

Delaware Avenue Complete Streets Timeline

August 2005

- Comprehensive Plan recommends hamlet area plan for Delaware Avenue in Elsmere to address vehicle and pedestrian safety.

August 2009

- Town Board passes a Complete Streets Resolution for all road projects

October 2016

- Initial presentation of project idea to Town Board

January 2017

- *Spotlight News* article “Delaware Ave. study to begin Feb. 16: Kick off meeting begins at 6pm at Town Hall”

February 2017

- Invitation to Public Information Meeting #1 mailed to approximately 800 residences and businesses near the project area
- *Times Union* article “Meeting to focus on Bethlehem’s Delaware Avenue”
- Note #1 in Town of Bethlehem E-newsletter
- Public Information Meeting #1 (more than 100 participants)
- Update on Public Information Meeting to the Town Planning Board

March 2017

- Note #2 in Town of Bethlehem E-newsletter
- Article about project in Spring/Summer edition of Bethlehem Town News (mailed to approximately 16,000 households)

June 2017

- Note #1 in Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce E-newsletter
- Note #3 in Town of Bethlehem E-newsletter

July 2017

- Invitation to Business Stakeholders Meeting sent to businesses along the project area
- Note #2 in Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce E-newsletter
- Note #3 in Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce E-newsletter
- Note #4 in Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce E-newsletter
- Business Stakeholders Meeting (13 participants)

August 2017

- *Times Union* article “Is Delmar willing to go on a ‘road diet’ on Delaware Avenue?”
- *Times Union* article “Businesses split on ‘road diet’ plan”
- Article about project in Fall edition of Bethlehem Town News (mailed to approximately 16,000 households)

September 2017

- Month-long display in Bethlehem Public Library with info, maps, and comment box
- Invitation to Public Information Meeting #2 mailed to approximately 800 residences and businesses near the project area
- *Spotlight News* article “Bethlehem invites community to second public meeting for ‘Delaware Avenue Complete Streets’ study”
- Note #5 in Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce E-newsletter
- Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce undertakes a Complete Streets Online Survey (27 participants)
- Public Information meeting #2

October 2017

- Study status presented to Town Board
- *Spotlight News* article “Public weighs in on Delaware Avenue complete streets recommendations”
- *Times Union* article “Delaware Ave. road diet would improve safety, study finds”
- Note #4 in Town of Bethlehem E-newsletter

November 2017

- *Spotlight News* article “Delaware Avenue complete streets feasibility study now available for review and public feedback”
- *Spotlight News* article “Feasibility study available for review: public encouraged to provide feedback on Delaware Avenue complete streets plan by Dec. 1”
- *Spotlight News* article “Public Encouraged to provide feedback on Delaware Avenue”

December 2017

- Final report presented to Town Board, and Town Board votes to move forward with the complete streets project

January 2018

- *Times Union* article “Bethlehem wants crash-prone Delaware Avenue put on a ‘road diet’”

August 2018

- Town Board approves grant application to the State DOT’s Transportation Alternatives Program and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Improvements for funding to design and construct the project

April 2019

- The State DOT awards \$2.91 million grant to support community discussions, additional traffic studies, detailed engineering plans, and extensive sidewalk and crosswalk improvements

April 2021

- Town Board approves financial steps necessary to move forward with the project, subject to permissive referendum

May 2021

- Town receives a petition calling for a townwide referendum on whether or not to Town should take the financial steps needed to accept a \$2.9 million state grant

July 2021

- Town Board votes to hold referendum as part of the November 2, 2021 general election

2022 & 2023

- Engineering planning and design work for road reconstruction and upgrading underground water and sewer pipes (this will happen with or without the Complete Streets safety improvements)
- If the referendum passes, continued community forums, additional traffic studies of different road designs, and detailed engineering plans

2024

- Major construction to upgrade underground water and sewer mains, and to rebuild the road (this will happen whether or not the referendum passes)
- If the referendum passes, extensive sidewalk and crosswalk improvements, and modernized lane configuration