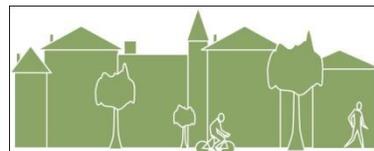


# HEALTHY PLACES by DESIGN

## NORTH KINGSTOWN



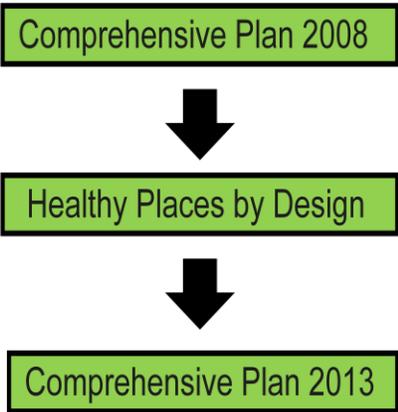
***“Building a healthier community  
through partnerships.”***

**Healthy Places by Design Detailed Policy Plan  
May 1, 2012**



Table of Contents	
Introduction. . . . .	1
Villages. . . . .	2
Access to Healthy Foods. . . . .	7
Walking and Biking. . . . .	14
Public Spaces. . . . .	20

# Implementation



## INTRODUCTION

The Town of North Kingstown has partnered with the charitable organization, the West Bay Family YMCA to deliver its Healthy Places by Design (HPbD) project. This pilot project, funded by the Rhode Island Department of Health (HEALTH) seeks to strengthen land use, transportation and urban design policies and local ordinances that guide the decision making process for the built environment to be more supportive of health, particularly as it relates to physical activity and access to healthy foods. This project allowed the town and YMCA to collaborate to address North Kingstown’s challenges related to the built environment and how they relate to public health. Throughout the evolution of the project, HEALTH provided training and technical assistance for North Kingstown. This training included developing tools to implement policy changes through revisions to the comprehensive plan that improve the built environment’s affect on health.

This **Action Plan** is a tool for the town and YMCA to continue the efforts initiated as part of the HPbD project. The following sections identify proposed comprehensive plan amendments related to Villages/Neighborhoods, Access to Healthy Foods, Walking and Biking, and Public Spaces. These proposed amendments emerged through the identification of barriers, opportunities and recommendations of the HPbD project, while also considering the goals, policies and key components of HEALTH’s Healthy Communities Plan (HCP). Supporting the recommendations of the HPbD project represents the town’s commitment to prioritize how the comprehensive plan update can equitably affect the health of the population.

Villages/Neighborhoods, Access to Healthy Foods, Walking and Biking, and Public Spaces are addressed throughout the elements that comprise the *North Kingstown Comprehensive Plan*, with an emphasis on context-specific goals, objectives, and strategic actions in the Quonset Business Park and Post Road Corridor elements.

The existing plan goes further to address **Villages/Neighborhoods** in considering the provision of compact, mixed use centers, including the designation of growth centers and a prioritization of infill and redevelopment project within the Urban Services Boundary. Several areas that could be expanded to further emphasize Villages/Neighborhoods include value-added components such as the incorporation of civic buildings, multi-modal transportation alternatives, and supportive residential unit types into mixed use centers.

The topic of **Access to Healthy Foods** is less prevalent in the plan. Although recreation is indicative of health, the goals, objectives and action items listed in the Open Space and Recreation element do not explicitly support public health or access to healthy foods. New

goals, objectives, and strategic actions targeted at access to healthy foods are proposed in the **Action Plan** within the Housing, Community Services and Facilities and Land Use elements. In addition, a number of revised goals, objectives, and actions (from the existing plan) that emphasize and encourage active recreation and access to healthy foods are proposed to facilitate improved public health through the built environment.

In considering **Walking and Biking**, the existing plan generally supports pedestrian and bicycle activity, and is in line with many of the goals and objectives of the HCP. However, HEALTH conducted a comprehensive assessment and identified a gap in services related to the existing and future conditions of the pedestrian and bicycle network and the needs of the community. To address this gap, proposed amendments from the HPbD project include revisions to the existing plan, to better incorporate the needs of the community.

Lastly, the discussion of **Public Spaces** in the existing plan is centered primarily on the acquisition and promotion of open space, in contrast to areas that have been planned and developed for recreational use. An assessment of where recreational areas are needed, what the barriers to access are and what the current protocol is for new development in the provision of recreational areas will enhance planning for public spaces and contribute to active recreational opportunities in support of improved public health.

