

# 2013

## **PROGRESS INVENTORY**

*Connecticut Bicycle and  
Pedestrian Advisory Board*

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**This document is intended to serve as a companion to the 2013 annual report of the Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board.** The report may be available online at the Board's website at <http://ctbikepedboard.org>.

*This document may not represent all progress in the state: only departments, organizations, and communities that responded to the Board's request for information are included. The information herein has not been verified and may contain errors or omissions and may be subject to change.*

# State-Funded Projects

## Department of Transportation

- » A comprehensive list of all federally-funded transportation projects in Connecticut is available at [www.ct.gov/dot/STIP](http://www.ct.gov/dot/STIP)
- » An more user-friendly list of projects and project components identified by the Department as fulfilling the requirements of Public Act 09-154 is below.

Municipality	Project Title	Funding Source	Pedestrian and Bicycle Component Description	Ped. and Bicycle Component Cost (\$)
Bridgeport	Road Improvements: CT 130, CT 127, Waterview Ave & I-95 Exit 28 NB off ramp	TGR2	Concrete Sidewalks, Bituminous Sidewalks, Pedestrian Signals, Crosswalks	466,859.00
Bridgeport	Pavement Preservation: John St, Lafayette Blvd, Water St & North Frontage Rd	STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Crosswalks	80,000.00
Cheshire	Safety and Drainage Improvements on Route 42 at King Road	STP	Concrete Sidewalks	50,244.00
Danbury	Traffic Signal Coordination Project for Backus Avenue	STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	4,469.20
Danbury	Install Traffic Signal @ Osborne & Fifth St	STP	Concrete Sidewalks, Pedestrian Signals, Crosswalks	8,576.00
Derby	Naugatuck River Greenway (Phase III)	STP	Ped/Bike Enhancement Project (Entire Project Dedicated to Ped/Bike Improvements)	499,691.00
Derby	Pavement Rehab: Hawthorne Ave from Sixth St to Talmadge St	STP	Concrete and Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks	50,920.00
East Haddam	Rehabilitation of Bridge Numbers 02501 and 02502, Route 82 over Succor Brook	STATE	Concrete and Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Bridge Railing	130,643.00
Farmington	Pavement Preservation on Route 4	STP	Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks	9,600.00
Glastonbury, Wethersfield	Rehabilitation of Bridge Number 00417 (Putnam Bridge) over CT River	BRX, NHPP, STP	Pedestrian Bridge Railing	1,425,200.00
Glastonbury	Traffic Signals on Main St from Putnam Blvd to Wells St	CMAQ	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Brick Walk, Pedestrian Signals	117,077.00
Greenwich	Rehabilitation of Lockwood Lane over I-95 Bridge No. 00017	STATE	Concrete and Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks	14,250.00
Greenwich	Bridge Replacement - Riversville Rd over Byram River	STP	Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks	2,520.00
Hartford	New Britain-Hartford Busway Contract 4, between Sigourney and Broad Streets	FTA, STATE	Concrete and Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	39,306.50
Manchester	Reconstruction of North Main Street	STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Pedestrian Signals	60,000.00

