

Complete Streets

PUBLIC INFORMATION & INPUT SESSION

Groton, Massachusetts
Complete Streets Committee

February 2, 2017



Today's Objectives

- ❖ Introduction to the *Complete Streets Program* and Groton's **Complete Streets Policy**
- ❖ Identification of the *palette of Complete Streets tools* that may be applicable to Groton
- ❖ *Feedback from you* on the **Complete Streets Committee's Draft Priority Project List**



Why are Complete Streets important?

Streets are inadequate

- No sidewalks
- Too dangerous to cross on foot



Streets are inadequate

- Inaccessible for wheelchair users



- Unsafe for people on bicycles



What is a Complete Street? Complete Streets offer *all* users service



What makes a **Complete Street**?

- ❖ Respects **all** of its intended users
- ❖ Can include features associated with **'Traffic Calming'**, **'Safe Routes to School'**, and **transit service enhancements**
- ❖ Can involve **re-designating existing paved areas** without altering paved widths
- ❖ Can involve **altering (widening or narrowing) paved areas or features** within existing layouts to encourage walking and cycling and **ADA compliant access**
- ❖ Are **environmental/historic context-sensitive and sustainable**



Complete Streets include a wide range of pedestrian crossing enhancements



Complete Streets include a wide range of bicycling enhancements



Complete Streets include a wide range of ADA accessibility enhancements



Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Selected Public Sidewalk Criteria (2010 DOJ)

- ❖ Maximum 1/48 or 2% cross-slope and 5% running slope
- ❖ Minimum headroom 6 2/3 feet
- ❖ Minimum 3 feet wide accessible route ; 5-feet wide recommended for 2-way travel or every 200 feet if 3-5 feet
- ❖ Maximum 1/4-1/2 inch variation in grade
- ❖ Ramps at crossings must have no more than a 8.33% grade (1/12) minimum 3 feet wide leveling area



The many types of Complete Streets



Restriping a busy multi-modal thoroughfare



The many types of Complete Streets

Main streets



Smart Growth America
Making Neighborhoods Great Together



National Complete
Streets Coalition



Complete Street Examples (other communities)



Complete Street Examples (other communities)



The many types of Complete Streets



Residential street with sidewalk and unmarked shoulder for bikes



The many types of Complete Streets

There are no 'typical' Complete Streets strategies

Proponents should design to fit the environment and user needs



Benefits of Complete Streets

- ❖ Streets with dedicated space for bicycling and walking help people of all ages and abilities *become more physically active*;
- ❖ Gives people more *control over expenses* and opportunities for exercise;
- ❖ *Reduces air pollution* by encouraging alternate modes of travel;
- ❖ *Reduces isolation and dependence* for people with disabilities;
- ❖ Accomplishes Groton *Master Plan goals*;
- ❖ *Money!!!*



Complete Streets Funding Program

- ❖ **Tier 1 – Staff training & adoption of Complete Streets Policy**
- ❖ **Tier 2 – Development of Complete Streets Prioritization Plan**
 - ✓ 12 potential projects identified by Complete Streets Committee;
 - ✓ Priority project list **DOES NOT** include privately-funded projects or those under jurisdiction of MassDOT;
 - ✓ Deadline for submission – April 1, 2017
- ❖ **Tier 3 – Project Approval & Notice to Proceed**
 - ✓ Up to \$400,000 available for construction;
 - ✓ Town identifies projects from Prioritization Plan for funding;
 - ✓ Town responsible for engineering costs;
 - ✓ Construction projects must be completed within one year;
 - ✓ Town enters into contract with MassDOT for funds reimbursement;
 - ✓ Town & District 3 Office are notified of approved projects;
 - ✓ Town enters process similar to Chapter 90.



Groton's Complete Streets Policy

- ❖ ADOPTED by the Board of Selectmen on 7/11/16.
- ❖ Includes a communitywide VISION.
- ❖ Specifies the broad range of USERS for each road category.
- ❖ Applies to NEW AND RETROFIT streets.
- ❖ Specifies EXCEPTIONS.
- ❖ Encourages TRAVEL CONNECTIVITY for all modes.
- ❖ Uses the BEST DESIGN CRITERIA APPLICABLE TO THE SETTING while incorporating flexibility. **One size does not fit all!**
- ❖ RESPECTS Groton's tree-friendly, rural context.
- ❖ Identifies MEASURABLE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.
- ❖ Identifies NEXT STEPS for policy implementation, including establishment of COMPLETE STREETS COMMITTEE.



