

Town of New Fairfield
Board of Selectmen
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 8, 2018
7:30 PM

Community Room at 33 Route 37
(REVISED TO ADD ATTACHMENTS)

Members present:

Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman
Khris Hall, Selectman
Kim Hanson, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director
Wes Marsh, BOF Chairman

Call To Order First Selectman Pat Del Monaco called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment- None

Correspondence and Announcements

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco announced that the Veterans Day Ceremony will be held on Sunday, November 11th at 11:00 am. The Turkey Run will be held on Sunday, November 18th. The Holiday Light Parade will be held on Saturday, November 24th with a rain date of Sunday, November 25th. Parks and Rec will host the first annual Great Holiday Light Fight. For more information on these events, please call Parks and Rec.

Approval of Minutes

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2018 regular meeting as presented. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Budget Transfers

Pat Del Monaco made a motion make a transfer from the Town Properties Capital account in the amount of \$3,985.00 to install new flooring for the Assessor's office. Kim Hanson seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Personnel Report

It was noted that this Personnel Report approved a stipend for a Town Hall employee. Selectman Kim Hanson expressed concern regarding the procedure for giving raises and stipends outside of the budget season and how this would affect union negotiations in the future.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to accept the Personnel Report dated November 8, 2018 as presented. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved- Kim Hanson opposed)

Appointments

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to appoint Elisa Beckett Flores to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

NEW BUSINESS

Margerie Trail update

Selectman Khris Hall introduced Dr. Peter Rostenberg and Mr. Peter Hern and spoke of working with them to apply for a grant from DEEP for a walking trail around Margerie Reservoir and Route 37 from Saw Mill Road to Bear Mountain Reserve in Danbury.

Mr. Hern gave a presentation regarding this proposal which spoke of the benefits of increased activities to the health of residents. He also spoke of the funding for this trail which would be in the form of initial funding from the State DOT and a possible grant from DEEP. The grant application to DEEP was submitted on October 31st. It was noted that this proposal was included in the Plan of Conservation and Development by the Planning Commission and Zoning Commission and was endorsed by various legislators.

Selectman Khris Hall thanked Dr. Peter Rostenberg and Mr. Peter Hern for their hard work with project. She asked that this presentation be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

Saw Mill Bridge update

Pat Del Monaco gave an update on the Saw Mill Bridge project and noted that the bid opening for this project will be next week and the project is set to begin in the Spring.

OLD BUSINESS

Draft ordinance to establish an Economic Development Commission

Selectman Khris Hall spoke of a draft ordinance to develop an Economic Development Commission. She noted that members of this commission will serve a two year term and that the terms will be staggered. There will be a checklist of requirements and goals for the commission and they will deliver an annual report each year on October 1st and will prepare a strategic plan every three years.

Selectman Kim Hanson asked about the plan to measure success of this commission and how to know if it is effective. There was a brief discussion among the entire BOS regarding this commission. It was decided to hold a public hearing regarding this in the near future.

Boat Dock Memorandum of Understanding and appropriation from the 2017-2018 budget surplus

Pat Del Monaco spoke of the proposal to use the 2017-2018 budget surplus to replace the docks at the Town Marina. There was a discussion of approving a Memorandum of Understanding to ensure that the appropriate funds will be available for future dock replacements. This MOU set up a lock box with funds specifically designated for dock replacement. This MOU would be signed by the first selectman, the chairman of the Board of Finance, the chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the finance director. There was a question as to whether or not the Board of Finance would need to approve this.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the boat docks and to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Addition to the agenda

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss and possibly vote on boat dock and Jet Ski slip fee increases. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco noted that the Parks and Rec Commission recommended an increase of \$250 per year for boat dock slips and \$125 a year for Jet Ski slips. It was noted any revenue over \$150,000 will automatically be put into the replacement fund.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to increase the boat dock slip fee by \$250 and the Jet Ski slip fee by \$125 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Kim Hanson seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to accept changes to the draft Blight Ordinance

The BOS discussed comments made at the Public Hearing regarding the Blight Ordinance that was held on November 7th. They reviewed the purpose of the ordinance and the definition of blight. There was a discussion of the draft ordinance and especially inoperable motor vehicles and building lots with piles of top soil and concrete fill.

