

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 1, 2024**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, in the Selectmen's Chamber as well as via GoToMeeting by Chairman Polhamus. Members present: Mmes: Ausiello, Bratton, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber. A quorum was present.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Polhamus.

**III. PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:** January 4, 2024

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Barthel, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the minutes of the January 4, 2024 Meeting as drafted.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE** - None

**VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL**

Mrs. Bratton attended Orangetheory Fitness' ribbon cutting with Mrs. Barthel on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Barthel thanked Public Works for their recent snow clearing efforts. She reminded all that the Recreation & Parks Master Plan survey went live today and runs through February 29<sup>th</sup>; the first public meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m. at the Avon Free Public Library.

Chairman Polhamus invited all to attend the Budget Work Session on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. He clarified recent comments posted on social media regarding the Secret Lake fire station – that fire station is not closed, a smaller fire engine resides there, volunteers respond from their homes in the middle of the night, and there is a mutual aid system in place, depending on the type of call that comes in. He added that volunteers versus paid firefighters have been a topic of discussion for many years; and we are making sure that public safety is a priority for us.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**21/22-46 American Rescue Plan Act: Discussion re: Projects List**

The Town Manager noted that some proposed projects will be seen in the FY 25 capital budget requests. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, the Town Manager responded that with regards to the Deepwood Drive/New Road Drainage Project we are still ramping up for the project.

**22/23-37      Presentation: Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan**

Dave Sullivan, Manager of Traffic and Transportation Planning, Holly Parker, Project Manager, and Fiona Flynn, Engineer, from SLR International Corporation provided a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes) regarding the Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan. The Town Manager noted that following tonight's presentation, assuming Council is comfortable with the final draft plan, we will share it with the public one last time, see if there are any comments over the next thirty days, take and process those comments and discuss at Council's March or April regular meeting, make any final revisions if needed and then have Council adopt the Plan. Ms. Flynn noted that the bike recommendations (slide #14) are broken out into long term and short term recommendations. In response to a question from Mrs. Bratton, Ms. Flynn responded that in their long term recommendations certain roads could either have bike lanes on either sides or side paths and in other areas with more constraints only a side path may fit. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, Mr. Sullivan responded that short term projects are relatively low cost (under \$100,000) and can get done quickly (no right of way concerns, no construction, design or permitting) versus long term projects. Mr. Sullivan noted that the Implementation Matrix can be a functional tool for Town staff. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, Mr. Sullivan responded that twelve foot lanes used to be the standard, but many use eleven feet and even ten feet in some cases where traffic calming and speeds are low enough; if a road is twenty-two feet wide, we would put white stripes on the outside so the travel lane between the white line and yellow line is ten feet. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Sullivan responded that there are different kinds of trails ranging from a paved trail with pavement markings and very structured to a five foot gravel foot path; for connectivity and mobility they looked at connecting the great trail you have now to other trails or to sidewalks; on certain roads if the traffic calming and speeds are such bike lanes on the pavement and sidewalks right up against the road are not desirable or maybe there is a constraint on one side of the road which results in maybe a side path, approximately eight-feet wide, on the other side of the road or more directly with an important link for bikes with a ten foot side path which can veer off the roadway alignment at some point. Ms. Parker noted that constraints include a guide rail, a brook and a culvert, or right-of way issue; what they have proposed is buildable. Mr. Sullivan added that one of the biggest constraints on this whole project is CT DOT; anything on a state road they are very specific on their parameters; keep them front of mind and when they are going through their maintenance and paving projects, have the dialogue with them and see if they can be sure to reduce the lanes, maximize the shoulders and maybe you can get some on road bike lanes, etc. put in place. The Town Manager commented that there is typically a notification received by the CT DOT in those scenarios. He added that the Implementation Matrix will be used by Town staff as a point of reference when state road projects are coming up, in conjunction with our own pavement management plan, and if there is work that utilities are planning to do. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Sullivan responded that one recommendation includes a current bituminous sidewalk of approximately three and a half feet being brought up to a five foot standard. He added that for most streets they are not recommending sidewalks on both sides; they looked at these roads at a scale with no right of way, no constraints and put as long a stretch of sidewalk that would fit there; in one case on Huckleberry Hill Road they suggested that you cannot put a sidewalk on either side but you could move the road over enough to fit a four foot sidewalk on one side – two benefits, gives you traffic calming and allows a continuous stretch of sidewalk. Mrs. Bratton inquired about the clearing of sidewalks for an owner who now has a new sidewalk. The Town Manager responded that the default is that if you have a sidewalk in front of your house it is the abutters responsibility to clear; that was one

