Andover CT
Complete Streets

By
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Town Administrator
Introductions
Background
POCD and Complete Streets Planning
Complete Streets Implementation
Andover, Connecticut

• Population 3200 located in Eastern Connecticut
• 34 miles of road 5.5 miles of rail trail, 4 miles of hiking trails
• Rural feel no true downtown, decentralized municipal facilities
• Divided into north and south pieces by State Route 6
• 3-4 person Public works department.
Background Information

- In 2015 the Andover Updated its Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD)
- Every POCD since 1978 established making Andover more walkable and bike friendly as a goal
- No progress had been made toward achieving that goal in 40 years
- Planning Commission recognized the POCD did not adequately address Complete Streets
The Planning and Zoning Commission adopted a Complete Streets Master Plan in August of 2016 as an Addendum of the POCD.
Complete Streets Master Plan Development:

- Conducted a survey of residents-kids, adults, seniors
- Examined existing traffic patterns
- Looked at accessibility at town facilities
- Understand where children hang out
- Where do people go to and from?
- What connections can we make?

*Home-school-recreation-retail-athletics-worship-history-etc.*
Complete Streets Master Plan

Abstract:

The 2016 Plan of Conservation and Development highlighted issues of alternative transportation and sketched the outlines of a plan to make Andover more pedestrian and bike friendly. Andover, like many rural towns in Connecticut has been developed around the automobile as the primary method of transportation. This document will serve as a master plan to changing the infrastructure to accommodate other forms of transportation and increase safety for all residents. The long-term objective of this plan is to enable residents of all ages to better access Andover resources and increase quality of life for all. There is no single approach that will work throughout town but the plan includes sidewalks, Sharrows (Shared Use lanes), bike lanes (or wide paved shoulders), access to public transportation, including senior transportation, and safe crossing opportunities across Route 6, Route 316 and Route 87, Accessible pedestrian signals, and dedicated bike and pedestrian connections to town facilities and Andover businesses. This plan will outline both short term and long-term goals to further these objectives.
Complete Streets Master Plan

Goals:

• Change policy to include the needs of people on foot, bicycle, bus.
• Ensure people of all ages and abilities would have more options when traveling throughout town to work, to school, to worship and shop.
• Use Complete Streets to increase quality of life for Andover residents.
• Provide the Public Works Department guidance on future road improvement projects.
• By having a plan, the town can more easily interact with other stakeholders as well as apply for state and federal funding to adopt the recommendations.
Complete Streets Master Plan
Issues to Address:

- Safe Pedestrian/Bicycle Crossing of Route 6
- Safe Access to town resources
- Safe Access to the Rail Trail
- Utilizing the rail trail to access Andover Businesses
- Pedestrian and Bike Safety in the High Density Lake District

- Connecting Town Assets
- Secure Bike Racks
- Connections to Public Transportation
- Route Finding Signage Plan
Complete Streets Implementation

We have a cool plan…

What's Next?
Low Cost- Implementation

- Lake District Signage and Sharrows
- Share the Road Campaign
- Safety Committee for Lake district
- Added bike racks at public buildings
- Added trail connection from Town Hall to Hop River Rail trail

- Change zoning regulations to include bicycle parking and pedestrian access to commercial and mixed use developments
- Improve rail trail- road crossing safety and sightlines
Pedestrian and Bike Access to the Lake District

Sharrows on Lake Road

East Coast Greenway ‘Rails to Trails’ Bridge
Rails to Trails

East Coast Greenway

Join the Bike Walk Andover Facebook group!
Conservation Commission Volunteers Trail Work

Connecting the Town Hall/School to and from the Rail Trail via biking & walking
Major Projects

Connectivity Grant
• Safe crossing of Route 6
• Access to public amenities
• New Trail had at Center Street

Follow on Grants
• Safe Connection along Route 316
• Connect rail trail to Town Hall/ School

Public Library
Veterans Memorial Field (Athletic Fields)
Veterans Monument Park & Town Hall Museum
2017 Andover Applied for a CDOT grant focusing on improving the area between Center Street and the Andover Veterans Memorial Field (Athletic Field).

Andover also successfully pushed the DOT to add Long Hill Rd to the list of Pedestrian/Crosswalk signals to be upgraded and to add a second signal/crosswalk for crossing Long Hill Rd.

In Spring 2019 the DOT awarded Andover a $297,000 grant to implement the project.
1. Senior housing
2. Andover Recreational Fields
3. Hop River Waterfront access
4. Andover Library
5. Andover Congregational Church
6. Hop River Rail Trail linear state park
7. Old Andover Senior Center
8. Andover Historical Museum
9. Andover Town Green
10. Andover Town Hall
11. Andover Elementary School
Complete Streets Future Steps

• Route 316 pathway connection
• Tie in businesses to rail trail
Route 316

- Historic and Scenic Road though the center of Andover
- Narrow road with no shoulders in many locations in poor condition
- Dangerous curve with poor visibility
- Functions as “Main Street” for Andover
- Crosses Staddle Brook with a bridge that has a functional rating of “2”
1. 800 ft. along Center Street
2. Crosswalk across RT 316 with Hawks warning signal
3. 0.3 miles along Cider Mill Rd
4. Cross Staddle Brook with Pedestrian bridge
5. New Multiuse Path along RT 316 0.375 miles
6. New Multiuse path along School Road to Town Hall and AES 775 ft.

This affects 6 landowners directly along 316 and permissions would need to be negotiated with the affected landowners. Cider Mill Rd would likely be made one-way with a striped walking path.
QUESTIONS?

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www.andoverct.org

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