Municipality	Project Title	Funding Source	Pedestrian and Bicycle Component Description	Ped. and Bicycle Component Cost (\$)
Meriden	Quinnipiac River Bikepath, Phase 2	HPPS, STP	Ped/Bike Enhancement Project (Entire Project Dedicated to Ped/Bike Improvements)	1,081,269.53
Meriden	Intersection Improvements - West Main Street	STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Brick Walk, Bench, Pedestrian Signals	127,290.00
Middlefield	Replacement of Bridge Number 01398, Route 147 over Coginchaug River	STATE	Pedestrian Bridge Railing	38,600.00
New Haven	Computerized Traffic Signal System (Phase 3D)	CMAQ	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	450,000.00
New Haven	Intersection Improvements on Route 10 at Lamberton Street	SIPH	Concrete Sidewalks, Ramps and Pedestrian Signals	60,870.80
New Haven	Reconstruction of I-95 NB in the Long Wharf Area	IRD, SRD, STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	133,953.00
New Haven	Upgrade of Sidewalk Ramps on US Route 1, Route 34, Route 10 and Route 706	STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps	260,000.00
New Haven	Route 34 Downtown Crossing, Phase 1	TGR2, STP	Concrete Sidewalks, Ramps, Crosswalks, Bituminous Bike Path, Pavement Widening for Bike Lane, Pedestrian Signals	950,000.00
New London	Safety Improvements - Bank Street, Howard Street and Blinman Street	SIPH	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Pedestrian Signals	52,230.00
New London	Roadway Improvements to Montauk Avenue (Phase 2)	STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Crosswalks	394,000.00
Newtown	Rehabilitation of Bridge Numbers 04255 and 042561, I-84 over Center Street	STATE	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps	20,720.00
Branford, North Branford	Intersection Improvements on Route 139 between Marbar Street and Valley Road	SIPH	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	2,107.00
Norwalk	Ped/Bike Safety Improvements on Strawberry Hill Ave	SRSI	Safe Routes to School Project (Entire Project Dedicated to Ped/Bike Improvements)	598,461.72
Norwalk	Traffic signal Upgrade along West & Belden	HPPS	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Pedestrian Signals	105,700.00
Shelton	Installation of Sidewalks, Curbing & Landscaping on Canal Street	TCSP	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Pedestrian Lighting	607,154.30
Somers	Reconstruction of Route 190 at Ninth District Road	STP	Concrete Steps, Concrete Sidewalks, Bridge Railing, Crosswalks, Pedestrian Signals	102,320.50
Southington	Reconstruction of Mount Vernon Road	STP	Concrete and Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks	5,060.00
South Windsor	Pedestrian Safety Improvements - Vicinity of Orchard Hill Elementary School	SRSI	Safe Routes to School Project (Entire Project Dedicated to Ped/Bike Improvements)	287,066.50
Stamford	Hope Street Improvements	STP	Concrete and Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	327,227.00

Municipality	Project Title	Funding Source	Pedestrian and Bicycle Component Description	Ped. and Bicycle Component Cost (\$)
Waterbury	Replacement of Bridge Number 02448, SR 801 (East Main Street) over Beaver Brook	STATE	Concrete and Bituminous Concrete Sidewalks	42,920.00
West Hartford	Rehabilitation of Bridge Number 01757, Oakwood Avenue #2 over I-84	STATE	Concrete Sidewalks	16,848.00
West Haven	Campbell Ave Streetscape Improvements	HPPS, STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Crosswalks, Benches	3,936,601.00
Winchester	Main St Streetscape Enhancements (Phase 2)	STP	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps, Paver Sidewalks, Crosswalks, Street Lighting	1,042,153.60
Wolcott	Replacement of Bridge Number 03075, SR 322 (Center Street) over Lindsley Brook	STATE	Concrete Sidewalks	1,160.00
Various in District 1	Installation and Revision of Traffic Control Signals	SIPH & STATE	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	109,610.60
Various in District 2	Installation and Revision of Traffic Control Signals	SIPH & STATE	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	89,518.20
Various in District 3	Installation and Revision of Traffic Control Signals	SIPH & STATE	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	318,741.25
Various in District 4	Installation and Revision of Traffic Control Signals	SIPH & STATE	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	147,793.00
Stamford	Stamford Transportation Center Pedestrian Bridge Over Washington Boulevard	STATE	Concrete Sidewalks and Pedestrian Signals	11,768.00
Stamford	Installation of Canopy at Glenbrook Railroad Station	STATE	Concrete Sidewalks	8,820.00
Branford, Guilford	Expansion of the Railroad Stations	STATE	Concrete Sidewalks and Ramps	56,210.00

## Department of Economic and Community Development

» DECD does not appear to list funding awards online. A table of projects of interest to pedestrians and cyclists funded in 2013 follows.

