

5. COMMUNITY QUALITY OF LIFE

- Widening roadways changes the character of the road.
- Circ anticipated for years; no real impacts on community character
- Taft Corners lack of planning; aesthetic concerns at this location.
- Essex Junction resident: Essex Junction is an urban area rather than rural, so rural quality is not a primary issue.
- Alternatives need to be sensitive to context – e.g., Essex Jct Historic District.
- Underhill resident: going out from Burlington, the character is primarily urban until one reaches Essex.
- Widening of streets at 5 Corners would impact historic character. Also concerned about impacts on Veterans Memorial Park.
- Westford resident: The time it takes to reach I-89 is too long. He commutes to Colchester (25 minutes). Design of route should include noise and visual mitigation – banks along roadway, sunken roadway [profile]
- Sense of community in Williston.
- Williston Residents: Qualities – quiet, peaceful, rural, Storm water runoff
- Qualities: quiet, air quality
- Resident of Essex Town: Maintain existing historic districts (5 Corners area)
- Essex resident: Resources at risk – walkable communities under threat; neighborhoods, village centers; pleasant commuting.
- Widening Rte 2A would impact adjacent properties and utilities
- Vehicle noise from Rte 2 and I-89
- Experimental pavement to reduce noise
- Sound walls/berms where needed.
- Earth berms for noise control in residential area. Use stumps and fill over.
- Character not rural – changed in recent years – now more suburban.
- Williston resident:
 - Major road through residential areas – impacts on community qualities
 - If problem is quantified, does solution achieve enough to be worthwhile?
- Resident of Essex Town : More traffic pushes people to seek alternate routes in communities
- Brennan Woods Resident : No road behind development (old proposal)
- Brennan Woods Resident : Maintain privacy
- Building Circ as designed would reduce quality of life for residential communities that border it. Also will affect quality of Allen Brook School.
- South Burlington resident: quality of life – suffering by not building Circ

CIRC-WILLISTON EIS: Comments recorded at Scoping Open Houses, March 15-17, 2005

- Clustering important – higher level density of population, housing, transit within Circ`
- Burlington needs to be key focus.
- Best way to maintain character is to build Circ - towns and region have developed plans around this assumption
- Access to [Mallett's] Bay requires travel through residential neighborhoods
- Sprawl, box stores, decentralized development greatest threats to character.
- Essex Junction residents: Land/space is valued as quality of life.
- Concerned about Allen Brook School – noise pollution near school. If new roadway is chosen, at minimum a berm is needed.
- Colchester resident: Issue of impacts outside the Project Area.
- Accounting for tangibles and intangibles.
- Brennan Woods resident : Issues need to be evaluated: noise mitigation, visual impacts, Allen Brook School, impacts on pedestrians if Circ built
- Williston resident: If new roadway is build, [need] better protection from noise and light [headlight glare].
- Roadways should be integrated with topography/landscape, limited access or not.
- Four-lane divided roadways are not in keeping with the character of the area
- New roadway alignments could divide Williston
- Burlington residents:
 - Walkability of Burlington an attraction to live here
 - Livable community with diversity of businesses
 - Sprawl- loss of downtown businesses/ diverse businesses
- Essex Junction residents
 - [get] traffic out of residential areas or stop development in Chittenden County
- Aesthetics of viewsheds