



Municipality of Princeton

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Office of the Engineer
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ROBERT V. KISER, P.E.
Director of Engineering

MEMORANDUM

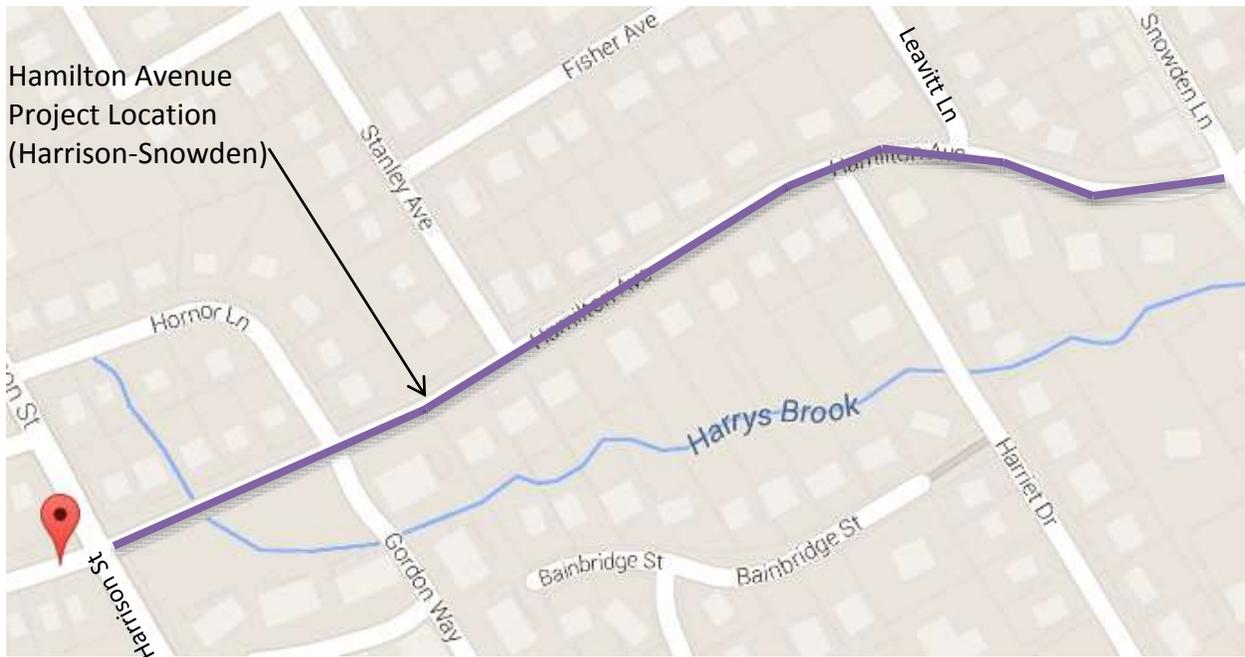
TO: Marc Dashield, Administrator

FROM: Deanna Stockton, P.E., Assistant Municipal Engineer

DATE: December 19, 2014

RE: **Parking Ordinance Amendment for Hamilton Avenue between Harrison Street and Snowden Lane**

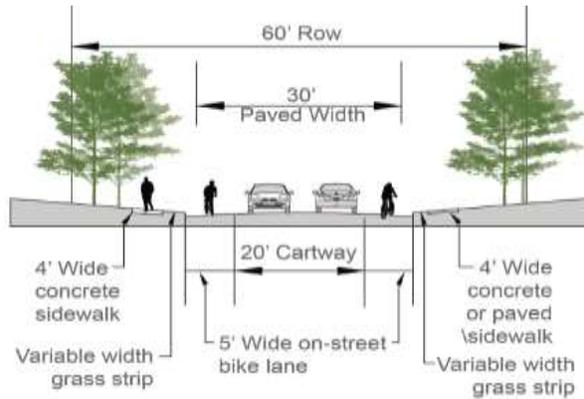
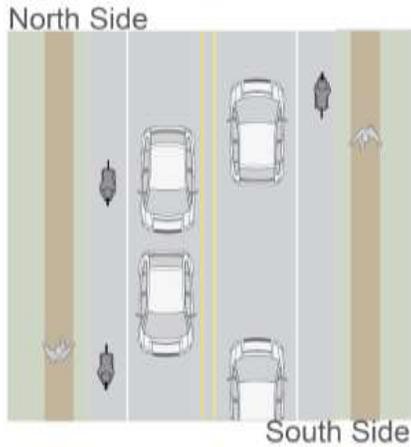
Attached herewith is a proposed ordinance to amend “Section 19-22. No parking zones” of the Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974, on Hamilton Avenue between Harrison Street and Snowden Lane.



The improvement of approximately 2,000-foot length of Hamilton Avenue is part of the Engineering Department’s capital improvement program for 2014. In accordance with Princeton’s Complete Streets policy, adopted by Council as a part of the Master Plan Circulation Element on November 7, 2013, a process was implemented with the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) to evaluate all capital projects for “safe access and mobility of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users of all ages and abilities”.