Municipality	Project	Fund	Grant Amount	DECD Assistance	Non-DECD Funds	Total Project Cost
Madison	Streetscape Improvements Phase II	STEAP	\$500,000	\$500,000		\$500,000
East Windsor	School Sidewalks	UA (OPM)	\$50,000	\$50,000		\$50,000
Marlborough	Streetscape Improvements Phase V	STEAP	\$400,000	\$400,000		\$400,000
Madison	Streetscape Improvements	STEAP	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$100,000	\$500,000
Avon	Village Center Improvements Phase II and III	STEAP	\$215,911	\$215,911		\$215,911
Deep River	Downtown Streetscape Improvements Phase V	STEAP	\$200,000	\$200,000		\$200,000
Branford	Branford Green Pedestrian Access 2011	STEAP	\$150,000	\$150,000		\$150,000

## Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

- » No Recreational Trails Program-funded projects were approved. However, new projects should be approved in the near future. Information should be posted at <http://www.ct.gov/deep/rectrails>.

## Department of Housing

- » Main Street Investment Fund-funded projects for 2013 may be found here: <http://1.usa.gov/1ivipgM>

## Office of Policy and Management

- » Small Town Economic Assistance Program-funded projects for 2013 may be found here: <http://1.usa.gov/KYnEd6>.
- » Urban Act Bond Allocation-funded projects may for 2013 may be found here: <http://1.usa.gov/1jMue2m>.

## Regions

With the emphasis on complete streets, sidewalks and their appurtenances are becoming standard if secondary features of transportation project. However, projects and activities that serve pedestrians and cyclists directly remain less common. An inventory of such work undertaken by the state's regions in 2013 follows.

### Interregional Activities

#### Bike Share Feasibility Study

The Greater Hartford Transit District, in partnership with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA), and the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley, among others, came together to study the feasibility of the bike sharing in

central Connecticut, specifically as it relates to broadening the ridership reach of CTfastrak and the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield Commuter Rail. A Request for Proposals was issued in October 2013.

#### CTfastrak

CCRPA and CRCOG continued to work with CTDOT staff to support multimodal access to and from the future CTfastrak stations. Additionally, CCRPA and CRCOG are members of the Corridor Advisory Subcommittee on CTfastrak and have taken part in discussions and provided input on service planning and safety on the adjacent multiuse pathway.

## **Capitol Region Council of Governments**

### **Assistance to Bike Walk CT**

CRCOG provided assistance to Bike Walk Connecticut in planning and organizing the 2013 Summit in April and the National Bike to Work Day Statewide Celebration in May. These events provide education on bike and pedestrian issues and promotion for active transportation.

### **Bike and Pedestrian Sub-Committee**

This group met quarterly to discuss a range of bike and pedestrian topics including connectivity, iQuilt, Safe Routes to Schools, and updates on town projects.

### **Bike and Walk to Work, East Hartford**

With CRCOG assistance, East Hartford hosted a Bike and Walk to Work Day in September.

### **East Coast Greenway, Bloomfield**

The project will construct of 1.6 miles of multi-use trail East Coast Greenway trail running along an abandoned railroad bed between the in Bloomfield. The project is currently in the design phase.

### **Glastonbury Multi-Use Trail**

This project will construct 0.5 miles of multi-use trail from Western Boulevard to West Street.

### **Green Clearinghouse**

CRCOG further developed a website that with tools, examples and best practices on

green infrastructure, transit, access and mobility that, including information on non-motorized transportation.

### **Intermodal Triangle**

Working with CTTRANSIT, the City of Hartford, and CTDOT, CRCOG continued to advance the redesign of City streets to implement the federal TIGER funded Intermodal Transit Triangle project.

### **Pedestrian/Bicycle Crash Analysis**

A review of pedestrian and bicycle crashes in the Capitol Region. This analysis was finalized in 2013.

