



## [August 2021 Newsletter](#)

Welcome to the Safe Streets Hartford Newsletter! Safe Streets is an interdepartmental team that works with community partners to establish and meet viable objectives and goals for reimagining and redesigning streets. The streets in Hartford must be safe for all road users regardless of transit mode, age, ability, race, or income. This newsletter will be produced bi-monthly, and will provide updates on Safe Streets efforts initiated by the City of Hartford, partner organizations, and the community.

---

## [City of Hartford Updates](#)



## [Department of Public Works](#)

The long awaited completion of this project is near! DPW projects that the roundabout located at the intersection of Sigourney Street, Park Terrace, and Russ Street will be done with construction in September 2021.



### **Coltsville**

The streetscape improvements project is a state and federally funded project for the Coltsville Corridor. It includes approximately 1,710 feet of streetscape improvements along Van Dyke Avenue from Sheldon Street to Masseek Street. The project consists of the installation of new granite curbing, concrete sidewalks, brick paver bandings, stone slope stabilization, installation of ornamental lighting, street trees, and drainage improvements. Construction is slated to begin this summer, with the anticipated completion of Fall 2022.

### **Franklin and Maple Ave**

The streetscape improvements project is a state funded project that provides a grandiose entrance leaving the downtown area and entering the south part of Hartford. The limits of the streetscape includes about 1,800 feet of streetscape improvements, Maple Ave from Retreat to Essex and the intersection of Maple and Franklin Ave to Annawan St. The project consists of the installation of new granite curbing, concrete sidewalks, brick paver bandings, stone slope stabilization, installation of ornamental lighting, street trees, and drainage improvements. Construction is slated to begin this summer, with the anticipated completion of Fall 2022.

### **ADA Sidewalk Ramps**

The City will be working with a contractor to restore sidewalk

ramps to ADA standards. This will be a multi-year project addressing sidewalk ramps city wide, and is scheduled to begin in September 2021.



### **Bartholomew Ave**

Construction is scheduled to begin in August 2021! This project will increase pedestrian and roadway safety and create an inviting space for the public.

From the Park Street intersection to the Olive Street intersection (excluding the Hamilton Street intersection), full depth roadways and concrete sidewalks will be installed including granite curbing and drainage structure tops. Traffic calming measures including painted chicanes and curbed bump outs will further reduce vehicle speeds along Bartholomew Avenue. Construction is slated to begin this summer, with the anticipated completion of Fall 2022



## **Department of Development Services**

### **Newsletter**

The City of Hartford Department of Development Services Planning & Zoning Division will be providing regular updates on current

projects and initiatives throughout the city, as well as updates about the work of the numerous boards and commissions. If you are interested in receiving regular communications related to either development projects or the Safe Streets Initiative, please [follow this link to sign up](#) and share!

### **Scooter Share**

At the end of April - on Earth Day, to be exact - Boston-based company Superpedestrian [rolled out](#) its LINK scooter fleet across Hartford. Since then, residents and visitors alike have taken over 80,000 trips and ridden over 200,000 miles, making Hartford a national leader in shared Micromobility and [Complete Streets](#).

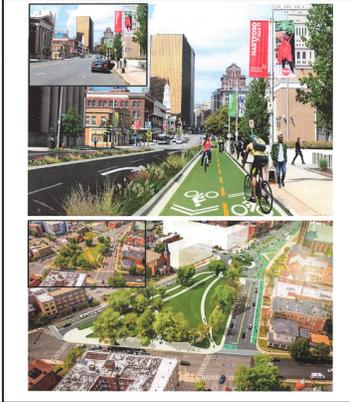


Over the past few months, Superpedestrian has stepped up its community engagement, providing safety trainings and helmet give-a-ways and showing up at community events such as the Juneteenth Diaspora Pride Festival, the Urban League's Employment Expo, and concerts and Yard Goat games. Over 250 residents are signed up for the [LINK Up discount program](#), and LINK scooters are now an integral part of the City's transportation infrastructure.

Have questions about scooter services? Reach out to Superpedestrian directly at the company's [Hartford webpage](#). You can try out Superpedestrian's LINK scooters by downloading the LINK app (available for Android and Apple devices).

### **Complete Streets Plan Adoption**

The City's Complete Streets Task Force worked through 2020 to develop a



guidance on how Hartford can transform its streets to complete streets, that serve all users – pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists.

The Plan has been adopted by the Planning and Zoning Commission, and was approved for full adoption by the Hartford City Council on June 14, 2021 by a 9-0 vote. The approved complete streets plan can be located [here](#) on the City of Hartford website.

### **Complete Streets Task Force**

The Department of Development Services Planning & Zoning division is still currently in the process of filling some very BIG shoes with the Senior Project Manager role. As a result, the next Complete Streets Task Force meeting will be held on **Tuesday October 12, 2021** at 11am. Keep an eye on [Meeting Info](#) for future meeting access information.

### **Open Streets Event in Hartford**

The City of Hartford, in partnership with Hartford HealthCare, is currently developing an event that will temporarily eliminate cars from 4-6 miles of Hartford streets.



This event will allow the community to view the city through a

economic development, recreation, and city stewardship. The mutual goals of the City of Hartford and Hartford HealthCare through this event are to encourage a healthy, safe, and fun environment by taking back the streets and transforming them into places to gather, bike, roll, stroll, and enjoy outdoor activities.

The anticipated kick off to this project will occur in 2022, and will be held one Sunday a month from 10a-4p, running from May to October. A general information session will be held for the public on September 30, 2021. If you are interested, [use and share this link](#) to register for the session!

### **Riverwalk North**

A preliminary presentation on the status of the Riverwalk North Trail Extension project will occur during the September 14th Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting. Meeting access and information can be found [here](#).



### **South Branch Trail**

The City now has received state funding through the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to design and construct an extension to the existing trail. This extension will be constructed from Nilan Street to Newfield Avenue. Currently, the project is progressing into preliminary design, and the designers are currently assessing the trail's

There will be a virtual public meeting held on **Wednesday August 18th at 6pm** to discuss the design process and obtain community feedback before moving on to the next phase of the project. Please view and share more information about the South Branch River Trail Public Meeting [here](#).

### **Parklets!**

Consider reimagining your available curbside commercial space to benefit your business and the community. The City of Hartford actively encourages its small businesses to consider the installation of parklets. The Department of Development Services currently has a permitting process in place. More information on this permitting process can be [found here](#).





## **Hartford Police Department**

The Hartford Police Department remains committed to removing impaired drivers from the city streets. In 2020, the HPD Traffic Division made 239 OUI Arrests and was recognized by MADD for making the most OUI arrests out of any municipality in the State of Connecticut. Sergeant Johnny Suarez and Officer Timothy Budwitz were personally recognized for their effort by MADD.

In 2021, their efforts have already lead to 237 OUI arrests (as of July 31, 2021). This was after the HPD Traffic Division was awarded a \$300,000 grant by the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation for 2021. The Hartford Police Department has also conducted approximately 8,918 motor vehicle stops, issuing 4,920 infractions (as of July 31, 2021).

During the summer and fall months of 2020, and continuing into 2021, the Traffic Division has also assisted in the Focused Violence Reduction Initiative. This coordinated effort was designed to quell gun violence and other quality of life concerns, focusing most of its effort in the Southeast District (Wethersfield Avenue Corridor).

### **HPD Traffic Stats (As of July 31, 2021)**

<b>Statistic</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Total Traffic Stops	8,918
Infractions	4,920

Subscribe	Speeding	1,003	Translate ▼
	Stop Sign Violations	465	
	Traffic Light Violation	489	
	Distracted Driving	1,189	
	OUI Arrests	237	
	Seatbelt	768	
	Other	1,006	
	Traffic Division Summonses	288	

## [Safe Streets Partner Updates](#)



**Bikes and More Summer Day Camp, last session starts Aug 9th** - BiCiCo has one more session of the Bikes and More Summer Day Camp, ages 9 - 14.

This will begin on Monday, August 9th and running through Thursday, August 19th. Flyer attached, and [here is the registration link](#). Space is limited and the 3<sup>rd</sup> session will likely fill up to capacity.

