

West Hartford Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission Monthly Meeting Minutes

Monday 12th , 2026, 7:00 PM

Room 400, Town Hall.

Commissioners :Ed Pawlak, Jen Bowman, Jordan Tessler, Andrea Belli, Brendan Wheeler, Nick McGee.

Members of the community: Andrew Rowan- covers transportation for NBC, Sarah Canavan

Town Officials: None

1. Call to Order, Attendance at 7:07

2. Introductions

3. Approval of previous meeting's minutes - meeting minutes approved unanimously

4. Old Business – none

ED P reports on conversation with Greg Sommers (Town Engineer):

- King Philip Drive roundabout recent truck accident- can Google maps be amended upon request for certain type of vehicles?
- Most of the neighborhood street traffic calming requests are being denied by the Engineering Division (only 26% of requests are being addressed with physical road modifications)
 - o The manual should be updated to better reflect a more accurate scoring matrix that grants more neighborhood street traffic calming measures
 - o Emergency responders analysis pending to understand the impact of traffic calming infrastructure on response time
 - o Large backlog of traffic calming requests remains: balance between slowing down traffic and emergency responders' needs
 - o Town is building heat maps to understand where the emergency vehicles operate
- Albany Ave road diet update: DOT analyses indicate possible increased traffic queuing if road diet is implemented without any mitigation actions from town (DOT decision pending)
- New Park Ave Complete Streets: construction could begin over the summer
- LaSalle Road installation of bike hitches, benches and retractable bollards: coming soon
- Farmington Ave Center reconstruction started
- Sedgwick Road reconstruction planned for later in 2026
- Raised cross walk update: 10 more to be installed in 2026

5. New Business

a. Engineering/Vision Zero update - see above

b. P&Z update - none

c. Discussion: When should the PBC advocate for road safety improvements on individual residential streets? Discussion to be continued

6. Discussion of general pedestrian and bicyclist access/safety issues in town - **none**

7. Announcements - Fern Street bridge roadwork near the park continue, it is interfering with safe bicycle passage on Fern Street

8. 2/9/2026 PBC meeting - email items you would like included on the agenda to Ed Pawlak (ecosys88@gmail.com)

9. Adjourn – 8:40PM