### **Plan of Conservation and Development**

CRCOG worked on an update of its regional plan. Review of the updated transportation chapter was completed in 2013. The draft plan espouses a complete streets to improve pedestrian and cyclist access and safety and includes a section on non-motorized transportation.

### **Putnam Bridge**

CTDOT is retrofitting a pedestrian walkway to the Putnam Bridge, which carries Route 3 over the Connecticut River. CRCOG and partners obtained funding to study connections from the bridge to local roads on each side of the river. The study was scheduled for completion in 2013.

### **Route 3 Traffic and Development Study**

This plan guides future transportation system improvements along in Rocky Hill and integrates improvements included in

the 2008 Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan. The plan was completed in 2013.

### **Route 6 Hop River Corridor Study**

This study, which was undertaken with the multiple partners, developed a plan for the corridor. The study addresses the safety, travel, and access needs of those using the corridor. The study was completed in 2013.

### **South Main Street (Route 83) Enhancements, Manchester**

This project includes pedestrian and cyclist improvements along South Main Street and Main Street (CT Route 83) from Spring Street to School Street.

### **Trout Brook Multi-Use Trail Projects**

The project will install 1.2-1.3 miles of multi-use trail along Trout Brook in West Hartford, extending the existing 0.5 mile Trout Brook Trail. The project is currently in the design phase.

## **Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA)**

### **Chamberlain Highway, Berlin**

A key piece of land will be acquired, allowing for a “shortcut” trail to make a loop on the New England National Scenic Trail, which runs on parallel ridges in the southern part of town.

### **Bike to Work Day**

CCRPA and the City of New Britain collaborated on the region’s first Bike to Work day event. The event, held in

downtown New Britain, served as a kickoff for the City’s Bicycle Connectivity Plan.

### **Farmington River Trail Repairs**

The root-damaged portion of the Farmington River Trail in Burlington is being reconstructed.

### **Central Connecticut State University Transportation Plan**

This plan emphasizes transit, biking, and pedestrian improvements. In addition to better campus circulation, the plan calls for better connections to neighborhoods, regional assets, and CTfastrak.

### **Eddy Glover Boulevard Diet and Trail**

A four-lane divided highway will be turned into a two-lane road and multi-use trail. CCRPA has studied the potential to extend this treatment to Ella Grasso Boulevard to connect with CCSU and CTfastrak.

### **Intermodal Bus-to-Trail Signage**

Signs will be installed at bus stops that direct people to multi-use trails such as the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, the Farmington River Trail, and the East Coast Greenway, as well as at trail heads to direct riders to bus stops.

### **Memorial Boulevard Road Diet and Pequabuck River Multi-Use Trail**

This proposal would implement a road diet on Memorial Boulevard in Bristol. A multi-use trail along the Pequabuck River could also connect Bristol, Forestville, Plainville, and the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail.



### **New Britain Downtown and CTfastrak Connectivity Improvements**

CCRPA is involved with a variety of studies and projects to improve pedestrian and cycling access in and around downtown New Britain and the CTfastrak station.

### **New Chapter of New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMBA)**

CCRPA continues to work with NEMBA's Northwest Connecticut chapter to improve access to existing and identify new trails.

### **Plainville Safe Routes to School**

A new paved path and crossing will be created between an elementary and middle school. This will allow children to walk to school safely and will link to the town's existing multi-use trail and the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail.

### **Plantsville Revitalization**

The center of Plantsville will be beautified. Facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, including those using the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, will be improved.

### **Plymouth Reservoir to Thomaston Dam**

CCRPA obtained funds to preserve the Plymouth Reservoir and is developing a trails to connect it to the existing system at nearby Thomaston Dam and eventually thence to the planned Naugatuck River Greenway and the Mattatuck Trail system.

### **Route 536 (Woodford Ave) Road Diet**

Woodford Avenue in Plainville, which is overbuilt for its current use, would be

reconstructed to be context-appropriate and safer for walking and biking.

