



SIMSBURY PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, September 18th, 2017 | 5 PM



MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Project Purpose
3. Key Work Tasks and Schedule
4. Vision and Goals Activity
5. Key Destinations and Routes Activity
6. Next Steps



Welcome and Introductions



THE PROJECT TEAM

Project lead



Consultant Team

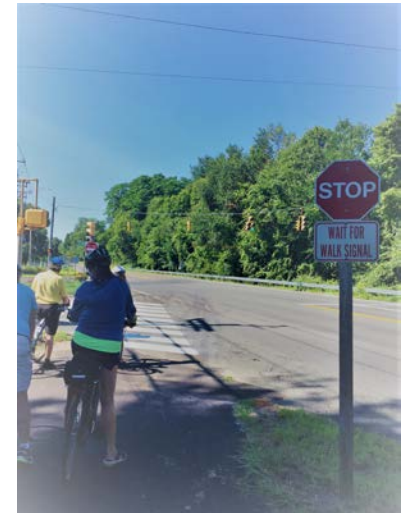
Consultant lead:



With assistance from:

COGENT

The Community!

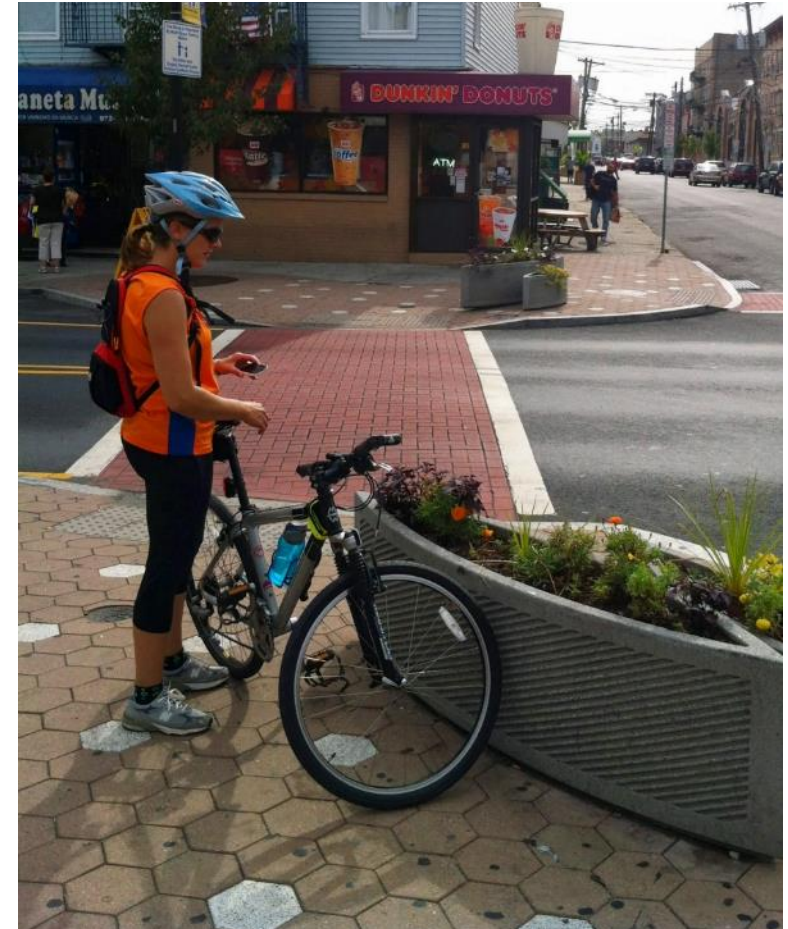




Marcy Miller, AICP (FHI)

Project Manager (Consultant Team)

- 17 years transportation planning experience
- Experienced leader in bicycle and pedestrian planning
- Committed, hands-on project manager
- Involved early on with Simsbury's SRTS efforts
- Values education as it relates to bicycle and pedestrian safety
- Avid, local user



PROJECT PURPOSE



SIMSBURY: A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

Community resources



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ENVIRONMENT

Existing Facilities



Streetscape
Furniture



Sidewalk Network



Sidewalk Seating



Safe Pedestrian Crossings



Bike Station



Clear Signage

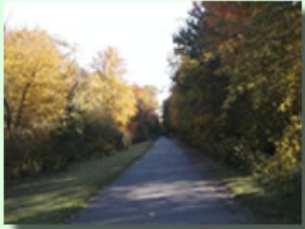
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ENVIRONMENT

75 miles of trails to connect to natural resources



STRONG BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN CULTURE

Leading the Way in Education and Advocacy



FARMINGTON CANAL
RAIL TO TRAIL
ASSOCIATION



SIMSBURY LAND TRUST

NATIONAL & STATEWIDE ACHIEVEMENTS

Setting the Example for Bicycling



2010:



1st CT Bicycle Friendly Community

2014



**Simsbury Free
Bike:**

**Only multi-town
Bike Share in CT**

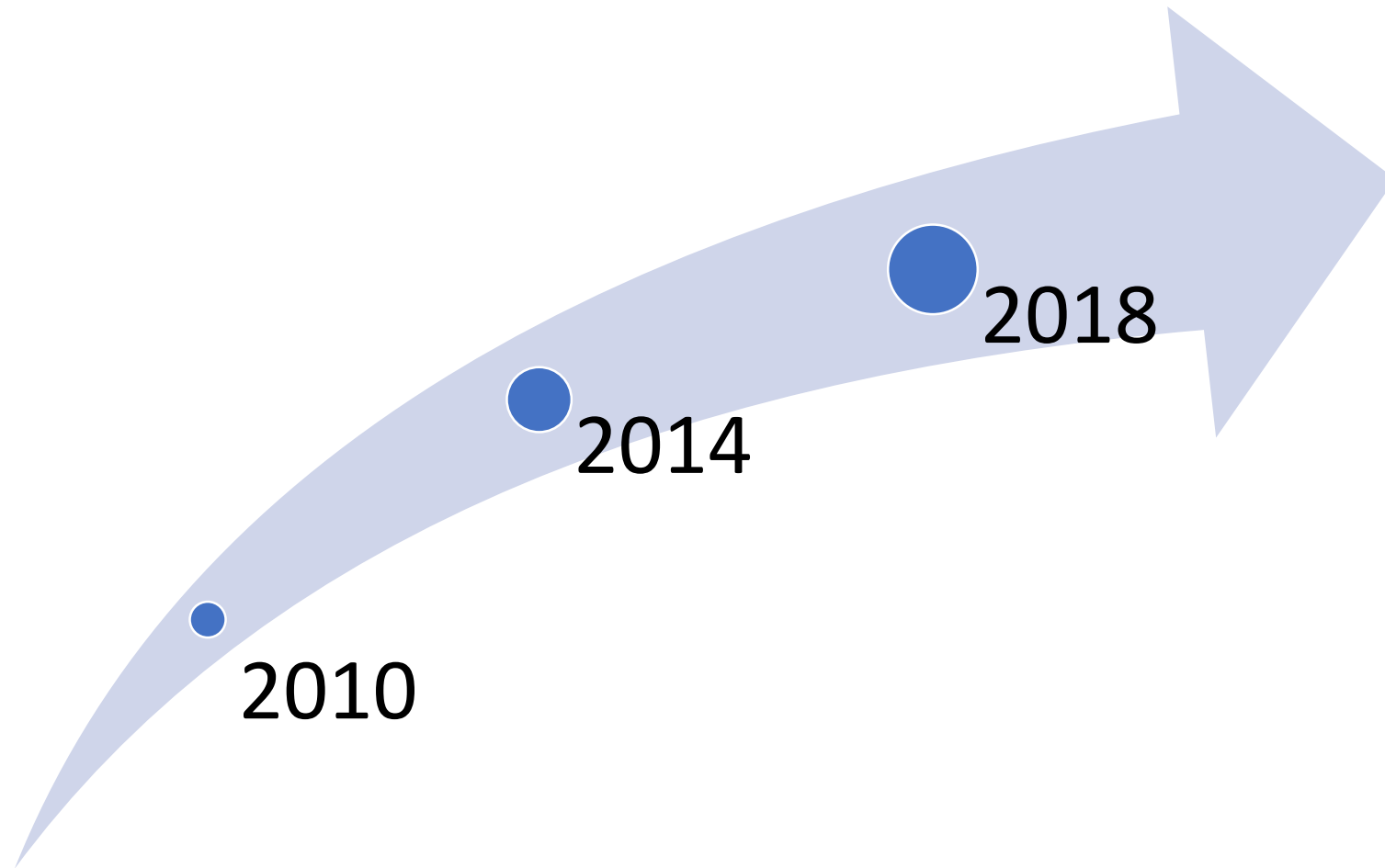


2015: SBC: #5 in the U.S.

**2016: SBC: #1 advocacy
group in NBC**



NUMEROUS STRENGTHS...LET'S KEEP BUILDING ON THAT!



CONSIDERATIONS

- Largely recreational users
- Every crash / accident is a tragedy
- Structure / support for Complete Streets policy
- Understand benefits of infrastructure – businesses, policy makers
- Where to spend limited resources



PURPOSE: ENHANCE SIMSBURY FOR ALL

Property Value



1 point increase of WalkScore is worth \$3K in home value.

Studies have shown that homes closer to bike paths are more valuable.

Healthy Living



Vibrant Public Spaces



People who live in neighborhoods with sidewalks on most streets are 47% more likely to be active at least 30 minutes a day.

Community Ties



Environmentally Friendly



Access to Resources



Cycling is the 2nd most popular outdoor activity in the U.S.

47% of Americans say they would like more bike facilities in their communities.

KEY WORK TASKS AND SCHEDULE



PROJECT APPROACH

Project Discovery

1. Develop vision and goals
 2. Inventory existing and proposed network
 3. Identify key destinations
 4. Identify priority corridor
 5. Identify gaps
- Deliverable:
 - Draft vision, goals
 - Tech memo outlining #2 - 5

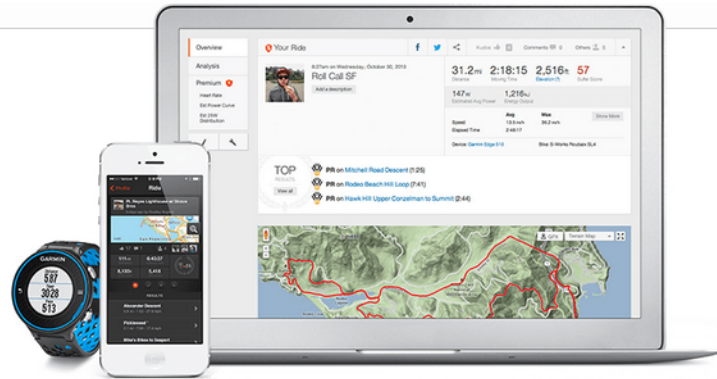
Existing Conditions



DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS

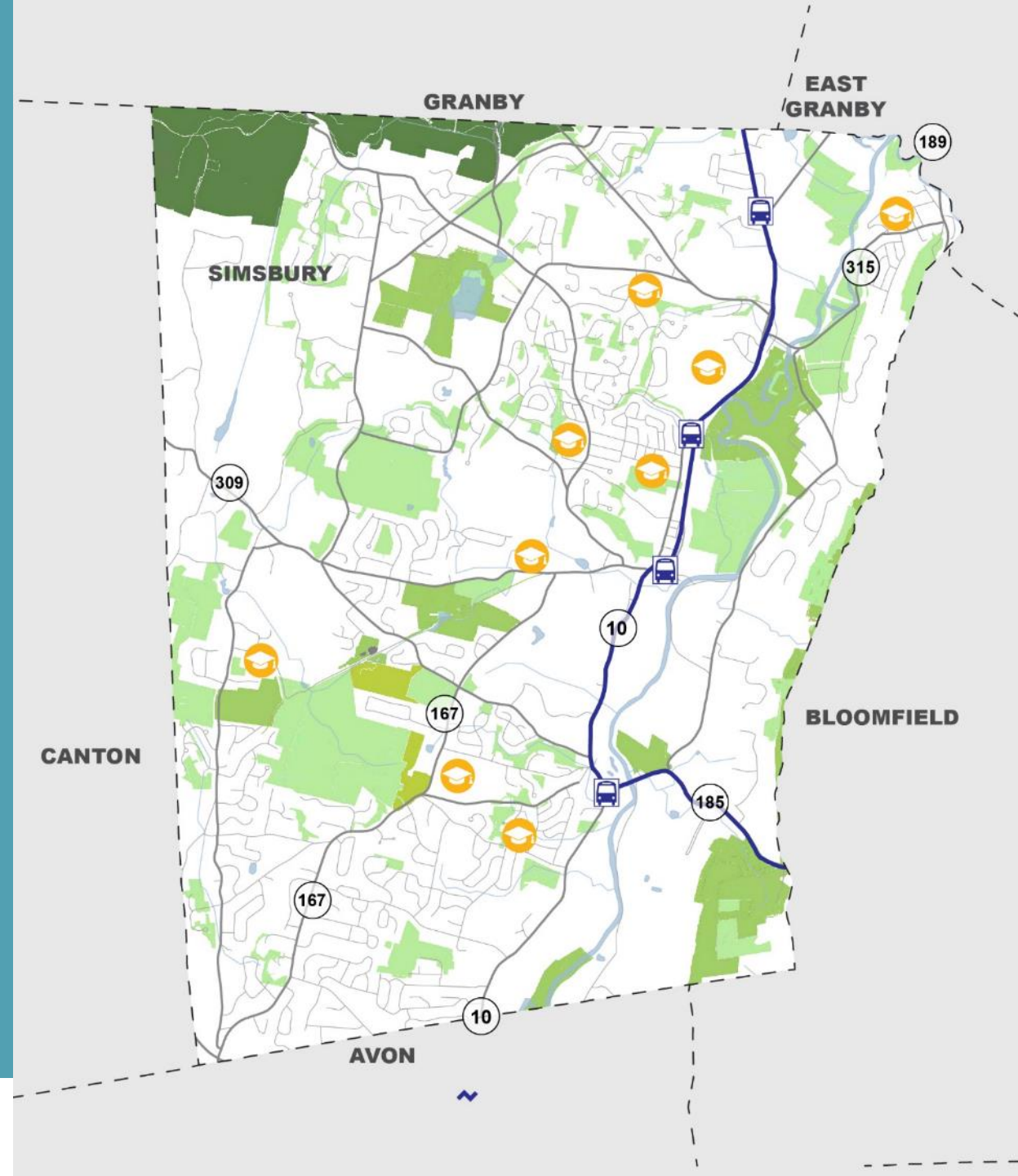
- Town wide efforts and initiatives
- Local advocacy groups
- Trail planning
- Regional efforts and initiatives
- Statewide efforts and initiatives

