

# North of Portland Area Bicycle + Pedestrian Connectivity Workshop #3



Mike Lydon  
Principal

# Workshop Agenda

- 1. Welcome + Introduction**
- 2. What We Found: A Review of Regional Connectivity**
- 3. Draft Recommendations**
  - Infrastructure (Long and Short-term)**
  - Policy, Programs, + Planning**
  - Regional Collaboration**
- 4. How'd We Do? Collaborative Review**
- 5. Report Out and Discussion**

# STREETPLANS

MIAMI

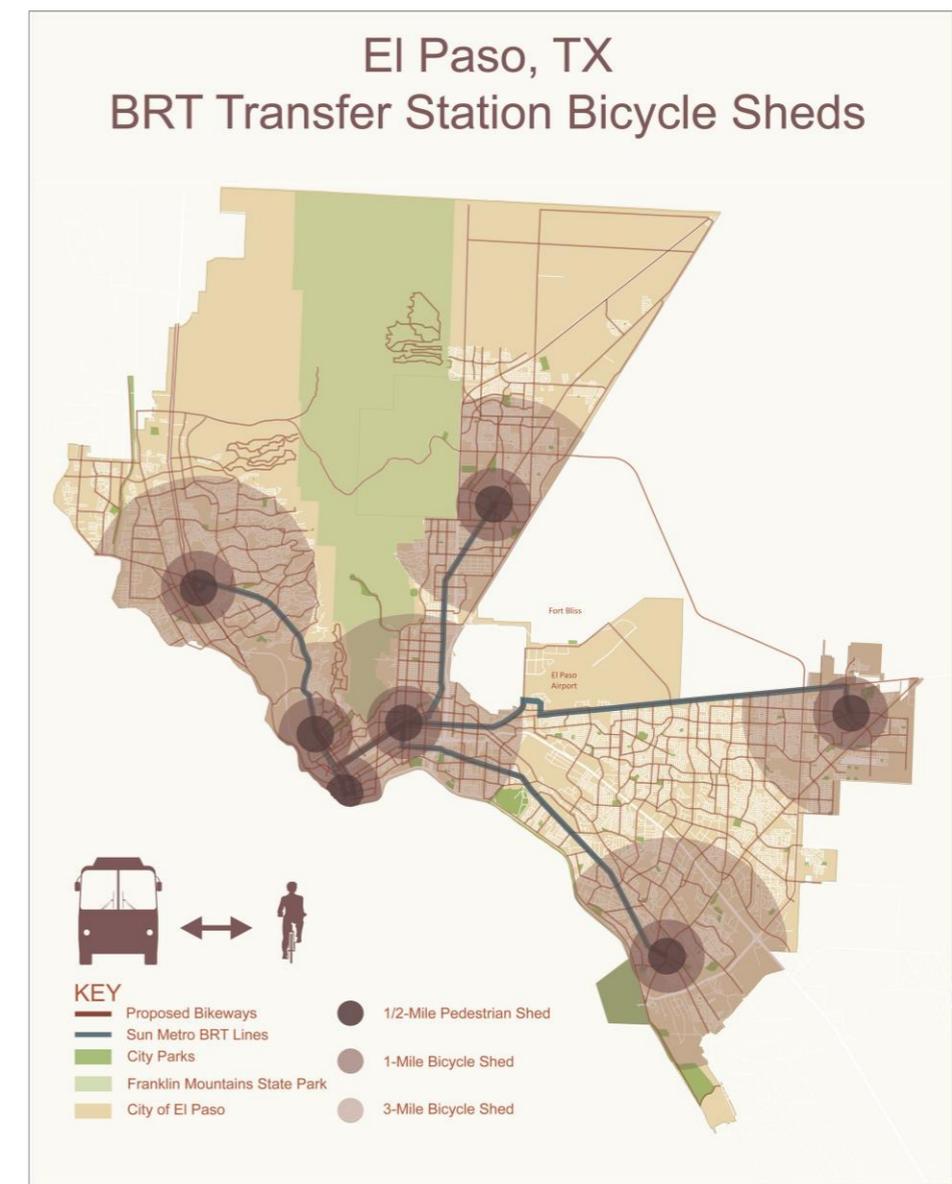
NEW YORK

