

An aerial photograph of a town square. In the foreground, a red pickup truck is driving on a street that runs through the square. To the right, there is a large green lawn area with a fair or festival. A large American flag flies on a tall pole. There are several tents, including a large white one, and various fair rides and games. In the background, there are buildings, including a church with a steeple, and rolling hills under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

The purpose of the BPAC is to improve bicycling and pedestrian access and safety for residents and visitors.



Downtown Sidewalk Repair and Reconstruction

The BPAC has collaborated with the Department of Public Works to develop a multi-year plan to improve the condition and accessibility of the sidewalks. The first segment completed is the Main Street frontage to CSC.



Walkable New London Initiative

To develop suggested walking routes for residents and visitors in order to promote downtown walking, to support small businesses and to share the aesthetic beauty of our Town.



This initiative is composed of establishing suggested walk routes for the enjoyment of residents and visitors. Our Town has many downtown walkers, several of whom have provided valuable input into this proposal. The origin point of the walking routes will be a newly established pocket park at 328 Main Street (behind the LSRCC Info Booth). The project completion timeline and estimated cost are not established at this time. The earliest project completion date would be Fall 2028.



The entire funding for this project would be accomplished through private cash donations and in-kind contributions of labor, materials and equipment. The cost estimates for the project have not been determined at this time.

The New London Bike Walk Coalition (NLBWC) is fully supportive of this project. The NLBWC commits a pledge of \$2,500 to the construction cost of the project. NLBWC also offers to serve as a conduit for any charitable donations as the organization has 501 C 3 nonprofit status and is a local affiliate of the Bike-Walk Alliance of New Hampshire (a statewide advocacy organization).

Project Status

The following neighboring or community organizations and businesses have conveyed their support for the project: The Tracy Memorial Library, Woodcrest Assisted Living, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Apple Blossom Montessori School, New London Inn, the Barn Playhouse, Council on Aging Chapin Senior Center and the Center for the Arts. The proposed pocket park is currently in the preliminary design phase. The preliminary design has been reviewed by the Town Administrator, Town Planner, Director, DPW, the Recreation Commission, the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen have not approved the final design for public dissemination at this time. The Community will have opportunities to provide additional input into the Walkable New London Initiative.

Walking routes may have discreet directional signage and very select pedestrian crossing enhancements but no street infrastructure changes or separate walking paths from the street or road are incorporated into this proposal.

Suggested Walking Routes for Residents and Visitors

- Community Walk Main Route

https://maps.app.goo.gl/SBCm85e7PPztVyjE8?g_st=ig

- Community Walk Longer Route

https://maps.app.goo.gl/BMUdbEihyjE45YtXA?g_st=ig

- Community Family Walk Route Option One

https://maps.app.goo.gl/EWyWX8wvxuedndMp9?g_st=ig

- Community Family Walk Route Option Two

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/fVt7SMhZpQ4SQujYA>

Additional walk route ideas:

- New London History Walk
- Conservation Commission Trailhead Connector Walk



The Park would be origin point for walks described previously. An interpretative and directional panel (similar to information panel at Elkins Boat Launch) would be sited near the park entrance immediately adjoining the municipal lot. A QR Code display would provide info on access to the walking route info which would also be accessible through the Town website.



Other components of the pocket park concept would be rest and relaxation spaces with benches and plantings in the rear adjacent to but discreetly screened from the Woodcrest Assisted Living Facility. The environment would provide low profile amenities - no gazebo, fountain or statutes.



Park pathways surfaces would interlocking permeable pavers. All park surface materials will be reviewed and approved by DPW Plantings would be native, hardy and low-maintenance. The park will enhance drainage in the immediate area.



BPAC has secured the professional services of Bonin Architects & Associates on a pro bono basis to develop a schematic concept drawing of the pocket park proposal. This firm will also provide some ongoing consulting advice to develop cost estimates and more detailing engineering drawings to be further determined. The design will include an ongoing maintenance plan.



NEW LONDON BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MAIN STREET POCKET PARK





Let's build a safer
& healthier
community together.
Thank you!