Challenges to Implementing 'Complete Streets' throughout Groton

- ❖ **Grading/drainage/flooding/right-of-way constraints**
- ❖ **Costs of construction and maintenance**
- ❖ **Signs and markings – balance aesthetics/safety tradeoffs**
- ❖ **Identification of priority projects**

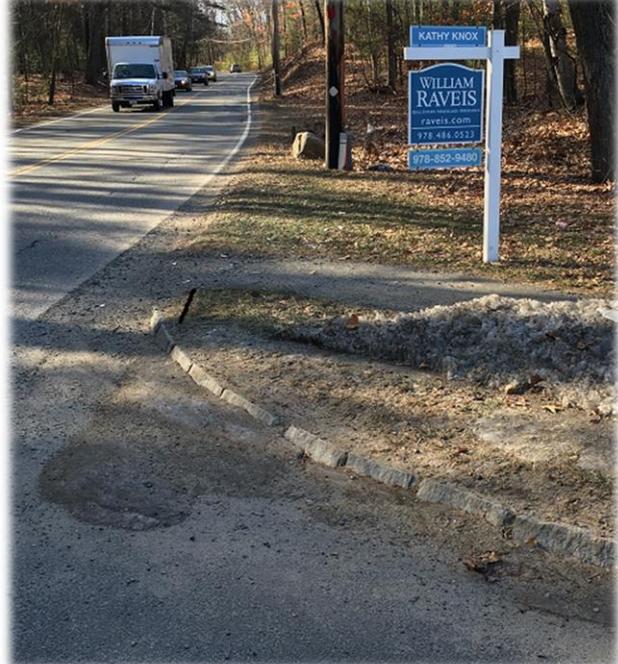


Eligible Infrastructure Projects

- ❖ **Street lighting**
- ❖ *Traffic calming*
- ❖ **Intersection improvements**
- ❖ *Pavement markings & stenciling*
- ❖ **Addition of or widening of shoulders**
- ❖ **Curbing & curb cuts**
- ❖ *Crosswalks & ADA/AAB compliant curb ramps*
- ❖ **Removal of protruding objects**
- ❖ **Wayfinding signs**
- ❖ *New or improved sidewalks*
- ❖ **Pedestrian refuge islands**
- ❖ *New or shared use paths*
- ❖ **Designated bicycle lanes**
- ❖ *Sharrows*
- ❖ *Bicycle racks*
- ❖ **Bike route signage**



Sandy Pond Road - Complete?



Sandy Pond Road Project



Sidewalk Extension to Robin Hill Road

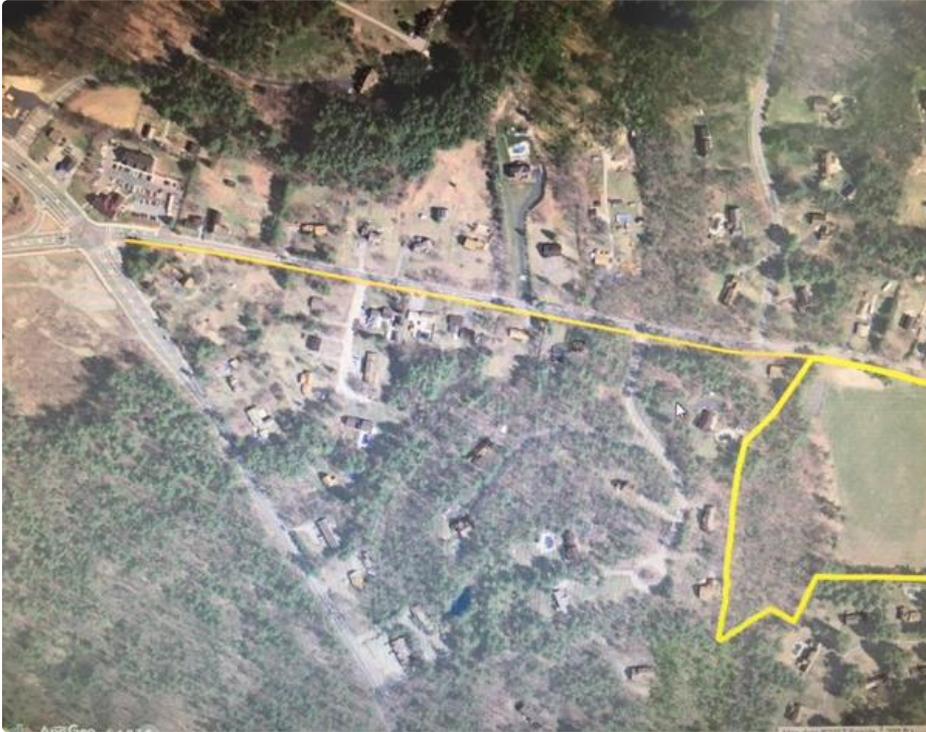
- Install \pm 275 l.f. sidewalk between townhouses and Robin Hill Road
- Install 4 ADA ramps & 2 crosswalks
- Completes pedestrian link between Shaws Plaza & Rocky Hill Estates
- Low cost project with minor grading