We're a planning, design, and Research-advocacy firm

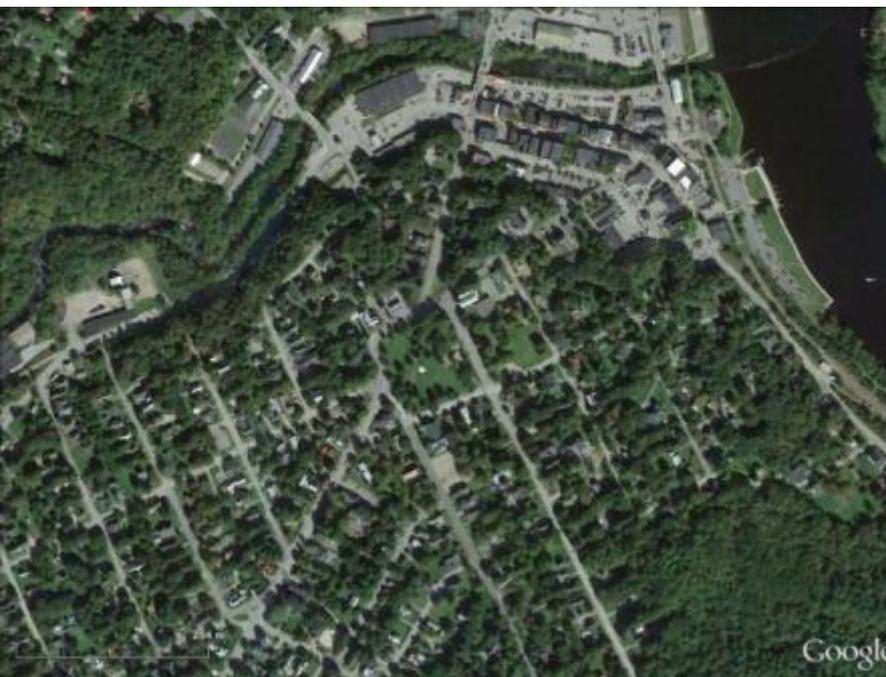
WE Build Better Streets, Better Places

# What We Do

- **Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning + Design**
- Placemaking + Tactical Urbanism
- Urban Policy Development
- Urban + Architectural Design
- Public Outreach + Web Design
- Education + Training
- Research-Advocacy



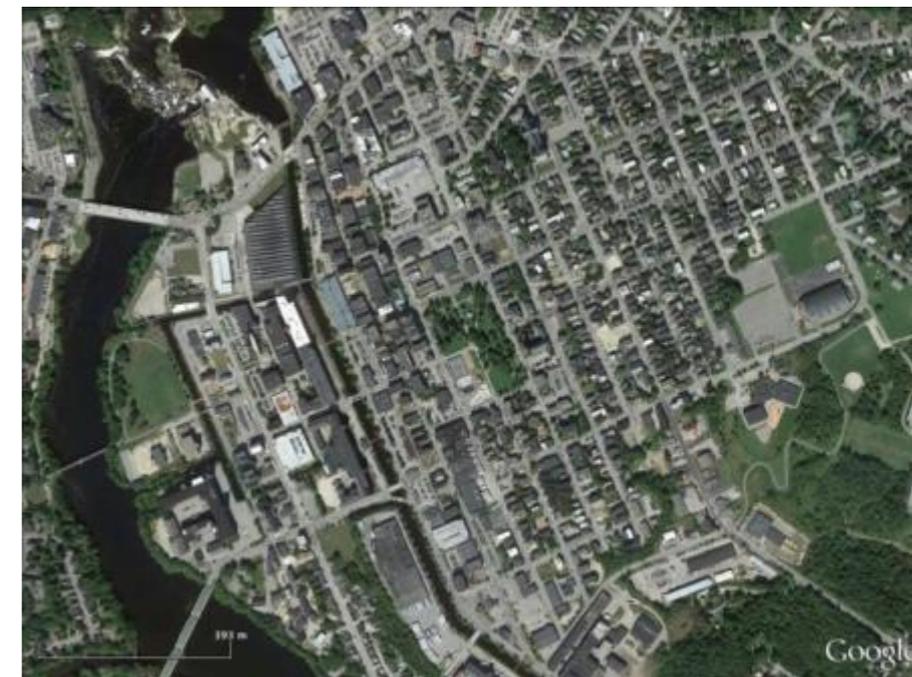
# I Grew Up Biking, Walking and Hiking in Maine