STRAVA



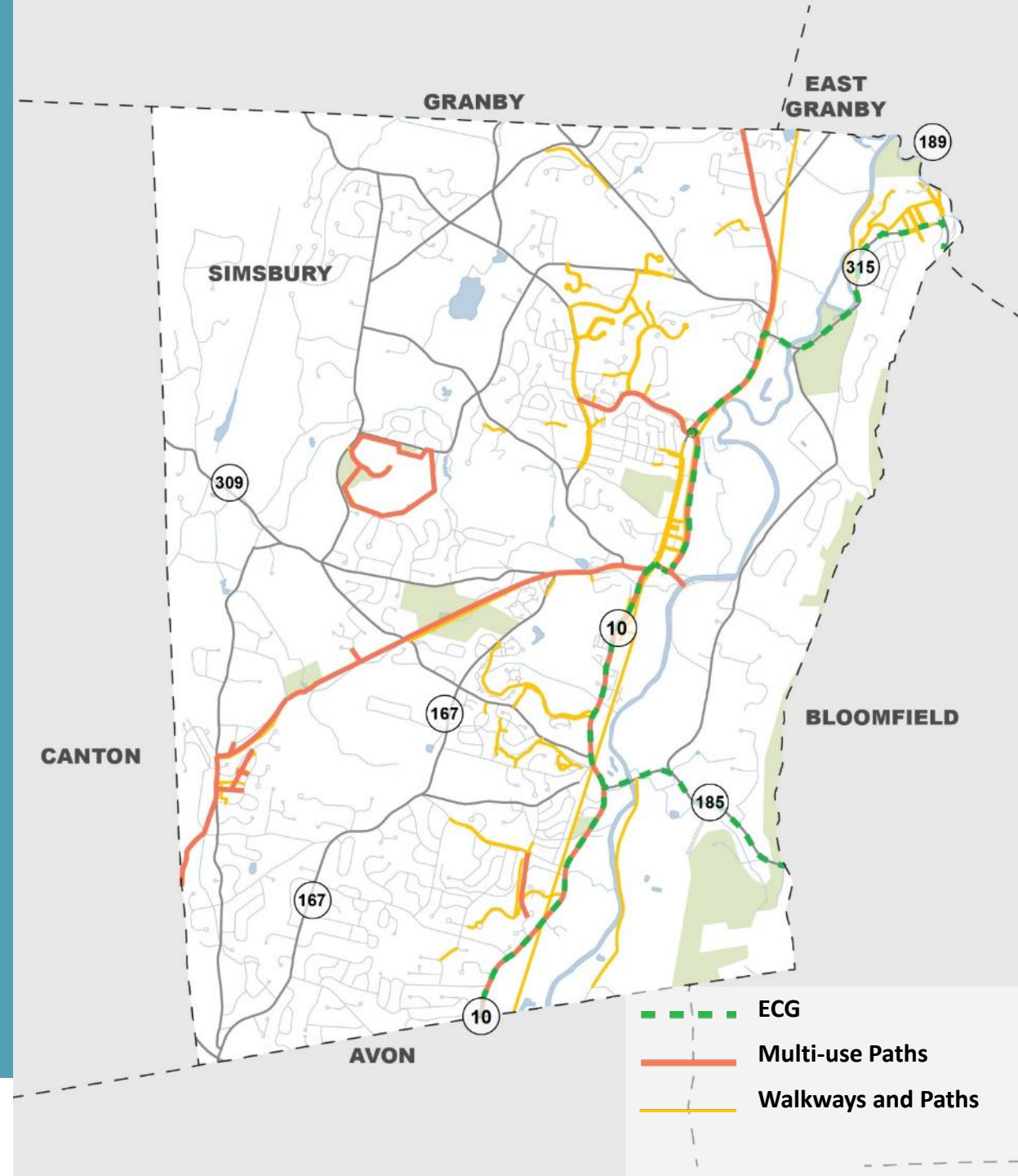
EXISTING NETWORK

- Key destinations
- Bus stops
- Schools
- Natural resources



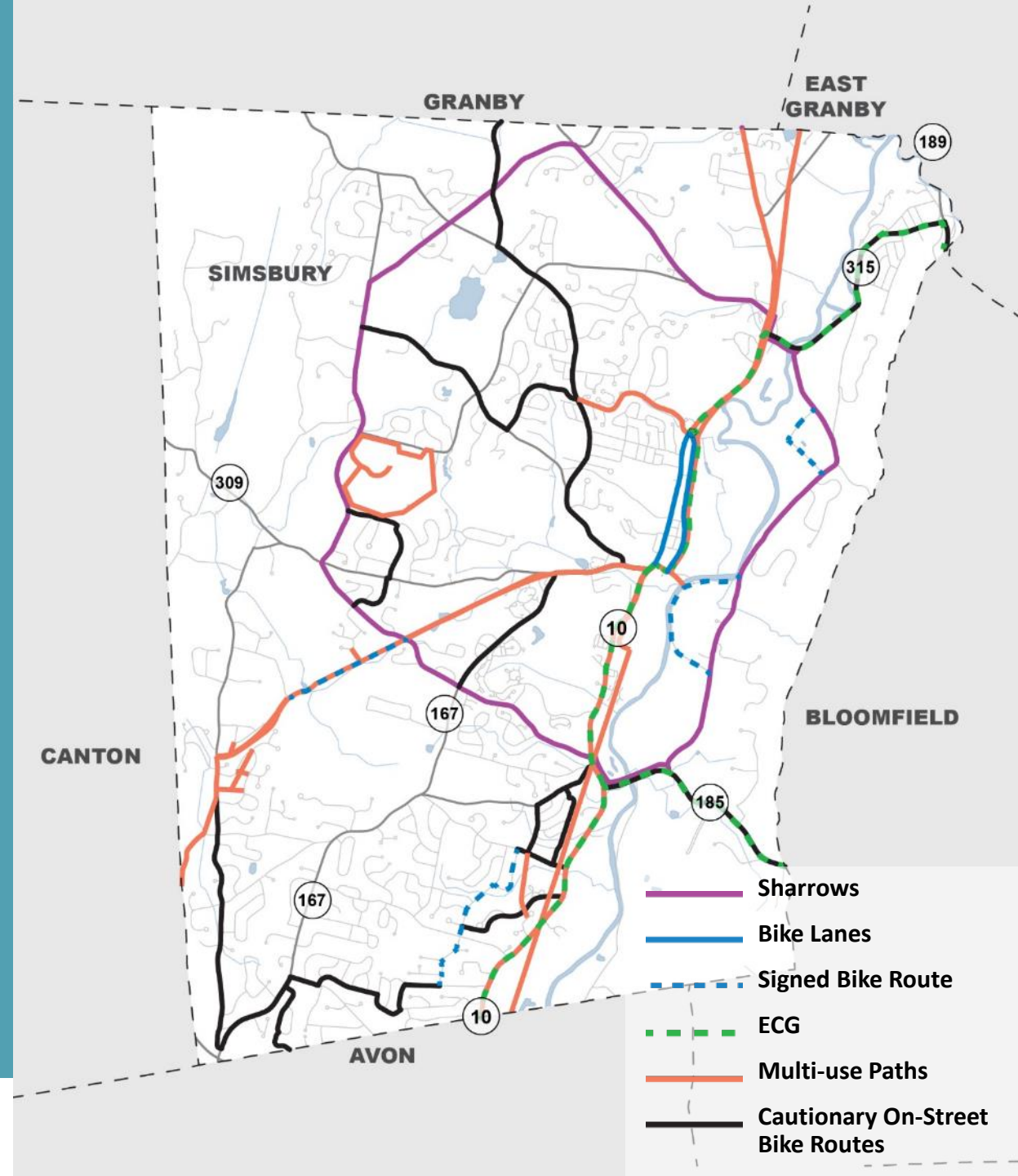
