



**AARP Community Walk Audit location:
Main Street from School Street to Brickhouse
Road and to East Church Street, in East Hardwick**

Date: 5/18/22 Started at 10:30 am and completed at Noon
Posted Speed Limit: 25 mph

**The speed is posted on Main Street (at entrance from Route 16), School Street (near the intersection with Route 16), Cedar Street (at the intersection with Route 16), Brickhouse Road (near the LVRT), and East Church (near the LVRT.)*

Total Number of Vehicle Lanes: 2

Two-Way Street

Sidewalks exist on only one side of the street.

DRAFT

Issues Noted on Audit:

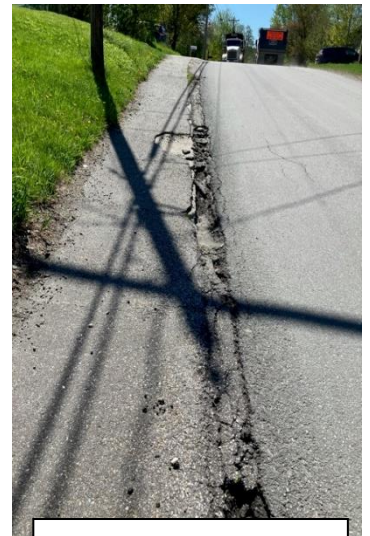
- 1) The existing sidewalk on Main Street does not consistently have a curb which is sufficient to separate pedestrians from the road. There are sections of this sidewalk which have been lowered by wear and tear and do not provide any level of protection. Portions of the sidewalk are up to 10" below street level (see photo below – Issue 1).



Main Street – near School Street



View on Main Street



Uphill View on Main Street

- 2) The existing sidewalk has multiple obstacles. After the initial section from the intersection of School Street and Main Street, the sidewalk is cracked, broken, uneven, and undulating (angled) and difficult to navigate.



Downhill view on Main Street (Issue

- 3) The existing sidewalk is continuous – no segments are missing. However, the sidewalk has a variety of angles and elevations which make the sidewalk difficult to be utilized by a wheelchair or other form of mobility assistance.



Uphill View of Brickhouse Rd

4) The sidewalk ends abruptly after the Lamoille River Bridge and the sidewalk is physically missing from the East Church Street section of town. The sidewalk abruptly ends on Brickhouse Road.



View on East Church Street



View on Brickhouse Road

5) The sidewalks are usually wide enough for two people to walk side by side (approximately 4 feet in width). The sidewalks are not wide enough for two people to use while social distancing.

6) There are no indicators so that users with vision impairments will know when there is a crosswalk or an intersection.

7) The street does not have a designated bicycle lane which becomes problematic with large truck traffic. With the impending completion of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, there may be an increase of bike usage which will necessitate more bike options. Brickhouse Road has a steep segment from the LVRT to the Main Street. Space is limited for bicycles and pedestrians.

8) The only crosswalks that exist in East Hardwick are located at the intersection of School Street and Main Street. The crosswalks are faded and do not have landings or caution signs.



View across School Street intersection



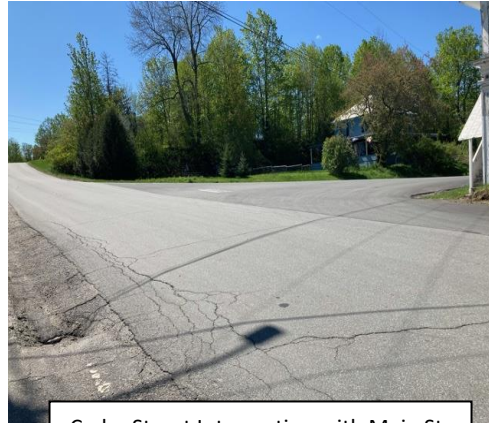
View down steep segment of Brickhouse Rd

9) The intersection at School Street and Main Street does not have any type of traffic calming signage such as a yield or a stop sign.



School Street & Main Street Intersection

10) The Cedar Street intersection with Main Street has too much space for vehicular travel. The intersection has in excess of three lanes and lacks separation.



Cedar Street Intersection with Main St

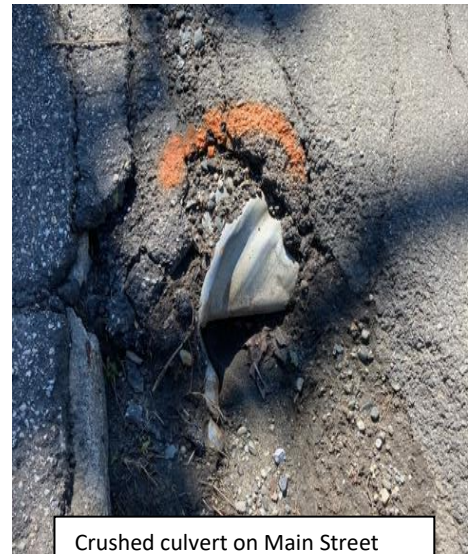


Cedar Street Intersection with Main St

11) Drainage on Main Street does not appear to be adequate for increased capacity rain events.



