected.

Phase 3: Recommendations

FHI Studio will draft three conceptual improvement plans for the study area:

1. The **immediate plan** will identify options to begin implementation by summer/ fall 2022. These interventions will include recommended tactical urbanism pilot interventions, such as painted curb extensions, full street closures, expanded outdoor dining, painted bike lanes, and daylighting.
2. The **short-term plan** will include plans for transitioning immediate planning elements to longer-term (2-3 year) improvements using more permanent materials. It will also consider barrier-protected bike lanes, signal changes, wayfinding, and parking regulation changes.
3. The **medium-term plan** will hardscape elements from the immediate and short-term plans. Curb extensions, protected bike lanes, intersection

redesigns, daylighting, raised crosswalks/intersections, green stormwater infrastructure, micromobility, and public plazas are examples of options that could be considered.

Additionally, FHI Studio will develop model conceptual cross sections for Popham Road, Crane Road, and Fox Meadow Road. Possible impacts to parking will be considered for all model conceptual cross sections and the conceptual improvement plans. Maintenance concerns will also be noted. All recommendations will be ADA-compliant and use sustainable design principles. All plans, once approved by the Village, will include cost estimation and a list of potential funding resources.

The final recommendations will be shared with the public at one (1) SNAP meeting and one (1) Scarsdale Forum meeting. The recommendations will be posted online, and the public will be asked to comment on the recommendations

and suggest modifications to the design during a two-week comment period. The website will be updated with the final report.

Phase 3 Deliverables:

- Three conceptual improvement plans by implementation timeline
- Conceptual cross sections for Popham Road, Crane Road, and Fox Meadow Road.
- Website updated with the final report
- Attendance at up to two (2) previously scheduled meetings such as Scarsdale Forum and SNAP meeting

Phase 3 Assumptions:

- Village staff will coordinate with Scarsdale Forum and SNAP to arrange opportunities for FHI Studio presentations/listening sessions.
- FHI Studio will prepare a PowerPoint presentation for Scarsdale Forum and SNAP.



Walk audits with a variety of stakeholders, such as this one in Bronxville, can help facilitate implementation and encourage community buy-in.

- No concept plans will be developed for areas within the parks; however, feedback received will be noted.
- FHI Studio will not make recommendations on zoning code or parking requirements.

Sprague Road Traffic Calming

FHI Studio will visit the site to analyze driving movements and explore potential for a variety of options, including signage, traffic diversion, and horizontal (chicanes, chokers) and vertical (speed humps, raised crosswalks) elements. Residential streets with relatively low traffic tend to qualify for a wide range of improvements, so FHI Studio does not recommend doing a formal traffic count of this study area. FHI Studio will develop three options for conceptual improvements. Similar to the Village Center task, these range of improvements will have an immediate plan, short-term plan, and medium-term plan. Cost estimates will be provided for each of these. The conceptual improvement plans will be included in the material presented at the SNAP meeting and Scarsdale forum meeting in Phase 3 of the Village Center effort.

Sprague Road Traffic Calming Deliverables:

- Three (3) options for conceptual improvements with cost estimates



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