Forge Village Road- Complete?



Forge Village Road Project



Sidewalk Extension to Waitowicz Field

- Install \pm 2,300 l.f. sidewalk between Four Corners and Waitowicz Field
- Install 4 ADA ramps & 2 crosswalks
- Completes pedestrian link between Four Corners, subdivisions & playing field
- Medium cost, easy to construct

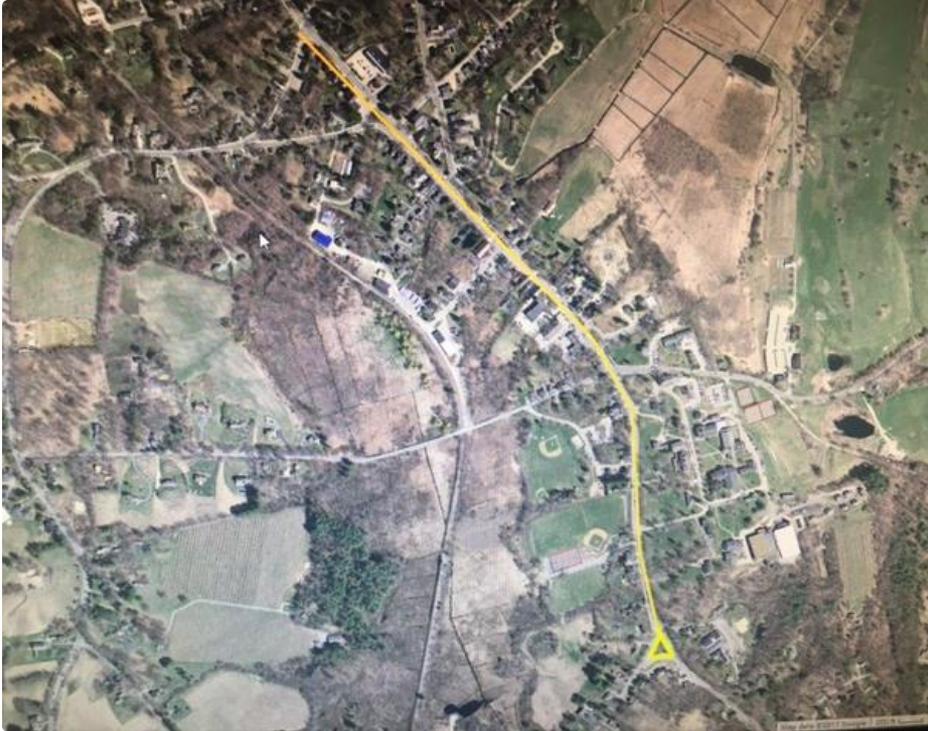


Main Street- Complete?



