

# City of Middletown Complete Streets Committee

## Regular Meeting Minutes



Monday, February 9, 2026 7 PM

Location: WebEx

Attendees: Laura Baum, Lisa Liesener, John Hall, Officer Jeff Zadjura, Robert Russo, Ann Percival, Alison Williams, John Yarmolovich

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### 1. Current/ongoing projects:

- Minutes from January meeting
- 2026 paving projects / Road Bond
  - Robert Russo talked to the committee about his department's plans for paving during the 2026 season. They are planning to do mill and pave for several roads in the North End.
  - Their progress will depend on weather and other conditions.
- Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Study
  - Discussion of upcoming meetings and ways to encourage participation / do outreach.
  - Officer Zadjura offered to help connect us with the Middletown Police Department's social media folks to get the word out that way. John Hall will work to get a Jonah Center Facebook post that MPD can promote.
- Air Line Trail
  - Continue working to bring the Air Line Trail into the Town of Portland. They've been working on this for a few months and may not hear anything for a bit.
- Newfield Corridor Trail
  - No updates
- Saybrook Road (East Main to Tryon)
  - Robert Russo reported that he hopes to see the final plan in end of March or beginning of April.
- Route 9 Updates
  - No updates.
- ATESD / traffic cameras
  - Officer Zadjura provided an update on the cameras. Speeding issues and tickets are down and the cameras are having the desired effect on behavior.
  - The committee discussed privacy issues and data handling.
- Traffic Signals
  - Rectangular rapid flashing beacons - these were installed near Keigwin and Beman. The one at Beman is not really useful because traffic is no longer allowed on that part of Hunting Hill. The city would like to move it. The committee discussed suggested alternatives including:
    - Vine near the Wesleyan tennis courts
    - Court Street near Olin Library/Exley Science Center

- Broad St at Russell Library
  - Westfield at Spencer school
  - High St at Lawn Ave
  - Russell St at Hunting Hill (if allowed at stopped intersections, which we believe they are NOT)
  - South Main St at Crescent St
  - South Main St at Saint John Paul II Catholic School (87 S Main)
- ADA training equipment
  - Savannah-Nicole and Laura met with CTDOT and UConn to plan for an event to raise awareness of accessibility issues on our streets.
- Ongoing citizen concerns
  - Girl Scout troop wanted a better crossing across Westfield, unfortunately, the area was too close to existing flashing lights indicating a nearby traffic signal and it was deemed unsafe to put a crossing there.
- Goal Setting for 2026
  - Discussion of ideas for short term projects for 2026 including these, which were sent to Laura online prior to the meeting:
    - Vine Street sidewalk gap (Laura)
    - River Road recreation promotion, change signage etc. (John Hall)
    - Lack of crosswalk across Washington St. at deKoven Drive.
    - Lack of sidewalk on south side of Washington west of Vine/Newfield
    - Extend sidewalk on Highland Avenue from Rt 17 going north to Bretton Road (Melinda)
    - Extend sidewalk on Pine Street from Randolph Rd going north to Stevens Lane (Melinda)
    - Speed reducing strategies, especially on roads marked with biking lanes or do not have sidewalks (Melinda)
  - Jeff suggests we need to develop speed reducing strategies (traffic calming book)
  - Can this committee continue to work with Public Works to keep them aware of what we're discussing and emphasizing. That way, when they go out to discuss what they're going to pave, it's already in the back of his mind what they can deploy.
  - The main area where it feels we can make progress is engaging the public. Public Works is stretched so thin. That's hard for us. The engagement with the public is time consuming, but that's how we build a community.
  - Brian Gartner is the acting Deputy Public Works Director
  - Brief discussion of e-bikes and safety

## **2. Reports from other pertinent regular meetings/events:**

- ECOIN
  - No updates
- Sustainable Middletown/CT
  - No updates

## **3. New Business:**

- None

**Notes:**

- Next meeting: Monday, March 9, 2026, 7 PM