

Watertown Daily Times

Serving the communities of Jefferson, St. Lawrence and Lewis counties, New York

Published: Saturday, July 28, 2018 at 5:15 am

Clarkson University consulting group working with village of Massena on two projects

By Bob Beckstead

MASSENA — A consulting group from Clarkson University is working with village of Massena officials on two projects — the proposed Water Street Park and the “Safe Routes to School” initiative.

Mayor Timmy J. Currier said he has been working with Karen Bage, community coordinator with the St. Lawrence Health Initiative and, with grant funding from the organization, the Clarkson Construction Engineering Management Consulting Group (C3G) is analyzing the two projects. The Clarkson group provides pre-professional consulting in planning, engineering, and construction areas.



New Sidewalk by Jr. High / Elementary Schools

That was narrowed down to two projects that will be paid for through the St. Lawrence County Health Initiative grant.

For the proposed Water Street Park project, members of C3G are doing an analysis of the park’s accessibility from the downtown core, “to get to and from that park from the downtown core or the East Orvis Street area,” he said.

The study will include areas such as sidewalks and crosswalks. The second study will focus on the “Safe Routes to School” initiative, ensuring a safe environment for students as they walk or bike to and from school.

That study will also focus on areas such as crosswalks and sidewalks.

“That’s ongoing,” the mayor said.

Once the studies are complete, Mr. Currier said, they’ll receive recommendations on what steps would be good, what steps would not be good, and what they should be looking at as they prioritize. “Based on their recommendations, we can take a look at them,” he said.

If they follow up on any of the recommendations, he said they would seek grant funding to cover the cost, but the ultimate decision to move forward would be up to village trustees.

“There are grants out there,” he said.

Speed Radar Sign CHSC Purchased



Massena National Complete Streets Coalition Workshop

“In meeting with the Clarkson team, we came up with a number of potential projects to look at,” Mr. Currier said.



Moving around Massena

With a goal of increasing accessibility and revitalizing their community, the Village of Massena began a movement, known as Complete Streets, to ensure roads are inclusive of proper sidewalks, bike lanes, and crosswalks.



Creating Healthy Schools and Communities

The places where we live, learn, work, and play all contribute to our ability to become and stay healthy. Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC), a five-year (2015–2020) New York State Department of Health-funded initiative, is helping build stronger, healthier communities.



Creating Healthy Schools and Communities

St. Lawrence Health Initiative



CHSC grantee, St. Lawrence Health Initiative, is working with the Village of Massena, to increase safety, convenience, and mobility for residents while also supporting their physical activity behaviors.

Massena's Commitment

In 2017, the Village of Massena's Board of Trustees passed a Complete Streets policy, formalizing the Village's desire to have safe streets for all. The Water Street Park and Safe Routes to School projects are just two of the ways Massena is putting policy into practice. Looking forward, the Village's Complete Streets Advisory Committee will continue to identify projects that advance active transportation, including crosswalk improvements.



To learn more about Complete Streets in Massena, contact Karen Bage at the St. Lawrence Health Initiative, karen@gethealthyslc.org