There was a discussion of the makeup of the Blight Prevention Board and whether or not it should be made up of town employees or citizens of the town.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to accept the Anti-Blight including the changes made at the two public hearings, changes made by the Town Attorney and changes made at tonight's meeting. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved- Kim Hanson opposed)

Machine Vote for the Anti-Blight Ordinance

Kim Hanson made a motion to table the setting of the date for the Town Meeting for the Anti-Blight Ordinance. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment

Greg Moore asked about the date for the vote of the Anti-Blight Ordinance and specifically about blight with cars in driveways.

Mike Normanly spoke in support of the Anti-Blight Ordinance and thanked the BOS for all their work with this.

Jarred Jeffress spoke in support of the Anti-Blight Ordinance.

Elisa Beckett Flores thanked the BOS for her appointment to the Parks and Rec Commission. She also spoke of the Blight Prevention Board and supported having town employees serve on this board.

Adjournment

Kim Hanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

BOS- Minutes

11/08/18

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11pgs of attachments

Received for Record NOV 15 2018

at 11 h 05 m A M and recorded by

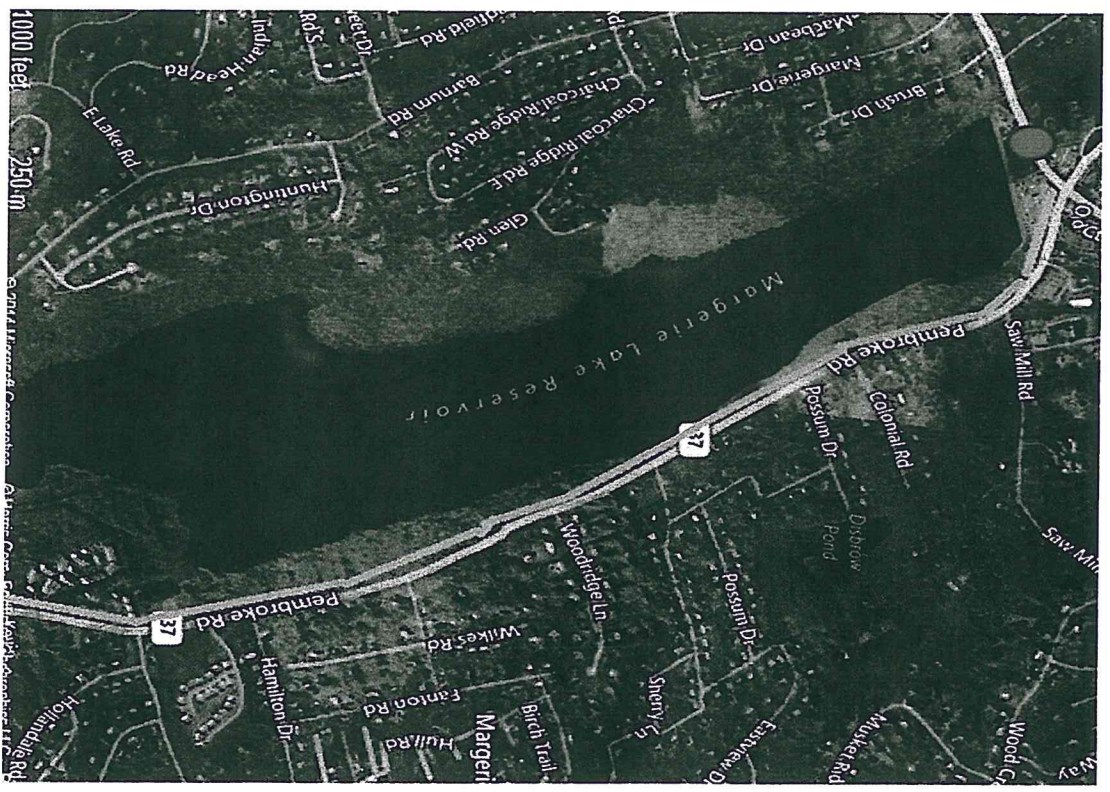
Pamela J. Dohan
Pamela J. Dohan, Town Clerk, New Fairfield, CT