Gardiner



Damariscotta/Newcastle



Lewiston

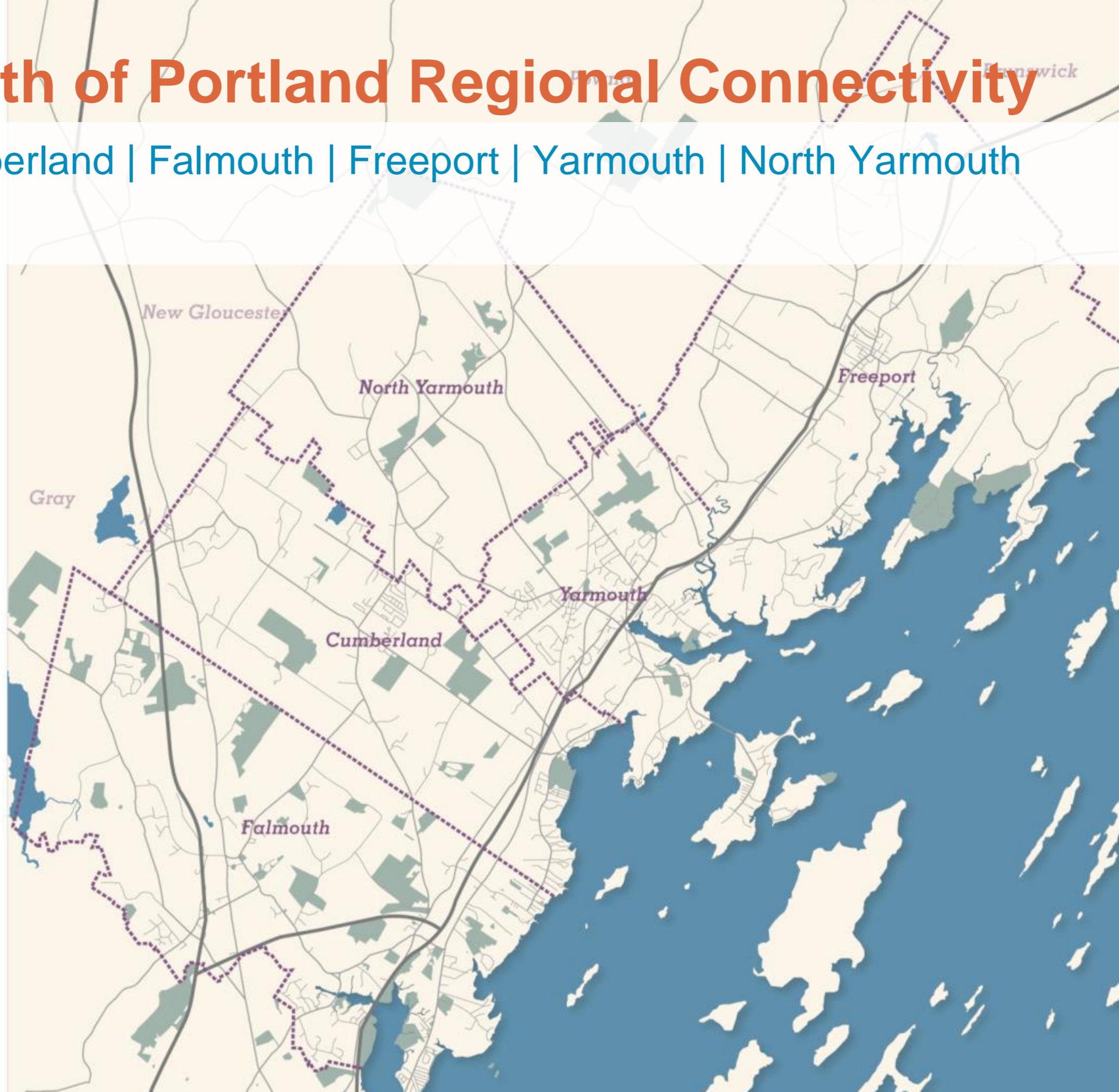
# Planning Process Overview

- 2.5 month process (Oct – Dec. 31st)
- Emphasis on regional connectivity
- Assess existing challenges/opportunities for regional collaboration
- Create a regionally coordinated approach through infrastructure prioritization, policy development and regional collaboration



# North of Portland Regional Connectivity

Cumberland | Falmouth | Freeport | Yarmouth | North Yarmouth



What would make bicycling and walking  
better in your community?

**COME OUT AND TELL US!**



## **NORTH PORTLAND AREA CONNECTIVITY WORKSHOPS**

Cumberland | Falmouth | Freeport | Yarmouth | North Yarmouth

Join us for a series of public workshops to improve connectivity  
for people biking and walking in the north Portland area.