Many of the Goals, Objectives, and Strategic actions identified in this **Action Plan** encompass components of all four of the topic areas. Several in particular address the utilization of the various working groups established as one outcome to the HPbD project.

The applicable *North Kingstown Comprehensive Plan* element, proposed timeframe and responsible party/partner have been identified to facilitate implementation.

## Villages/Neighborhoods

### **Goal**

**Strengthen the Capacity of Neighborhood/Community Groups to Influence Decisions That Affect Their Neighborhood/Town Overall.** (Revised LU Goal 5)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., HPbD Working Groups

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, volunteers, CDBG grants

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: on-going

### **Objective**

Work with the HPbD Villages Working Group to ensure North Kingstown neighborhoods exemplify the following qualities: (New LU Objective)

- Safe for all residents,
- Offers economic diversity and opportunity,
- Supports social interaction and civic involvement,
- Provides recreation (active and passive) and education opportunities,
- Accessible by a network of varied multi-modal transportation alternatives, and
- Families are strengthened and youth are supported.



Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., HPbD Working Groups  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, volunteers  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: on-going

**Strategic Action**

Support/work with the HPbD Villages and Healthy Eating Working Groups to advance recommendations targeted at preserving and enhancing the unique characteristics of individual neighborhoods, while also incorporating access to healthy foods/active recreation. (New LU Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., HPbD Villages/Healthy Eating Working Groups  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, volunteers  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: on-going

**Goal**

**Encourage development and redevelopment in existing neighborhoods/villages based upon the concept of Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) with an emphasis on pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders to ensure/facilitate universal accessibility, sustainability and active recreation for residents and visitors.** (Revised LU Objective 1.2)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: on-going

**Objective**

Encourage new neighborhoods be designed to support active transportation and recreation, including walking and biking. (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.3.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
Timeframe: on-going

**Strategic Action**

Modify legal agreements to enable public access to trails within private dedicated open space in residential developments which is contiguous with trail networks in adjacent publicly owned natural open space to facilitate continuous, public-accessible greenways/greenspace networks. (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.3.7)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Town Solicitor



Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
Timeframe: as presented

**Strategic Action**

Further develop the impact assessment methodology that evaluates the potential impact new development may have on nearby properties to also include positive elements (i.e. conservation easements/public access, public open space, recreational amenities, walkability). (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.3.10)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
Timeframe: short term

**Strategic Action**

Consider the addition of buffers that physically separate the pedestrian experience from vehicular travel lanes, such as on-street parking and planted areas, in roadway requirements for village centers and along transit corridors. (New LU Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, Post Road Design Guidelines  
Timeframe: on-going

**Objective**

Prepare a design manual for all town buildings that promotes design of civic buildings that: (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.7.1)

- Reflects the character of North Kingstown;
- Encourages high quality architecture and site planning;
- Encourages community involvement in government;
- Encourages efficient use of buildings;
- Provides a forum for public participation;
- Ensures energy efficient and sustainable building practices;
- Encourages the provision of public open space, greenways, greenspace networks/connections, and community-supported agricultural areas ; and
- Provides public amenities (i.e. shelter from inclement weather, restroom facilities, bike racks).

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning/Public Works Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
Timeframe: on-going



### **Strategic Action**

Continue to ensure (through an efficient review process) that street furniture, lighting, utilities and signage in villages are compatible with the unique character of each village, are pedestrian-scaled/oriented, and enhance the safety/experience of pedestrians. (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.2.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: on-going

### **Objective**

Encourage the interconnection of neighborhoods by requiring adequate pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular access to nearby subdivisions and between commercial centers, schools, parks and other local and regional destinations. (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.3.4)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: on-going

### **Strategic Action**

Continue to develop design guidelines and performance standards that promote high quality mixed use development in commercial areas with an emphasis on the pedestrian/bicyclist experience and public health. (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.4.4)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: on-going

### **Goal**

**Encourage the use of special design concepts for new development that accomplish the goal of protecting the environment and community character while also enhancing the overall physical health of the community.** (Revised LU Objective 1.4)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: on-going



**Objective**

Encourage development that results in high-quality mixed use projects and create site designs that contribute to overall village character and achieve the various objectives of infrastructure efficiency, use of alternative transportation modes, open space preservation, and improved public health. (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.3.2)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: on-going