Main Street Project

- Install 32 ADA ramps, 6 decorative crosswalks, 6 flashing lights & signage
- Traffic calming project that enhances pedestrian safety
- High cost project



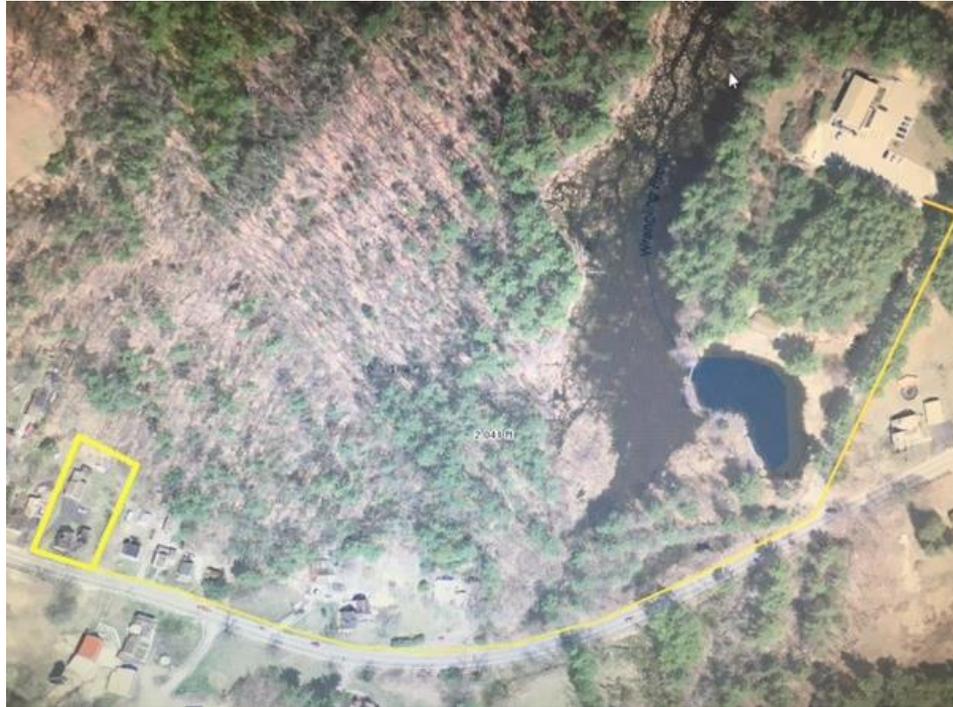
Traffic Calming on Main Street



West Main Street- Complete?



West Main Street Project



Pedestrian Route to Senior Center

- Install \pm 1,500 l.f. sidewalk from current terminus to Senior Center entrance and sharrow along driveway
- 2 ADA ramps, 1 crosswalk, 1 flashing light & signage
- Provides safe pedestrian accessibility to Senior Center
- Medium cost project, involves shifting road to avoid significant tree



Long Hill Road- Complete?



Long Hill Road Project

- Install \pm 900 l.f. sidewalk from River Bend Drive to Groton Place
- 4 ADA ramps & 2 crosswalks
- Provides safe pedestrian accessibility to a popular destination
- Low cost project when taking advantage of abandoned railroad bed



