Sidewalk Master Plan
prepared by Weston Traffic & Sidewalk Committee

March 18, 2013
Weston CPC Public Hearing
Outline

- Health and social benefits of sidewalks
- Improve links to existing sidewalks, paths, open spaces
- CPA-related questions
- Proposed locations
- Cost estimates
- Design issues
- Maintenance issues
Questions

- Is using CPA funds to construct sidewalks legal?
- Is using CPA funds to reconstruct sidewalks legal?
- Does using CPA funds set an acceptable precedent?
- Do sidewalks represent a “highest and best” use of funds vs. other requests?
- Have the proposed locations been properly selected and prioritized?
Definitions

- **Footpath, Pathway**
  - Pedestrian path not next to a road
- **Shared-use path, multi-use path**
  - Use by both pedestrians and cyclists
- **Sidewalk**
  - Pedestrian path beside a road
- **Walkway**
  - A comprehensive term that includes stairs, ramps, passageways and related structures…

Existing Weston Sidewalk Inventory

- 32 miles of public & school sidewalk
- 13.6 miles of private sidewalk

- DPW plows 16.9 miles of sidewalk
  (Locations on main roads that connect to schools, elderly/public housing and transit stations)

Source: Robert Hoffman, DPW Director (2013)
How did TSC set priorities?

By mapping all the existing sidewalks, paths, and trails in Town, then identifying:

• Connections to/from schools
• Connections to/from transit stations
• Connections for “missing links” where existing sidewalks abruptly stop
• Only major Town roads were considered
Existing Sidewalks & Recreational Paths
## Sidewalk Priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown/Winter Street</td>
<td>6,500’</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland St/ Ash St</td>
<td>5,000’</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merriam Street</td>
<td>2,500’</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glen Road</td>
<td>7,500’</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21,500’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total new paths: ~ 4 miles
Design Work to Date

• Concept plans prepared by Town Engineer using GIS base maps

• No alignments finalized yet, but feasibility study was done to examine challenges such as topography, stone walls, right-of-way width, etc. on either side of street

• TSC completed “door to “door” survey of Brown St abutters
Brown St/Winter St
Sidewalk Master Plan

• Average cost of $50 per linear foot*
  *Cost of design & construction per Town Engineer’s preliminary estimate
• Costs will vary for each section

• Total cost for 6 sections:
  – 21,500 feet x $50/foot = $1,075,000
  – Existing Town funds of near $100,000 to be applied to first section
• CPC funding request= $250,000/yr x 4 years
Wellesley St Existing Sidewalk
Wellesley St Existing Sidewalk
# Design of Weston Sidewalks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Desired</th>
<th>Least Desired</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fits within public right of way</td>
<td>Requires property taking or easement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffered from roadway</td>
<td>Placed on road edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follows topography</td>
<td>Requires cuts and fills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoids mature trees</td>
<td>Requires tree removal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintains driveway visibility</td>
<td>Creates blind spots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphalt surface</td>
<td>Concrete or stone dust surface</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sidewalk Funding & Costs

• Repairs & Reconstruction (~32 miles)
  – $6,000 in minor repairs, e.g., potholes, roots
  – $120,000 average Town budget years ’07–’12
  – 4.4 mile reconstructed ’07–’12, (0.75 mile/yr)
  – Sidewalks last 20-30 years before repairs required
  – Town should be reconstructing 1-1.5 miles/year

• Maintenance $ (~17 miles)
  – Plowing: $800 per mile
  – Spring clean-up $3,400 per mile
  – Fall clean-up $4,700 per mile
  – TOTAL: $8,900 per mile x 4 miles = $35,600

Source: Robert Hoffman, DPW Director (2013)