EXISTING NETWORK

- Pedestrian facilities
-



EXISTING NETWORK

- Bicycle facilities

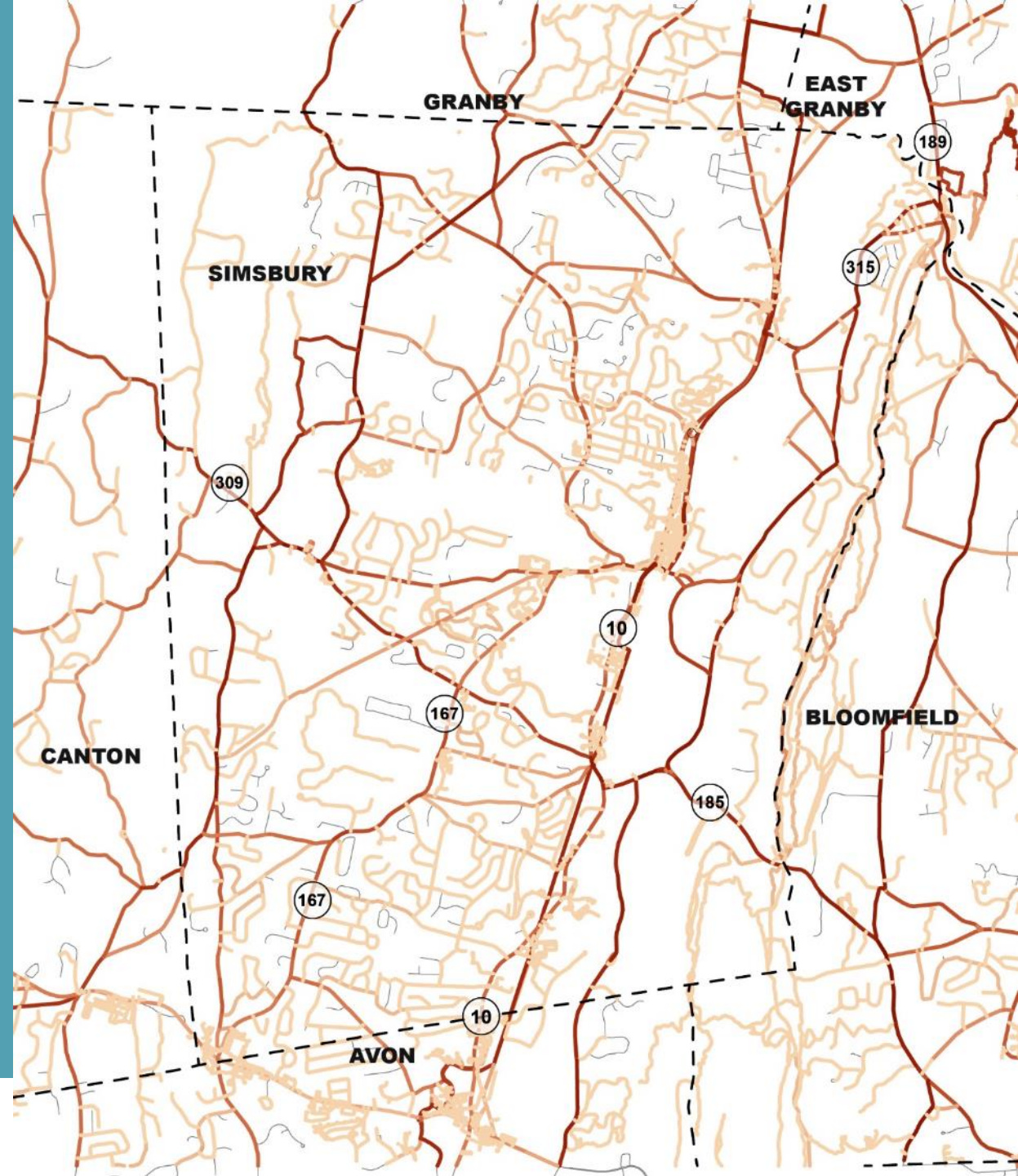
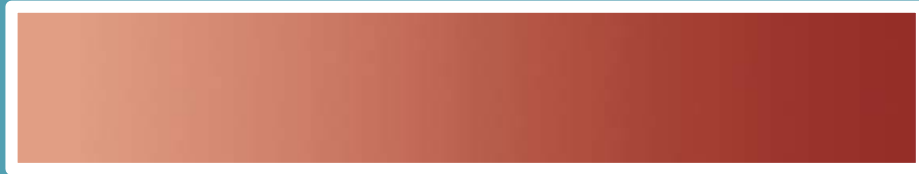