### **Route 571 Road Diet and Multi-Use Trail**

A road diet and multi-use trail would be constructed on a divided highway Berlin-New Britain border to improve access to New Britain High School, the New Britain Stadium, and several adjacent parks.

### **Scenic Roads Designation for Routes 4, 69, and 179**

CCRPA obtained scenic designation to protect these routes in Burlington and Farmington, which are popular among recreational users.

### **Shuttle Meadow Reservoir Loop Trail**

A multi-use trail loop would be created around Shuttle Meadow Reservoir in New Britain and Southington. This trail would improve access to nearby orchards and the reservoir, which is recreationally popular.

### **Southington Center Street Traffic Calming Study**

CCRPA studied traffic calming options for Center Street in Downtown Southington. The study recommends reducing the width of travel lanes, adding street parking, and painting bike lanes.

### **Southington Safe Routes to School**

New sidewalks will be built to a middle school. This will improve safety for children walking to and from school as well as for all pedestrians in the vicinity.

### **Terryville Safe Routes to School**

A new sidewalk connection will be created in the center of Terryville between two schools. This will improve safety for children walking to and from school as well as for all pedestrians in Terryville.

## **Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley (COGCNV)**

### **Farmington Canal Trail in Cheshire**

The West Main to Jarvis Streets section (1.5 miles) is expected to be under construction this spring. The Town of Cheshire is responsible for this project. The remainder of the greenway is being designed and will be constructed by the State of Connecticut. The remaining sections are Cornwall Avenue to West Main Street (.66/mile) and Jarvis Street to the Southington line (2.4 miles). The state is nearly 2 to 3 years behind the town relative to design and construction of these sections.

### **Naugatuck River Greenway in Waterbury**

The first phase of the Naugatuck River Greenway in Waterbury along South Main Street is nearing 30% design. The city approved funding to continue the design of the greenway to downtown.

### **Steele Brook Greenway in Watertown**

The first part of the Steele Brook Greenway was built. It is a quarter mile walking path along the Steel Brook in the center of Watertown.

### **Naugatuck River Greenway Steering Committee**

With support from the National Park Service, COGCNV has been hosting the Naugatuck River Greenway Steering Committee. The committee has met monthly to discuss greenway issues, share experiences, and work jointly on projects including the Naugatuck River website [Naugatuckriver.net](http://Naugatuckriver.net) and joint National Recreational Trails Grant applications.

The U.S. Department of the Interior's America's Great Outdoors (AGO) report identified the Naugatuck River Greenway as one of the top 101 outdoors projects in the United States. In celebration and furtherance of the Greenway the National Park Service organized an event on September 23, 2012 involving the entire eleven municipality corridor. A peloton of cyclists rode the whole corridor, stopping in each town. In Waterbury, a family bicycle day (Waterbury on Wheels) was held in collaboration with the AGO event. Traffic around the downtown green was shut down and families were invited to bike around it and participate in various activities. Wal-Mart donated 150 bicycles which were given out to kids who otherwise couldn't afford them.

Also as part of the AGO bicycle day, Beacon Falls held a ribbon cutting on the first portion of its greenway trail along the Naugatuck River. The town reclaimed part of old Route 8 from Depot Street to Bethany Road (Route 42) for the greenway trail. The ribbon cutting was attended by the DEEP Commissioner and the peloton

of cyclists. The project was recognized with an award from Celebrate Connecticut.

## **Southwestern Regional Planning Agency (SWRPA)**

In 2013, SWRPA updated the South Western Region Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The plan reviews pedestrian and cyclist travel in the region and describes major initiatives to build new pedestrian and cyclist facilities. The update added information on new federal and State policies; recent plans, such as the Merritt Parkway Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study, Connect Norwalk, the Norwalk River Valley Trail Routing Study; revised multi-use trail routings and descriptions, and references to complete streets recommendations in recent SWRPA studies.

## **Municipal Activities**

With the emphasis on complete streets, sidewalks and their appurtenances are becoming standard if secondary features of transportation project. However, projects and activities that serve pedestrians and cyclists directly remain less common. An inventory of such work undertaken by the state's regions in 2013 follows.

