## **MULTI-USE TRAIL**

The proposed project involves construction of a 10-foot wide off-road multi-use trail that connects the Corporate Park area in Glastonbury to areas adjacent to the Town's commercial/retail center. The proposed trail is approximately 2,600 feet long and is seen as a logical extension of the off-road path constructed between Smith Middle School and Bell Street in 2011. The Smith School/Bell Street off-road path has been very well received by the public and usage has been high since its formal opening in the Fall of 2011. The current project is presently in the final design phase and environmental permits would be expected within the next few months. Accordingly, construction would then be expected to commence in Spring of 2019.

This proposed trail links the largest employment center in Glastonbury with House Street. While House Street itself would not be considered to be within the Town Center, it is located within one-half mile of the Town's commercial focal point and is directly connected by concrete sidewalk to the Town Center. This trail section, like the one previously constructed, is expected to accommodate recreational users of many types, as well as those who wish to use the trail as a route to specific destinations. Construction of this link will allow cyclists and pedestrians to avoid using State Route 94 (Hebron Avenue) to reach the Town Center. Hebron Avenue is a high-volume vehicular route with average daily traffic of approximately 28,000 vehicles on the section between Route 2 and Western Boulevard. This road section has very narrow shoulders, no sidewalks, and no designated bike lane.

Bike/Walk Glastonbury is a non-profit advocacy group that developed the Bicycle Master Plan that was ultimately accepted by the Glastonbury Town Council. This group has actively supported the proposed construction. The Bicycle Master Plan identifies the subject trail section as a priority off-road connection. In addition, the Capitol Region Council of Governments' Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan also shows the proposed trail on figures included in the document.

The proposed route travels over four privately-owned parcels and one Town-owned parcel. The route uses an existing Sanitary Sewer Easement in favor of the Town of Glastonbury. The Town has initiated contact with all of the private property owners and indications are that all owners will accept modifications to the existing easement language to allow for the proposed use.

The Town of Glastonbury is committed to making improvements that increase options for residents interested in bicycle and pedestrian mobility. Local Capital Improvement funding has been consistently allocated toward expanding the Town's sidewalk network over the past 15-20 years. This commitment is expected to continue and it is the Town's desire to likewise expand the availability of multi-use trails for both recreational and commuting purposes.

The photos provided herein depict the existing off road multi use trail. The project proposed, currently under design and described above will mimic that shown in the photos in terms of construction details and overall function.











