

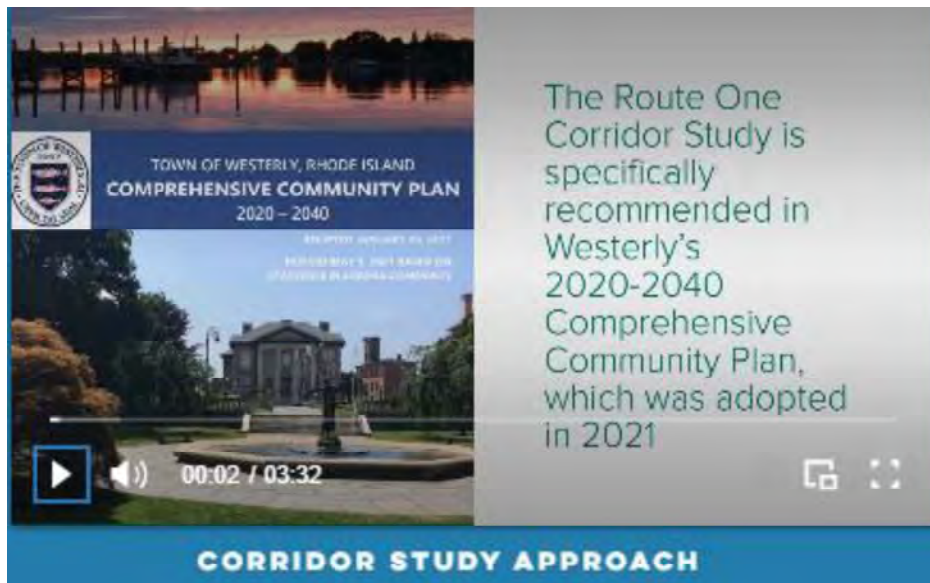
Appendix B provides detailed information regarding the extensive public and stakeholder engagement that occurred throughout the Route One Corridor Study. In summary, the following information is covered in detail in this appendix.

- Project videos
- Route One Corridor Committee meetings
- Stakeholder interviews
- Public workshops
- Open public comment

### *Project Videos*

Project videos were created to engage the public and describe the project and project area. The video was posted to the project webpage as an entire video for viewing and also in segments so that viewers could focus on a specific topic. The topic segments available for viewing are:

- Purpose of this Study
- Study Area and Description
- How you can Help



*Figure: Still Image from the Route One Corridor Study Approach Video*

The video was created by compiling still images and adding a narration. The video is comprised of the following elements:

- Project overview
- Route One Corridor extent and current conditions
- Project components and approach
- Identification of the five focus areas of the project

- How the results of the project will affect local decision making

Corridor Study Approach Video Outline		
Video Sections	Audio	Timing
1	The Town of Westerly is in the process of conducting a study of the Route One Corridor in order to identify strategies to encourage the type of development the Town and community would like to see along Route One to meet the goals of the 2020-2040 Comprehensive Community Plan.	18 seconds
2	There is a recognition by the Town of Westerly that commercial sprawl has turned a significant portion of Route One into a generic commercial arterial strip which lacks character, is underutilized, and is not fully functional. There is a strong desire to reverse this trend and refocus development that promotes a sense of place and a reflection of small-town charm.	22 seconds
3	The Route One corridor in Westerly is an approximate five-mile stretch of roadway that goes from the west side of the high school to the Charlestown town line. It is the principal arterial roadway that provides access across the southern portion of Town, running east to west.	17 seconds
4	For the purposes of this study, the study area is defined to include those properties that front Route One, as well as several large neighborhoods that are only accessible from Route One.	12 seconds
5	The Route One Corridor consists of a system of intersections, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, homes, and businesses. These features vary along the corridor and are not always consistently distributed. Homes are clustered in some areas and sidewalks are inconsistent throughout. Parking lots are in abundance in some locations and lacking in others.	21 seconds
6	The corridor includes the majority of the Town's commercially developed land including shopping centers, strip malls, gas stations, and other relatively large retail establishments.	11 seconds
7	Parts of the Route One Corridor contain sensitive environmental features such as wetlands, aquifer recharge area, terrain changes, and forested land.	9 seconds
8	A portion of the west end of the corridor is within the urban services boundary and has existing water and sewer access. The eastern end of the corridor has water service but currently does not have sewer service.	12 seconds
9	Housing appears in sporadic locations along the corridor, sometimes consisting of a few homes interspersed among commercial properties, to approximately a one and a half-mile stretch of roadway in the central portion of the corridor with predominantly single-family homes.	17 seconds
10	The Route One Corridor project includes a review of existing conditions, analyzing market potential and challenges, gathering community observations, thoughts, and ideas, recommending changes to development regulations and other actions that will spur economic investment, create a cohesive sense of place, allow for a greater mix of uses, and improve public safety.	22 seconds
11	Public participation is an integral part of this work. The Town will be engaging the public during the process with a variety of outreach methods. These include, but are not limited to, a website where information and updates will be posted as the project progresses. Surveys will be made available to gauge the public's experiences and concerns with their travel and use of the corridor. Public meetings will be held to gather public feedback.	24 seconds
12	The results of the Route One Corridor project will guide town departments, the Planning Board, the Economic Development Commission (EDC), and state agencies, and encourage public and private investment for 5 focus areas: travel, economic development, infrastructure, aesthetics, and housing.	19 seconds

