

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD MEDIA CONTACT: Peter Gillespie, Town Planner 860 721-2838 Peter.gillespie@wethersfieldct.gov

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE/WORKSHOP TO BE HELD FOR THE PROPOSED WETHERSFIELD BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN

The Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee of the Town of Wethersfield will be hosting an open house and workshop to solicit public input on a bicycle and pedestrian plan for the Town.

If you live/ride/walk/work in Wethersfield, you need to get involved with this very important project to create a new bike and pedestrian plan for the community.

The Town is developing its first Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The Plan is intended to provide guidance to make Wethersfield a more bicycle and pedestrian friendly community where all local and regional destinations are connected through a comprehensive network of safe, convenient and accessible bicycle and pedestrian facilities to encourages travel, recreation and a healthy and active quality of life for all residents, visitors and employees.

The goals of the plan include:

1. Improving, expanding and maintaining the network of streets, intersections, sidewalks, trails and bike lanes throughout Town to encourage more bicycle and pedestrian activity.

2. Developing a comprehensive education and promotional program to encourage bicycling and walking as a safe and healthy alternative for transportation and recreation.

3. Increase funding for projects that will improve the transportation network with a particular emphasis on walking and bicycling.

Staff from the Town of Wethersfield, along with members of the Town's advisory committee, will be present to answer questions, review maps and gather feedback regarding bike and pedestrian needs throughout the town. A short presentation will take place at the beginning of the open house.

Input is needed to help review and prioritize the bicycle and pedestrian network recommendations.

The bike and pedestrian plan is anticipated to be completed in the spring of 2019.

The completion of the bike and pedestrian plan will provide the Town with the necessary tools and guidance to implement priority bicycle and pedestrian policies and projects, and to assist in applying for funding to create these connections and improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the Town.

A community survey has been set up and the community is encouraged to provide input. The survey is available at <u>www.surveymonkey.com/r/WethersfieldBikePedSurvey</u>

More information is available on the project Web site at www.wethersfieldct.gov/bike-pedplan

October 8, 2018

You may also contact Peter Gillespie directly at (860) 721-2838, or e-mail <u>peter.gillespie@wethersfieldct.gov</u> if you are interested in learning more about this project.

Interested citizens are encouraged to attend the public workshop to provide feedback:

Tuesday, October 30, 2018 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm Pitkin Community Center 30 Greenfield Street Wethersfield