### WORKSHOP #1:

PORTLAND NORTH BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN  
NOVEMBER 12TH, 7:00 - 8:30 PM  
Falmouth Town Hall, 271 Falmouth Road

### WORKSHOP #2:

PORTLAND NORTH BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN  
NOVEMBER 18TH, 6:30 - 8:00 PM  
Yarmouth Town Hall, 200 Main Street

### WORKSHOP #3:

PORTLAND NORTH BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN  
FINAL DRAFT PRESENTATION  
DECEMBER 10TH, 6:30 - 8:30 PM  
Yarmouth Log Cabin, 196 Main Street

**PACTS** Light refreshments will be served at each Workshop.

**STREETPLANS** Brought to you by the Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System + Street Plans

For More Information, contact Carl Eppich, Senior Transportation Planner, 774-9891, [ceppich@gpcog.org](mailto:ceppich@gpcog.org)

# Workshop #1 - Falmouth



# Workshop #2 - Yarmouth



# Can Regional Roads Be Made More Appealing?



# Can We Protect A Strong Built + Natural Interface



A dark wooden sign is mounted on a post in a forest. The sign has the text "Please - DRIVE SLOWLY WATCH FOR HIKERS" written on it in white. The sign is positioned in the foreground, and the background shows a dense forest with trees and foliage. A tree trunk is visible behind the sign, and a yellow tag is attached to it. The ground is covered with fallen leaves and some green plants.

Please -  
DRIVE  
SLOWLY  
WATCH FOR  
HIKERS

# How To Best Continue Building Awareness?



# And To Create a Culture of Slow?



# Where To Provide Visible Bike Parking?



# How To Create Streets Serving All Users?



## KEY

 Highway	 Drive	 Residential Avenue	 Destination Street	 Slow-Flow Street
 Commercial Arterial	 Commercial Avenue	 Community Street	 Residential Street	 Shared Use Path

# Handlebar Survey – One Day in Each Town



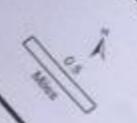
What We  
Found >>

Falmouth

# Falmouth Handlebar Survey



DATE SUBMITTED: 10/15/12  
DATE OF MEETING: 10/15/12  
MEETING LOCATION: 10/15/12  
PROJECT: 10/15/12  
SCALE: 1" = 1/2 MILE  
DRAWN BY: 10/15/12



### Town of Falmouth Pedestrian and Bicycle Transport 2013 Comprehensive Plan

- Existing Bicycle Route
- Proposed Bicycle Route
- River Trail



# Town Line



# Johnson Road



# Safe Routes to School



# On and Off-Street Connectivity



[Save This Story](#) | [E-mail This Story](#) | [Print This Story](#) | [Large Type](#)

1:00 AM

## In Falmouth, a modern network of bike paths beckons

**The mountain bike community pitches in to build and maintain 45 miles of trails.**

By Deirdre Fleming [dffleming@pressherald.com](mailto:dffleming@pressherald.com)  
Staff Writer

FALMOUTH — Six years ago there were just 10 miles of mountain bike trails in Falmouth; now there are 45. And half of that dirt tread has been built in the past two years.

These are not typical suburban trails that weave in and out of housing developments and paved roads. The recently built trails in Falmouth are in thickly wooded, quiet forestlands, or “community forests” as the town calls them.

“Fifteen percent of the community is now protected,” said Bob Shafto, the town’s open-space ombudsman who identifies and acquires land for trails ... and also has about the coolest title around.

And to anyone reading this from outside Maine: Falmouth is next door to Portland.

“We are the last generation who has the opportunity to protect this land,” said Shafto, who served as the Falmouth Land Trust’s president in the 1990s and taught school in the 1970s in Aroostook County — so he knows something about open space and Maine’s forestland.



Mountain bikers can now [click image to enlarge](#) utilize 45 miles of mountain bike trails on land preserved against development in Falmouth. The town has managed to protect more than 1,400 acres so far — representing about 15 percent of the town’s total acreage.