Sidewalk to Groton Place

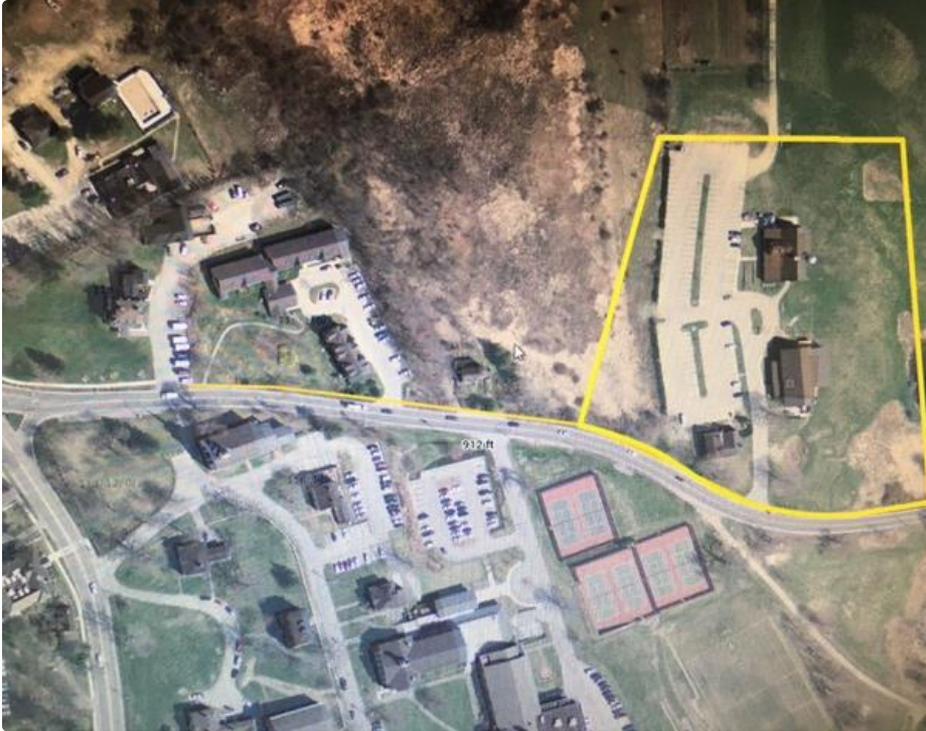


Lowell Road- Complete?



Lowell Road Project

- Install \pm 1,000 l.f. sidewalk from current terminus to Gibbett Hill Grill
- Provides safe pedestrian connection between Main Street & popular destination
- Low cost project

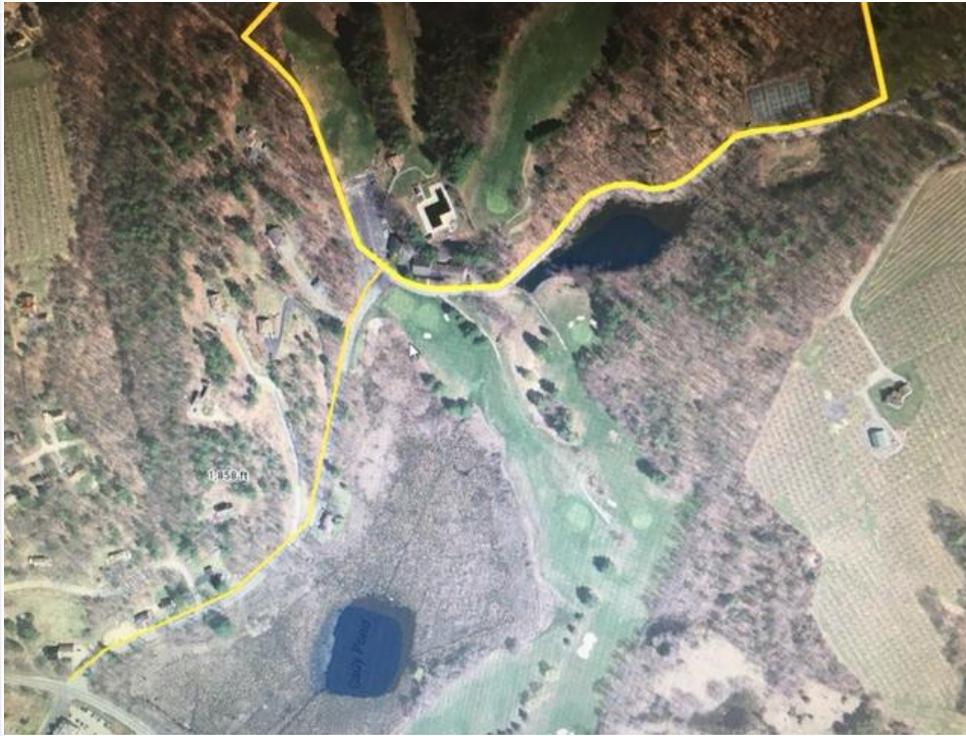


Sidewalk to Gibbett Hill Grill



Lovers Lane- Complete?





Multi-use trail to Country Club

Lovers Lane Project

- Construct \pm 1,900 l.f. multi-use trail between Boston Road and the Country Club
- 4 ADA ramps, 2 crosswalks
- Provides dedicated pedestrian link between Boston Road, homes & Country Club
- High cost project due to grading issues and wetlands mitigation



Chicopee Row - Complete?