of the first focus questions put out to the community and the overwhelming response was positive to being responsible to clearing a new sidewalk in front of their property. Mrs. Bratton commented on an e-mail sent to Town Council with a suggestion about rumble strips for safety. Mr. Sullivan responded that rumble strips are a FWHA sanctioned counter measure and do work, however there is a lot to consider with where they are utilized. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, Ms. Parker responded that the public will be able to zoom in on the street view in the final draft Master Plan that gets posted. The Town Manager noted that a few hard copies can be made available at the Library in addition to posting the Master Plan on Facebook and through the Town's web site. The Town Manager recognized staff from his office, Planning, Engineering, and Recreation and Parks for having a significant hand in this; it is a great tool to have. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Mr. Sullivan responded that the greatest inhibitors to connect the Town together are money and will; there is a lot of momentum and will to do this, but money is a barrier; there is a lot of funding available out there including Safe Streets for All; CRCOG completed their first transportation high injury network which has identified Route 44 and making it friendly for bikes and pedestrians is an expensive ordeal with major constraints with a lot of traffic and a lot of speed; another constraint is the state highway system, quaint essential rural state highways where speeds are high, shoulders are marginal and a lot of noise on the shoulders. Ms. Parker commented there is momentum for Route 44 because of the safety element. Mr. Sullivan reported that all their short term recommendations connect the grid, making it a bit safer for cyclists with signage or a safer shoulder without a tremendous amount of money. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Sullivan commented on the Shake Shack that is going in on Route 44 and it was suggested to the developer to install a sidewalk, who is willing to do it, but will wait until there is a plan that makes sense. In response to a question from Mrs. Bratton, Mr. Sullivan responded that they tried to pick locations where tree removal, etc. is minimized; sidewalks could potentially also be moved around objects in the right-of-way. Ms. Flynn commented that the character of Avon should rightfully be preserved, and the most extreme version doesn't always need to be done. Mr. Weber noted that the Bicycle Connectivity Network is missing three trail heads: Governor's Horse Guard Trail, a state park at the western end of Arch Road; Avon Land Trust trail head at Nod Way, and a trail head at Hazen Park. Mrs. Barthel shared an interest in there being a mountain biking park in Avon for kids of all ages to use from gliders up to full adult mountain bikes and asked where in Town a good location might be with easy access; she would be willing to write a grant for it as well; she lived in Seattle where her town had a bike park that was used by all ages. Council thanked SLR for their presentation and update.

**23/24-03      Review, Discuss, and Possible Approval: Town Council Policy No. 26,**  
**General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance**

The Town Manager noted that the Board of Finance discussed this item at their January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting and provided unanimous consensus regarding the policy; this policy, or statement, goes back to 2001; Unassigned Fund Balance is like the Town's General Fund savings account and available for appropriation by the Town Council and Board of Finance or through a special meeting/referendum; rating agencies look at it closely, provides us flexibility in terms of short term financing; when this new policy was recommended back in June 2023 it included a threshold of 13% but would now recommend 15%; at the end of fiscal year 2023. The Unassigned Fund Balance was at 14.56% and fiscal year 2024 projections should bring the balance to 15%; we are in the middle of the pact with other AAA communities. He noted that Mr. DiStasio was helpful in terms of putting this together, canvassing policies from other AAA communities. He noted that

the Board of Finance raised a more active review of the policy; now that it will be formalized into an actual Town Council policy it will be reviewed as needed, at least every five years. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, the Town Manager responded that a downside to increasing it is the lack of flexibility in terms of less to work with for assignments or other potential needs the Town has but it is still achievable. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, the Town Manager responded that if there is an emergency and we bring the balance below 15%, it will likely be on a short term basis and more of a timing issue and a plan to replenish; those instances can be explained to the rating agencies with an explanation of how to get back to our goal. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, the Town Manager responded that bonding may be a better option for a project, depending on interest rates.

On a motion made by Mrs. Bratton, seconded by Mr. Polhamus, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council adopt Town Council Policy No. 26, General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance as presented.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

### **23/24-32     FY 24/25 Budget Development**

The Town Manager noted that the Town Council's Budget Work Session is next Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. He noted that department heads from Police, Fire, Library and Public Works will be in attendance. He added that we are currently at a 3.74% tax increase and would be required to meet the level of spending that has been requested, which also involves a recently completed revaluation and a significant drop in the mill rate because the underlying value of the Grand List increased by approximately 20%. He noted that Council can wrap at the Budget Work Session and recommend their budget to the Board of Finance at that time or take more time to think about and then at Council's March meeting make the recommendation.

## **VIII.   NEW BUSINESS**

### **23/24-62     Appointment: Affordable Housing Committee**

The Town Manager recommended that Council have an initial discussion about the charge and at the next meeting approve the charge and make appointments. In response to a question from Mrs. Bratton, Chairman Polhamus responded that the Task Force would consist of five members with minority representation including no more than three members of the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Hiram Peck, Director of Planning and Community Development, provided a brief overview. He noted that in April 2022, in accordance with State law, the Town adopted an Affordable Housing Plan. He added that Section 7 talks about goals and implementation, including putting together an Affordable Housing Task Force; the goal is to discuss the status of affordable housing in Town, ways in which the topic can be discussed with the Task Force and periodically reported back to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further discussion and possible action; some examples include recommendations regarding specific regulation changes or information regarding affordable housing that might be appropriate for the Town. He noted that the resolution summarizes that process. He added that feedback would also be reported back to the Town Council as well. The Town Manager noted that the Task Force is not acting on specific applications; they

are a focus working group that is reporting back to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Peck added that there are a few projects in Town that have been approved and are hopeful will move forward in the near future that will help move our affordable housing numbers forward; they are in locations and in densities and designs that will be appropriate for the Town. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Peck responded that the Task Force would likely discuss proposed legislation and follow what other similar sized municipalities are doing and bring it to the Planning and Zoning Commission; the Task Force would hold their own meetings which would be open to the public, likely quarterly; staff will put together information for them to consider in addition to what the Task Force wishes to discuss, and the Council would be involved as well. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Peck responded that the Planning Department staff would be interacting with the Task Force. In response to a question from Mrs. Bratton, Mr. Peck responded that when this topic was first proposed, several people called the Planning Department's office expressing interest; it would help for the Town party committees to select people who have a certain amount of expertise or interest to make the discussions a bit more vital. Mrs. Barthel commented that it is important to select people who are pro-affordable housing and as stated in the resolution be "motivated to come up with new policies, programs, regulations, initiatives to further the preservation and creation of affordable housing." In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, the Town Manager responded that the term expiration of December 31, 2025, was made coterminous with the appointing Council; the expectation would be that the group would be re-appointed, if necessary, choose new members or decide it is no longer necessary and abolish it. Mr. Peck commented that there is a lot of room here to educate people that may not necessarily be in favor of affordable housing or what it means or does, how it works. Chairman Polhamus inquired about item 4 in the resolution and wants to make it clear that the Task Force reports directly to the Planning and Zoning Commission and add a note that it is "subject to approval to the Town Council...." He asked Mr. Peck for the list of those who have expressed interest in being on the Task Force.

