September 25, 2024

Land Use Office Town of Salisbury 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 508 Salisbury, CT 06068

Submitted via e-mail: landuse@salisburyct.us

Dear Land Use Office,

We would like to clarify several statements in the 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development (draft 09/03/2024).

• On page 34 paragraph 2 reads as follows:

"Recommendations from the 2012 POCD focusing on pedestrian improvements within the village centers of Salisbury and Lakeville, ..., and the development of an overall plan for pedestrian and bicycle improvements Town-wide have not been implemented".

This statement is incorrect because following the 2012 POCD, a committee was formed to address pedestrian safety resulting in the development of the overall plan for new sidewalks.

• On page 58 Section" Pedestrian Circulation" paragraph 1 reads as follows: "To date, minor improvements have been made. Most notable are the improved pedestrian crossings on Route 41 and 44."

We contend that these are significant improvements and should include the new sidewalk sections that were installed between Salisbury and Lakeville.

• On page 58 Section "Pedestrian Circulation" paragraph 2 reads as follows: "Salisbury most recent sidewalk construction projects contravene the State's Conservation & Development Policies: The Plan for Connecticut (2018-2023), as these were driven by the availability of grant funding, absent of a strategic plan".

This statement is incorrect because based on the 2012 POCD, the Salisbury Pathways Committee was formed and developed a Strategic Plan in 2014, which was periodically updated, presented to, and approved by P&Z Commission and Board of Selectmen. The Strategic Plan's priorities allowed the committee to apply for grants from the State.

 On page 58 Section "Pedestrian Circulation" paragraph 2 continues to read as follows:

"A collateral problem is that these projects focus on expanding the sidewalk service area, and lack appropriate design standards (accessibility, style, and placement) as well as long-term maintenance plan".

In 2016, the State of Connecticut Road Safety Audit was done by CT DOT, and its recommendations were incorporated in the Pathways Committee Strategic Plan. State design directives were adhered to and approved by the State. The grants stipulated that the Town maintain the sidewalks.

We recommend that these statements be corrected.

For your reference, the following documents are available at the Town website:

- The Pathways Committee Strategic Plan with priorities that was adopted on September 15, 2014, and revisited and affirmed April 2022.
- The CT DOT Road Safety Audit from April 2016.
- P&Z Commission minutes from March 20, 2023.
- The minutes and materials discussed at the 93 open meetings of the Pathways Committee.

Sincerely,

Salisbury Pathways Committee:

Mr. Chris Williams

Dr. Natalia Smirnova

Mr. Pat Hackett

Ms. Kathryn Trahan

Mr. Gerald Stanton