Corridor Study Approach Video Outline		
Video Sections	Audio	Timing
13	We look forward to your participation as a user of the Corridor	6 seconds

Additionally, a project flyover video was created in Google Earth to provide an aerial view of the entire length of the five-mile Corridor.



Figure: Still Images of the Project Area Flyover Video

### ***Summary of Project Meeting Engagement***

The information below provides a summary of project status meetings, stakeholder meetings, and public meetings. Due to the COVID pandemic some meetings were held virtually.

#### ***Route One Corridor Committee Meetings***

The Route One Corridor Study was directed by the Route One Corridor Committee (ROCC) which consists of the Westerly Department of Development Services Staff, two members of the Economic Development Commission, and two members of the Planning Board. At the outset of the project the ROCC meet biweekly to initiate and guide the initial phases of the project. Subsequently, after substantial work was completed on the project, the ROCC met on an as needed basis for the duration of the project. The ROCC held many meetings over the course of the project. The key topics of discussion at these meetings generally included:

- Project goals and objectives
- Project data
- Stakeholder involvement
- Public engagement
- Key project milestones and deliverables

#### ***Stakeholder Interviews***

In person interviews were conducted as a cornerstone of targeted public engagement. The project management team—consisting of Town Staff and members of Weston & Sampson and RKG Associates—arranged interviews with property owners of strategic parcels, key Town Staff, and the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce. The table below summarizes who attended those stakeholder meetings followed by a meeting summary (highlighted in blue) beneath each identified meeting.

<b>Table B-1. Stakeholder Interview Summary</b>			
<b>Group</b>	<b>Stakeholder Interview Attendees</b>	<b>Interview Topics</b>	<b>Interview Date</b>
Property Owner, Attorney & Architect	William Nardone, Esq. Dion Luzzi Paul Azzinaro	92-102 Granite Street (Granite and Tower)	February 4, 2022
This meeting included the property owner of 92-102 Granite Street, along with the applicant's attorney and project architect. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss an impending application for the redevelopment of the site. This property is a strategic site because of its prominence at the western entrance to the Route One Corridor at the intersection of Granite and Tower Street. The Town of Westerly considers this site an important gateway to the Corridor.			
Property Owner (via Site Engineer)	Jake Modestow, PE	156 Granite Street (former Chen's)	February 7, 2022
This meeting was with a representative of Stonefield Engineering, who represents Starbucks. Starbucks made application to the Town of Westerly to redevelop this site (formerly a Chinese restaurant) into a new Starbucks location. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how design considerations identified as part of the Route One Corridor project could be incorporated into the redevelopment of this property. As a result of this meeting the applicant made changes to their original site design in a cooperative effort to incorporate site design principles that were under discussion as part of the Route One Corridor project at the time.			
Agency (RIDOT and Statewide)	Linsey Callaghan Roberta Groch	Transportation	February 17, 2022