**Take the New Bike Survey** – BiCi Co. would like to carry one or two new bike models later this year and into 2022 and they want to hear from you! Please take this survey and share what new bike style(s) you are most interested. Also, if you're only interested in used bikes – that's good survey data too. [Take the Survey Here](#)

**BiCi Co. Do-It-Yourself Member Hours and Volunteering - Continuing in August and September.** Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. [Sign up form here](#). DIY hours and BiCi Co. programs are supported by the BiCi Co. Annual Members and financial supporters. [BiCi Co. Membership Form](#)

Please support BiCi Co.'s Bikes for Jobs Program – So far in 2021 this program at BiCi Co. has [gotten 32 bikes to folks](#) referred by social workers, counselors, medical professionals, and teachers. For just \$20, the referred person gets an upcycled bicycle, lights, bike lock, and helmet. Bikes for Jobs needs your help to keep filling this critical jobs access need in the Hartford region. Please consider [becoming a BiCi Co. Member](#) or [making a financial contribution](#) to get bicycles (and healthy transportation) to those that need it most.

**August 2021 Multimodal Meetup - Let's Talk about Green Infrastructure!**- Walk, bike, scooter, or take transit to this event! As part of the sustainable multimodal monthly meetup series, this group will meet at Aurora's for breakfast for a discussion on Green Infrastructure and Storm Water Management. This event will be held on [Thursday August 26th from 7am to 9am.](#)



CRCOG's Transit Priority Corridors Study, known as [Metro Hartford Rapid Routes](#), is underway!

This study is aimed at developing transit priority measures to improve the speed and reliability of transit services in major Metro Hartford corridors including Albany Avenue, Farmington Avenue, Franklin Avenue, Main Street, and Park Street in Hartford as well as Burnside Avenue in East Hartford. CRCOG is conducting a survey to collect feedback from the public on the corridors and preferred transit improvements. The survey will be open through August 26<sup>th</sup> and is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). If you travel by bus, walk, or ride your bike within a corridor, please take the survey to make your voice heard, and please help CRCOG spread

If you have any questions about the study or would like to provide any additional feedback, please email [info@metrohartfordrapidroutes.com](mailto:info@metrohartfordrapidroutes.com).



**Watch for Me CT** has launched a campaign around safety for older pedestrians called “**Words to Live By.**”

It has been airing on broadcast television, and seeks to educate drivers about older pedestrians who have represented a disproportionately high percentage of pedestrian deaths in CT. You can watch the “**Words to Live By**” campaign [here](#) through **YouTube**.

Watch for Me CT has also continued moving forward in support of two multi-agency efforts to combat impaired driving: Hartford Hospital’s “Not One More” campaign which utilizes healthcare workers who treat crash victims and the Safe States Grant Team’s “Comfort Zone” which targets males aged 18-35.

Lastly, Watch for Me CT will be participating in a documentary highlighting the blind spots of large vehicles, including SUVs, and the impact on child pedestrians.



Going from south to north on the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, construction on New Haven Phase IV, from Yale to Long Wharf will break ground August 2nd.

Southington Phase III, will go to bid this fall for construction in '22 and Plainville I from Town Line Road to Norton Park will go to bid in early fall '22 for construction in '23."

In Eastern CT, Putnam is moving forward soliciting funds for design of the remaining short gap in the Air Line State Park Trail, Pomfret has completed their ambitious crossings project and will now start final resurfacing through this season for their 3.2-mile segment.

Finally, the Moosup Valley Trail, which connects us to Cumberland, RI's Trestle Trail is now fully funded, (\$4.1M for 5.5 miles) and will begin construction as early as later this year

## We Love Feedback!

Thank you for reading our kick-off newsletter! We are really looking to perfect this mode of communication, and if there is something you would like done differently or something in addition to this content, let us know!

Contact [safestreets@hartford.gov](mailto:safestreets@hartford.gov) with any feedback

[view this email in your browser](#)

The City of Hartford provides this information for educational and informational purposes only. The City of Hartford does not guarantee any savings, promote any touted benefits, or assume any risk associated with the content, events, activities, products, and/or services of the third-party organizations listed here. All related questions should be directed to the respective organizations.