### **New Britain**

New Britain has made progress in making the downtown more pedestrian friendly and the overall city more bike friendly. Accomplishments include the completion of a *City-wide Bike Connectivity Plan* and a Sustainable Communities Initiative-

funded *Complete Streets Master Plan for Downtown New Britain*.

Even though both planning documents have only recently been completed the implementation of both of these plans is well underway. Some of the highlights include implementing road diets on a section of Main Street, major streetscape enhancements on much of Main Street, the introduction of head-out angled parking on Chestnut Street, and installing over five miles of new bikes lanes throughout the City. The City is also developing bike advocacy with its "Bike New Britain" initiative. Through "Bike New Britain", the City plans capitalize on the many cycling events that already happen in and around it, and to change New Britain's culture.

### **New Haven**

Elm City Cyclists actively encourages bicycling and improved bicycling facilities in New Haven. Their latest effort is their *2013 Bike and Pedestrian Plan, A Vision for the Future*. Drawing on the inspiration of *8-80 Cities*, this document envisions a future where those aged 8 through 80 can safely and conveniently bike in the City.

### **New Milford**

In cooperation with Mayor Pat Murphy and many local business owners, the New Milford River Trail Association has begun a program to install a total of 13 bike racks throughout New Milford's downtown business district (and at a number of local parks). In return for underwriting the cost

of installing a bike rack, the business owner gets their company name engraved onto a plaque that will be permanently affixed to the bike rack or sidewalk.

## **Norwalk**

The City finished construction of a Safe Routes to School project on Strawberry Hill Avenue. The project included a new traffic signal, crosswalk and sidewalk improvements, and one mile of new bicycle lanes near Naramake Elementary School and Nathan Hale Middle School.

## **Simsbury**

### **Bike Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

The new committee, established in March 2013, now consists of town officials and bike advocates. Members include many volunteers including the town bike shop manager, a member of Simsbury Police Department, Simsbury Director of Public Works, President of the Farmington Valley Trails Council, Director of Farmington Valley Health District, the Director of Simsbury Free Bike, a regional bike share program, and several others. Each month the meeting includes guests attend from special interest groups and other towns. The group works to improve bike/pedestrian conditions based on feedback from the League of American Bicyclists and the needs of the town.

### **Bike Safety Education Pilot Program**

2013 was the pilot year for bike safety education (Physical Education

Department) for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders in two Simsbury elementary schools. The program was very successful and the program was given a green light to expand the operation town-wide. The High School also offered a summer school program that included Bike Safety education with rides to town using newly learned traffic and safety skills. Photos available on request

### **Train-the-Trainer Bike Safety Education Program for PE Teachers**

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, Simsbury hosted a Physical Education Teacher Train-the-Trainer program to promote bike safety education in our public schools. A dozen Physical Education teachers from 10 towns came to Simsbury to participate in a one day, classroom and on-bike, program, supported by Bike Walk Connecticut and led by Jim Arnold from Berlin.

### **Free Bike Regionalization**

In October of 2013, Simsbury Free Bike ended its third season. In three years, the program grew from 6 bikes to 50, from a single Simsbury distribution center in 2010 to ten locations in six towns. This expansion generated an increase in ridership from 150 to 1200. The program is wrapped around the bike trail and most of the distribution centers are in close proximity to the trail with staff to manage rider requests over the weekends. Simsbury Free Bike volunteers are also assisting with development of a small fleet of 18" and 20" children's bikes for use by the Simsbury School Bike Safety Program.

### **Weekly Bike Column in the Valley Press**

The Valley Press agreed to allow bike advocates to run a weekly bike/pedestrian column beginning November 7<sup>th</sup>. Topics are to focus on biking and walking in the Farmington Valley and will include topics such as trail etiquette, bike maintenance, trail maintenance/expansion updates, the bike ambassador program, motorist/cyclist road rules and responsibilities and more.

