



Office of the Town Manager
Christopher E. Martino

Warrenton Town Council
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STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date:	April 14, 2026
Agenda Title:	Main Street Improvements Update
Requested Action:	Project Update
Department / Agency Lead:	Public Works
Staff Lead:	Michael Wharton, Senior Project Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Currently, the project is approximately one week ahead of schedule. The section from Court Street Culpeper Street was completed on April 8, 2026. The concrete work and brick layers will continue to work from Culpeper Street to 5th Street. The Town has scheduled a Town Hall for April 22nd to provide an update to the project. At that time, staff will discuss upcoming closures to side streets and Main Street.

One issue has arisen regarding the crosswalk locations at Culpeper Street/ Main Street and 2nd Street/ Main Street intersection.

- Culpeper Street/ Main Street-During the concept phase of design. There was a concern raised with the location of the crosswalk at Culpeper Street/ Main Street. This involved the removal of two parking spaces in front of Town Hall and safety issues with the crosswalk in the turning radius of Culpeper Street. The Town proposed moving the crosswalk to 1st Street/ Main Street. This change was on display at the October 2025 Council Meeting and at both Town Hall meetings held in October and December of 2025.
- 2nd Street/ Main Street- In the early concepts. The crosswalk at 2nd Street was to relocate from in front of Molly's to other side of the street. During construction a utility conflict was discovered. To avoid a delay the Twon has two options; to eliminate the crosswalk or move to the previous location. After listening to the concerns regarding on-street dining from EOTW. Town Staff have elected to eliminate the crosswalk at 2nd Street/ Main Street.
- Town Staff would like to propose reversing the flow of traffic on Culpeper Street between Lee Street and Main Street. This would reduce the congestion at the intersection during evening hours, improve safety by reducing the conflict points, and eliminate tractor trailers from using Culpeper Street as a cut thru.

Project is still on track to finish construction by first week in September 2026.

BACKGROUND

On August 10, 2019, the Town Council approved a Resolution for Staff to apply for a VDOT Revenue Share project on Main Street. Town Staff applied for the project on October 1, 2019. In May 2020, VDOT awarded the Town with the funds to construct the Main Street Improvement project. The original scope was from Courthouse Square to Calhoun Street. With the increase in construction costs the limits of the project scope/limits had to be revised. On July 3, 2024, Town Staff and VDOT came to an agreement on the scope and cost estimate. On July 31, 2024, VDOT sent Town Staff with an agreement to sign.

The Town held three informational meetings on March 19, 2025, October 27, 2025, and December 10, 2025. In the meetings Town Staff described the work pertaining to the proposed work and the benefits to pedestrian safety. In the March meeting, everyone in attendance voted and accepted concept B as the right direction. This design would expand the sidewalk area from Culpeper Street to 2nd Street. VDOT approved the plans on February 19, 2026. This gives the Town permission to proceed with the bid and construction phase of the project. The Town approved all Purchase Order pertaining to the project on February 26, 2026. The contractor plans to move equipment, materials, and install traffic control devices to start the first phase. The contractor plans to start on March 2, 2026. The project will improve pedestrian safety, replace all existing bricks, install conduits to upgrade the streetlights, install new crosswalks, and pave the existing roadway. The working hours will be 3pm to 11pm. This is to avoid disruptions to the Court services and minimize the impact to business owners. The first phase of construction will begin from Court Street to 2nd Street (Southside). After this section is completed, the contractor will continue block by block from 2nd Street to 5th Street (Southside). Then switch to the northside working from 5th Street to Court Street to complete the sidewalk/curb replacement. Below is an estimated timeframe construction.

- Third Street Drainage: 3/26 - 4/21
- Court Street to Second Street (South): 3/2 - 4/14
- Second Street to Third Street (South): 4/16 - 5/6
- Third Street to Fourth Street (South): 4/27 - 5/21
- Fourth Street to Fifth Street (South): 5/6 - 6/1
- Court Street to First Street (North): 6/23 - 7/15
- First Street to Third Street (North): 5/15 - 6/10
- Third Street to Fourth Street (North): 5/28 - 6/25
- Fourth Street to Fifth Street (North): 6/10 - 7/8
- Main Street Crosswalks: 7/16 - 7/29
- Paving Main Street: 7/30 - 9/4

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Town Staff would request any feedback on the Main Street Safety Improvements and proposed reversing flow on Culpeper Street from Lee Street to Main Street.

Service Level/Collaborative Impact

The projects will add features of traffic calming and improve pedestrian safety

Policy Direction/Warrenton Plan 2040

The project is listed as a safety project in the 2040 Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Fiscal Impact

VDOT will contribute \$735,563 and the Town portion will be \$1,084,307

Legal Impact

The IFB was reviewed by Town Attorney prior to bidding this project.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.