



My summer working for the City of Woodstock with the Smart Community Corps was a fantastic experience. Despite having to be remote and never physically going into the Woodstock office, my supervisors from both the Georgia Tech and Woodstock project teams gave me plenty of opportunities to learn about the local government environment. As someone who grew up in Woodstock, it was an enlightening experience getting to witness the efforts of the Community Development department to drive forward-thinking growth in the city, especially the downtown area.

My role this summer has been to conduct research on several topics to support the Smart Woodstock Master Plan and Smart Corridor study. I explored applicable case studies that exemplified smart city technology in cities of similar size and characteristics to Woodstock, found potential funding opportunities for implementation of identified pilot projects, and pinpointed some principal considerations for the decision-making team when moving forward with their smart city initiatives. A synthesis of these smart cities considerations and their applications to the Smart Woodstock Master Plan are provided in a Smart Woodstock Research Guide and Playbook, which I authored with support from Woodstock and Georgia Tech supervisors. The Playbook can be used by the project team to identify several best practices and a course of action to ensure continuation of a sustainable smart cities program in Woodstock. To supplement

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Curb/ Lane Flexibility
 PILOT PROJECT FACT SHEET

What is curb/ lane flexibility?
 The purpose of implementing curb/ lane flexibility is to optimize curbside management and promote mixed-use of the streetscape based on a city's specific needs.

- Flex zones open up the possibility of using curbside space for uses besides single-vehicle parking.
- Curbs and lanes can play many roles and **change over the course of a set time period**.

What are some examples of curb functions?
 Many different users compete for curb space. Some functions of the curb include:

What is 'smart' about curb/ lane flexibility?
 There are various technologies that can help manage and designate uses of a curb. Some examples are:

- Electronic signage that adapts to the time of day to reduce signage clutter or confusion.
- Electric lights that indicate the designated use of the lane (i.e. red for no parking, green for parking, white for pickup/ drop-off)
- Curbside sensors to determine parking availability and relay that information to signs throughout the urban area.

CASE STUDIES
 Several cities have implemented curb/ lane flexibility to designate various uses for certain times of the day. Examples from Washington, D.C., San Francisco, and New York City can be found in the NACTO's Curb Appeal whitepaper.

How can Downtown Woodstock benefit from this technology?
 Curbside space will become more and more valuable as development and population in Woodstock continue to increase.

- During Woodstock's popular **Summer Concert Series**, the flex lanes can be dedicated to **rideshare pickup/ dropoff zones**.
- Flex lanes shift uses can seasonally with options like **bike storage, pop-up shops, street vendors, parklets, or public art displays**.
- Designated times for **delivery trucks** could ease congestion in popular parking and walking areas, **enhancing the safety of pedestrians**.
- To mitigate the spread of a virus during a public health crisis (such as COVID-19), flex zones could be designated for **restaurant seating or food pickup services** to allow for social distancing while keeping local businesses open.

the Playbook, I created three fact sheets of potential pilot projects to be implemented as a next step after the Plan is finalized. These fact sheets detail the technical considerations, costs, and applications of in-roadway warnings lights, curb/ flex lanes or zones, and parking availability technology in Woodstock. The fact sheets are supported with active links to outside studies and articles to further reinforce the information provided on the fact sheets.

Working with a local government helped me enrich my technical mindset by exploring concepts through the eyes of an individual citizen who will be the most impacted by the decisions that are made. The City of Woodstock team consists of many innovative thinkers who are making extraordinary efforts to create a city that is at the forefront of livability, mobility, and sustainability. I am impressed with the long-term plans already in action and am excited for the future of Woodstock, the city I am so fortunate to call home.

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