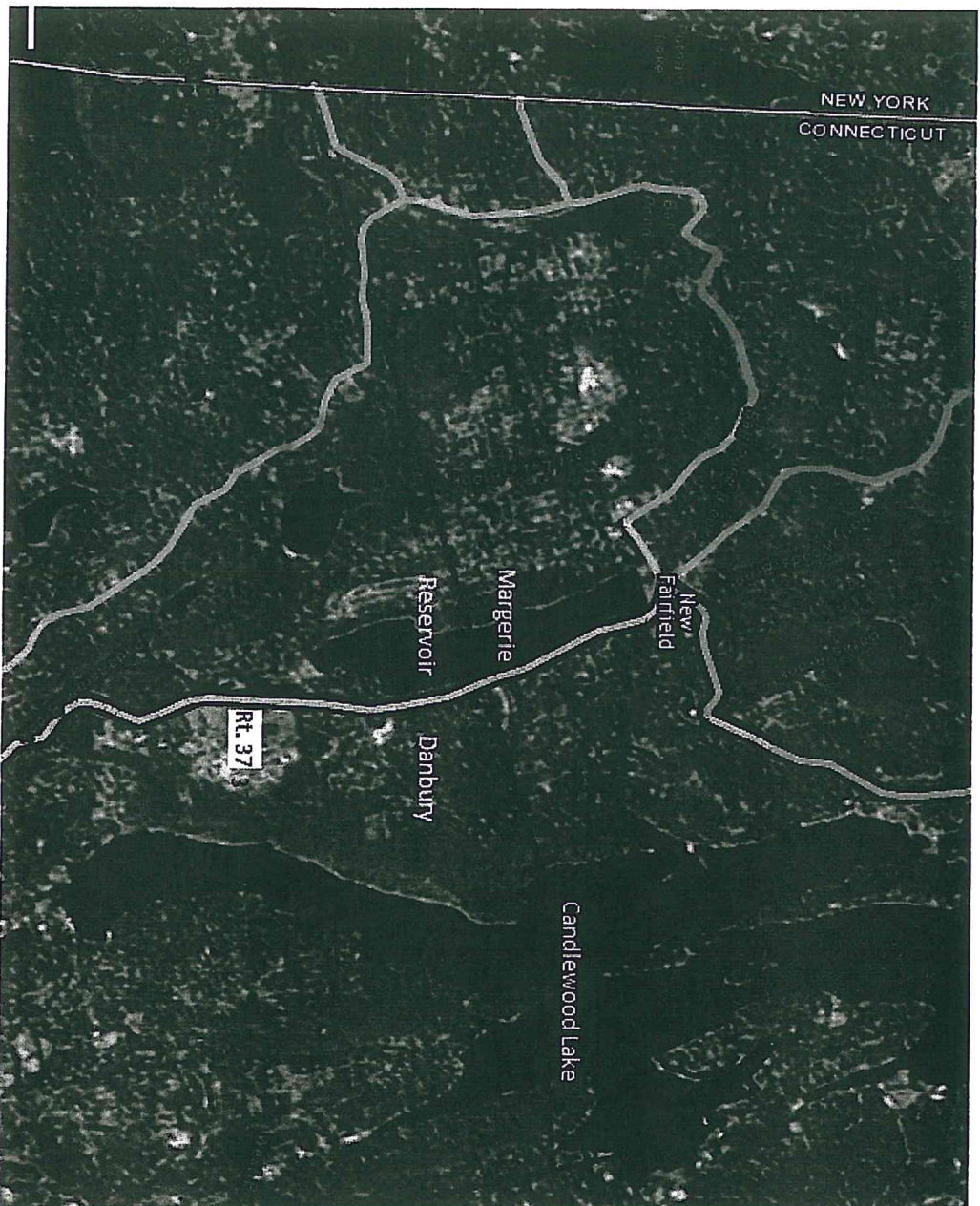


Margerie Reservoir Community Trail

A proposal for a multi-use, scenic
transportation link between downtown New
Fairfield and Danbury