Photos by Carl D. Walsh/Staff Photographer



# North Yarmouth

# Route 9 Bicycle and Pedestrian Links



# Recreational Riding



# Shoulder/Edge Conditions



Freeport

# Safe, Attractive Bicycling + Walking In Town



# Safe + Attractive Walking Out of Town?



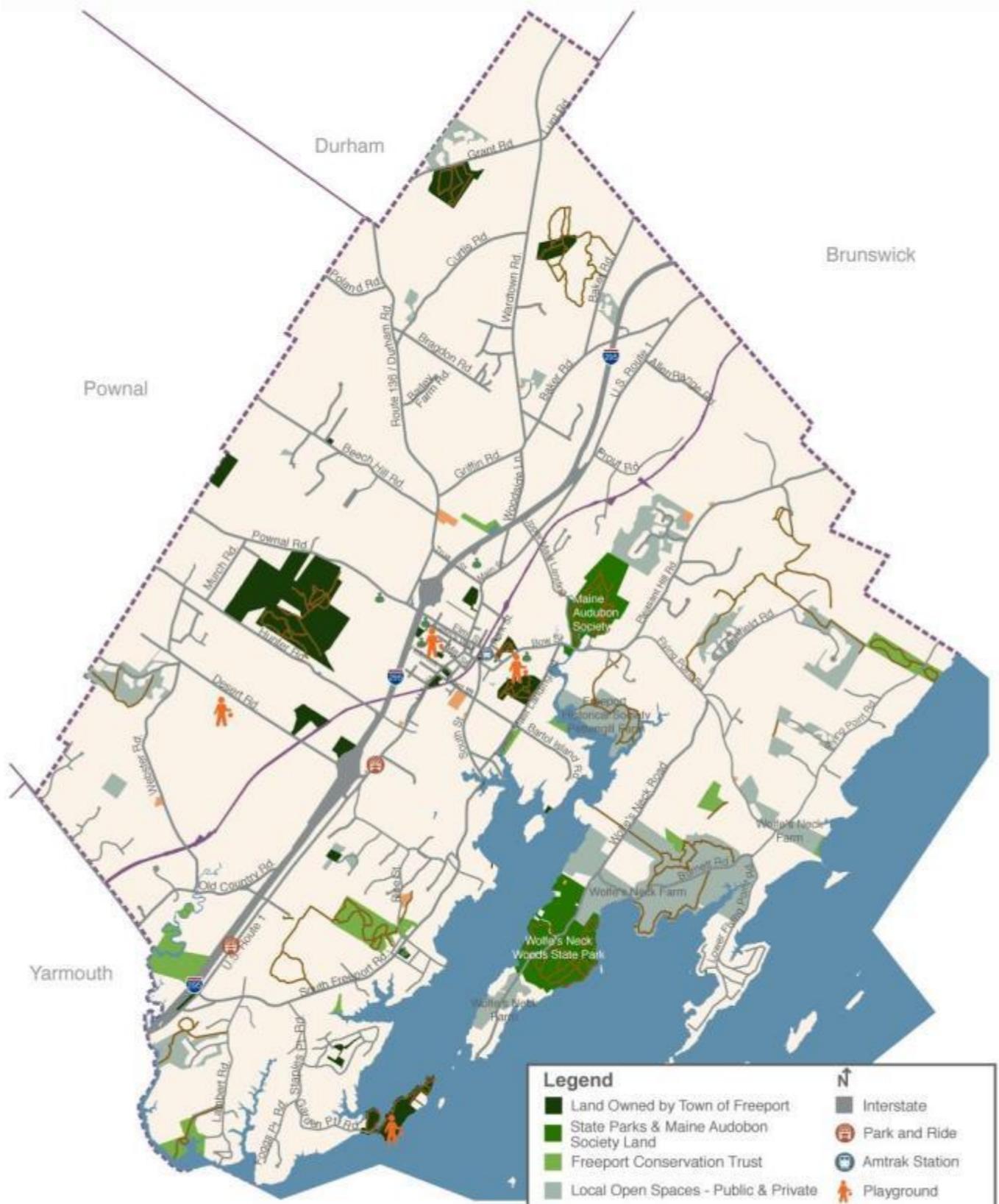
# Walking Where Sidewalks/Shoulders Don't Exist



# Freeport Active Living Plan



# FREEPORT, MAINE ACTIVE LIVING PLAN



**Legend**

Land Owned by Town of Freeport	Interstate
State Parks & Maine Audubon Society Land	Park and Ride
Freeport Conservation Trust	Amtrak Station
Local Open Spaces - Public & Private	Playground
Cemetery	Trails
Railroad	Schools
Water	