**Strategic Action**

Utilize conservation development techniques, PUDs, conservation easements and/or preferential tax assessment tools to preserve natural resources, unique landscapes, open space, greenway/greenspace networks, historic structures, archeological sites, and existing agricultural lands. (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.3.6)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: on-going

**Objective**

Continue to promote land use patterns that encourage the use of rail and other means of mass/alternative transportation (Transit Oriented Development) as a means to ease roadway congestion, facilitate healthy living, promote energy efficiency/conservation, and increase density in areas targeted for transit. (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.6.8)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: on-going

**Strategic Action**

Prepare design guidelines for all commercial, industrial and business uses that consider employee amenities that support active transportation and recreation (e.g. walking paths, fitness trails, bike racks). (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.4.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Consultant

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: on-going



## Healthy Foods

### **Goal**

#### **Protect, Preserve, and Enhance the Agricultural Character/Resources of the Town.**

(Revised LU Goal 2)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, RIDEM grant

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance

Timeframe: short term

### **Objective**

Preserve, protect and, where practicable, restore the viability of farming and forestry, to ensure the continued provision of healthy foods. (Revised Natural/Cultural Resources Objective 1.10)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Natural and Cultural Resources

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, RIDEM grant

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance

Timeframe: on-going

### **Strategic Action** (Revised LU Strategic Action 2.1.7, Revised ED Strategic Action 1.2.3)

Support the implementation of the Rhode Island Agricultural Partnerships' Five Year Strategic Plan to ensure the viability of farming, the overall food security of the state, and improve the nutritional health of the Town's residents by supporting the following activities of the Healthy Eating Workgroup:

- Help promote markets for local farm products (utilize the Whole Foods/Farmers Market model as a resource);
- Support alternative farm/forestry uses/performance standards;
- Identify barriers to the use of hoop houses/greenhouses for winter production;
- Identify if there is a need for a shared community-commercial kitchen, and if so, identify potential users and logistics (i.e. expenses, insurance needs, liabilities);
- Identify next generation farmers and provide educational/co-op opportunities; and
- Facilitate mutually beneficial partnerships between private markets and farmers.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use, Economic Development

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, RIDEM grant

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance

Timeframe: medium term



### **Strategic Action**

Consider Zoning Ordinance amendments that encourage private retention of open space for agricultural and forestry uses (expanded range of accessory uses/performance standards). (Revised LU Strategic Action 1.4.1)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance

Timeframe: short term

### **Objective**

Work with the HPbD Healthy Eating Working Group to encourage new farmers to establish operations. (New LU Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, RIDEM grant

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: on-going

### **Strategic Actions** (New LU Strategic Action)

- Identify town-owned land that can support farming activities/community gardens.
- Identify existing farmers with excess land available for lease/rent that can support farming activities.
- Identify resource-sharing opportunities for equipment and/or labor for new start-ups.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, RIDEM grant

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: on-going

### **Strategic Action** (New LU Strategic Action)

Conduct a full food system needs assessment and inventory from cultivation to production, distribution, and waste reuse, including:

- Analysis of facilities;
- Providers and mechanism available at all stages in the system(production, processing, wholesale distribution, retail sales, consumption, and resource recovery);
- Identification of existing barriers; and
- Analysis/perception of food security within the Town.



Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, volunteers  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: short term

### **Objective**

Continue to support short-term, public events, such as fairs, farmers markets and sporting events that support local business. (Revised ED Objective 6.1.9)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Economic Development  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance  
Timeframe: on-going

### **Strategic Action**

Investigate additional use/performance standards to expand the continued viability of farms/farming operations (RIDEM Farms and Forests Protection Strategy project). (New ED Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use, Economic Development  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance  
Timeframe: short term

### **Goal**

**Support and encourage the provision of and access to locally grown, fresh, affordable, and easily accessible healthy foods for all residents.** (New LU Goal)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, RI Agricultural Partnership  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance  
Timeframe: on-going

### **Objective**

Expand the knowledge of and access to Women, Infant and Children Program (WIC) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for eligible residents. (New LU Objective)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities  
Responsible Party: Planning/Human Services Depts., Healthy Eating Working Group  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: on-going



**Strategic Actions** (New LU Strategic Action)

- Educate eligible residents as to their rights for access to (WIC ) and (SNAP) benefits through outreach at local farmers markets regarding resources available at the North Kingstown Human Services Department.
- Expand EBT technology to more farmer’s markets, farm stands and Community Supported Agriculture farms to enable healthy food options to more (WIC ) and (SNAP) recipients.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities, Land Use  
Responsible Party: Human Services Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: short term