#### **23/24-63      Sub Edge Farm: Request to Waive 2023 Rent Lease Payment**

The Town Manager noted that we have had a lease with the Phillips for about twelve years and they do a wonderful job managing the property and running Sub Edge Farm; it has worked out wonderfully and is a good service to the community; they had a tough year last year with an early frost and a few flooding events; and they are requesting that their lease payment be waived for 2023. He recommends the waiving of such lease payment one-time only. He noted that this revenue goes directly into the Fisher Meadows Special Revenue Fund. Mr. Weber commented that small farms are not typically eligible for farm aid and would not wish to do this on a one-time basis; taking care of our active farms is important; natural disasters are something the farms cannot control; and would like to have that discussion as a Town Council in the future. Council agreed.

On a motion made by Mrs. Bratton, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the waiver of the 2023 lease payment of \$5,435.50 from Sub Edge Farm.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

#### **23/24-64      Support for Community Events Grant Program Awards, \$12,300**

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council award the following organizations a grant through the Community Events Grant Program: Avon Soccer Club, Art Hennig Avon Memorial Day Soccer Tournament, \$7,500; Avon Youth Lacrosse, Falcon Fest, \$2,375; Talcott Mountain Science Center & Academy, “A Bite of the Sun: Solar Eclipse Viewing on Talcott Mountain, \$1,500; Avon Free Public Library, Avon Con, \$350; Avon High School PTO, Senior Class Car Parade, \$300; and Avon Little League, Avon Little League Jamboree 2024, \$275.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

It was noted that this grant fund was recently used for the Turkey Trot, Juneteenth 2024, and Winterfest (but that event ended up being cancelled). Chairman Polhamus noted that Council may want to consider bumping up the funding for this grant program to attract more non-profits and could be an item for discussion at next Saturday’s Budget Work Session. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, the Town Manager responded that the amount requested last year for the Art Hennig Avon Memorial Day Soccer Tournament was approximately \$2,500. Mrs. Barthel noted that each team is being requested to pay a \$650 entry fee into the tournament. She also noted that it would be nice if the Avon Soccer Club’s request also extended to the children who play recreational soccer; this only applies to travel teams and is inviting travel teams from other towns. Chairman Polhamus noted that the spirit of the fund is to encourage big community events, people coming together, and ultimately it is great that we are able to support and exhaust the fund.

**23/24-65      Approve Resolution: VW EVSE ZEV Grant for EV Charging Station**

Mrs. Barthel noted that the new charging stations at the Library have been installed and are located at the end of the parking lot, adjacent to the dumpsters.

On a motion made by Mrs. Barthel, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED,** that Brandon Robertson, Town Manager, Town of Avon, is authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of Avon a Personal Service Agreement/Grant Contract under the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection with the State of Connecticut for a \$11,772.15 grant for the installation of an electric vehicle charging station; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Brandon Robertson, Town Manager, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Avon and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents for said grant with the State of Connecticut.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**23/24-66      Appointment: Amplify, Inc. (NCR Mental Health Board) (R – 12/31/2025)**

Chairman Polhamus noted that clarification is being sought from Amplify as to whether mental health professionals can serve in this role.

On a motion made by Mrs. Bratton, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council table agenda item 23/24-66 Appointment: Amplify, Inc. (NCR Mental Health Board) (R – 12/31/2025) to the March 7, 2024 meeting.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**23/24-67      Appointment: Amplify, Inc. (NCR Mental Health Board) (D – 12/31/2025)**

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Barthel, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council table agenda item 23/24-67 Appointment: Amplify, Inc. (NCR Mental Health Board) (D – 12/31/2025) to the March 7, 2024 meeting.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**23/24-68     Appointment: Plainville Area CATV Advisory Council (BOE Vacancy – 12/31/2025)**

Chairman Polhamus noted that the appointment was tabled internally by the Board of Education at their recent meeting. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, the Town Manager responded that this Advisory Council oversees Nutmeg TV and public access television.

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mr. Polhamus, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council table agenda item 23/24-68 Appointment: Plainville Area CATV Advisory Council (BOE Vacancy – 12/31/2025) to the March 7, 2024 meeting.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**IX.     TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS**

**Misc. A: Purchasing Update:** The Town Manager noted that with regards to the Snow Removal and Ice Control Contract, the Town recently terminated its contract with Safeside Home Services as they were unable to fulfill their responsibilities and amended CRS’s contract to take on the properties originally awarded to Safeside resulting in a net increase overall of \$20,000 for the first year of the contract; we are also seeking financial remedies from Safeside in this matter. He added that with regards to Sperry Park Sitework Grading, fill material from the Old Farms Road Project will be delivered to Sperry Park in anticipation of a new ball field as we continue to work with the Avon Little League; the capital budget proposal includes an additional \$60,000 to finalize the topsoil, grading, and seeding of the field.