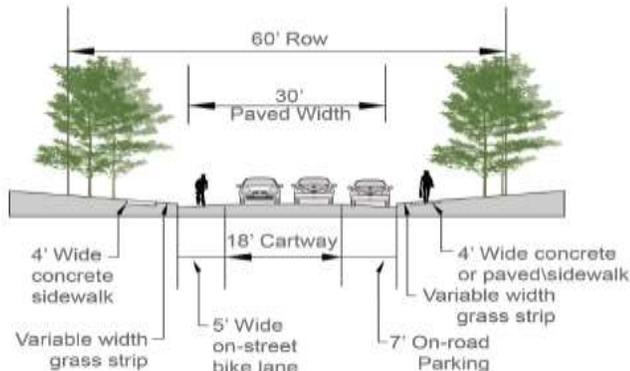
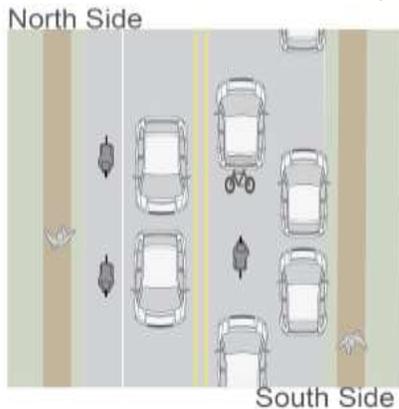
Hamilton Avenue currently has no parking allowed on the north side of the 30-foot wide curbed roadway; concrete sidewalks exist on both sides of the road. The average annual daily traffic is 5,089 vehicle and the posted speed is 25 miles per hour. The following five responsive design options were presented by the Engineering Department to PBAC and the neighborhood:

1. 5' bike lanes (both sides), no parking



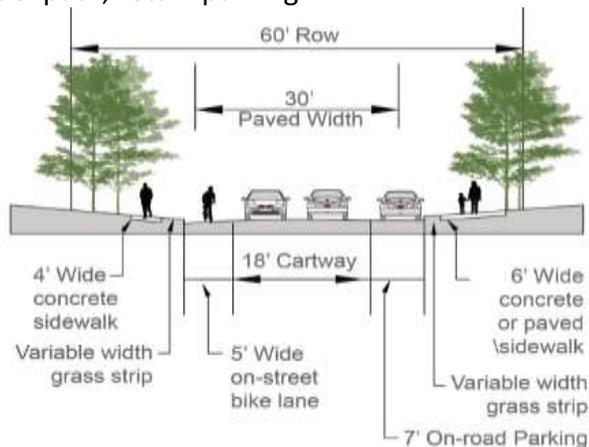
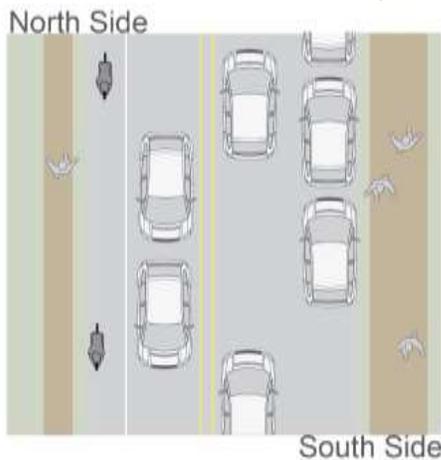
**PROPOSED (Looking EAST):
 Narrowing Cartway with Bike Lanes**

2. 5' bike lane on the north side, sharrows on south side, retain parking



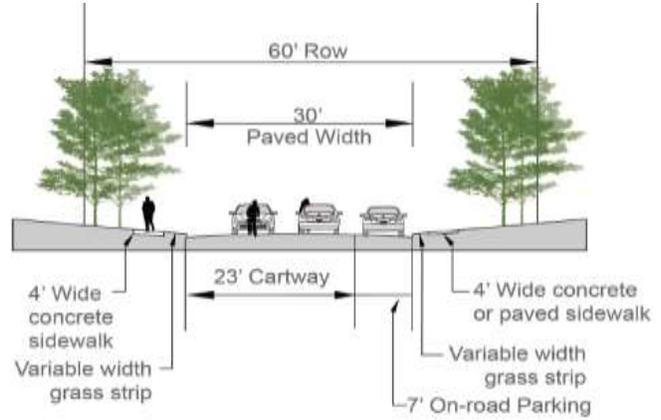
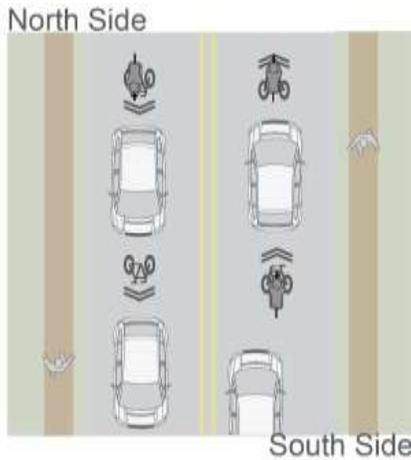
**PROPOSED (Looking EAST):
 Narrowing cartway with Bike Lane & Sharrows**