Table B-1. Stakeholder Interview Summary			
Group	Stakeholder Interview Attendees	Interview Topics	Interview Date
Planning)	Pamela Cotter		
This meeting was structured to include representatives from Statewide Planning and RIDOT to discuss any existing or planned initiatives related to infrastructure or design for the Route One Corridor at the state level. As a result of this meeting, state agencies were made aware of the project and agreed to incorporate design considerations to the degree possible in their future planning efforts related to the Corridor.			
Town Staff	Shawn Lacey Bill Beauregard Peter Chiaradio Kyle Zalaski	Public Safety Water Infrastructure Sewer Infrastructure	March 3, 2022
This meeting consisted of key town staff, including the Town Manager, DPW directors, and the Town Engineer to discuss existing and proposed initiatives related to stormwater, water supply, traffic and safety, sanitary sewer, and other general observations of staff concerning the Route One Corridor.			
Property Owners	Jake Modestow, PE Bahaa Mahmoud Michael Cozzolino David Bertolini	156-162 Granite Street (former Chen's to Providence Coal Fired Pizza)	April 7, 2022
The purpose of this meeting was to bring together adjacent property owners at this location in an attempt to create an open dialogue on how to improve site access, site circulation, landscaping, and the overall aesthetic qualities of the area. An initial discussion on shared access, shared parking, and enhanced landscaping occurred and a follow up meeting was planned with the intention of further discussing and planning for how to integrate these concepts within the properties in a manner beneficial for all the involved property owners.			
Property Owner	Thomas Liguori, Esq. Jeff Sweenor Sergio Cherenzia	Former Staples Property	April 7, 2022
The purpose of this meeting was to engage in a discussion regarding the site of the former Staples building. The site is proposed for the construction of a storage facility. Although not visible from Route One, the site is an important location within the Corridor. The result of this meeting was an open dialogue with the property owner and how this property can be used to showcase how development in the Corridor can be conscientious and sensitive to the character of the Town, even when what is proposed is typically considered to be an unattractive use (commercial storage).			
Property Owner	John Kupa, Esq. Denise Siravo	366 Post Road (The Haversham Inn)	April 13, 2022
The purpose of this meeting was to initiate a discussion with the property owner of the Haversham Inn and her attorney. The owner has expressed a recent interest to the Town in developing additional and expanded uses on the site. The Town considers the property an important gateway coming from the east into the Route One Corridor. The result of this meeting was a discussion surrounding the challenges of developing this property for its intended uses, and how regulatory updates could aid developers in this area.			
Agency (Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce)	Lisa Konicki John Layton	Business Development Economic Opportunities	April 13 2022
The purpose of this meeting was to initiate a discussion with the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce to introduce the project and to gain an understanding of business-related issues, concerns, and possible solutions related to owning and operating a business along the Corridor. The meeting was attended by the executive director of the Chamber along with a representative member of the Board of Directors. The results of this meeting were a general discussion of what is lacking for business along the Corridor, what types of improvements would benefit businesses on the Corridor, and what the Chamber could see being developed in the area surrounding the Chamber's own building on the Corridor,			
Property Owners	Michael Cozzolino David Bertolini	156-162 Granite Street (former Chen's to	May 10, 2022

Table B-1. Stakeholder Interview Summary			
Group	Stakeholder Interview Attendees	Interview Topics	Interview Date
		Providence Coal Fired Pizza)	
The purpose of this meeting was to engage the property owners to participate in a paper doll exercise where they were provided with aerial maps of the property and paper cut outs of parking spaces, buildings, and curb cuts. They were asked to work together to redesign their sites in a collaborative way that provided a benefit to all the participants.			

These stakeholder interviews took place over the course of several months. These meetings were essential in understanding current conditions and future objectives for strategic areas and issues related to the Corridor. Those that participated played an integral role in shaping proposed action items outlined in this report. Their participation is appreciated and recognized as an important component to the future success of the Route One Corridor.

**Public Workshops**

During the Route One Corridor Study project a total of five public workshops were held to provide project information and collect stakeholder and public input. Table B-2 provides information related to the public workshops that were held during the development of the goals and actions presented in this plan.

Table B-2. Public Workshop Summary	
Public Meeting Date	Public Meeting Type
January 11, 2022	Joint Planning Board and Economic Development Commission Facilitated Workshop
March 3, 2022	Architectural Review Board Workshop
April 7, 2022	Architectural Review Board Workshop
May 3, 2022	Joint Planning Board and Economic Development Commission Workshop
June 14, 2022	Joint Planning Board and Economic Development Commission Workshop
June 16, 2022	Joint Planning Board and Economic Development Commission Facilitated Workshop Public Engagement

These meetings were held to solicit input from boards and commissions, and to engage the public. These meetings included some or all of the following components:

- Discussion of the overall project
- Airing of the project video

- Live opinion polling
- SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis

***May 3, 2022, Joint Planning Board and Economic Development Commission Public Workshop***

On May 3, 2022, a joint meeting was held between the Westerly Planning Board (PB) and Westerly Economic Development Commission (EDC). The joint meeting focused on the Route One Corridor Plan as well as goals and action items that have been developed for the plan. Topic areas included economics, housing, aesthetics, zoning, travel, infrastructure, and Zoning-Ordinance revisions consensus. Over 24 concepts were shared by Board and EDC members of which two (2) have been incorporated into the draft and two (2) require administrative review outside the scope of this project.

