



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of City Council
From: Deborah Malenfant, Elizabeth City Downtown, Inc.
Date: March 22, 2023
Re: **Water Street Road Diet Plan**

BACKGROUND:

In 2018 Kimley-Horne was retained by the City of Elizabeth City to explore opportunities to increase the available parking along Water Street between the Shepard Street/Riverside Avenue intersection and US Highway 158. Various alternatives were considered. Kimley-Horne developed a revised parking plan that was presented to administration and City Council. The plan included the addition of parallel parking spaces on Water Street and the reduction of some traffic lanes which helped to slow traffic, resulting in a safer roadway for vehicles and pedestrians. No action was taken by City Council at the time.

ANALYSIS:

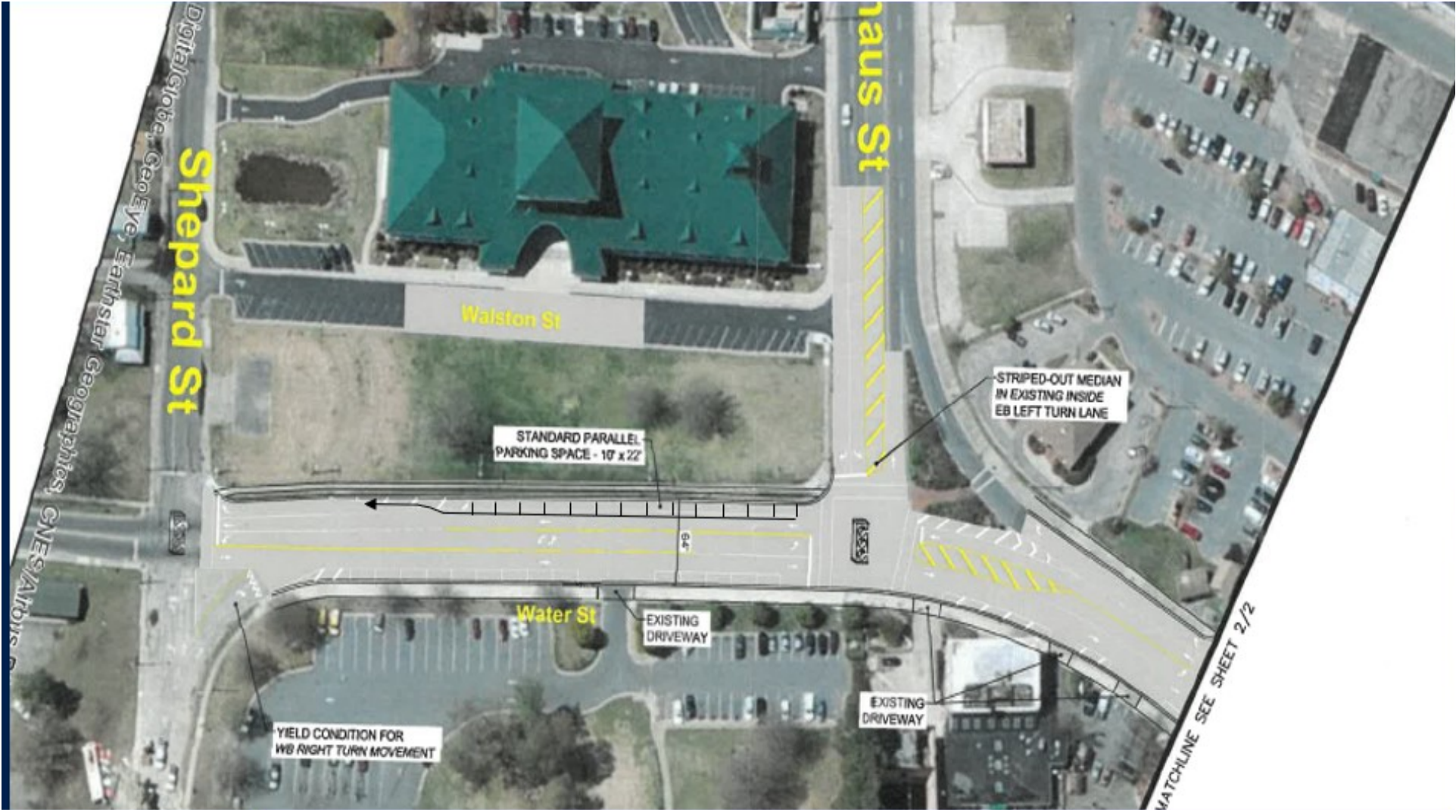
The plan has been revisited over the last year as part of a larger scope of work that includes the recent Water Street sidewalk improvement project for which Elizabeth City recently received a Rural Transformations Grant from the NC Department of Commerce. In discussions with NC Department of Transportation during the grant preparation process, they expressed support for the grant scope of work and engaged in dialogue about possible ways to implement improvements to Water Street that aligned with the streetscape elements. NC DOT representatives have met with City staff on multiple occasions to discuss options. NC DOT representatives have identified a funding source to implement key aspects of the proposed road diet plan, possibly in the 2023 calendar year.

City Council has seen the proposed Water Street Road Diet plan as part of the Rural Transformations Grant presentations. Staff will give another brief overview of the proposed improvements and ask for City Council's support of the implementation of the plan now that funding has been identified.

RECOMMENDATION:

That City Council give support for implementation of the elements of the Water Street Road Diet plan for which NC DOT has identified funding.

Attachment: Visuals of Road Diet Plan



Shepard St

Walston St

STANDARD PARALLEL
PARKING SPACE - 10' x 22'

Water St

EXISTING
DRIVEWAY

EXISTING
DRIVEWAY

Haus St

STRIPED-OUT MEDIAN
IN EXISTING INSIDE
EB LEFT TURN LANE

YIELD CONDITION FOR
WB RIGHT TURN MOVEMENT

MATCHLINE SEE SHEET 2/2

DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus

