



February 23, 2023

## **Open Space Commission**

52 Lyme Street, Memorial Town Hall  
Old Lyme, CT 06371

Halls Road Improvements Committee  
Memorial Town Hall  
52 Lyme Street  
Old Lyme, CT 06371

Dear HRIC,

The Open Space Commission of the Town of Old Lyme supports the proposed construction of a new pedestrian and cyclist bridge over the Lieutenant River at the old bridge abutments near Halls Road as proposed in the Hall Road Master Plan.

This is a vital town project as it will enhance safe pedestrian and bicycle traffic between the town's main shopping district and its Arts and Culture district and the historic Lyme Street civic center. The proposal would allow such traffic to avoid a narrow bridge on U.S. Route 1 that is especially busy with vehicular traffic during summer months when more people walk and bike.

The trail will also allow an improved connection from the town's commercial district to Old Lyme Open Space's Champlain North and to the adjacent Old Lyme Land Trust Boggy Hole Preserve.

The Open Space Commission makes one request. The bridge's location is within the Gateway Conservation Zone, and the Connecticut River Gateway Commission has petitioned the Town Zoning Commission to adopt a standard regarding light pollution, reading in part below. The Commission asks that any bridge lighting be designed in compliance.

Within the Conservation Zone, lighting of properties, including site lighting and the illumination of building facades and other architectural features, shall be the minimum necessary for health and safety.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Gregory Futoma".

Gregory Futoma  
Open Space Commission Chair