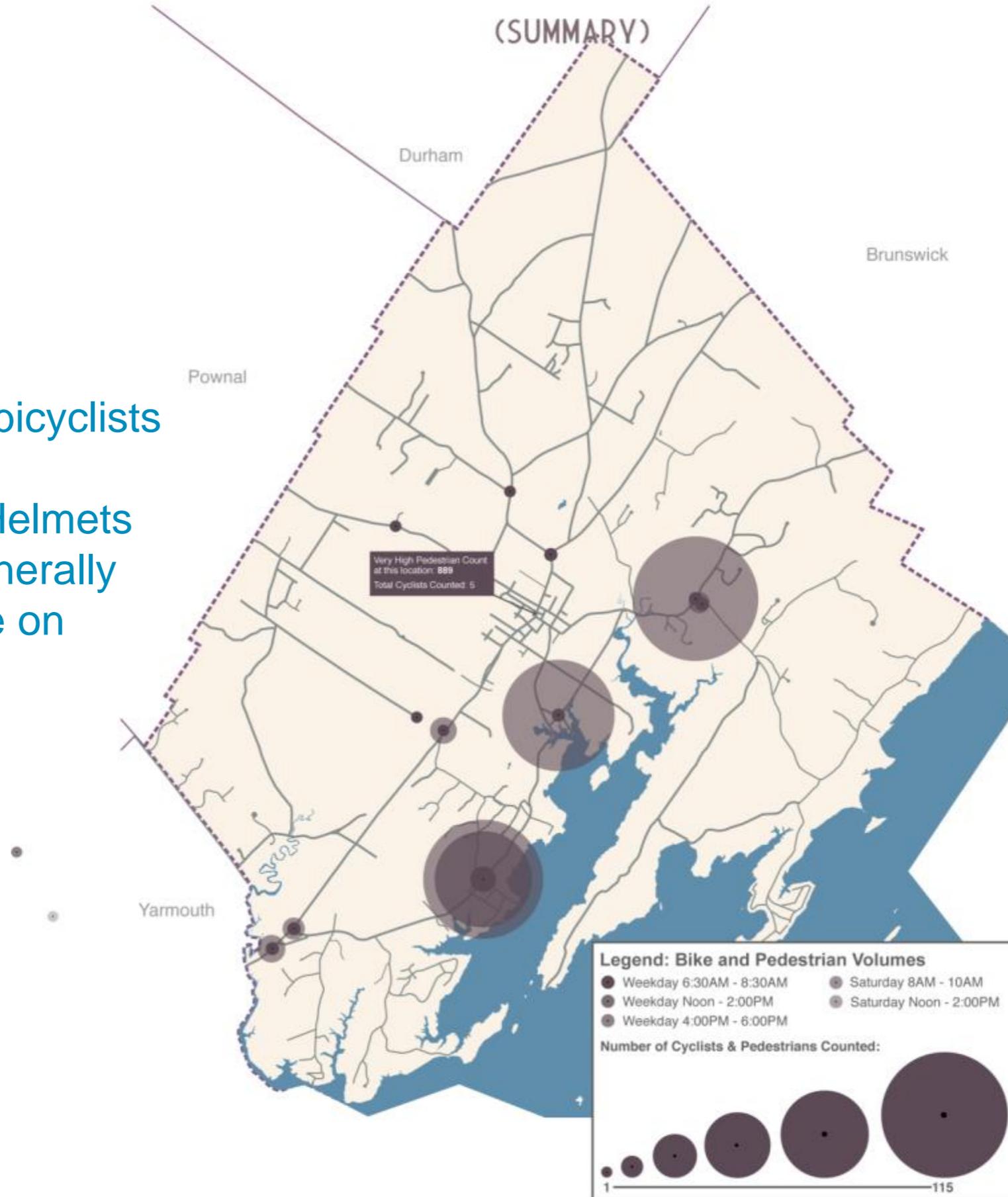


# FREEPORT, MAINE BICYCLE + PEDESTRIAN COUNTS

(SUMMARY)

## Key Trends

- Counts mostly bicyclists
- 74% Men
- 99% Wearing Helmets
- Group rides generally account for spike on weekends



