

West Hartford Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission Monthly Meeting Agenda

Tuesday October 11, 2022, 7 PM

Room 24, Elmwood Community Center

Masks are recommended, not required

1. Call to Order, Attendance
2. Introductions
3. Approval of previous meeting's minutes
4. Old Business
 - a. Proposed "umbrella" Sustainability Commission - Town staff will answer questions from the PBC and public (please see attached)
 - b. West Hartford Center Infrastructure Master Plan update
 - c. Woodrow Street traffic calming
5. New Business
 - a. Engineering updates
 - b. P&Z updates
 - c. New bicycle repair station-discuss possible locations
6. Announcements
7. Input for next PBC meeting on 11/7/22
8. Adjourn

Any individual with a disability who need special assistance to participate in this meeting should contact Suzanne Oslander, Department of Social Services, 860-561-7580 two days prior to the meeting.

Questions for Town staff regarding proposed “umbrella” Sustainability Commission

1. Please present slides 12-16 from the Sustainability Advisory Group slide deck, which make the case for a “Sustainable West Hartford” commission. What are the weaknesses that SAG identified in the current 3-commission model, and what benefits did SAG see in their proposed model?
2. What is the structure of the Sustainability Commission that the Town is currently supporting? The SAG proposal, or the organizational chart shown on slide 22 from the July 25 multi-commission slide deck?
3. If the Town is considering the structure shown on slide 22:
 - Please describe how the proposed Sustainability Commission will work. Will the subcommittees continue to be autonomous, or will they receive direction, guidance and priorities from the Sustainability Commission?
 - How often will the new Sustainability Commission meet, and how often will the subcommittees meet? Will this new structure require existing commission members to attend additional meetings annually? Will the size of the existing commissions be reduced?
 - Will all members of the subcommittees (including Complete Streets/PBC) be members of the Sustainability Commission?
 - Will/can commission members serve on more than one subcommittee?
 - What is the role of the Working Groups shown on slide 22? Would these be project-based and short-term? Would they draw members from the various subcommittees? Will there be opportunities for the public to join and participate in these Working Groups?
4. What is the town’s current view of the proposed Sustainability Commission? Has the town set a timeline for creating this commission?
5. What would be the benefits to the PBC and the Town from the PBC joining a new Sustainability Commission? What, if anything, would change operationally for the PBC if it were to join the new commission? Would the PBC be required to add public transportation issues to its purview?
6. Would a new Sustainability Commission provide a greater opportunity for the priorities and concerns of the existing commissions to be transmitted to the Town Council and Town Manager?
7. Would a new Sustainability Commission create a sustainability-themed webpage, making it easier for residents to find sustainability information in one location?
8. What is the plan for properly creating the Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission by town ordinance?

Additional questions from commissioners and the public are welcomed.