... to run
along the
west side
of Route 37

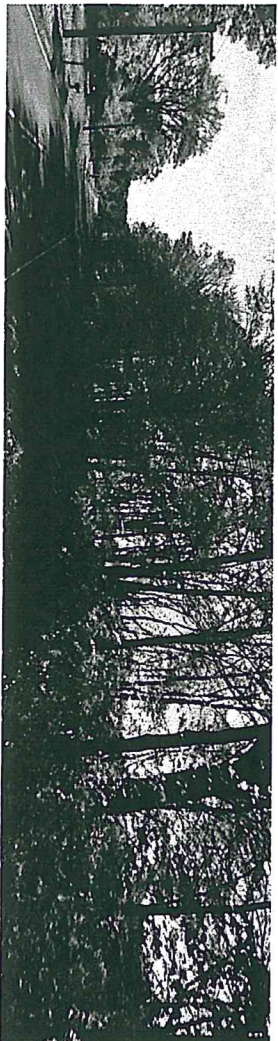
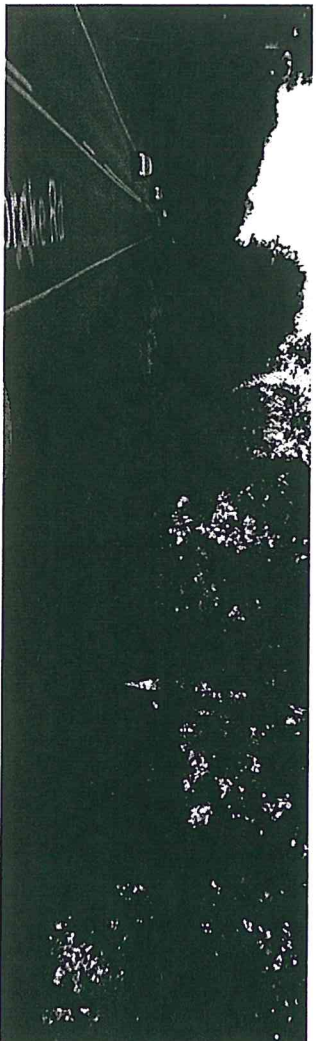




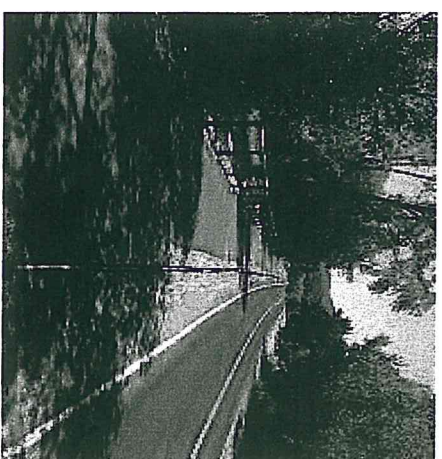
Route 37

- It is the gateway to New Fairfield.
- With over 11,000 vehicle trips daily.
- For much of the year the western side of the road is overgrown and not maintained.