Yarmouth

# Main Street



# West Elm Street



# Yarmouth Middle School



# Built / Natural Interface



East Coast

# Beth Condon Pathway



Greenway

LINKING CITIES  
MAINE TO FLORIDA  
GREENWAY.ORG



# A Culture of Volunteerism



Cumberland

# Existing Sidewalks in Cumberland Center



# New Sidewalk Development: Tuttle Road



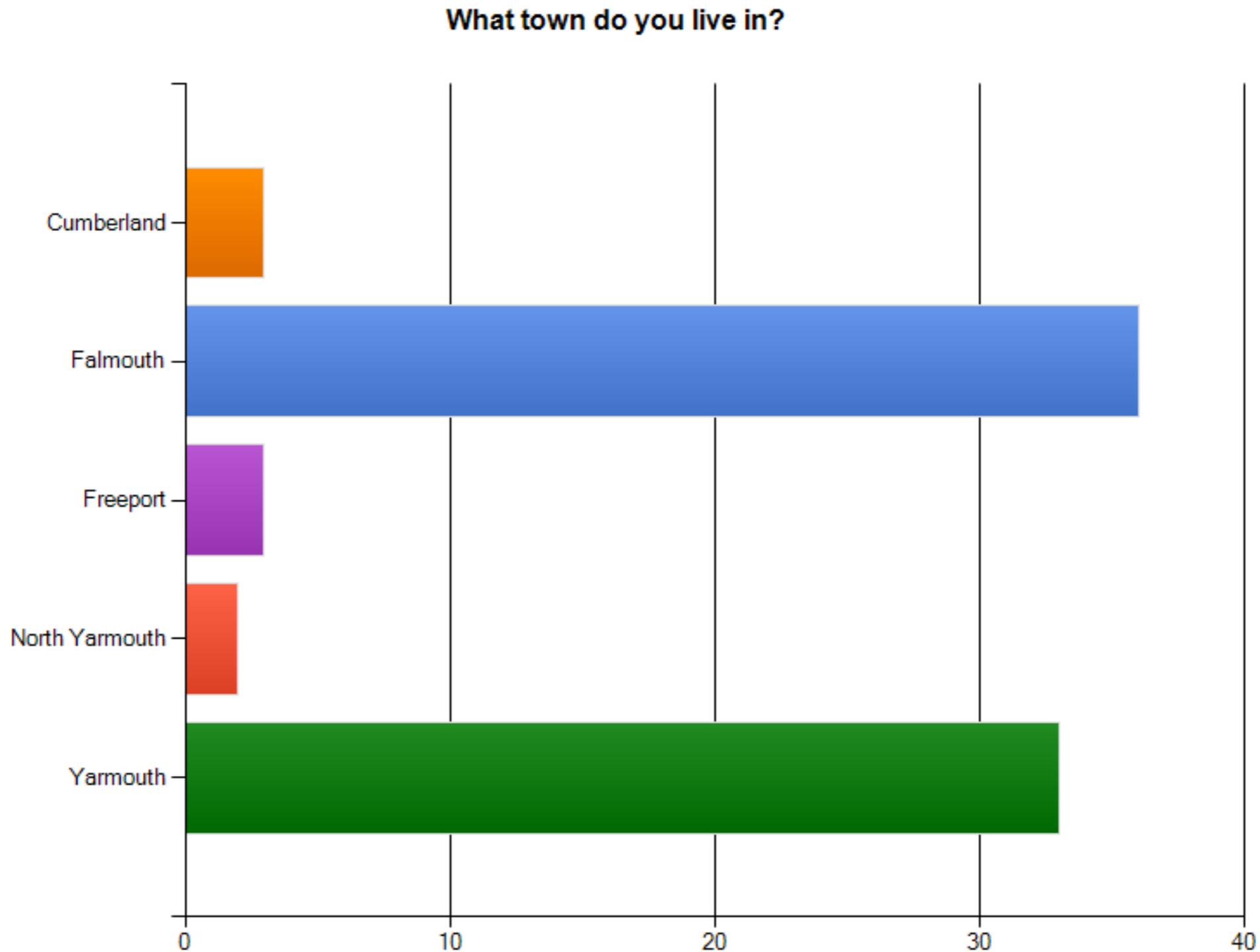
# Blanchard Road



Survey

Findings >>

# Survey Results Thus Far (83 Responses)



# Destinations

- Portland (17)
- Freeport (10)
- Falmouth Town Center (9)
- Falmouth Town Lands (7)
- Cumberland (6)



# Corridors

- **Route 1 (21)**
- **Middle Road (19)**
- **Route 88 / Foreside Road / Lafayette St. (18)**
- **Route 9 (15)**
- **Blackstrap Road (9)**



# Desired Enhancements

- **Route 88 / Foreside Road / Lafayette St. (13)**
- **Route 1 (12)**
- **Route 9 (6)**
- **Blackstrap Road (4)**
- **Falmouth Road (4)**

# Challenges

- **Lack of Shoulders / Narrow Shoulders (23)**
- **Driver Hostility (14)**
- **Motor Vehicle Speeds (11)**
- **Lack of Bike Lanes / Paths (10)**
- **Pavement Quality (7)**



# Priorities

- **Driver Education About Sharing The Road (8)**
- **Improve Shoulders (8) – Example: Route 88 (Yarmouth)**
- **Off-Road, Multi-Use Paths (8)**
- **Build More Bike Lanes / Paths (5)**
- **Pavement Maintenance / Debris Removal (5)**

