BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING

April 2013
What are Complete Streets?

San Francisco, CA
Market Street
Circa 1906
What are Complete Streets?
What are Complete Streets?

Rocky Hill, CT - 1934
What are Complete Streets?

Rocky Hill, CT - 2010
What are Complete Streets?

- Designing with all users in mind
- Designing to the context of the area
  - Urban
  - Rural
- Talking to the stakeholders
- Using best practices
- Using new techniques and technologies
What have We Done?

- Working to institutionalize Bicycle and Pedestrian into every corner of CTDOT
- Employing Complete Street Strategies
  - Creation of a Complete Street Committee
  - Complete Street Training
- Revision of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Assessment Form
- More flexibility for use of Federal funding
- Practice to reduce lane width to 11 feet, where applicable
- Greater cooperation with the CT DEEP
What have We Spent?

- An average of 1.9% of federal funding received Stand alone projects
- Equates to about 12 million dollars per year since 2009
- Does not include all items that CTDOT does:
  - Increased shoulder width
  - Repainted crosswalks and shoulders
  - Signage associated with larger projects
U.S. Route 44 (Burnside Ave)
Traffic has greatly diminished
Existing cross section –
• four 12 foot lanes w/ on street parking
Proposed cross section:
• 8 foot parking lane
• 5 foot striped bicycle lane
• 12 foot lane with turn lanes at selected intersections
Bus turnouts and reduced number of transit stops
Stratford Sidewalks

- U.S. Route 1 (Barnum Avenue Cutoff)
- Close proximity to Stratford RR station
- Can see “desire lines” showing the need for sidewalks
- Difficult topography (retaining walls will likely be needed)
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Sidewalks End

Gaps

Sidewalk on bridge
Department has committed to signing

East Coast Greenway (ECG) Interim Route

- 198 miles of both state and local roads
- Rhode Island to CT River completed 2012
- CT River to Greenwich will be completed this spring
Studying a trail along the entire 37.5 mile Merritt Parkway
Parkway was built with additional land for future transportation use

Many challenges including:

- National Scenic Byway
- National Register of Historic Places
- Public perception
- Environmental constraints
- Topographic issues

Large outreach effort to get input on the trail concepts
Study connections to the side-path being built on the Putnam Bridge

- Looking at trail sections from the bridge in both Wethersfield and Glastonbury
- Wethersfield much shorter length of trail to logical termini
- Glastonbury about a mile of trail with no easy place to build it
  - Wetland impacts
  - Floodplains
  - Man made embankment for Route 3
  - Property owners
  - Logical tie down point

Stakeholders include Towns, advocacy groups, colleges, RPO, FHWA
Putnam Bridge Trail Study

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11 Foot Lane Practice

- During routine repaving and restriping of roads
- Office of traffic determines appropriateness of reducing travel lanes
- Largest impact is through the VIP paving performed every year
  - 2012 - 162 lane miles of roads were restriped to 11 foot lanes (of 180 in the VIP program)
  - 2013 has 174 lane miles scheduled for the VIP program
Safe Routes to School

- Where it is safe, get kids walking and biking
- Where it is not safe, make it safe
- Program geared to children grades K-8 (including disabled)
- Program implementation since 2005:
  - Awarded over $8 million for 19 projects
  - Provided SRTS planning services to over 30 schools
  - Developed standardized crossing guard training curriculum

SRTS Project, Fair Haven School
New Haven, CT
ADA Upgrades

- ADA transition Plan
- Upgrades at signalized intersections
- Preparing designs for 192 priority locations – mainly District 1
- Scheduled for construction in 2014, includes
  - ADA ramps
  - Detectable warning surfaces (tactile surfaces)
  - Push buttons

![Ideal placement diagram]

(Not to scale)
Transit

- Bike racks on buses
  - Usage
- Bike racks on trains
  - Pilot for Metro North
  - Hope to expand pilot
- CT fastrak
  - All stations have bike racks
  - Good pedestrian access
Route 72 - Bristol –
Lack of education in all facets of a project
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Any Town CT....

- Politically tough to build sidewalks
How can you Help?

- You are the front line of design for transportation projects
- Make your clients aware of the Complete Streets law
- Use good engineering and think complete streets
- Look to best practices both within CT and nationwide
- Plan early and your design will be accommodating to all users
Any Questions???

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