EXISTING NETWORK

Strava – Bike Ridership

Low
Ridership

High
Ridership



EXISTING NETWORK

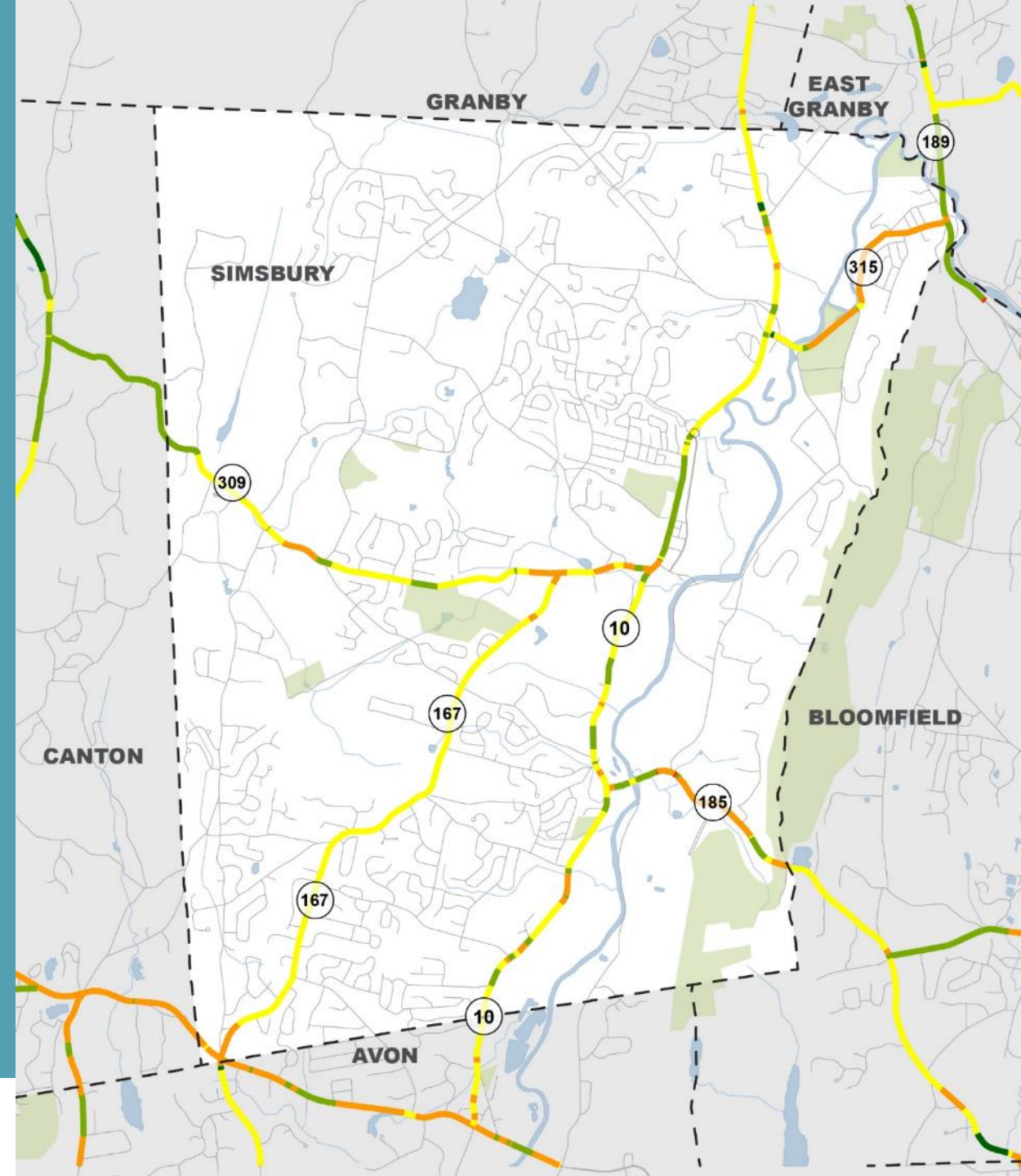
Bicycle Suitability

Less
Suitable

More
Suitable

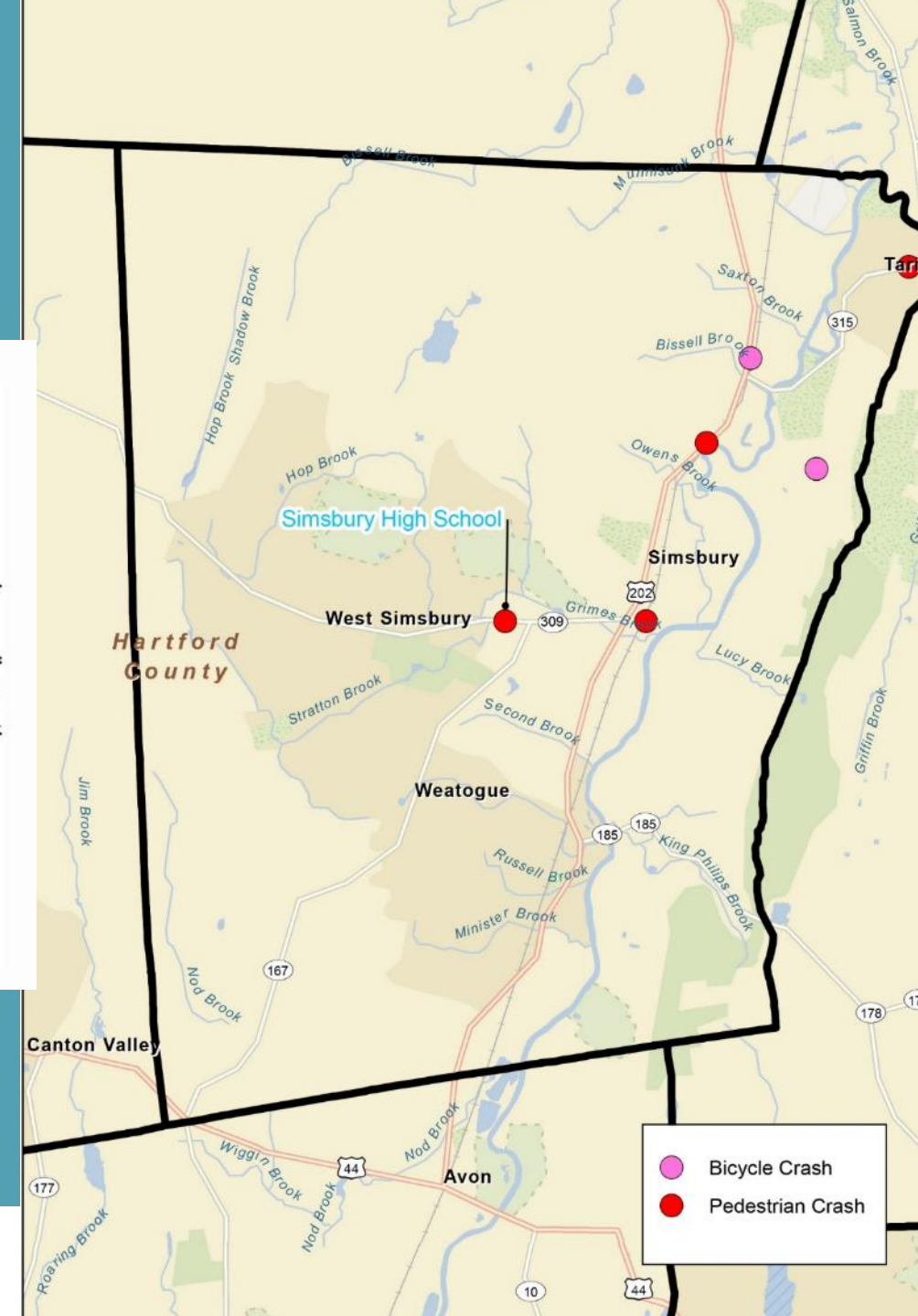