**Misc. B: Construction Update:** The Town Manager commented on the Town Hall Building #2 Office Renovations Project and recommended Council members stop by and look at the great work being done with the Town Clerk’s Office and Tax Collector’s Office; 50/50 split with in-house and contractor work. In response to a question from Mrs. Bratton, the Town Manager responded that he was not aware of any lead paint found in Building #2.

**Misc. C: Recreation and Parks Master Plan:** The Town Manager noted that the survey is live, and the first public meeting will be held on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Avon Free Public Library. In response to a question from Mrs. Bratton, the Town Manager responded that the meeting will be livestreamed.

**Misc. D: Legislative Session:** The Town Manager noted that CCM and CRCOG have distributed their 2024 legislative agendas for the upcoming legislative session that starts on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

**X.     EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Real Estate

Pending Claims/Pending Litigation – Town of Avon et al.

v. Nikolay Synkov et al., Docket No. HHD-CV-21-6144982-S

On a motion made by Mrs. Barthel, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council enter into Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

The Town Manager, Town Attorney Al Smith, Murtha Cullina Attorney Joe Szerejko, and the Clerk attended the session.

**XII. ADJOURN**

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 10:18 p.m.

Mmes: Ausiello, Barthel, Bratton, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

Attest: Jennifer Worsman, Clerk





Vision

***To facilitate public health, recreational opportunities, and better air quality, the Town of Avon strives to improve access and safety for all who use our road and trail networks including bicyclists, pedestrians, and motor vehicle operators. To achieve this vision, the Town may invest in infrastructure such as sidewalks, bicycle facilities, traffic calming measures, and programming such as road safety education for all users.***

## Progress



The Town of Avon has:

- Become a BFC;
- Obtained preliminary approval of \$4 million to improve Country Club Road & install pedestrian facilities from the library to Old Farms Road;
- Passed a Complete Streets Resolution that provides a policy framework for improved bicycle, pedestrian, and transit accommodations;
- Developed a bicycle education program for fourth graders attending the Avon Public Schools.
- Chosen to allow road widths to be as narrow as 10' – where practical – on low traffic volume *Collector & Local* roads, calming traffic;
- Applied for a grant to install bus shelters at 5 locations on Route 44; and
- Improved sidewalk on W. Avon Rd. from Sunnybrook Dr. to 460 W. Avon Rd.



## Town of Avon

66 West Main Street  
Avon, Connecticut 06001-3719  
(860) 409-4300 • [www.avonet.gov](http://www.avonet.gov)

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COMPLETE STREETS

- RESOLVED:** That the Town Council, on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2023, adopts this resolution in support of the continued implementation of the Complete Streets design strategy on public roads within the Town of Avon.
- WHEREAS:** "Complete Streets" describes a comprehensive, integrated transportation network with infrastructure and design that allows for safe and convenient travel for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, persons with disabilities, motorists, transit vehicles, emergency responders, users and operators of public transportation, seniors, children, youth and families, and;
- WHEREAS:** Public Act 09-154, "An Act Improving Bicycle and Pedestrian Access" requires the integration of Complete Streets principles in every state-funded highway, road or street project that is implemented by the State of Connecticut or a Municipality of the State, and;
- WHEREAS:** The Town of Avon's 2016 Plan of Conservation and Development includes an endorsement of the Complete Streets concept by the Planning & Zoning Commission; encouraging investments by the Town, State and private developers to improve existing infrastructure and construct new roadways that meet the objectives of Complete Streets, and;
- WHEREAS:** Avon residents have expressed a desire and need for additional opportunities for walking and bicycling and in response the Town has engaged in a Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Planning effort in order to develop prioritized recommendations for improving and expanding the Town's existing bicycle and pedestrian network, and;
- WHEREAS:** Complete Streets contributes toward the safety, health, economic vitality and quality of life in a community by providing safe, convenient, and efficient connections between home, school, work, recreation and other destinations, and improving the Town's existing transportation network by creating a connected and comprehensive network, and;
- WHEREAS:** Complete Streets policies are commonly implemented by local government agencies that are regularly involved in the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of a transportation network as a method of improving travel conditions for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit, and freight in a manner consistent with, and supportive of, all transit users, and;
- WHEREAS:** The Town is already in the practice of including Complete Streets concepts as part of state- and town-funded projects that are completed within the Town's road network, where practicable, and;
- WHEREAS:** The Town recognizes that the implementation of a Complete Streets Policy will be an essential tool to aid in the Town's pursuits to apply for state funding to support local transportation projects in the near future.

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## Timeline



### January 2023

Project Kickoff



### February & March

\* Create project Storymap and survey questions

\* Collect and coalesce existing conditions information and Avon residents' feedback

\* Meet with Avon's seniors at Meals & Minds

\* Meet with town staff



### April & May

\* First Public Meeting

\* Continue to receive and analyze public input

\* Begin to develop recommendations



### June & July

\* Second Public Meeting

\* Refine recommendations and begin to prepare a prioritization plan



### August & September

Third Public Meeting

### Fall/Winter

\* Finalize recommendations, Implementation Matrix, and Final Plan document

\* Present the plan to the Town Council for approval

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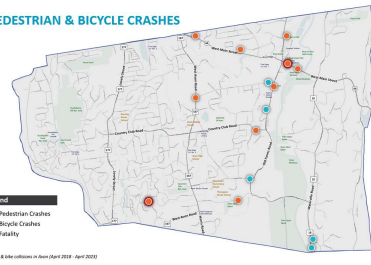


