



Town of Durham
Complete Streets Committee
Thursday, January 8, 2026 7:00 P.M.
Durham Community Center room 2

Received 1/15/26
8:42 AM Jodi Moore, ATC

Minutes for January 8, 2026

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 705 p.m.
 - a. **Present:** R. Anderson, M. Bisceglia, L. Bulion, M. Giardina, N. Roberts, B. Jubelirer, C. O'Connell
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** Moved: R. Anderson. Second: M. Bisceglia.
Approved by all.
3. **Public Comment** (*only pertaining to agenda items*): Michael Kaczynski, resident of Durham, asked about efforts to slow traffic down in front of the middle school, noting how dangerous it is to try to cross Main Street by the school because of the traffic speed. L. Bulion detailed Complete Streets efforts (not yet realized) to address excessive speed, including installation of traffic cams, and installation of better signage and flashing lights in the school zone. B. Rea, First Selectman, has communicated with the DOT about better signage in the school zone. The town is working on speed cameras. The group also noted that there is a plan to include flashing beacons at crosswalks on Main Street when the sidewalk on the west side of Main Street is installed. Mr. Kaczynski also asked about an abandoned road which runs from Main Street past the Episcopal Church. Members of the committee encouraged him to bring concerns about the abandoned road to the local traffic authority (the Board of Selectmen), and also to share the concerns he outlined this evening about traffic speed and safety on Main Street.
4. **Approval of Dec 10, 2025, minutes:** Moved: M. Bisceglia. Second: C. O'Connell. Approved by all.
5. **New/Old Business**
 - a. **Review meeting dates for 2026:** As previously specified the dates are the second Thursday of every month, except for the three summer months the committee will meet on the second Wednesday. Dates are as follows: January 8, February 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10.



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- b. **Traffic Cam update:** L. Bulion reviewed the process to date and going forward: conducted public survey; CS drafted an ordinance; Town conducted a traffic survey; Town brought study and possible ordinance to public hearing; Town attorney is now reviewing the ordinance and it will be reviewed at the next BOS meeting on January 26; if the BOS approves the ordinance it will be presented at a public hearing; subsequent to the hearing the town will have a vote on the ordinance; DOT has to approve the plan. CS members should try to attend the January 26 meeting and encourage others who are concerned about speeding on town roads to attend if they wish. C. O'Connell asked about potential funds from traffic cameras for safety improvements. She detailed concerns about the lighting on Main Street at night. Committee noted that these items can be shared with the Planning and Zoning Commission and with Economic Development.
 - c. **Trolley Trail multiuse path update:** No update on this. B. Jubelirer to continue to follow. It was noted that the next step is for R. Newton, Town Planner, to prepare a proposed map, after which the public can be surveyed and provided education about the plan.
 - d. **Longer range goals: per POCD** – L. Bulion reviewed the items relevant to the Plan of Conservation and Development. Please see * below for complete list of Complete Streets accomplishments to date, and requests for updates to the POCD.
6. **Roundtable:** M. Giardina asked about the timeline for traffic cameras. L. Bulion noted that given the process outlined above, any implementation (if approved by the town voters) would not occur until this spring at the earliest. The group also revisited the concerns about the school zone in front of Strong School and the fact that there are no flashing signals as have been observed in other localities, and questioned whether having the school resource officer or resident state trooper at the school during opening and closing might be helpful and/or is feasible.
7. **Public Comment** (*open for agenda items and non-agenda items*): None.



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8. Adjournment: 813 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca F. Anderson

Secretary

***Complete Streets Durham supports all of the goals outlined in the list sent:**

3.14 Transportation Goals

Significant events of the past ten years (victories, losses):

- As a working group formed in 2017 under the auspices of Sustainable Durham CSD researched and wrote a Complete Streets Resolution for Durham, adopted in 2018
- Organized and staffed a successful Bike Safety Rodeo with donations from every civic organization and CVEF.
- Created a working conceptual plan for bike and pedestrian safety on Main St and environs that includes enhanced crosswalks (to be funded in completion of sidewalk project), still looking to add flashing school zone signs.
- Worked with BOS to request an engineering study of the conceptual plan elements
- Invited a no-fee consultant to advise and report on pedestrian safety on Town roads through Connecticut Training and Technical Assistance Center in 2020. Some points of this report still not addressed
- Received a grant for 6 decorative Durham logo bike racks
- Became a separate Town Committee in 2023



