

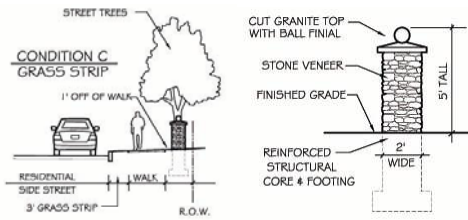
U.S. ROUTE 1 STREETSCAPE & NODE IMPROVEMENT PLAN
Schematic Design with Furnishings and Plant Palette Recommendations
 Old Saybrook, Connecticut

Project Description:

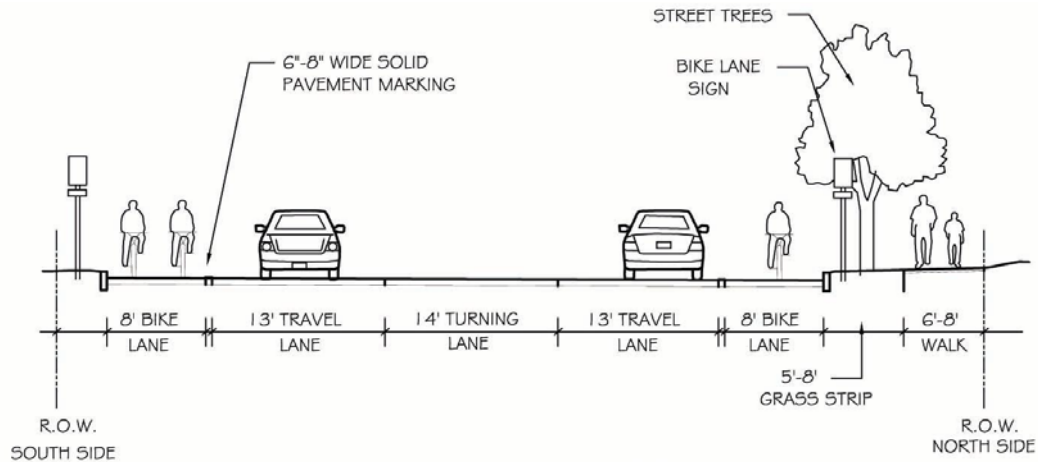
The goal of this project was to improve the visual aesthetics of U.S. Route 1 through Old Saybrook, Connecticut while making this multi-lane interstate highway more pedestrian and bicycle friendly. To achieve this goal we recommended reducing the widths and the number of travel lanes from six down to two with a single turning lane. As an added benefit, we will slow down traffic through this heavily congested area. The recovered space enabled us to introduce a sidewalk, two bike lanes, and a grass strip with street trees within the existing right-of-way. We established well-defined crosswalks and created nodes with furnishings and plantings at major intersections for safety and aesthetic improvements. Additionally, we recommended reducing driveway widths, combining driveways where possible, and eliminating others. We also developed a site specific planting palette with large and ornamental trees and shrubs that are native, will tolerate roadside planting, and are zone hardy. A furnishings palette with trash and cigarette receptacles, bike racks, benches, and pedestrian- and vehicular-scale streetlights will help to visually tie this streetscape together. Finally, we designed a Neighborhood Marker using indigenous materials to identify, celebrate, and visually separate the residential neighborhoods on the side streets from the commercial zone along U.S. Route 1.

Project Data

Date: 2007
 Size: Phase I - 1/2 mile
 Context: Multi-lane highway running through town



1 of 3 typical locations of the Neighborhood Marker and the detail of the same Marker.



Cross-section of proposed improvements along U.S. Route 1 with dedicated bike lanes, a turning lane, street trees and a sidewalk.



Existing condition photograph of U.S. Route 1 with up to 6 lanes of traffic and no sidewalk and few street trees.