# Existing Conditions

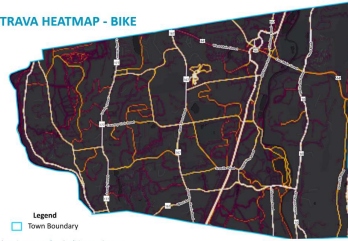
## EXISTING CONDITIONS - TRANSIT



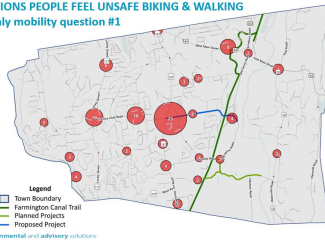
## PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE CRASHES



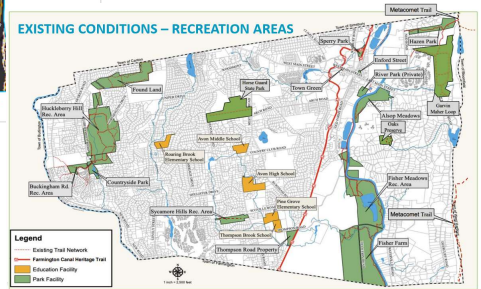
## STRAVA HEATMAP - BIKE



## LOCATIONS PEOPLE FEEL UNSAFE BIKING & WALKING monthly mobility question #1



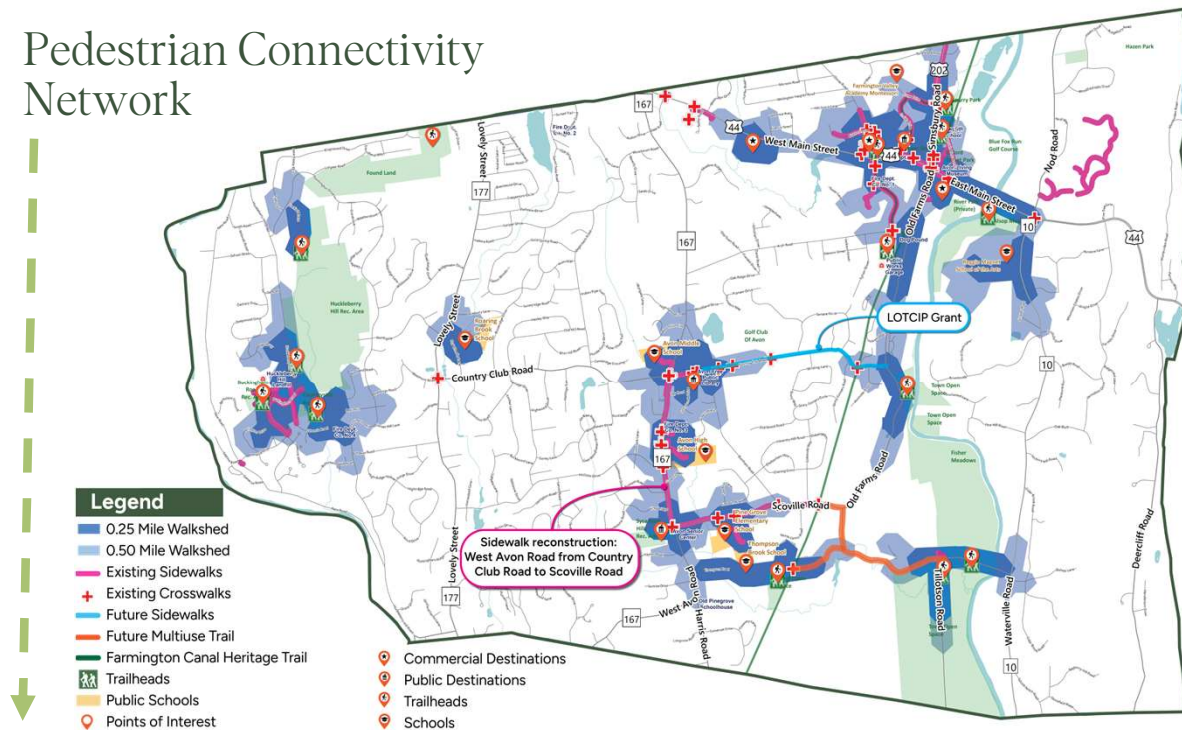
## EXISTING CONDITIONS - RECREATION AREAS



Public Meeting #1  
April 25, 2023

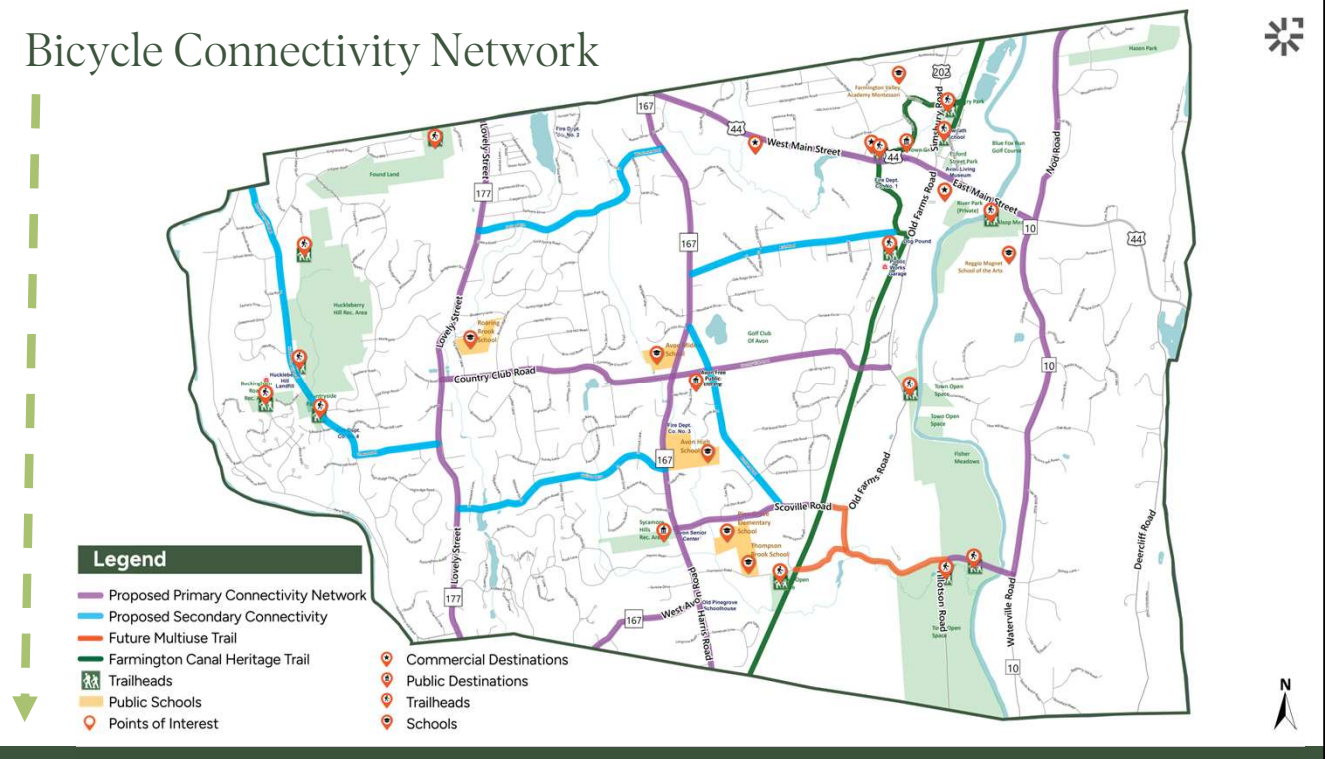
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# Pedestrian Connectivity Network



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## Bicycle Connectivity Network

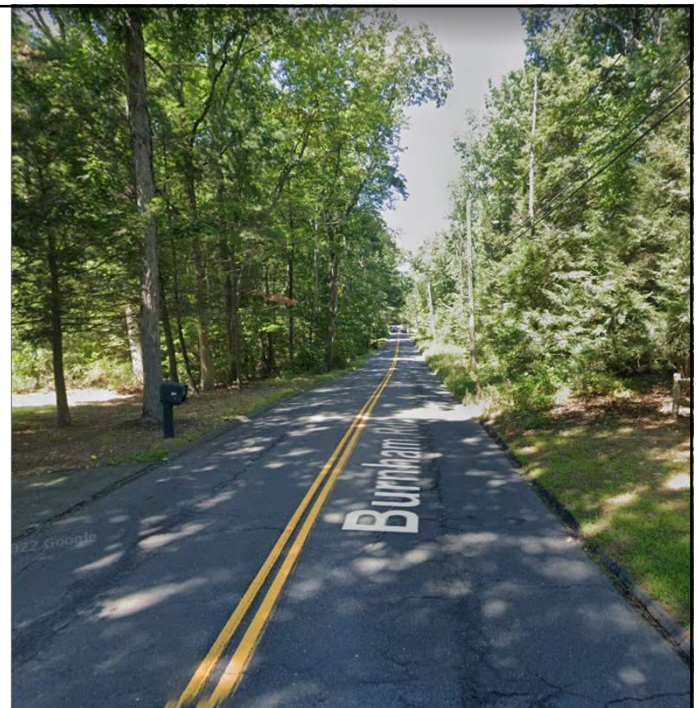