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- After years of work with DOT and serious bumps in the road, CSD shepherded the Main Street Bike Lane to completion in summer 2025
- Organized a celebratory ride from the Community Center to Town Hall and back escorted by Durham's State Troopers
- Advised RSD13 and Town of Durham on Pedestrian Loop outlined in original POCD. RSD13 added wide striping on the resurfaced Pickett Lane, sidewalks including in ARPA funding plans
- Working with BOS to advance ATESDs (automated traffic cams) to address speeding: created townwide survey, drafted ATESD ordinance, providing support and information at public meetings
- Coordinating with Middlefield to work toward building multi-use trail connecting Peckham Park with Main St. Durham

Concerns for next decade, goals, and hopes:

- Install grant-funded bike racks
- Finish the Pedestrian Loop outlined in the original POCD with special attention to Maiden Lane. Paint crosswalks on Maiden Lane at Brick and Pickett per CT2 report, and address Haddam Quarter Rd/Main St corner, and HQ intersection with Pickett
- Address unsafe north/south crosswalks along Main Street, including Maiden Ln crossing and Pickett Lane crossing along sidewalk route.
- Connect Main St bike lane to bike route to Middletown via Maiden/Johnson Lanes with safety signage and painted sharrows
- Work with DOT to site multi-use trail, then apply for DOT grant for engineering study of multi-use trail to Middlefield and hope to see it to completion



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- Explore bike connectivity to Middletown and other towns in the Central CT loop, and connectivity to transit
- Commuter parking for rideshares
- Prioritize bike/ped accessibility over auto speed on Main Street and other roads in town.
- Utilize ATESDs to address speeding
- Explore possibilities for long-term Main Street speed reduction/safety enhancements such as roundabouts at 68/Maiden and south end 79/77/17.
- Prioritize sidewalks

Coginchaug Outdoor Enrichment Center (COEC)

Summary of 2025 Programs and tentative/possible 2026 Programs

Our mission is to inspire outdoor and nature related experiences that will foster appreciation and stewardship of the Earth. We aspire to provide programs to connect people of all ages and abilities to their local environment and cultivate thriving sustainable communities.

2025 Programs - the 6 programs with name and date in bold were sponsored by Durham Recreation. The last 2 programs (with *) were made possible by a grant from CVEF.

- **Backyard Chickens** with Marilyn Keurajian and Paul Benjunas (24 in attendance), **Mar 29**
- **Meet Your Weeds** with Aubree Keurajian (21 in attendance) **Jun 25**
- **Heron & Beaver Hike** with Lucy Meigs (15 in attendance) **June 27**
- Tabled at the Bobolink Festival, July 12
- **Tick Talk** with Scott Williams PhD, CAES, **Aug 14** (11 in attendance)
- Fairgrounds Pollinator Garden Work Party Sept 22 (8 in attendance)
- Durham Fair Discovery Center - Presented a variety of nature experiences to fair goers
- **CT Foragers*** - with Amy Demers **Oct 22** (18 in attendance)
- **A Place Called Hope*** - **Nov 8** (54 in attendance)

2026 Planned/Tentative Programs - At this point only the first program scheduled. For the rest of the planned programs the approximate date is listed. Mary Farnsworth (New Director of Middlefield Park & Rec reached out to us. She would like us to offer a portion of our program through the Middlefield Rec. The programs that are underlined will be (or will likely be) offered through the Middlefield Rec. The program in bold are ones we hope to offer through Durham Park & Rec.

- Native Seed Starting Workshop, Jan 24 at Middlefield Community Center, Middlefield Rec
- Winter Full Moon / Owl Hike in Middlefield (probably Jan 31 or Feb 1 or do in March)
- **Upcycled Fabric Wreaths - March or April?**
- **Fossils & Local Geology program** and reception for the dinosaur footprint - **late Feb or March?**
- **Vernal Pool Walk** at the Field Forest in early **April** (or late March)

Examples of other Programs that we hope to offer in 2026 (or 2027)

- **Making Cordage from local plants** - Oct/Nov
- Repair Cafe - Don't Feed the Landfill
- A Series on Trash Art
- Coordinating an outdoor program with Durham Arts Council
- Wildflower ID program on Open Space
- CT Aquatics fishing class at Miller's Pond