3. 5' bike lane on the north side, off-street 6' path, retain parking



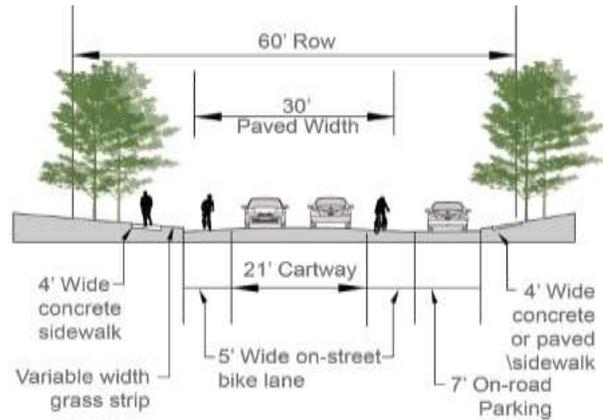
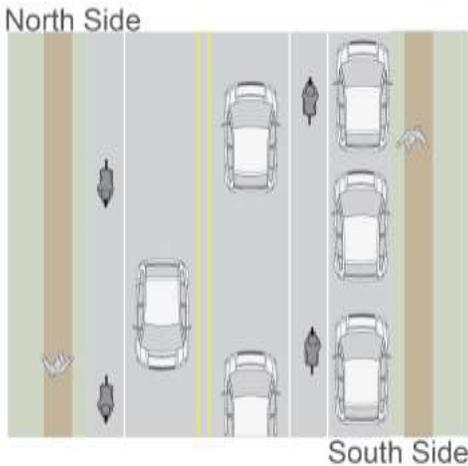
South Side

- Sharrows in both lanes (same treatment in existence on Hamilton Avenue west of Harrison Street), retain parking



**PROPOSED (Looking EAST):
 Adding Sharrows on both sides of the road**

- Widen the road 8' to accommodate 5' bike lanes (both sides) and retain parking



**PROPOSED (Looking EAST):
 Narrowing cartway with
 Bike Lanes & Road extension**

As detailed in the attached PBAC document dated October 8, 2014, the Committee “unanimously recommended that bidirectional bike lanes should be striped on Hamilton Avenue between North Harrison Street and Snowden Lane.” (Option 1 shown on page 2)

In addition, the Princeton Traffic & Transportation Committee considered the five responsive designs to determine which alternative best meets the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorized vehicles, and “voted unanimously to recommend...two on-street bike lanes, one on each side of Hamilton Avenue – displace parking, currently permitted on the south side of Hamilton, to adjacent streets”. (Option 1 shown on page 2)

On June 24, 2014, representatives of the Engineering Department, Police Department, PBAC and T&T held a neighborhood meeting with Hamilton Avenue residents. The meeting was sparsely attended; however, some residents voiced concern regarding the elimination of on-street parking on Hamilton Avenue.

The Engineering Department notes that the estimated additional cost to widen the road to accommodate both parking and bike lanes, including the removal of street trees on at least one side of the road would require the project cost to increase by at least \$250,000 (or 60% of the project cost), which exceeds the 15% Complete Streets policy threshold that requires Council approval.

On December 8, 2014, Council approved the award of the construction contract for Improvements to Hamilton Avenue, Prospect Avenue and Poe Road. The contract provides for the milling and resurfacing of the roadway, and repair of sidewalks and ramps on Hamilton Avenue. Also included, subject to Council's consideration, is the installation of permanent signage and pavement striping. Construction is proposed to begin in March 2015.

In consideration of the above, we respectfully request that Princeton Council consider the following matters at their January 12, 2015 meeting:

- Approval of the PBAC-recommended Complete Streets design (Option 1 shown on page 2) to establish 5' wide bike lanes within the existing roadway cross section on both sides of Hamilton Avenue between Harrison Street and Snowden Lane.
- Consideration of introducing the attached parking ordinance amendment providing for the elimination of on-street parking on the south side of Hamilton Avenue between Harrison Street and Snowden Lane. Please note that parking is currently prohibited on the north side of Hamilton Avenue.

It is further recommended that the adjacent Hamilton Avenue property owners be notified in writing by first-class mail regarding the date and time of any public hearing that may be scheduled to consider the prohibition of parking.

Please contact myself or Robert V. Kiser, P.E. if there are any questions.



Deanna Stockton, P.E., Assistant Municipal Engineer

Attachments

DLS/dls

c: Kathryn Monzo, Deputy Administrator
Linda S. McDermott, Municipal Clerk
Trishka W. Cecil, Municipal Attorney
Robert V. Kiser, P.E., Municipal Engineer
Robert Hough, P.E., Director of Infrastructure and Operations
Sgt. Thomas R. Murray III, Traffic Safety Bureau

Robert Altman, T&T Committee Chair
Steve Kruse, PBAC Chair