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## Burnham Road

From West Avon Road to Scoville Road

- Roadway Characteristics
  - 10-14' lanes, 2-6' shoulders
  - 50' of available right-of-way (ROW)
- AADT and travel speed data unavailable
- Speed limit of 30 mph
- Identified constraints:
  - Cemetery at intersection with Country Club Road
  - Dense mature tree growth close to road
- Street is being repaved this year



Burnham Road between Foxcroft Run and Sleepy Hollow Road  
Image from Google Street View

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## Pedestrian Improvement Opportunities:

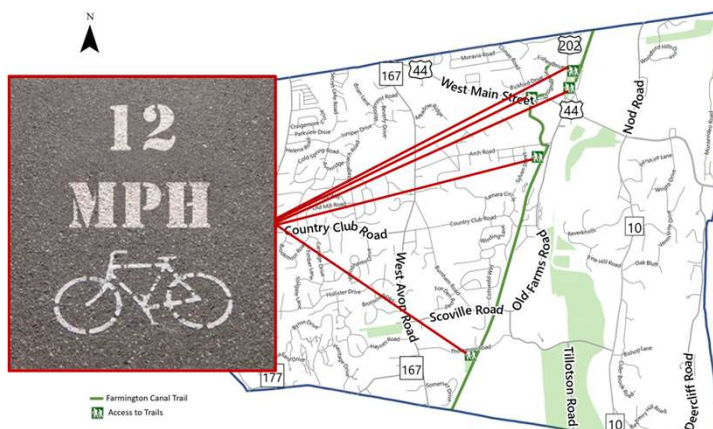
- \*Crosswalk & Intersection Art
- \*Signal Equipment Upgrades
- \*Bus stop improvements
- \*Gateway to Avon Sign
- \*Digital Speed Radar Signs



Public Meeting #2  
June 20, 2023

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## Policies & Programming



Amend **zoning** to ensure that **Complete Streets** Principles are codified through **Bicycle and Pedestrian Design and Development Standards**:

- Guidelines for bicycle parking
- Developers to install sidewalk as a condition for permitting

Paint speed limit at key entrance points on the FCT

Safe Routes to School Initiatives

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# Concepts - Pedestrian

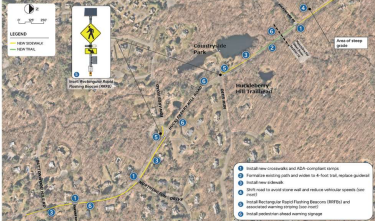
Western Avon Walksheds Index Map



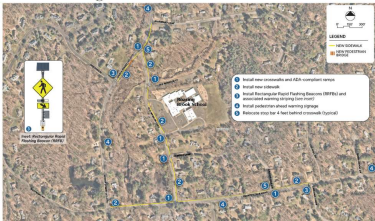
Section 12: Huckleberry Hill Road



Section 13: Huckleberry Hill Road



Section 14: Roaring Brook School



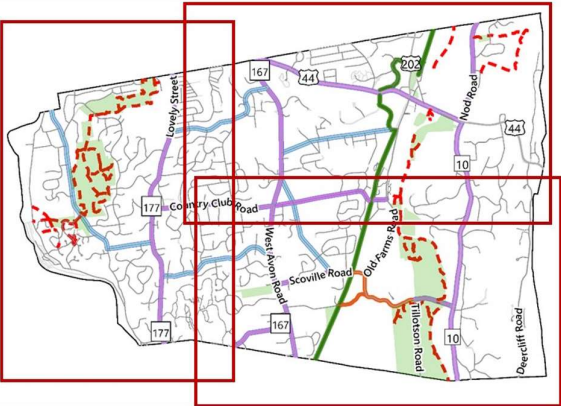
## Section 4: Route 44 at Ensign Drive, near Town Hall



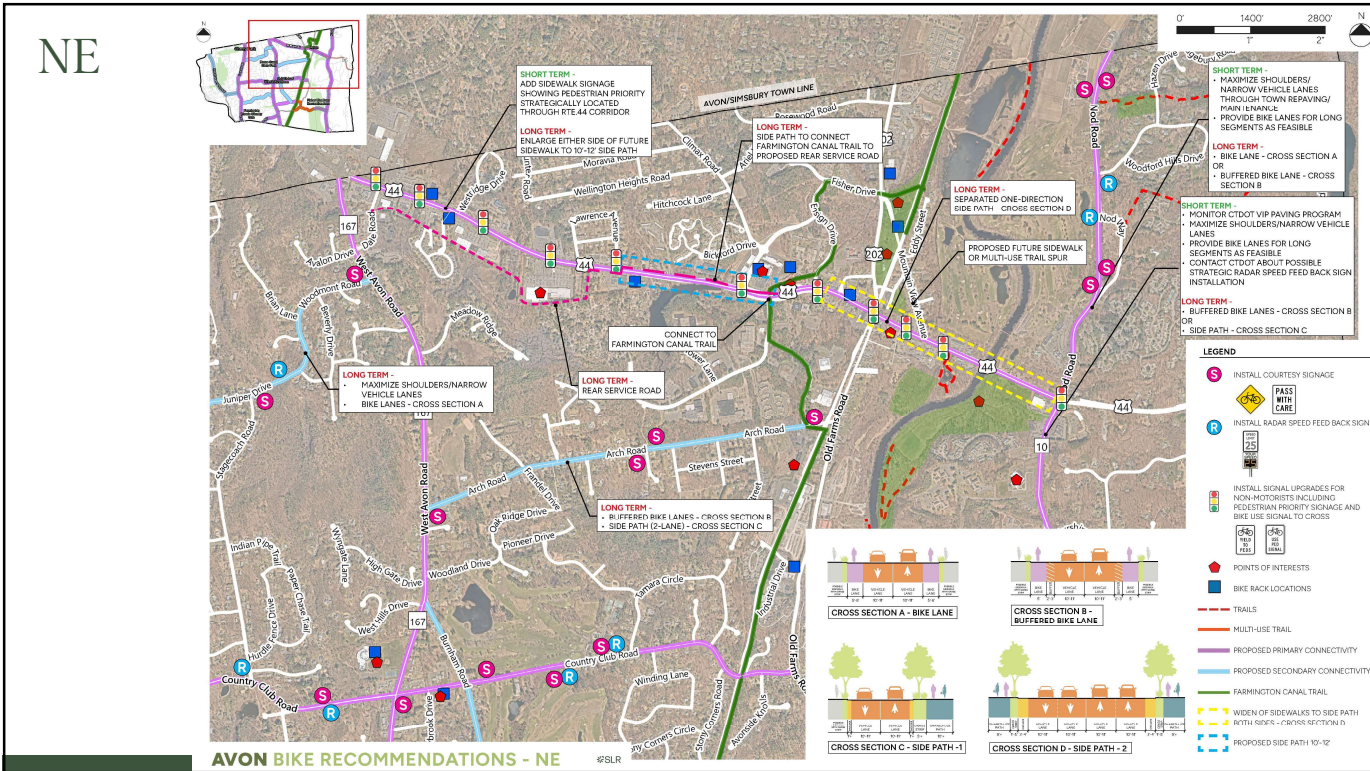
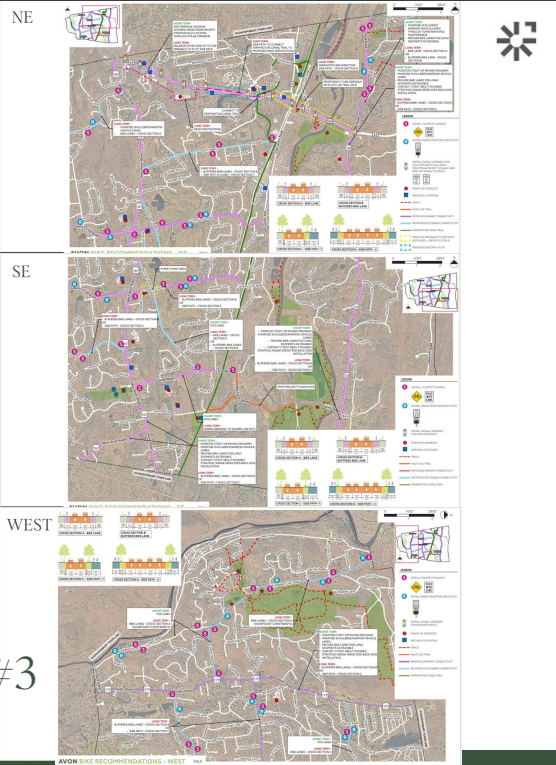