***June 14, 2022, Joint Planning Board and Economic Development Commission Public Workshop***

On June 14, 2022, a second joint meeting was held between the Planning Board and the EDC. The joint meeting focused on revisions to the goals and action items that had been from the Board and EDC's previous comments. Topic areas the Vision for Route One, economics, housing, aesthetics, travel, infrastructure, and the regulatory framework were discussed in the context of the current Comprehensive Plan.

***June 16, 2022, Facilitated Public Engagement (Joint Planning Board & EDC Workshop)***

A large public workshop was held on June 16, 2022, to bring together a variety of stakeholders and public members. At this workshop an overview of Route One Corridor Plan was presented, informing attendees on the project's process and progress at the time. Invitees were asked to participate in active online polling during the presentation related to questions about their experiences and perceptions in and of the Route One Corridor. Below is a summary of the public feedback collected during that meeting.

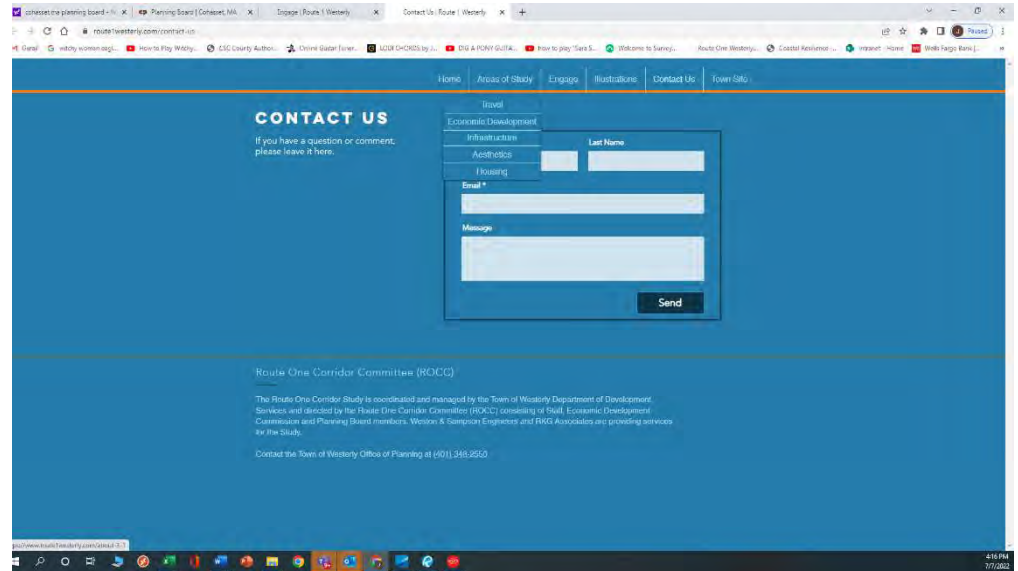


In addition to the word cloud exercise, attendees were asked a series of open-ended questions. The questions and responses are represented in the Excel file attached to this Appendix.

*Open Public Comment*

As part of the review process, the final draft of Route One Corridor Plan was made available for public review from June 7, 2022 to July 5, 2022. During this time comments were solicited from the general public by way of the Route One Corridor Website. Comments received the website to date are provided below. A public comment form was made available for anyone to fill out and provide their feedback on the draft plan.

*Route One Corridor Study (the “Study”)*



*Westerly, RI*

*Comments from the Project Website (<https://www.route1westerly.com/>)*

As of July 7, 2022

Comments on the Study were collected between March 8 and July 5, 2022 using the project website, “Engage” page, under “Comments and Questions,” which if clicked on takes users to the following page:

Comments received are listed in the table below, which includes the date the comment was received, the text of the comment, and the response to the comment in terms of how it is to be addressed. Generally, the comments were addressed through the process of revising the Study.

