

MASTER PLAN PROJECT

Alfred State students have big plans for Campbell

The Leader staff

CAMPBELL | The Town of Campbell may get a face-lift thanks to some Alfred State students.

A group of architectural technology students from Alfred State College recently presented to officials and community members their master plans for revitalizing the town.

The plans were part of a six-week project for the 23 students. They performed a site analysis for two weeks. They also held a design workshop during which they solicited input from residents and town officials.

Six Alfred State students presented two different plans for the town's expansion. Although the plans were developed by different teams of students, both shared many common concepts for revitalizing Campbell.

Both groups agreed, for example, that the first impression of the town after exiting I 86 was not inviting. They acknowledged that the Polly-O plant is an important part of the town, but offered suggestions for



Alfred State students present their proposals for a master plan for the Town of Campbell. LEADER STAFF



Alfred State students present their proposals for revitalizing the Town of Campbell.

drawing attention away from the factory.

One plan used a stone wall and landscaping as a buffer to partially mask the factory. The wall is only a few feet high, but the students felt that it created a more welcoming scene upon entering the town.

The other group's design involved landscaping and decorative boulders at the town entrance.

Both groups also said steps should be taken to make the town more pedestrian friendly. One of the solutions was to narrow Main

Street at the entrance of town. They said this would have the effect of slowing traffic.

Another suggestion was to plant maple trees to line Main Street. They said that the trees had a subconscious affect of slowing drivers.

The students also suggested periodically extending the curb into Main Street an additional foot. They would mitigate the loss of parking spaces by building a parking lot near the center of town.

Some of the residents who attended Monday's presentation complained that motorists ignored the stop sign at the corner of Main and Center streets. The students suggested replacing the stop sign with a stop light. They also suggested replacing the

pavement in the intersection with stone. This would have a slowing effect on motorists.

Other suggestions for improving the town included making more community areas like parks, community gardens, a bike path, a bandstand and an outdoor cafe.

As part of the planning process, the Alfred State students talked to students at Campbell-Savona Junior/Senior High school about what they would like to see in the town.

In response to the students' request for some place for youth to go, the plans included building a recreation center near the Scout lodge.

Town Supervisor David Tennent said he was

impressed with the plans the students developed.

"I am thrilled by the creativity," Tennent said. "I saw a lot of fresh ideas. They put a lot of thought and effort into this."

Tennent said this was not just an academic exercise that would collect dust on a shelf. He said that many pieces of the plan could be implemented by the town board.

He said he would recommend the town undertake some of the less costly projects first, like the beautification of the town entrance and building a bike path.

He said the next step would be for the town board to start building the projects into the town budget and seeking funding sources such as grants to help with the costs.