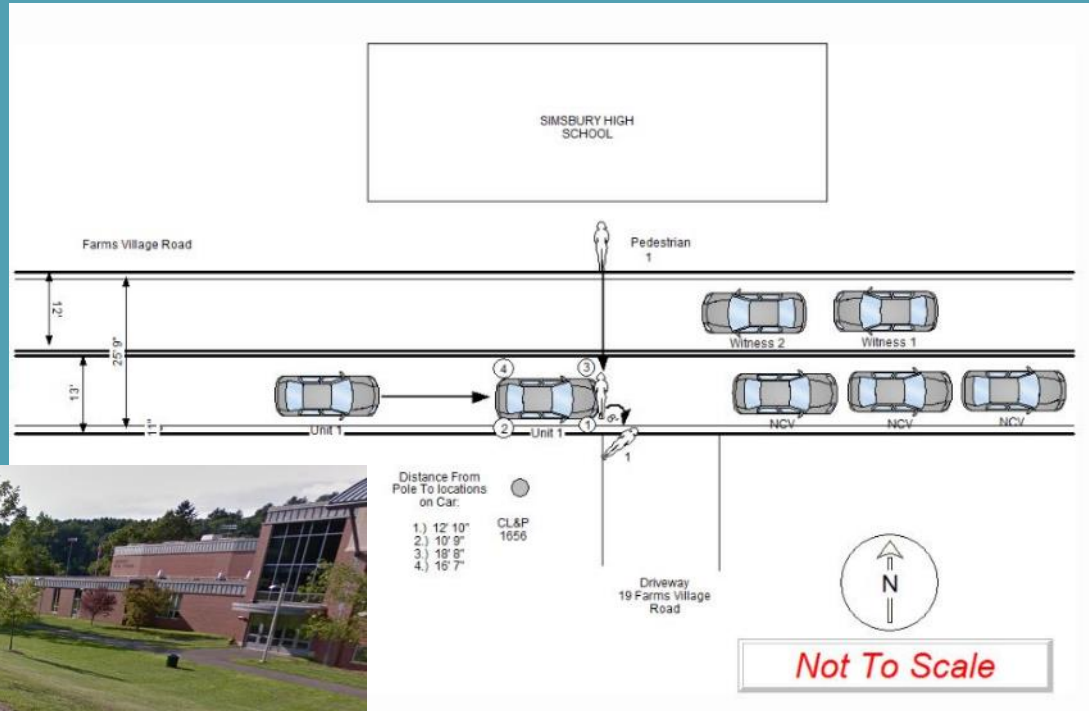


ADT	Shoulder Width (ft)			
	$x < 2$	$2 \leq x < 3$	$3 \leq x < 6$	$6 \leq x$
< 2,500	A1	A2	A3	A4
2,500 to 5,000	B1	B2	B3	B4
5,000 to 7,500	C1	C2	C3	C4
7,500 to 10,000	D1	D2	D3	D4
> 10,000	E1	E2	E3	E4



