The proposal of the Living Street is to reform the street infrastructure by expanding the road beyond the curbs and merge the street and sidewalk space into a central pedestrian streetscape with slowed vehicle traffic that then connects to Grow and Play community parcels. The properties with current condemned housing can be redeveloped into these community parcels with opportunities for community gardening, noise reduction structures, green spaces for informal play, hardscaping for multi-purpose sport and play uses, and plantings for pollinators, rainwater management, and noise reduction.
The current state of Ganster undergoes the obstacles created by the direct adjacency to Route 8, with which its initial construction split residential communities and disrupted access to downtown Etna. Ganster street and its residents continually endure the noise and pollution caused by the bustling highway bordering the south end of the street. Adding to the difficulties of the street is the failing infrastructure of the road itself combined with informal sidewalk parking that is further limiting access of the street to both residents and emergency vehicles. And the surrounding landscape calls into question the extensive water management issues with an underground stream crossing under the southern line of homes on Ganster.
GANSTER STREET AND RESIDENCE

ROUTE 8

EXISTING CONDITIONS

VIEW DOWN GANSTER

STEEP SLOPE

CARS PARKED ON STREET & SIDEWALK

BLOCKED FIRE HYDRANT

TRASH FROM HIGHWAY

GANSTER STREET AND RESIDENCE
EXISTING CONDITIONS
VIEW FROM ROUTE 8

LACK OF ANY VISUAL OR SOUND BARRIER FROM ROUTE 8
The proposal of the Living Street is to reform the street infrastructure by expanding the road beyond the curbs and merge the street and sidewalk space into a central pedestrian streetscape with slowed vehicle traffic that then connects to Grow and Play community parcels. The properties with current condemned housing can be redeveloped into these community parcels with opportunities for community gardening, noise reduction structures, green spaces for informal play, hardscaping for multi-purpose sport and play uses, and plantings for pollinators, rainwater management, and noise reduction.
Visual shows the terraced garden space with raised gardening beds community food gardening and other opportunities for green space. The view also shows the widened roadway to accommodate for a heavier pedestrian presence.

Featuring: Permeable Paving, Retaining Wall where building foundations once stood with an addition of hydroponic planting installations along the wall.
Visual shows the upper level of the terraced garden, featuring more areas for community food gardening, lounge seating under the current and proposed planting shade, and a sitting wall that one can look over to enjoy the site of the street.

Featuring: Permeable Paving Walkways, Brick Seating Wall / Extension of Concrete Retaining Wall, and Native Plantings
Visual shows the heightened gardening beds for ADA accessibility and the proposed formal parking area, to provide formal parking spots to discourage sidewalk parking. Featuring: Permeable Paving, Softscape of Green Space, Native and Edible Plantings, and Seating Areas.
Visual shows where the hardscaped surface for sports play is located in the parcel across the street, along with a densely vegetation noise reduction wall. Featuring: Permeable Paving, Plantings for Noise Reduction, and Plantings for Rain Water Management that start on street level and travel down through the inset rain garden.
THANK YOU TO OUR ETNA BOROUGH PARTNERS FOR YOUR CONTINUAL COLLABRATION

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