

**Sustainable Westport Advisory Team**  
**Thursday, February 6th, 7pm**  
**Westport Town Hall, Room 309**

1. Check in / Welcome
2. Public Comment - no public comments
3. Approval of the January minutes and associated follow-ups (grid in minutes) - perhaps minor changes necessary regarding Myca (Pippa's intern)
  - Action items - "Done/Not Done" checklist
    - Extra kudos go to Pete for table placards
    - Nice progress
    - List of action items will be transitioned into PPT
4. Special Items for discussion
  - a. Transit District presentation & discussion (30 min for talks/presentations plus 15 min Q&A)

Westport Transit District

1. Commuter shuttles
2. Door to door transport for seniors and citizens with disabilities
3. Door to door transport beyond Westport for people with disabilities
4. services subcontracted to Norwalk transit

Major initiatives

Marketing Initiative--posters at train station and realtor packets for people coming to town

- Educational materials on transit services (benefits both individual and environment)
- Emails being designed to disseminate to Chamber of Commerce and DMA

Microtransit initiative

- Mini busses and creating an app for the busses to respond to requests (like Uber and Lyft)
- Discussions to add this service are promising and they have analyzed the maps; maps show that they only service 60% of town and implementing the map could increase this
- Would enable door to door service
- Current fixed cost structure and this would enable WTD to fine-tune their costs
- Challenges: attractive to new users but may be unattractive to others; service level would be high but imperfect; start-up costs
- Launch assistance? Social media assistance/student support?

RTM Transit Committee

- Conducting search for new person to head Transit District
- Can adopt ordinances and have oversight, which includes RR parking, town parking, ways to move around town
- Mostly deal with budgets, committee meetings, and annual planning

### Study/Recommendations

- Expanding services but the problem is financial; also issues with cultural change and getting people to adopt services
- Bike Lanes/ Bike lanes on Riverside
- Completing sidewalk network to encourage walking
- CT's "complete streets" plan--work on updating this?
- Putting a drop-off structure at the train station with solar panels on roof
- Electric scooters to take users from different town municipal lots
- Charging stations funded by user fees
- Enabling kids in town to be more independent--shuttle services from Downtown to Compo
- Railroad parking fees--more parking spaces at the station translate to less ridership. Understanding breakpoint of fees would be helpful--perhaps raising fees would increase shuttle usage
- Looking for grants for sidewalks, other transit improvements
- Participation in 2019 in "Drive Less Connecticut"; perhaps there will be 2020 participation once again

### Q&A

- Bike Lanes
- Where do RR Parking Fees go? General maintenance and operations; excess funds go into funds or reserve funds, which State can therefore take
- Increased Parking fees to increase ridership--causing disadvantage to some riders (suggestion by Jim Marpe to continue this conversation with Police Chief who has more insight into fees)
- Main-to-train route has historically had little interest and therefore the focus has been on commuter hours

### The Ask

- Help finding transit commissioner
- marketing to reverse commuters
- help with social media
- "Greening the ride" -- restricted by Norwalk Transit as the contractor
- Sustainable Westport could potentially weigh-in on the improvements being made along Post Road (re: sidewalks, bike lanes, etc)

#### b. Structure Update – Inspire Sustainable Westport (5 min)

- Fairly close in terms of plans that the committee has previously seen
- Working with Town Attorney on how this exposes town to risk

## 5. Status by Pillar

- a. Review of overall progress and priorities: <http://bit.ly/SustWest> - Refer to Progress + Priorities Spreadsheet
- b. Natural Resources and Waste Management

- i. Greens Farms Academy tray-less pilot, anti-idling update – Tess McCormick
    - 1. Decreased waste from 121 lbs per day to 100 lbs per day (~100 lbs per week)
    - 2. Anti-idling campaign (AIPS-Anti Idling Police)--knocking on windows and give a ticket
    - 3. Website content development
  - ii. Food Waste update and flyer feedback – Pippa
    - 1. Linking to Loveyourfoodny.org
    - 2. Zero Food Waste Challenge
    - 3. Food Scrap Handout
  - iii. Sustainable CT grant opportunities - Pippa
    - 1. Sustainable CT Matching Fund
    - 2. Sustainable CT In Our Backyard (IOBY) Grants
      - a. Speaker fee matching
      - b. ZFW Starter Kits
      - c. Hauler fees for schools food scrap recycling
      - d. water bottle filling station at Staples field
- c. Aware and Engaged Community
- i. Website – Greg & Peter
    - 1. Issues with developer adhering to Lisa’s designs
    - 2. Hoping to go live by next month
  - ii. Earth Day Update – Tony & Pippa
    - 1. Three speakers currently slated
      - a. Earth Day slot--Lori Fontanes, “Feeding People in the Time of Climate Change”; selling bins at the event?
      - b. William McDonough, author of “Cradle to Cradle,” sometime in May
      - c. April 1st--“How to Solve Climate Change by 2030”, Eban Goodstein at Earthplace
  - iii. Pesticide Preemption (Tony)
    - 1. Would like to support the repeal CT’s current law on Pesticide Preemption
    - 2. BYO CT will bring it to the State (Grassroots appeal)
      - a. Group voted to sign on to letter
    - 3. Amend letter to advise First Selectman
  - iv. Social Media update (report progress on having members submit content ideas) - Diana
    - 1. Highlight: State of Town Meeting
    - 2. Supporting Jenn Cirino and Zero Waste Club efforts at Staples on marketing and initiative launch
6. Wrap Up & Communication
- a. Summarize and Agree action list
    - Put to-do list/action items for each SW Team Member into monthly PowerPoint

<b>Pillar</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>By Who?</b>	<b>By When?</b>
	Send meeting notes to Dawn	Diana	Already done!
	Incorporate follow-ups into minutes, circulate for comments	Dawn	Feb 14th
	Circulate deck and attachments from meeting	Peter	Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>
	Liase with Town Attorney Eileen Flug re: structure	Peter	Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>
Aware & Engaged Community	Website final deadline to launch or hand off to new resource for completion	Greg	Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>
	List of social media suggestions/template + 3 sentences to SW Advisory Team	Diana	Jan 17th
	Explore Careers event at schools (joining Tony, Nico, Peter on events chat)	Diana	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
	Convene ELS/SW event series chat (and include Diana)	Tony	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
	Get award plaque estimates from City Bench	Dawn	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
	Define "equity" in relation to SW mission	David	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
	Finalize Bill D and funding	Tony	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
Natural Resources and Waste Management	Sent out forwardable packet on Leaf Blowers to SW Advisory Team	Tony	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
	BYO CT email and to Jim to email	Peter	Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>
	Remind Jim about BYO CT email	Sara	Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>
Green Buildings	Circulate green building award application from Library, explore field trip opportunity	Steve	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
	VNM follow-up as per solar text amendment(?)	David	March 5 <sup>th</sup>