**Objective**

Encourage the establishment of mobile food markets. (New QBP Objective)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Quonset Business Park  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group\  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance  
Timeframe: medium term

**Strategic Actions** (New QBP Strategic Action)

- Identify potential users and logistics (i.e. expenses, insurance needs, liabilities, distribution points).
- Explore YMCA **Providence Youth Services** model for additional community engagement.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Quonset Business Park  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group, Quonset Development Corporation, West Bay Family YMCA  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance  
Timeframe: medium term

**Objective**

Consider the siting of affordable-rate and subsidized rental housing in neighborhoods with access to healthy food outlets and proximity to public transit and within a ½ mile of an outdoor public recreation facility. (New H Objective)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Housing  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, RIH grants  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance  
Timeframe: on-going



### **Objective**

Unite the businesses along Post Road around the concepts of economic vitality and incorporating healthy living and access to healthy foods (mobile food markets, walking/fitness trails for employees) as a marketing tool/revitalization of the corridor. (Revised P Strategic Action 1.9.1, New QBP Objective)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Chamber of Commerce, West Bay Family YMCA

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Post Road Design Guidelines

Timeframe: on-going

### **Objective**

Integrate healthy living and active recreation opportunities at QBP with the surrounding neighborhoods. (Revised QBP Objective 1.6)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Quonset Business Park

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Quonset Development Corporation

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance

Timeframe: on-going

### **Goal**

**Encourage programs that provide access for North Kingstown residents to health and welfare services, including healthy foods and active recreation, to a reasonable basic standard.** (Revised CSF Goal 1)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Service and Facilities

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: on-going

### **Objective**

Encourage multi-generational healthy foods education through outreach, town/corporate-sponsored programs, and school curriculum. (New H Objective 4.6, New CSF Objective)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Housing

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: medium term

### **Strategic Actions** (New CSF Strategic Action)

#### *School Curriculum*

- Facilitate menu nutritional labeling in the school system.



- Explore potential for limiting unhealthy offerings through school lunch program.
- Develop healthy eating, cooking, and food budgeting/shopping strategies programs.

*Town-wide*

- Lobby support (state level) for menu nutritional labeling at all restaurants town wide.
- Work with **Farm Fresh RI** to expand *Fruit & Vegetable Prescriptions*, *Healthy Foods/Healthy Families*, and *Healthy Servings for Seniors* programs into North Kingstown (South County) through the identification of funding opportunities. (Thundermist/Wholesome Wave Foundation and Visibility Unlimited, Johnson & Wales and RI Dept. of Health/Blue Angel Community Health Grant, URI Community Nutrition Education Program/Vitamin Grant)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities  
 Responsible Party: Human Services Dept., School Administration  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: short term

**Objective**

Participate and cooperate on a regional basis in programs designed to deliver low cost health care, support services, access to healthy foods and active recreation and other social services. (Revised CSF Strategic Action 12.1.2)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities  
 Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: medium term

**Objective**

Contribute funding to agencies that provide low cost health care, support services, access to healthy food and active recreation, and other social services based on services provided and demonstrated need. (Revised CSF Strategic Action 12.1.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities  
 Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: medium term

**Objective**

Increase participation in local and regional programs that provide transportation assistance to area healthy food outlets, active recreation facilities and other social and health service agencies. (Revised CSF Strategic Action 12.3.1)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities



Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: medium term

**Objective**

Encourage tenants to form a QBP business association to increase communication and address common needs such as transportation management, recreational sports leagues, social events, and also incorporates additional common needs such as healthy living and access to healthy foods (walking/fitness trails for employees) as a marketing tool. (Revised QBP Objective 2.7.1)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Housing  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Quonset Development Corporation, NK Chamber of Commerce  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: medium term

**Objective**

Increase public transportation access to healthy food outlets, active recreation and other social and health service facilities. (Revised CSF Objective 12.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Healthy Eating Working Group  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: medium term



## Walking and Biking

### **Goal**

**Promote compatible, high quality development that is pedestrian and bicycle friendly through proper siting, and use of well-written development standards implemented through an efficient review process.** (Revised ED Goal 2)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Economic Development

Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: medium term

### **Objective**

Develop a network of bikeways and pedestrian paths/routes to connect existing and planned recreational facilities, open spaces, pocket parks and other destinations throughout the community that are safe, attractive, inviting and efficient. (Revised C Objective 2.8)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Circulation

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: medium term

### **Strategic Action**

Identify existing paper streets and assess their potential as pedestrian walkways, roads, or bicycle paths to encourage active recreation/healthy living. (Revised C Strategic Action 1.3.7)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Circulation

Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept., Walking and Biking Working Group

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: short term

### **Strategic Action**

Reconsider the feasibility of the Wickford to Quonset Bike Path Design Study including exploring all options such as collaboration with RIDOT within state rights-of-way, use of the Sea View Railroad easement, and conservation easements through agreements with private property owners. (Revised C Strategic Action 2.8.2, Revised P Strategic Action 3.1.6)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: medium term



**Strategic Action** (New C Strategic Action)

Work with the Walking and Biking Working Group to ensure North Kingstown develops and maintains walking and biking resources that create a safe, attractive, sustainable environment to support alternative modes of transportation and to enhance the quality of life/public health of all residents such as:

- Consider incorporating youth/teen participation on the Walking/Biking Working Group;
- Conduct a youth/teen-led walk and bike audit of the Town; and
- Consider other group sponsored walk and bike audits.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Circulation

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Walking and Biking Working Group, West Bay Family YMCA

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: on-going

**Objective**

Work to maintain the Town’s roadways, bicycle and pedestrian networks to ensure safe conditions. (Revised CSF Objective 8.1)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities

Responsible Party: Planning/Public Works Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, Capital Improvement Program (DPW budget line item)

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: medium term

**Strategic Action**

Continue to implement the Pavement Management Program to regularly assess, repair, and maintain the Town’s roadways, as well as evaluating bicycle and pedestrian networks. (Revised C Strategic Action 1.9.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Circulation

Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering/Public Works Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time, Public Works Budget

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: on-going

**Strategic Action**

Implement a town-wide assessment of driving lane width, presence of on-street parking, presence of street trees, presence of pedestrian scale lighting, and traffic speed. (New C Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Circulation

Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering/Public Works/Police Dept., Walking and Biking Working Group

Potential Funding Sources: staff time



Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: short term

**Objective**

Encourage private roads to be built and maintained to meet the needs of pedestrians in order to promote physical activity and public health. (Revised C Objective 3.2.2)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Circulation  
Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
Timeframe: medium term

**Objective**

Prioritize suggested/recommended infrastructure improvements focused on enhancing the pedestrian/bicyclist experience. (New C Objective)

Comprehensive Plan Element:  
Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
Timeframe: short term

**Strategic Action**

Advance the circulation/connectivity recommendations identified from the *HPbD Walking and Biking Working Group*. (New C Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Circulation  
Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
Timeframe: medium term

**Strategic Action** (Revised P Strategic Action 3.4.4)

Consider options that connect the existing commercial and employment centers to the new Village Growth Centers, including:

- Local or in-town shuttle options;
- Regional transportation systems; and
- Physical connections for walking and biking.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor  
Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept., Statewide Planning  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time, grants  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: long term

**Strategic Action** (New P Strategic Action)

Working with RI Department of Transportation and local developers to develop a reconstruction plan for Camp Avenue which considers:

- Adding a left turn lane to the southbound approach on Route 1;



- Adding a left turn lane to the westbound approach on Camp Avenue;
- Adding new vehicle and pedestrian signal equipment; and
- Improving pedestrian safety and connectivity.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor  
 Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept.  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time, Capital Improvement Program  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: long term

**Strategic Action**

Require bike racks at all municipal, commercial, and recreational destinations that are placed in visible locations. (Revised C Strategic Action 2.8.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Circulation  
 Responsible Party: Planning/Public Works Dept.  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time, Capital Improvement Program, grants  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: short term

**Objective**

Where practicable, site new municipal/civic buildings within village centers/along transit routes for better access. (New CSF Objective)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Community Services and Facilities  
 Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept.  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: on-going

**Objective** (Revised P Goal 3, Revised P Strategic Action 1.5, Revised C Strategic Action 1.3.3)

Develop a circulation plan (Circulation Improvement Zone/Village Growth Center) for the Post Road corridor which incorporates 'Complete Streets' design elements within which a variety of pedestrian, parking and vehicular improvement strategies can be implemented in an effort to minimize automobile trips within the village center and maintain a pedestrian scale in the villages. This shall include exploring design standards such as:

- Provide sidewalks for pedestrians and/or roadway shoulder/multi-use path for bicycle travel;
- Provide bicycle storage facilities;
- Provide pedestrian amenities including shade, places to sit/rest, drinking fountains, public restrooms where appropriate;
- Provide sheltered transit stops; and
- Institute measures to slow down through traffic to improve public safety.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor  
 Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept.  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations



Timeframe: long term

**Strategic Action**

Encourage sidewalks and pedestrian paths leading to Post Road from adjacent residential developments. (Revised P Strategic Action 3.1.4)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering Dept., RIDOT

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: long term

**Strategic Action**

Work with RIDOT to provide striped 'ladder' crosswalks, pedestrian-activated crossing signals, pedestrian refuge areas, and pedestrian-scaled lighting that will allow for the safe crossing of Post Road. (Revised P Strategic Action 3.1.5)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering/Public Works Dept., RIDOT

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: medium term

**Strategic Action** (Revised P Strategic Action 3.3.2)

Work with RIDOT to retain Post Road as a primary arterial and direct efforts to:

- Reduce speeds in the corridor;
- Add traffic calming measures;
- Emphasize pedestrian connections/crossings;
- Require attractive landscape and signage; and
- Provide multi-modal transportation alternatives.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning/Engineering/Police Dept., RIDOT

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: on-going

**Objective** (Revised P Objective 1.1.2)

Continue to develop the Land Use Plan with zoning districts along Post Road that encourage land use diversity with a mix of pocket parks and service, professional, commercial, residential uses, based on the following considerations such as:

- Proximity to residential use;
- Pedestrian access, connectivity (sidewalks), and safety;
- High quality architectural design;
- Landscape and site design;
- Efficient and maximized density;
- Abutting land use;
- Existing land use;
- Highway accessibility;



- Traffic flow;
- Market area;
- Sound water allocation and water reuse planning;
- Innovative stormwater techniques;
- Environmental constraints;
- Provision of multi-modal transportation alternatives; and
- Sustainability.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations

Timeframe: medium term

### **Strategic Actions**

Support use of vacant, available QBP property for public active recreational use. (Revised QBP Strategic Action 18.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Quonset Business Park

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Quonset Development Corporation

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: short term

### **Strategic Action**

Extend the Quonset bike path to create a clear continuation from Calf Pasture Point to the shoreline, in addition to multiple 'connectors' from the bike path to development parcels, historic areas and scenic vistas. (Revised QBP Strategic Action 13.2.3, Revised C Strategic Action 2.8.11)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Quonset Business Park

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., Quonset Development Corporation, RIDOT

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: medium term



## Public Spaces

### **Goal**

**Protect, Preserve and Connect unique resources in the Post Road District.** (Revised P Goal 2)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan

Timeframe: medium term

### **Objective**

Create a more 'pedestrian scale' of development along Post Road. (Revised P Strategic Action 1.5, Revised LU Strategic Action 1.2.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Post Road Design Guidelines

Timeframe: short term

### **Strategic Actions**

Utilize the historic landmarks, existing open space and unique natural resources in the Post Road Corridor as the framework to establish a pedestrian network/trail to facilitate healthy living/active recreational activities supported by educational and passive recreation amenities. (New P Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning Dept., West Bay Family YMCA

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Post Road Design Guidelines

Timeframe: short term

### **Strategic Action**

Continue to encourage the use of both passive and active protected open space parcels throughout the corridor to facilitate healthy living while also separating activity nodes along Post Road. (Revised P Strategic Action 1.1.4)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor

Responsible Party: Planning Dept.

Potential Funding Sources: staff time

Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Post Road Design Guidelines

Timeframe: short term

### **Goal**

**Preserve, design and maintain recreational areas and facilities that are safe and attractive places for physical activity and that are functional for a variety of users.** (Revised OS Goal 2)



Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Leisure Services Advisory Committee, Public Spaces Working Group  
Potential Funding Sources: Capital Improvement Program (DPW budget line item)  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: on-going

**Objective**

Update the Town’s Recreation Department User Guide for 2012. (New OS Objective)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., HPbD Consultant  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: 0 – 3 months

**Strategic Action** (New OS Strategic Action)

Identify all Town, State, and Federal recreational facilities/open space parcels including:

- Funds utilized for acquisition;
- Property restrictions/allowances;
- Location;
- Access;
- Parking;
- Activities/amenities; and
- Barriers to access.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: short term

**Strategic Action**

Develop a web-based GIS interactive map located on the Town’s website that provides a photograph and listing information for each identified site. (New OS Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., HPbD Consultant  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: short term

**Objective** (New OS Objective)

Work with the Public Spaces Working Group and Leisure Services Advisory Committee to ensure North Kingstown develops and maintains a network of connected spaces that provide the community with the following benefits:



- Supports healthy, active lifestyles;
- Access for all ages and abilities (universal access);
- Draws people together and increases social networks;
- Connects to neighborhoods and other community assets;
- Increases safety for families; and
- Showcases the natural beauty of the Town.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
 Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Leisure Services Advisory Committee, Public Spaces/Walking and Biking Working Groups, West Bay Family YMCA  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time, volunteers for advisory groups  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: on-going

**Strategic Action** (Revised OS Strategic Action 2.1.3)

Complete a Town-wide assessment of the existing passive and active recreation facilities in town to identify the gaps in the greenspace and recreational area network, identify what and where recreational areas are needed, and what the barriers to access and use are (utilizing the standard guidelines of the National Recreation and Park Association as compared to the needs of the community) including:

- Type of facility;
- Demographic served;
- Activities/amenities available;
- Safety considerations (equipment);
- Landscaping; and
- Maintenance needs.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
 Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Leisure Services Advisory Committee, Public Spaces/Walking and Biking Working Groups  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: short term

**Strategic Action**

Work with RIDEM to develop a low impact plan for Cocumcussoc Park which includes access to the park, parking areas, walking/hiking trails, and a user pamphlet to expand active recreation activities in Town. (Revised OS Strategic Action 2.1.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
 Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Leisure Services Advisory Committee, Public Spaces/Walking and Biking Working Groups, West Bay Family YMCA  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time, RIDEM grant  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: short term



**Strategic Action**

Consider the development of a blue trail network along the coast of the Town for active coastal recreation alternatives. (New OS Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Leisure Services Advisory Committee, Public Spaces/Walking and Biking Workgroup  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
Timeframe: short term

**Strategic Action**

Implement recommendations of Calf Pasture Point and Yorktown Park Master Plans. (Carry-over OS Strategic Action 2.1.3)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Leisure Services Advisory Committee, Public Spaces/Walking and Biking Working Groups  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Calf Pasture Point and Yorktown Park Master Plans  
Timeframe: short term

**Strategic Actions**

Foster the creation of pocket parks in commercial areas to complement land use, relieve intensity of development, and support pedestrian connections/active recreation between developments. (Revised P Strategic Action 2.2)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation, Land Use  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Leisure Services Advisory Committee, Public Spaces Working Group  
Potential Funding Sources: Impact fees, RIDEM Recreation Grants  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, Zoning Ordinance  
Timeframe: on-going

**Objective**

Expand the impact fee structure for new residential development to more accurately meet changing municipal needs, targeted at improving public health such as provisions for adequate recreational areas and increased pedestrian and bicycle safety enhancements. (Revised CSF Objective 1.9)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
Timeframe: medium term

**Strategic Action** (Revised OS Strategic Action 2.2)

Explore the development of a multi-use indoor/outdoor community teen recreation center, including:



- Potential locations (high-density residential areas, on transit line, proximity to schools);
- Possible amenities/activities;
- Potential public/private partnerships; and
- Possible funding sources.

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
 Responsible Party: Planning Dept., NK Leisure Services Advisory Committee, Public Spaces Working Group, West Bay Family YMCA  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: medium term

**Objective**

Explore the use of user fees to offset costs of town services and facilities that have a limited user base (such as a swimming pool, ice rink, and teen center) and dedicate these fees to the development, maintenance and improvement of these facilities. (Revised CSF Objective 1.8)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Open Space, Conservation and Recreation  
 Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
 Potential Funding Sources: staff time  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision and Subdivision and Land Development Regulations  
 Timeframe: medium term

**Strategic Action**

Implement a Recreation Facilities Management Program for the proper maintenance of recreation areas and equipment. (New OS Strategic Action)

Comprehensive Plan Element: Post Road Corridor  
 Responsible Party: Planning Dept.  
 Potential Funding Sources: Capital Improvement Program (DPW budget line item)  
 Impacts: Comprehensive Plan  
 Timeframe: short term