### **Rides with Commissioner Esty/DEEP**

The first ride was a Simsbury based ride to Stratton Brook Park with Commissioner Esty and Mary Glassman to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the park system and to raise awareness of the importance of Stratton Brook Park as a bikeway to the town for students, visitors, bikers and walkers and to discuss opening the park for mountain biking. The “official” Farmington River Trail, runs through Stratton Brook Park, but is seldom used due to the condition of connecting trails. Improvement of the condition of this trail segment is a priority for Simsbury in 2014.

The second ride, a 52-mile trip from New Haven to Massachusetts focused on the importance of closing the two gaps in Plainville and Cheshire to complete the 84-mile off-road route. About 50 cyclists joined the DEEP Commissioner with press stops in New Haven, Cheshire, and Plainville and lunch in Simsbury.

### **Bike to Work Day**

Simsbury hosted its first Bike to Work celebration on Iron Horse Boulevard in

May of 2013 during National Bike Month. Riders were greeted with coffee, a light breakfast, and smiles from bike advocates and town officials. A similar event is planned for May 2014.

### **Safe Routes to School Expansion**

Program results from October 2013 were outstanding. The program continues to gain momentum and support from the community.

### **Bike Month and Bike to School Day Expanding**

Two Simsbury Schools participated in Bike to School events in May 2013, and the largest school, Squadron Line, will be riding in May of 2014. One 4<sup>th</sup> grade class from Squadron Line School biked to school on Bike to Work Day in 2013 as a pilot for their school wide program in 2014.

### **Development of Bikapalooza**

To kick off the biking season, a new signature event, “BikeAPalooza”, is currently scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Simsbury Performing Arts Center. The plan, under development, will include a family bike ride, demos by bike shops, stunt riders and more. The event is designed as a family event that focuses on bike programs and bike safety. Both calendars are available on request.

### **Bikes on Public TV:**

Several bike-related programs have been produced in 2013. Topics included Simsbury Free Bike, Simsbury School’s

Bike Safety Program, and the Safe Routes to School program in Simsbury.

### **Simsbury High School Cycling Club Formed**

Connecticut Cycling Advancement Program has teamed up with the Simsbury Bike Pedestrian Advisory Committee to engage high school students in cycling. Cycling programs for our older students has been a committee priority and the CCAP relationship will offer coaching and guidance for these students.

## **South Windsor**

### **Bicycle Accommodations:**

Chapel Road is being repaved and remarked to provide bike lanes from Clark St. to Route 5, and sharrows added to the section from Route 5 to Main St.

### **Bicycle Rack Program**

SWW&WW is working to populate the town with bicycle racks at all public buildings and sites including parks, schools, libraries, and municipal buildings. The second phase of this project is to encourage businesses to provide a bike rack for their customers.

### **Bicycle Safety Education Programs**

SWW&WW teamed up with Bike Walk Connecticut to offer bicycle education to 4<sup>th</sup> graders through their Physical Education at Orchard Hill and Phillip R. Smith Schools twice (spring & fall) and once at Pleasant Valley School in the fall. Students received on and off bike lessons.

To date, they have used bikes from Bike Walk Connecticut, but are in process of purchasing their own fleet. They use the Bike Walk Connecticut curriculum and volunteers from SWW&WW, some of whom became League-Certified Instructors, assist town in the program. SWW&WW and Bike Walk CT have also offered a bicycle education class to adults 55 and over and hope to offer it again in the near future.

## **Stamford**

The City of Stamford has been building facilities, such as sidewalks, bike lanes, and sharrows wherever possible. The City has planned improvements on the Mill River Corridor to connect to facilities on Washington Boulevard and neighborhood streets in the South End. Bike lanes connecting to the Corridor will also be installed on Pulaski Street, and a bike lane in the Gateway development will run from Station Place to Pulaski Street. Also, City is committed to installation of sharrows on all streets near the Stamford Train Station.