The shoulders are narrow, making it unsafe for walkers and bicyclists

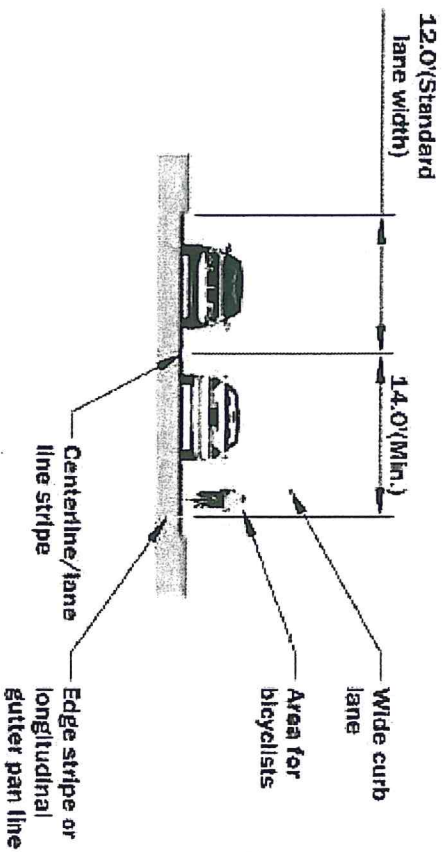


It could be safer and more attractive,
like these roadside trails

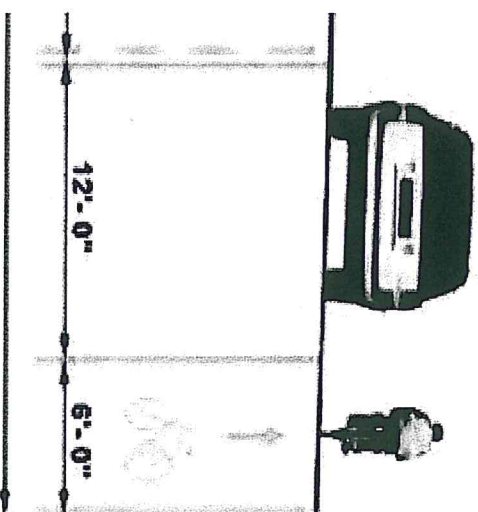


There is ample room for a hiking trail and bicycle path along most of the road except near Reservoir View Drive where it narrows to bicycle trail width

