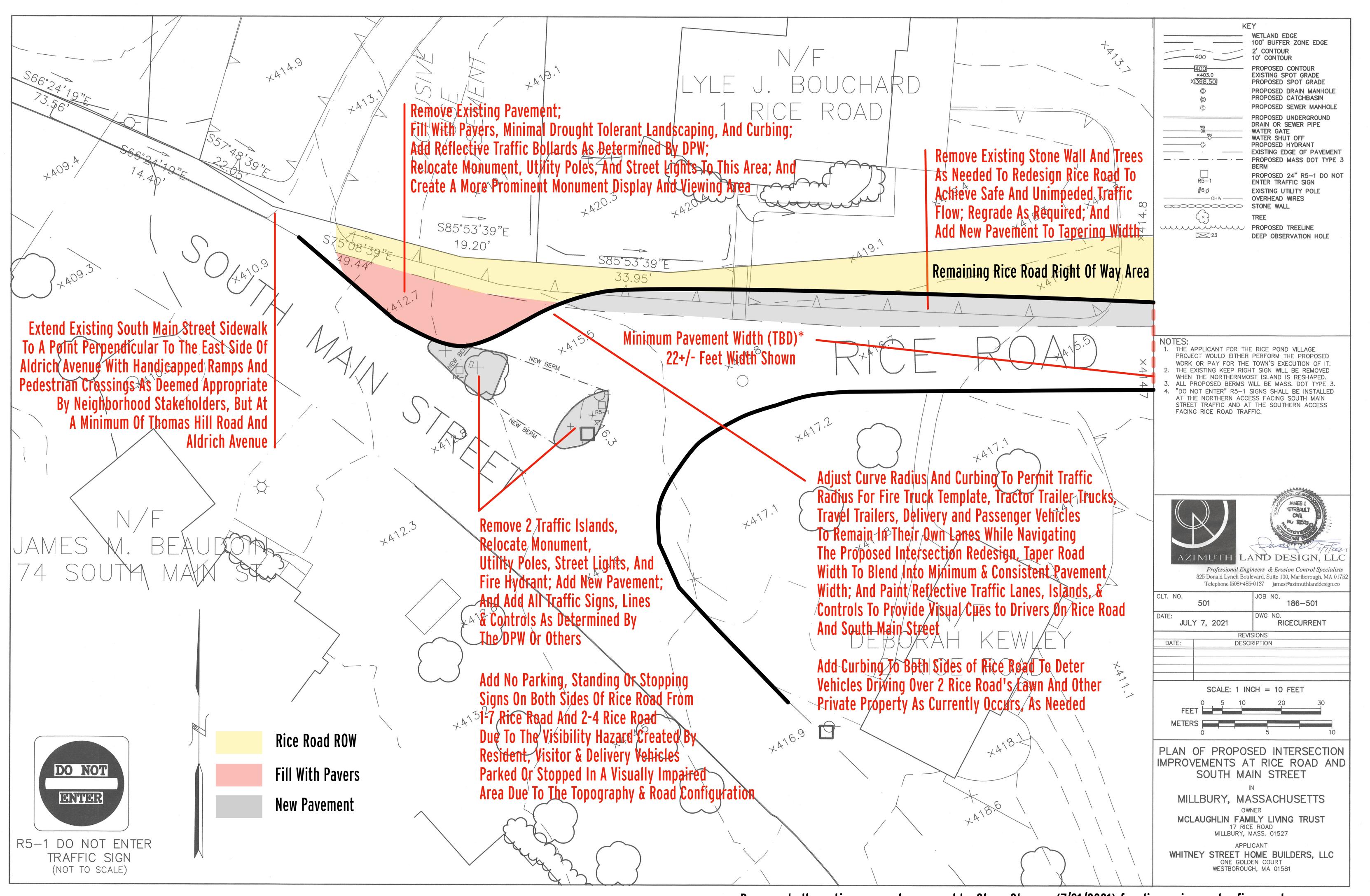
Date:	Wednesday, July 21, 2021
To:	Richard F. Gosselin, Jr, Chairman; Paul A. Piktelis, Vice Chairman; Terry Burke Dotson, Member; Mathew Ashmankas,
	Member; Bruce M. Devault, Member; and Millbury Planning Board
From:	Steven S. Stearns (son of the owners and resident of Map 62 Parcel 98)
Reference:	Rice Road / South Main Street Intersection — Public Hearing Comments
	McLaughlin Family Living Trust; John Antaya; and Kathleen (McLaughlin) Mardirosian (the "owners")
	Whitney Street Home Builders, LLC (the "developer")
	17 Rice Road, Millbury, MA (a/k/a Rice Pond Village Project)

Based upon the input from members of the Planning Board, neighbors, and a conversation with the developer's engineer, please find attached a revised version of a plan for the intersection of Rice Road and South Main Street that address the navigation and safety issues and the visibility at the Rice Road incline/decline near 1-5 Rice Road and 2-6 Rice Road, for discussion and refinement purposes.

This revised version specifically addresses the following issues:

- 1. The elimination of traffic islands and a portion of Rice Road that blends into South Main Street (see plan). The owner of 1 Rice Road conveyed that there was a near miss of a collision when a driver did not stop at the recently installed stop sign. Longtime residents are used to merging onto South Main Street without stopping, unless necessary.
- 2. Holding the existing curb line in front of 2 Rice Road as it blends from South Main Street into Rice Road.
- 3. Adjusting a new curb line within the Rice Road Right Of Way to permit Millbury's Fire truck template, tractor trailer trucks, travel travelers, delivery and passenger vehicles to navigate the transitions from South Main Street to Rice Road and vice versa while remaining in their own travel lane. A reflective painted traffic island should be installed to provide visual cues to always remain within the marked travel lanes, since this is currently a hazard to the users of Rice Road. Add a stop line and sign from Rice Road to South Main Street. This new traffic pattern should encourage stopping rather than merging.
- 4. I have spoken to the owner of 1 Rice Road, and he is amenable to the removal of the pines trees and stone wall in the Rice Road Right Of Way to create a safer roadway design for everyone. He asked that the stone wall be reconstructed in accordance with currently Millbury regulations (i.e., on his property).
- 5. Curbs should be added along the frontage of 1 Rice Road and 2 Rice Road to help prevent drivers from driving over their lawns and property, as I have been told is currently occurring.
- 6. The area where Rice Road currently blends into South Main Street should be reclaimed as a raised paver area to prominently relocate the monument to, along with the utility pole, streetlight, and fire hydrant. Reflective traffic bollards, as determined by the DPW or Police, should be added to this new island, since this is a traffic pattern change, to protect the monument from damage and students from harm, if the School Department does not move the school bus stop.
- 7. The existing South Main Street sidewalk that ends at the power line side driveway of 1 Rice Road should be continued along the odd numbered side of Rice Road to a point perpendicular to the east side of Aldrich Avenue to permit safe pedestrian travel along Rice Road, which is a cut-through road that driver's travel at a greater speed than they should. This sidewalk should be constructed to the standards as set forth in the Town of Millbury's requirements.
- 8. Rice Road should be constructed to the current standards for width and any existing pavement beyond that width should be removed.
- 9. No parking, stopping, or standing signs should be added to both sides of Rice Road from 1 Rice Road (west property line) to 5 Rice Road (east property line) and 2 Rice Road (South Main Street) to 4 Rice Road (west property line), as vehicles parked, stopped, or standing in this area currently creates a visibility and safety hazard to the slope of Rice Road for users of the road.



Proposed alternative concept prepared by Steve Stearns (7/21/2021) for discussion and refinement purposes.