In addition to this work, the City began construction of the second phase of the Stamford Urban Transitway, a complete street linking the Transportation Center to the East Side. The transitway includes one general purpose lane, one high occupancy vehicle/transit lane, one bicycle lane, and a sidewalk in each direction.

A new group, People Friendly Stamford working to make the city more bike and walk friendly. Currently they are working

with CTDOT to improve access on particular state highways.

## **Torrington**

The City adopted a resolution supporting Complete Streets.

## **West Hartford**

The town has an active bike advocacy group, Bike West Hartford, which assists the town's bike advisory committee in promoting bicycling. In 2013, the committee held its inaugural bicycle festival, Wheel Fun Day, sponsored regular informal rides, and advised the town on how to become more bicycle-friendly. The committee also assisted the town in applying to the League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly community program.

## **Wilton**

Norwalk River Valley Trail (NRVT) advocates, which include volunteers from Danbury, Norwalk, Redding, Ridgefield, and Wilton, celebrated the groundbreaking for a half-mile section of multi-use trail. The full trail, as envisioned in the 2012 NRVT Routing Study, would span thirty-eight miles from the Long Island Sound in Norwalk to Danbury through the eponymous corridor. The half-mile section, funded with more than \$375,000 raised from private sources, is being built on CTDOT land acquired in the early 1970s for the "Super 7" expressway. It is hoped

this piece of trail will act as a springboard for further fundraising.

# **Advocacy Groups**

## **American Society of Landscape Architects**

The Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects presented during a full-day program on October 1, 2013 on complete streets.

## **East Coast Greenway Alliance**

In 2013, CTDOT marked state-managed sections of the East Coast Greenway from Hartford to the New York state line with East Coast Greenway signs. Several municipalities on the trail also marked town-owned sections, including Plainville, Farmington, and New Haven.

## **Bike Walk Connecticut**

Over the past year, Bike Walk Connecticut hosted the statewide Bike to Work program, encouraging over 20 entities to sponsor bike-to-work events. More than 700 individuals participated. 41% were first-time bike commuters. A total of 4,949 miles were commuted by bike on Bike to Work Day. Four commissioners and three deputy commissioners rode to work. Bike Walk Connecticut also hosted a class to train 12 more League of American Bicyclists Cycling Instructors in 2013 and worked with the Town of Simsbury to host a class for Physical Education teachers on how to teach bicycle safety. Bike Walk held

its signature event, the Discover Hartford Tour, a family friendly event to encourage individuals to get onto their bikes and explore the City. The organization also hosted an annual bike walk summit which brings together advocates, agency staff, and policy makers to learn and discuss.

## **Connecticut Cycling Advancement Program**

A new organization, the Connecticut Cycling Advancement Program, is developing bicycle racing programs in the state's high schools. In 2013 they held a Criterium, with races for professionals and amateurs, in downtown Hartford. It is planned to become an annual event.

## **Connecticut Main Street Center**

### **Complete Streets Workshops**

Connecticut Main Street Center (CMSC) partnered with CTDOT and UConn produce a series of workshops on complete streets. Workshops were designed to introduce all stakeholders to Complete Streets, learn what the challenges and opportunities are, and how to advocate for, fund and implement a Complete Streets program.

### **Corridor Advisory Committee**

CTDOT asked CMSC and partners to convene officials from municipalities on the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail corridor and CTfastrak. Municipalities have met meet with CTDOT to share ideas

on TOD. Out of these meetings, CMSC developed a workshop "Creating Transit Villages in Connecticut" that brought in representatives from the New Jersey Transit Village program and Massachusetts' Metropolitan Area Planning Council. More workshops are planned to continue to educate people on how to do transit village development.

### **Come Home to Downtown**

Come Home to Downtown is a CMSC that creates housing opportunities while revitalizing downtown neighborhoods. CMSC worked with three communities, Middletown, Torrington, and Waterbury, to develop redevelopment options including measuring downtown walkability.