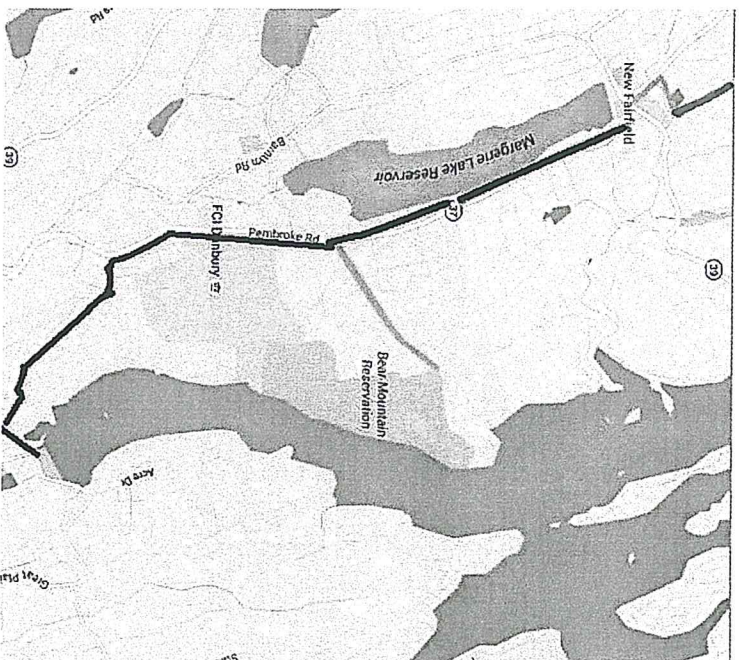
Possible



Perfect

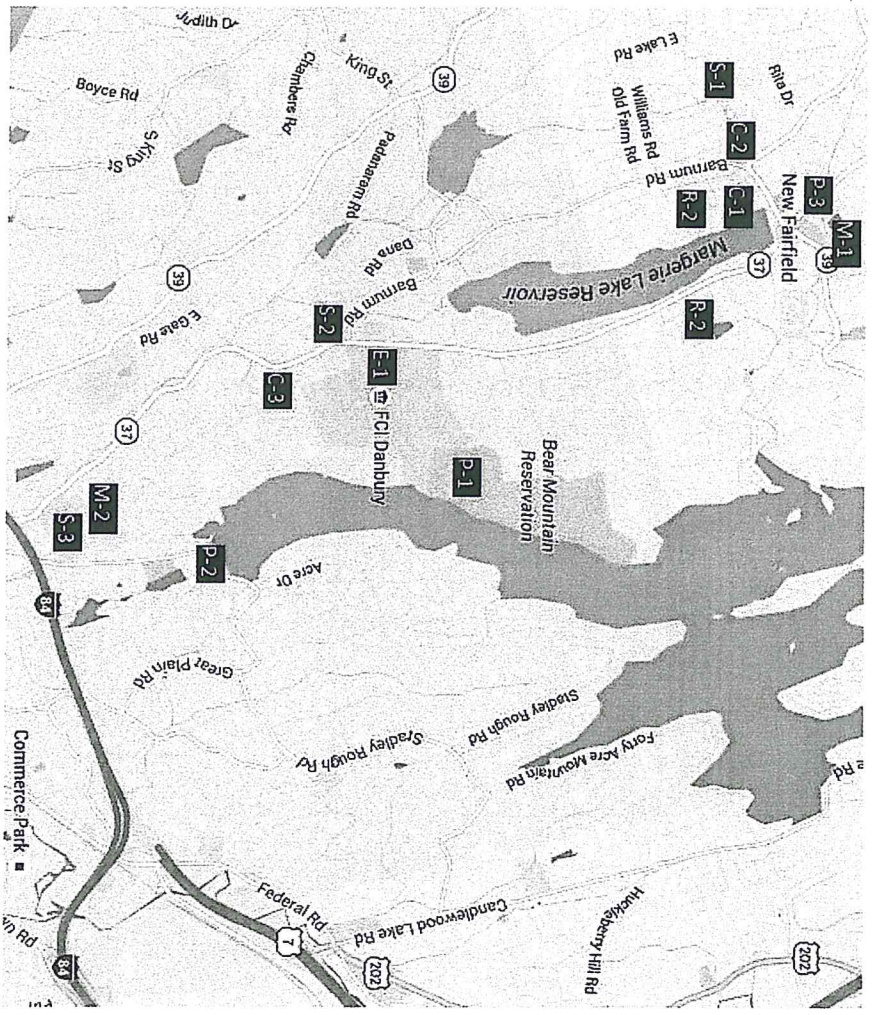


It would be a place to walk, jog, bike and provide access to recreation areas



- MAROON = PROPOSED TRAIL/ IMPROVEMENT TO RT 37
- PINK = EXISTING LINKS TO PRESERVES AT BEAR MT AND DUNHAM POND
- PURPLE = POSSIBLE FUTURE LINK TO DANBURY TOWN BEACH
- GREEN = POSSIBLE CONNECTION TO STATE FOREST

It is also a link to other points



- P-1 Bear Mt. Reservation
- P-2 Danbury Town Beach
- P-3 Memorial Park
- C-1 St. Edward Church
- C-2 Congregational Church
- C-3 St. Nicholas
- S-1 Consolidated School
- S-2 Pembroke School
- S-3 Henry Abbot Tech
- TC-1 New Fairfield Town Center
- M-1 Fairwood Shopping Center
- M-2 Danbury Shopping Center
- R-1 Brookside Condos
- R-2 New Fairfield residential neighborhoods
- E-1 Federal Correctional Institution

It could improve our health!

STEP IT UP!
THE SURGEON GENERAL'S CALL TO ACTION
TO PROMOTE WALKING
AND WALKABLE COMMUNITIES



**TRB SPECIAL
REPORT
282**

Does the Built
Environment Influence
Physical Activity?

EXAMINING THE EVIDENCE

Committee on Physical Activity, Health,
Transportation, and Land Use

How will it be paid for?

- Initial funding has come from the state DOT, which is required to consider bicycle and pedestrian access in all road improvements, via a grant to Danbury and New Fairfield through WestCOG
- An application for a DEEP Recreational Trails Grant was sent to DEEP on October 31 to secure funds to do the preliminary engineering to assess its feasibility

Supporters of a study of the feasibility of the trail

- New Fairfield BOS (9/24/15)
- New Fairfield Planning and Zoning Commission (in POCD)
- Mayor Mark Boughton (10/15/18)
- Senator Michael McLachlan (10/25/18)
- Representative Richard Smith (10/29/18)
- WestCOG (10/24/18)
- Candlewood Valley Regional Land Trust (October 2018)

• Numerous walkers, bicyclists and neighbors!

