

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Shrewsbury is awarded funding through the Shared Streets Program**

*The funding will allow for improvements in infrastructure that supports public health, safe mobility, and renewed commerce*

(Shrewsbury – 09/24/2020) The town of Shrewsbury has been awarded $63,514.87 in grant funding through the Shared Streets program. The goal of this program is to quickly provide new or repurposed space for socially-distanced walking, bicycling, dining, and bus-travel.

The funding will largely be used to support the construction of two new ADA compliant crosswalks. The crosswalks are to be located by the Town Center and Town Hall Campus, which includes the Senior Center, Police Station, and Town Hall. They will also be located by the municipal playing fields. Flashing beacons will also be installed at one or both of the crosswalks.

This area is often subject to a higher volume of people, given that it hosts weekly farmers markets, a weekly food truck event, and is also located near several schools in the town. Due to the high number of people, the additional crosswalks will allow for enhanced walkability and safety for residents in a time when following social distancing protocols is vital.

“Creating an environment in which we can retain some sense of normalcy, while still following social distance guidelines is essential,” said Senator Michael Moore (D-Millbury), Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. “The funding that Shrewsbury has received will allow for the continuation of activities in the Town Center while protecting the safety of residents who wish to attend the events in the area.”

“I am thrilled to see Shrewsbury receive funding through the Shared Streets Program and was pleased to advocate on behalf of the Town’s grant application alongside Senator Moore. These improvements will allow pedestrians to better adhere to social distancing policies and enhance safety in general,” remarked Representative Kane (R-Shrewsbury).

Given the nature of the Shared Streets Program, and the speed in which the funded projects are finished, the Shrewsbury project will need to be fully implemented by Friday, October 9, 2020.

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