Table B-5. Public Comments Received		
Date Received	Comment	Response to Comments
3/8/22	Remove background music in video! It is plain noise that blocks out audio of voice description of the presentation. It is totally unnecessary. Thank you.	Not a comment on the Study. Website comment only. The website video was updated.
3/9/22	Message: First it needs to be paved all of it !!!!!	Improved paving and improved mix of

	We need useful stores and restaurants like Olive Garden , Red lobster , target , etc... the mix is ridiculous from nursing homes to schools to houses to tire shops it should be all businesses!!! It really needs help and we westerly people hate going out of town for everything !	commercial uses are addressed in the Study in the sections related to Travel, Aesthetics, and Economic Development
3/12/22	first and foremost: speed limits should be enforced. no neon signs breakfront of trees for beautification, behind which may be development.	This is addressed in "Travel in the Corridor."
3/14/22	Hello All: The following link is from the Town Of Westerly asking your opinion how to make Franklin St more viable to entertainment. My personal response is that after living here since 2015, the Town of Westerly needs severely more entertainment. I can go to Florida and walk outside and visit nightclubs, bars, and restaurants. Bike and walking paths are present. Unless you like being confined into your homes in the winter, something has to be done, so we can stay alive and active. So, please consider voicing your thoughts. Hopefully it will be heard by someone. <a href="https://www.route1westerly.com">https://www.route1westerly.com</a>	Improved mix of uses is addressed in the Study. This would include entertainment, food service. Bicycle and pedestrian improvements are discussed in "Travel in the Corridor."
3/15/22	I really like what you are trying to do for that stretch of our town. I only hope that by your including the neighborhoods that access Rt 1 into your Corridor plan, that those families are not negatively impacted. I'd hate to see it be akin to what is happening in the Venice restaurant neighborhood where unsuspecting families are going to face obnoxious (and ugly) commercial development.	Neighborhood access is discussed throughout the Study
4/27/22	Since so much of the existing corridor is in private ownership or State ownership, what tools do you have to make wide-sweeping changes?	This is recognized and discussed throughout the Study.
5/3/22	There's an empty lot behind Berkshire Bank - vacant for years. Why not lease it for beach parking w a trolley or minivan to shuttle the public to Misq./Watch Hill/Napatree	This is a site-specific comment and beyond the scope of the Study.
5/31/22	Plan to attend the meeting on June 16,2022 at Westerly Library	Not a comment on the Study.
6/8/22	We live in front of the middle school. So many times we have seen people drive right through the red light driving toward town. There needs to be a warning light near Apple Rehab so drivers will know they have a stop ahead. Rt2 in N. Stonington and N. Stonington has these and they do seem to help.	This is a site-specific comment and beyond the scope of the Study.
6/15/22	I hope I can make it to the event tomorrow at the library. the #1 thing that bothers me about the Rt 1 corridor, particularly Franklin Street, is	Undergrounding power lines is discussed in its own subsection in "Infrastructure in the Corridor."

	<p>the power lines. Burying power lines would be super costly, but it's done in a lot of other areas of the country. They're unsightly, take up half the sidewalk. In other areas along rt 1, they could be buried, and might even allow room for a completely separate bike lane. Power lines are an issue throughout the town, and it would be nice to see more utilities buried.</p>	
<p>6/17/22</p>	<p>Thank you for tonight's stakeholder meeting. I can't stress enough the problems I see on a daily basis in Corridors 2 through 4. 1) the speed of the traffic is way too fast 2) too much traffic noise 3) not enough sidewalks 4) no bike paths 5) sidewalks are not being maintained (too many weeds and weeds growing over guard rails) 6) fence regulations height for residential is only 6ft which is too low to block traffic noise 7) getting onto RT 1 from side streets and businesses is dangerous. 8) lots of trash - every Monday I pick up trash from Andersen CT to the airport fence Sincerely, Charles Jones 1 Andersen CT</p>	<p>Item 1 is discussed in "Travel..."                  Item 2 would be partially addressed by landscaping, which will screen traffic from other uses and abate some noise.                  Item 3 is discussed in "Travel..." under the pedestrian section.                  Item 4 is discussed in "Travel..." under the bicycle section.                  Item 5 would be addressed through a road safety audit and will required DOT cooperation.                  Item 6 would be partially addressed by landscaping, which will screen traffic from other uses and abate some noise.                  Item 7 is discussed in "Travel..." under the parking section.                  Item 8—Add trash removal to discussion of "Aesthetics"</p>