Recently cleared drainage grate (cleared by citizen volunteer).



Crushed culvert on Main Street

12) East Hardwick does not have any signage alerting drivers to the increased presence of pedestrians and bicycles.

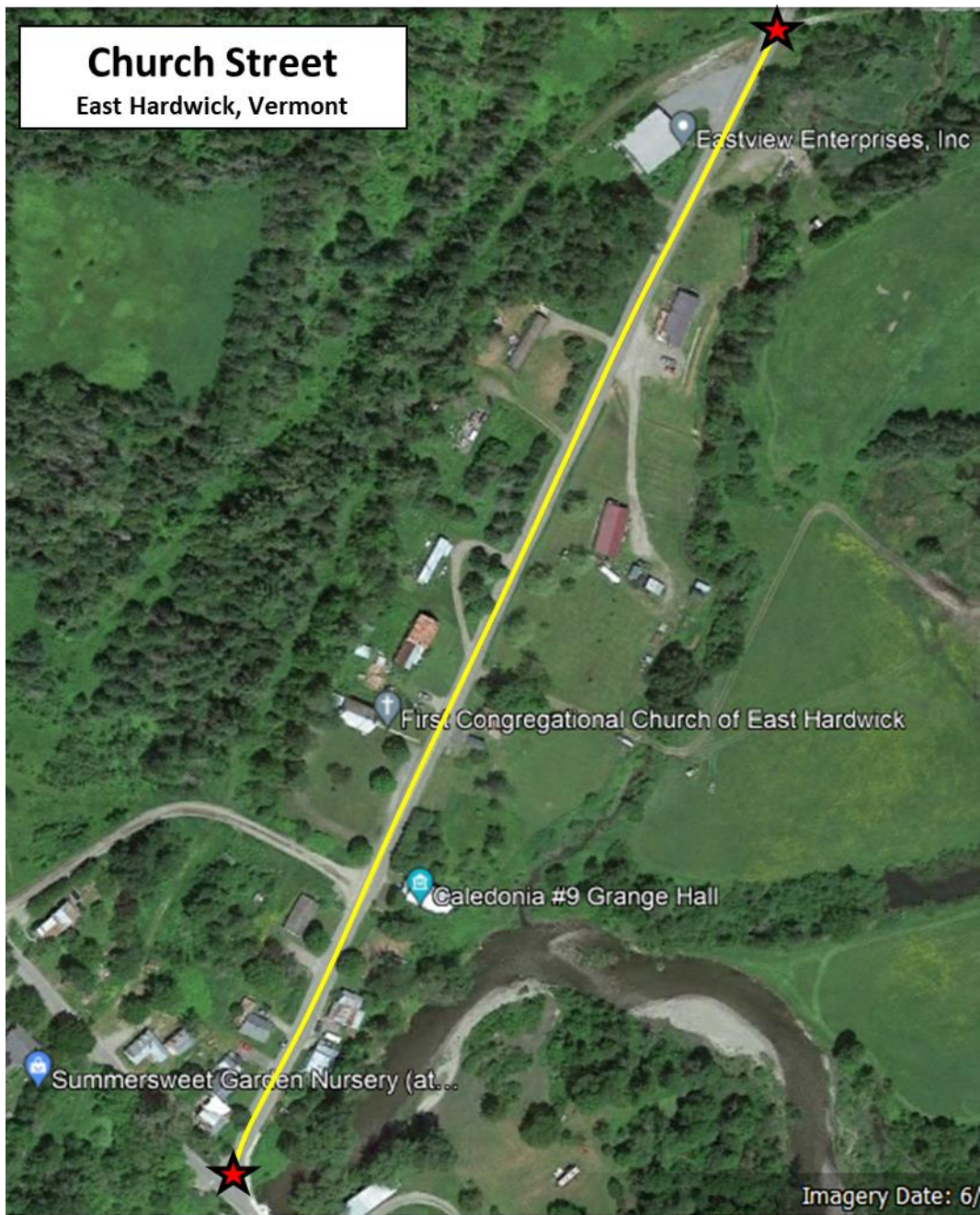
The location could be improved by installation of additional crosswalks, drainage repairs, sidewalk repairs, sidewalk installation, and access management at the intersection of Cedar Street and Main Street and at the intersection of School Street and Main Street. The bridge over the Lamoille Valley River should also be examined for life expectancy.

