

The Willimantic River Alliance maintains a regional greenway vision for the towns and offers information about potential projects and about resources for town and regional projects. Although the greenway projects will be planned and completed over many years, they will in time offer residents and visitors better opportunities to access the river and enjoy its natural beauty and historic features. Several riverside towns are working together on multi-town trails along the Greenway. The section in Coventry is partially completed and work continues on the remaining areas.

Goal: Provide for the efficient and orderly movement of people and goods into, out of, and within Coventry and provide adequate access to places of employment, residences, recreational and commercial activity. The Plan recognizes that residents are automobile-oriented and that will serve as the primary means of transportation.

Recommendations- (Action items include the responsible party, in brackets)

1. Provide for adequate circulation within and between all sections of the town. Dead-end roads or cul-de-sacs in new development should not preclude strategically located through-streets that would improve traffic flow.
2. Provide and maintain public infrastructure facilities such as roads, sewers and storm drainage, where appropriate, in all areas throughout the town to prevent physical deterioration, in keeping within the town's Capital Improvements Program. Any new roads or existing road improvements should be accomplished in a "context sensitive" manner that respects the natural environment and landscape, considers non-vehicular mobility and is compatible with the neighborhood.
3. Work with the State and other affected communities to evaluate future transportation needs as they could impact Route 31, Route 44, Route 6, Route 195 and Route 275, and implement improvements in a manner which is not disruptive to the communities. Particular focus should be made to the proposed changes to Route 31 in Coventry Village.
4. Monitor traffic volumes on town roads to assess capacity and future needs. [Public Works]
5. Continue to support the improvement of Lake Association roads through joint cooperative effort between the Town and the Associations, including facilitating transfer of ownership. [Public Works, Town Engineer, Town Council]
6. Consider Scenic Road designations and educate the public about the benefits of scenic road designation. Review the applicability of the ordinance over time and make appropriate changes. [Town Council, Planning & Zoning and Land use staff]
7. Encourage the use of public transit by maintaining and improving amenities such as related parking facilities and publicizing their benefits. Consider public transit from Vernon

to Willimantic and extending the UConn student bussing routes to include Route 44 and Route 31/275 in Coventry.

8. Strive to minimize the number of curb cuts to State and Major Local Streets.
9. Intersections, alignments and drainage should be improved on local streets as needed to promote public safety.
10. Consider pedestrian mobility as a significant opportunity in the context of subdivisions and their relation to retail/commercial nodes where appropriate. An example of such an opportunity is the plan to connect the Pilgrim Hills subdivision to Grant Hill Road, then to the Williams subdivision and then along Coventry Brook to Route 44 with potential extensions to the Skungamaug River.
11. Provide pedestrian/bicycle access from the High School to Lake Street, via Main Street, and provide pedestrian walkways and crossings in the Village in conjunction with the Route 31 project. [Public Works, Town Council, Town Engineer]
12. Request the Conservation Commission to create bicycle route mapping (present and proposed) for connecting densely populated areas and along scenic viewsheds. [Conservation Commission and Land use staff]
13. Continue and expand inter-municipal cooperation for trail systems such as the Hop River Rail trail and the Willimantic River Greenway. [Public Works, Land use staff, Town Manager, Town Council]
14. Publish biking and walking trail systems on the town web site.
15. Follow a policy of "Complete Streets" whereby provisions are made for vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians on every major transportation project.
16. Locate off-street parking behind or to the side of buildings to maintain aesthetic value and pedestrian accessibility between adjacent destinations.