

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ROUTE 156 ON-ROAD BIKE WAY AND SOUND VIEW IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

What is the Route 156 On-Road Bike Way and Sound View Improvements Project?

The conceptual project is designed to enhance the Sound View District of Old Lyme for the enjoyment of residents, businesses and visitors. It includes the construction of a park, public bathrooms, lighting and plantings and reconfigured public parking. The project is eligible for a Federal reimbursement grant because the plan includes an on-road bike way from the Baldwin Bridge bike path east on Route 156 and south on Hartford Avenue.

Why is the Town of Old Lyme doing this project?

A study and community input on Sound View have recommended that connecting the natural assets of our beach area to the rest of Old Lyme will encourage tourism, increase local patronage and improve business opportunities in Sound View and Old Lyme. The conceptual enhancements, unanimously approved for grant funding by our Regional Planning Agency, provide increased access to Sound View including, non-motorized circulation to commercial, residential and recreational opportunities in Town.

What does the grant pay-for?

The federal grant covers up to 80% reimbursement for eligible project expenses. The Town is responsible for the remaining 20%.

Where is the grant funding coming from?

The grant funding is through the Federal DOT Transportation Alternatives Fund. The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) administers the eligible reimbursements and has design and construction oversight.

How much will the project cost?

The engineering consultant has been selected; a scope of work and man hours has been negotiated for preliminary design and specifications. The cost of \$148,500 has been approved by CTDOT and at town meeting. The construction costs of the project will be determined following the selection and negotiation with a construction firm.

Does the public have opportunity to comment on the project?

Public comment has been solicited and will continue to be a valuable part of the success of this project. To date, six public information sessions have been held on the conceptual project. There will be additional sessions to review the project with residents. Feedback will be shared with our consultants.

What is the difference between the concept and the actual plan?

It was the conceptual plan that allowed us to apply for the grant which makes the project financially feasible. To be eligible for the grant, we are obliged to follow the CTDOT process which included selecting a firm to develop the actual plans. The firm selected has demonstrated creativity and the requisite experience to address the sensitive environmental concerns of Sound View. The selected firm is developing project specifications, is responsible for survey/permit requirements and will provide actual plan designs for review and feedback.

What were the most important concerns in selecting a consultant engineering firm?

The Selection Panel evaluated firms' qualifications and experience on similar projects. Included in this evaluation was the level of experience the firm has in working in environmentally sensitive areas which are subject to flooding; their approach to the permitting process; estimated timelines and cost management, creativity and innovation... just to name a few.

What is the project timeline?

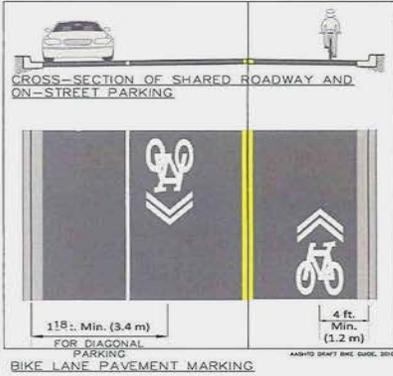
There will be two phases to the overall project. The first is the Plan and Design Specifications phase. During the third quarter of 2013 through early 2014, a Committee selected the consultant engineering firm, negotiated a Scope of Work for the Plan and Design, held two public informational meetings and convened a town meeting to appropriate the funds for this phase. The selected firm is developing preliminary plans which will be available for a required public meeting in late 2014-to early 2015. This will be initiate the second phase. Along with the Plan and Design Specifications, the engineers will provide an Opinion of Probable Construction Costs. There will be additional presentations to the Town, and ultimately, allocation for Construction Costs will need to be approved at a town meeting in 2015.

Can I receive regular updates about the project?

Yes, please visit the Town Of Old Lyme website at:

http://www.oldlyme-ct.gov/Pages/OldLymeCT_projects/currentprojects

Additionally, send questions to: soundviewimprovements@gmail.com



BIKE ROUTE CONNECTION BETWEEN CT RIVERWAY TRAIL AND SOUND VIEW PARK
HARTFORD AVENUE SHARED ROADWAY DETAILS
OLD LYME, CONNECTICUT

NOT TO SCALE

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