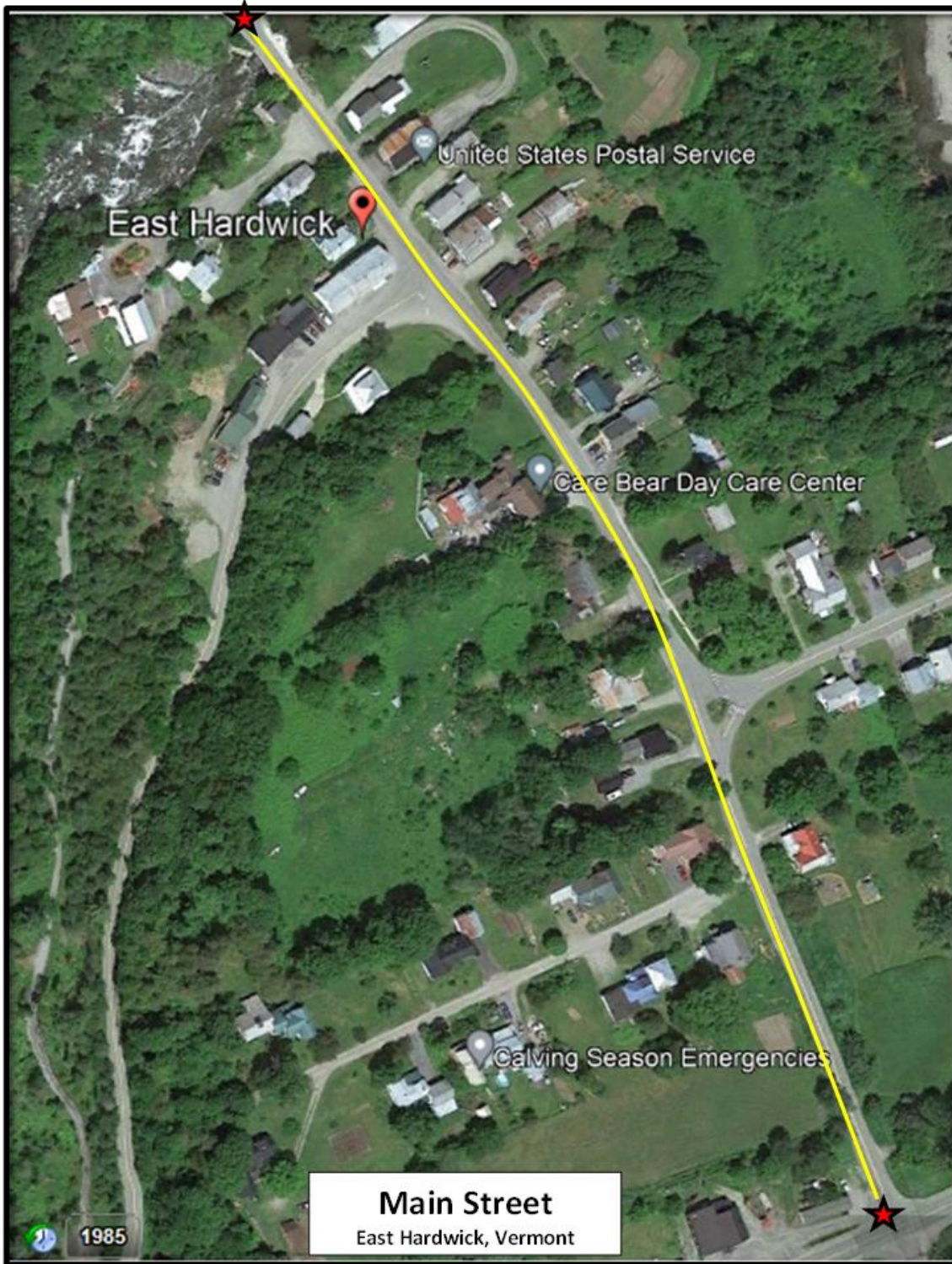
The safe walkability of the Main Street area is **poor.**

The overall appeal of the area as a place to walk is **fair.**



Bridge over the Lamoille River





School Street Addendum:

School Street intersects with Main Street and provides an important link to the only operating store in the village center. School Street does not currently have any sidewalks or lanes for pedestrians and/or bicycles. Sections of School Street have steep embankments and are not adequately protected by guardrails. School Street connects with Mini Mart Drive which is also lacking delineation as a viable street and pedestrian precautions.



School Street embankment with dysfunctional guardrail



View of School Street near the Main Street Intersection



School Street near Mini Mart Drive



Mini Mart Drive as viewed from School Street toward VT Route 16