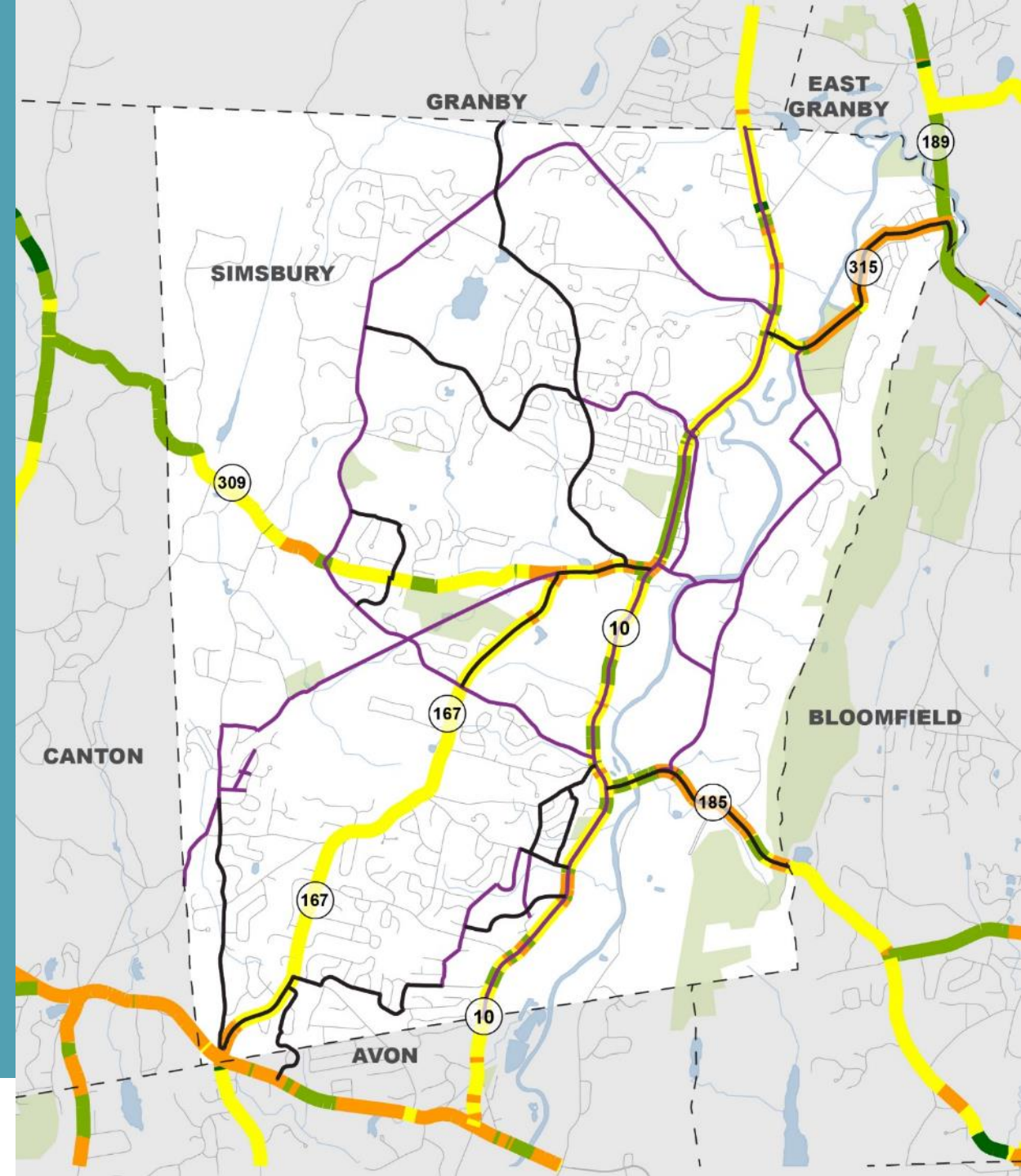
EXISTING NETWORK

Crash Analysis



EXISTING NETWORK

Network gaps



PROJECT APPROACH

Community Outreach

1. Advisory Committee
 2. Pop up events
 3. Town website updates
 4. Online survey
- Deliverable:
 - Documentation of outreach efforts
 - Survey results
 - Email contact list

Community Outreach

A photograph of a community outreach event held outdoors under a large white canopy tent. In the foreground, a woman in a light grey shirt and dark jeans holds the hand of a young boy in a grey shirt, who is holding a red reusable shopping bag. To their right, a man in a plaid shirt and khaki pants stands near a woman in a black t-shirt and blue jeans, who is also holding a red shopping bag. They are gathered around a long table covered with a black cloth, which displays various items including a map, papers, and a water bottle. In the background, several raised garden beds filled with mulch and some small green plants are visible. To the left, a blue plastic chair is partially seen. The event is set in a residential area with houses and trees in the background. Two informational posters are visible: one on the left titled 'DEVELOPMENT GUIDING PRINCIPLES' and one on the right titled 'VISIONING AND TRANSPORTATION GUIDING PRINCIPLES'. The text 'COMMUNITY OUTREACH' is overlaid in large white letters across the center of the image.

Advisory Committee

Goals & Purpose

- Act as a liaison to the community about this project
- Provide insight and expertise on local conditions and issues
- Brainstorm ideas and concepts with the project team
- Review and comment on draft plan
- Support the consensus of this group within the community
- Attend three meetings

Advisory Committee

Meetings

1. Background, vision, goals, destinations, and desired connections
2. Signage, wayfinding, education programs, and enforcement strategies
3. Network gaps, solutions

All meetings will be participatory and have interactive activities!

Pop Up Events

- Short conversations with many residents and users
 - Chili fest
 - Intercept surveys at library
 - Other ideas, events, audits?
- Three events total



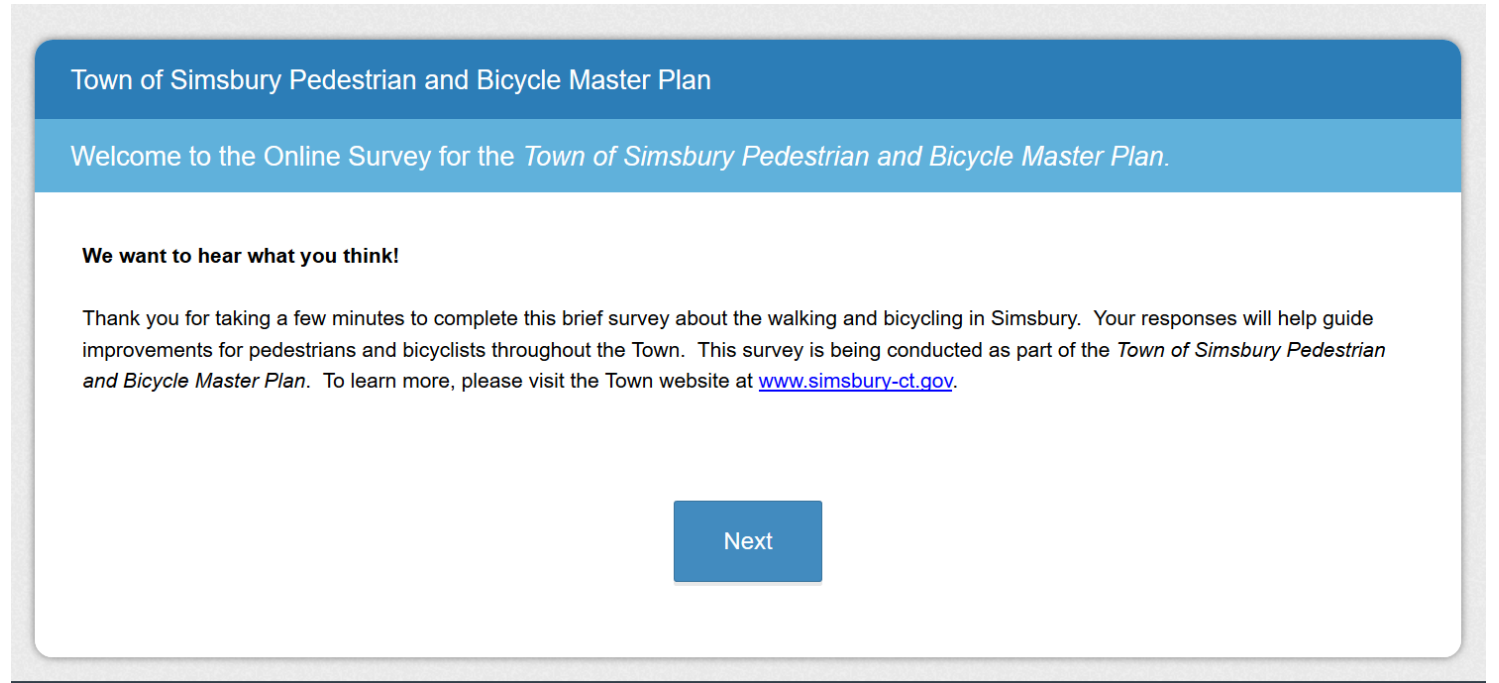
Web Page

- Advisory Committee meeting materials
- Bicycle and pedestrian resources
- Online survey



Online Survey

- Current use and user information
- Desires / priorities
- Up to 20 questions
- Prizes!



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the welcome page of an online survey. The page has a blue header with the title 'Town of Simsbury Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan'. Below the header, a light blue banner reads 'Welcome to the Online Survey for the *Town of Simsbury Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan*.' The main content area is white and contains the text 'We want to hear what you think!' followed by a paragraph thanking the user and providing context about the survey. A blue 'Next' button is located at the bottom right of the content area.

Town of Simsbury Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan

Welcome to the Online Survey for the *Town of Simsbury Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan*.

We want to hear what you think!

Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this brief survey about the walking and bicycling in Simsbury. Your responses will help guide improvements for pedestrians and bicyclists throughout the Town. This survey is being conducted as part of the *Town of Simsbury Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan*. To learn more, please visit the Town website at www.simsbury-ct.gov.

Next

PROJECT APPROACH

Recommendations

1. Network recommendations
 2. Signage and wayfinding recommendations
 3. Maintenance recommendations
 4. Policies and programs recommendations
- Deliverable:
 - Draft recommendations

Network Recommendations

What does that include?



**Inventory
the
Network**

**Connect key
destinations,
neighboring
towns**



**Priority
Corridor
identification**



**Determine
gaps in the
network**

**Wayfinding &
signage**



**Set
maintenance
goals**



**Develop
recommendations**

PROGRAMS & POLICIES RECOMMENDATIONS

Education and Enforcement

- Education and enforcement
 - Bicyclists
 - Students
 - Police
 - Public officials

Simsbury Police Department Presents



Bicycle and Motorist Safety
PFC Tracy Dunne
Spring 2012

Bicycle and Pedestrian State Law Guide



OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Maintenance, Signage, Wayfinding



PROJECT APPROACH

Reporting

1. Develop Draft Plan
2. Incorporate revisions into Final Plan
3. Present to Board of Selectman

- Deliverables:
 - Draft Plan
 - Final Plan
 - PowerPoint presentation
 - Files

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a forest. The path is flanked by dense green ferns. Tall trees with green foliage are in the background. A semi-transparent teal box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text 'VISION & GOALS' in white.

VISION & GOALS

WHY VISION & GOALS?

- Defines the planning effort
- Sets the stage for future desires for bicycle and pedestrian travel for Simsbury
- Consider...
 - What is the best way to document our successes?
 - How can we set or identify our most attainable implementation options moving forward?



VISION / GOAL ACTIVITY

What do you think?

What do you want to see
for the *future* of walking
and bicycling in Simsbury?

Use your notecard to write down your top
three words or key phrases



VISION / GOAL ACTIVITY

What do you think?

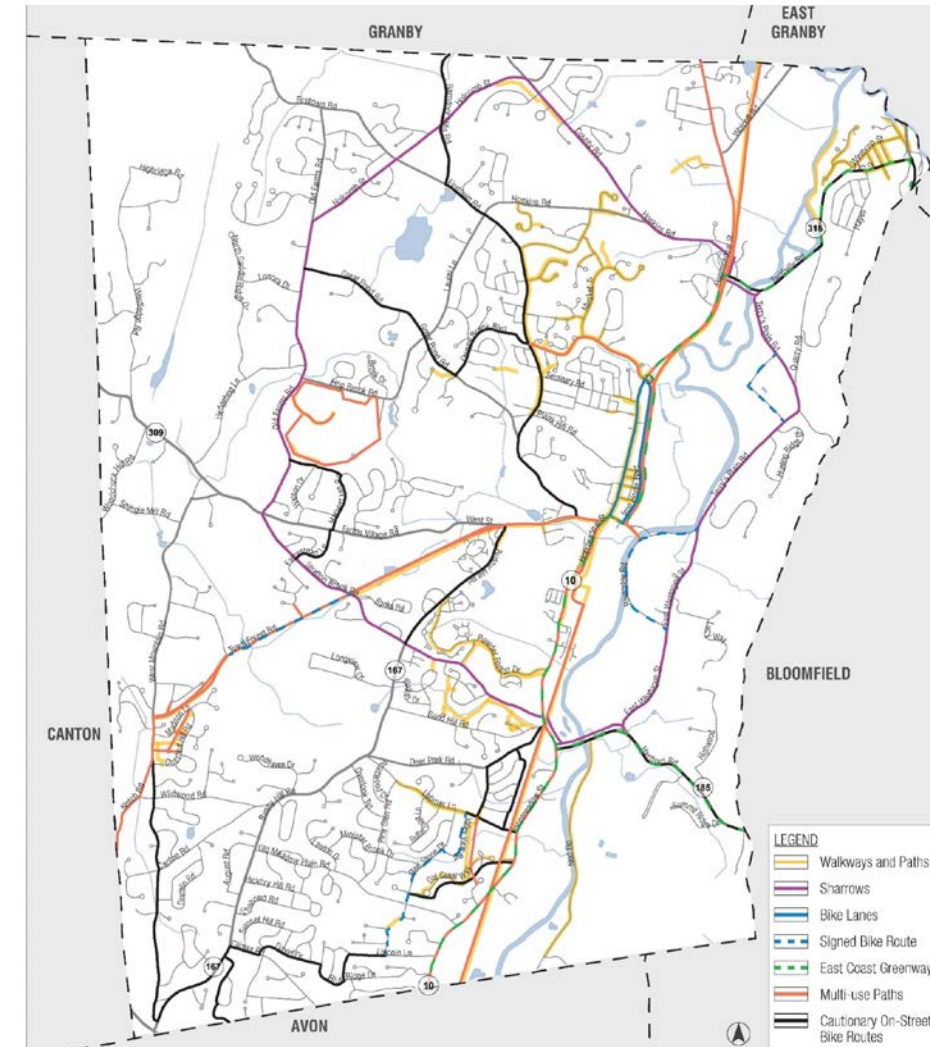
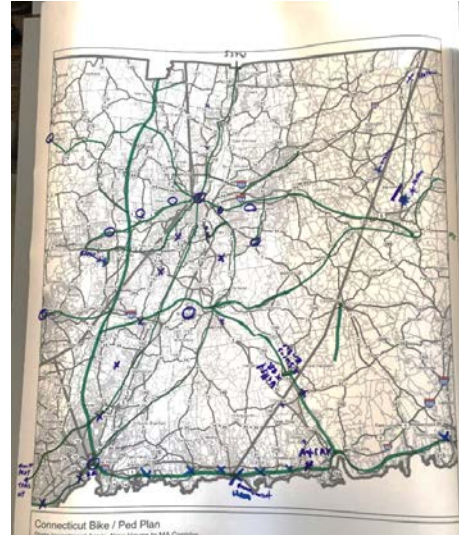
What has to occur to make *your future* in Simsbury possible?



Use your notecard to write down your top three words or key phrases

DESTINATIONS AND ROUTES ACTIVITY

- Count off (1, 2, 3, 4)
- Find your map
- Collaborate and mark up:
 - Blue Xs on destinations
 - Green lines (general) on paths



A person wearing a white t-shirt, black shorts, and a bicycle helmet is riding a bicycle on a wooden bridge deck. The bridge has a blue metal railing and is surrounded by lush greenery and flowers. The background shows a clear blue sky and trees.

Next Steps

PROJECT SCHEDULE

	2017						2018	
	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec		Jan	Feb
Pop-up outreach events			★	★	★			
Online Survey								
Advisory Committee		★		★			★	
Data Collection								
Visioning and Goals								
Analysis								
Plan Development							★	★
Board Presentation								



THANK YOU