# Concepts - Bicycle

Bicycle Connectivity Index Map



Public Meeting #3  
Sept. 19, 2023





## Implementation



- ✓ Identify bike connectivity opportunities
- ✓ Identify pedestrian connectivity opportunities
- ✓ Identify constraints
- ✓ Identify funding opportunities
- ✓ Prepare implementation matrix
- Integrate bike and pedestrian networks as funding is available

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Key: \$ = Less than \$100,000   \$\$ = \$100,000 to \$300,000   \$\$\$ = Greater than \$300,000							
IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX Avon Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan							
Improvement	Figure/Section Reference	User (Bike/Ped/All)	Timeframe	Cost	Safety Priority?	Connectivity Priority?	Notes
Arch Road							
Install courtesy signage (bicycle image sign, PASS WITH CARE sign) at Farmington Canal Trail and Haber Drive	Bike Recommendations NE Section	B	SHORT - TERM	\$			
Install buffered bike lane as shown in cross-section B	Bike Recommendations NE Section	B	LONG - TERM	\$\$\$			Alternative: install multi-use path
Install multi-use path as shown in cross-section C	Bike Recommendations NE Section	A	LONG - TERM	\$\$\$			Alternative: install buffered bike lanes
Install new sidewalk between Security Drive and Old Farms Road	Walkshed Index Map Section 4	P	SHORT - TERM	\$		✓	
Install new crosswalk and ADA-compliant ramps at Security Drive	Walkshed Index Map Section 4	P	SHORT - TERM	\$		✓	
Chevas Road							
Install courtesy signage (bicycle image sign, PASS WITH CARE sign) near the intersections with Huckleberry Hill Road and Lovely Street	Bike Recommendations WEST Section	B	SHORT - TERM	\$			
Install fog lines	Bike Recommendations WEST Section	A	SHORT - TERM	\$	✓		
Install bike lanes as shown in cross-section A	Bike Recommendations WEST Section	B	LONG - TERM	\$\$\$			
Climax Heights Road							
Add additional Farmington Canal Trail wayfinding signage near Avon Town Hall	Walkshed Index Map Section 4	A	SHORT - TERM	\$		✓	
Install new sidewalk and install corner bumpout to shorten crossing distance near Avon Town Hall	Walkshed Index Map Section 4	P	SHORT - TERM	\$\$	✓	✓	
Country Club Road							
Install radar speed feedback signs near intersection with Stagecoach Road	Bike Recommendations NE Section	A	SHORT - TERM	\$	✓		
Install courtesy signage (bicycle image sign, PASS WITH CARE sign) between Burnham Road and Tamara Circle	Bike Recommendations SE Section	B	SHORT - TERM	\$			
Install courtesy signage (bicycle image sign, PASS WITH CARE sign) between Woodhaven Drive and West Avon Road, at at the intersection with West Avon Road	Bike Recommendations SE Section	B	SHORT - TERM	\$			
Install radar speed feedback signs between Woodhaven Drive and West Avon Road	Bike Recommendations SE Section	A	SHORT - TERM	\$	✓		
Install radar speed feedback signs between Burnham Road and Tamara Circle	Bike Recommendations SE Section	A	SHORT - TERM	\$	✓		
Install buffered bike lanes as shown in cross-section B	Bike Recommendations SE Section	B	LONG - TERM	\$\$			Alternative: install multi-use path
Install crosswalk, Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) "pedestrian ahead" warning signage, and striping at Carriage Drive	Walkshed Index Map Section 14	P	SHORT - TERM	\$		✓	
Install new sidewalk from Lovely Street to Carriage Drive	Walkshed Index Map Section 14	P	SHORT - TERM	\$\$		✓	

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# Questions/ Comments?



Scan to visit the  
project StoryMap