Chicopee Row Project



Sidewalk to Williams Barn

- Install \pm 3,100 l.f. sidewalk from current terminus at Blossom Lane to Williams Barn
- 2 ADA ramps, 1 crosswalk
- Provides safe pedestrian connection between Hollis Street, the cemetery & Williams Barn
- High cost project due to limited ROW width, large embankment, and 2 wetland crossings

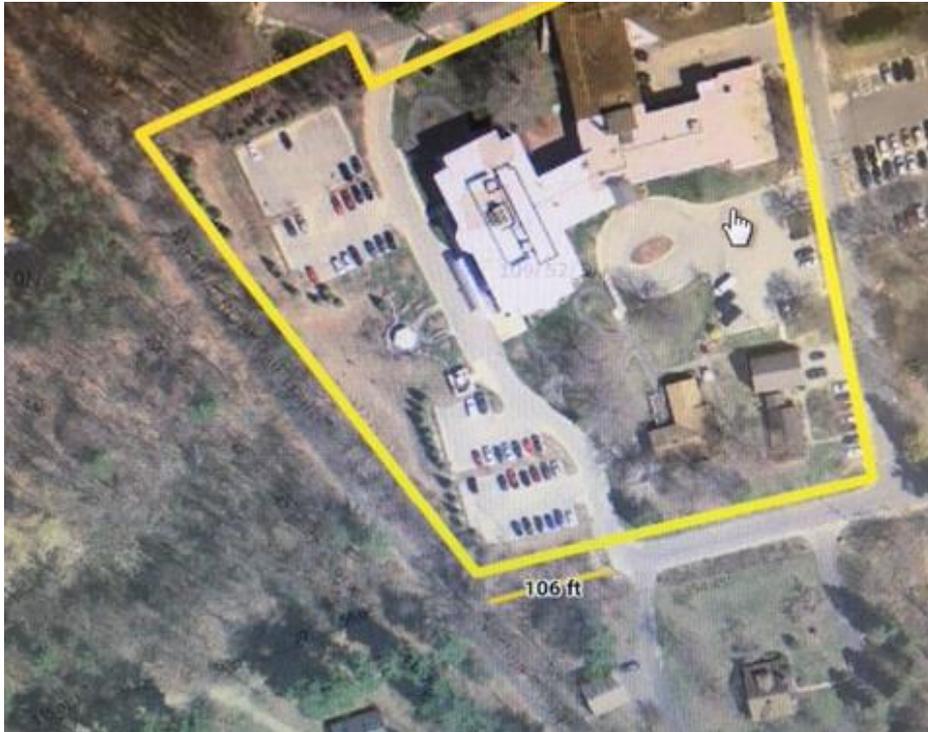


Rail Trail Linkage Project



Rail Trail Linkage Project

- **Temple Drive** - low cost
Pave existing dirt path
- **Whistle Post Lane** - low cost
Pave existing dirt path
- **West Street** - low cost
Construct new path
- **Route 119** - high cost
Construct new path,
grading issues/embankment

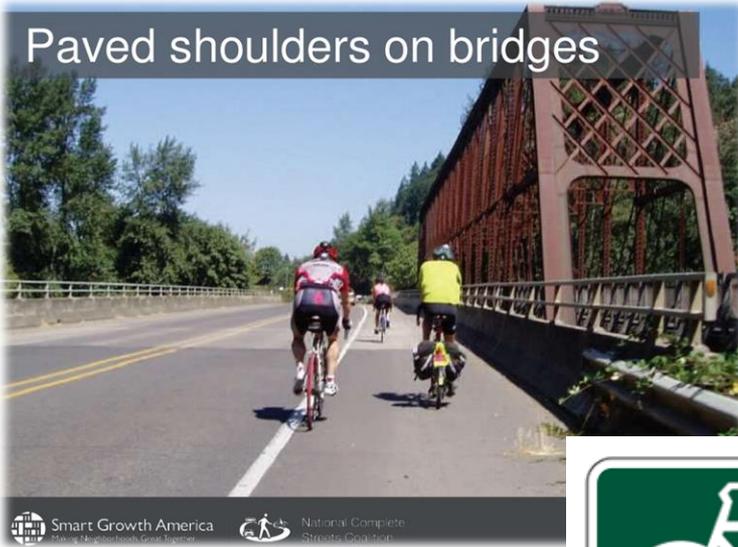


Formalize public connection to Nashua River Rail Trail from West St.



Road Sharing Project

Paved shoulders on bridges



Smart Growth America
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National Complete
Streets Coalition



Bike Facilities Project



Speed Limit Mitigation Project



MAKING ROADS SAFER



WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

QUESTIONS?