Existing Bicycle Route  
Proposed Bicycle Route  
River Trail

Moving  
Forward

Infrastructure >>

# PACTS - NORTH OF PORTLAND BICYCLE + PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY



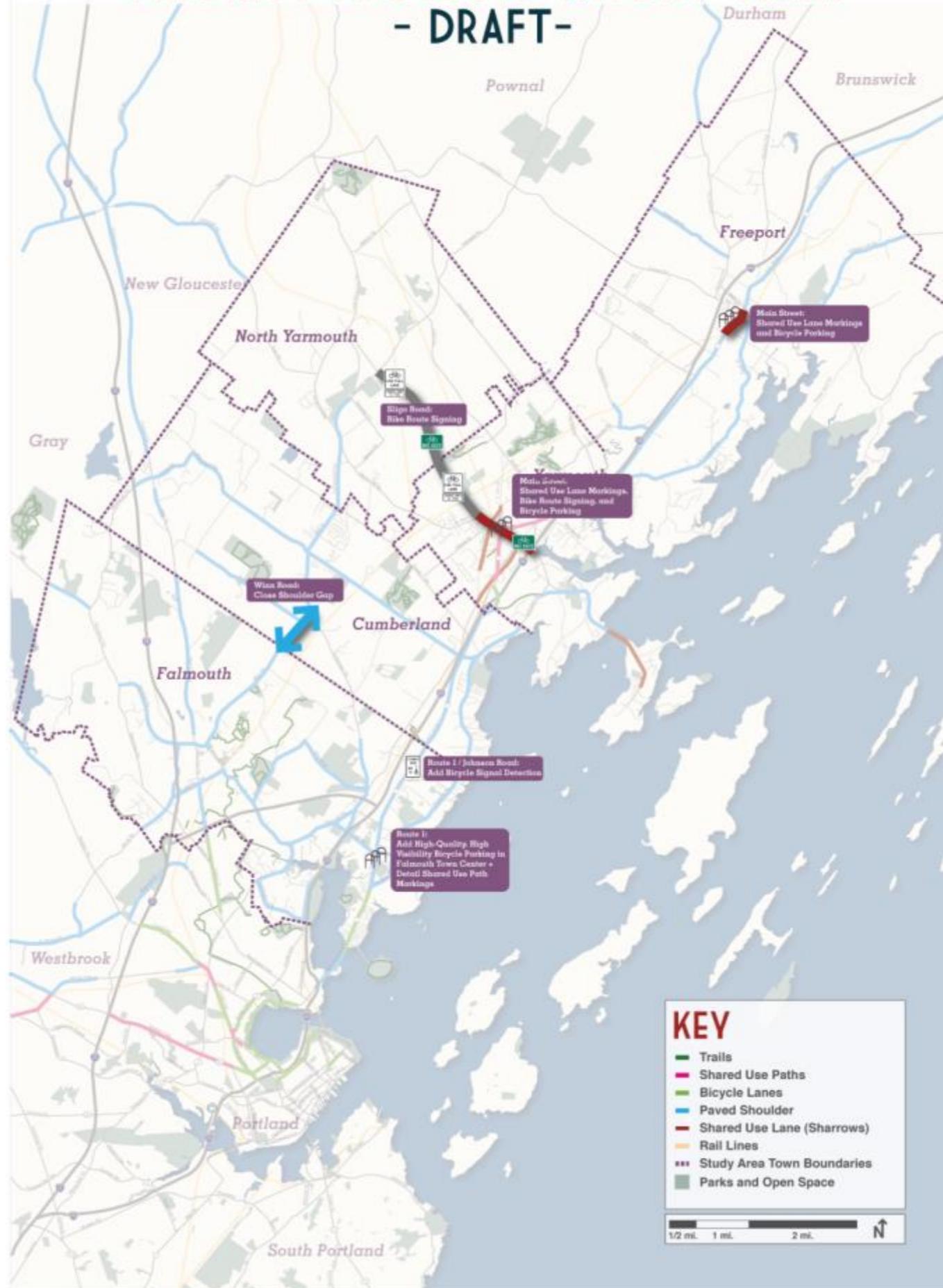
## Existing Facilities

**Shared Lanes = 23.2 miles**  
**Shared Use Paths = 2.01 miles**  
**Bike Lanes = 3.6 miles**  
**Paved Shoulders = 66.53 miles**

# Weighted Decision Matrix – 11 Factors

- **Improves Safety**
- **Safe Access to Schools**
- **Town Center/Community Destination Access**
- **“Completing the Street”**
- **Increase in Connectivity**
- **Access to Transit**
- **Public Input**
- **Traffic Impact**
- **Ease of Implementation**
- **Cost**
- **“Curb Appeal”**

# PACTS - NORTH OF PORTLAND AREA PRIORITY PROJECTS (SHORT-TERM) - DRAFT -



# Short-term Scores: 31 Maximum Points

- Main Street/Sligo Road Corridor Upgrades: **25 / 21**
- Main Street Freeport Upgrades: **24**
- Route 1 Falmouth Upgrades: **22**
- Winn Road Shoulders: **19**
- Johnson Road Signal: **16**

# Main Street/ Sligo Road Corridor Upgrades (25)



# Shared Use Lane Markings



# Extend Visible, Well-Designed Bicycle Parking



# Main Street/ Sligo Road Upgrades



# Pilot Signing / Wayfinding



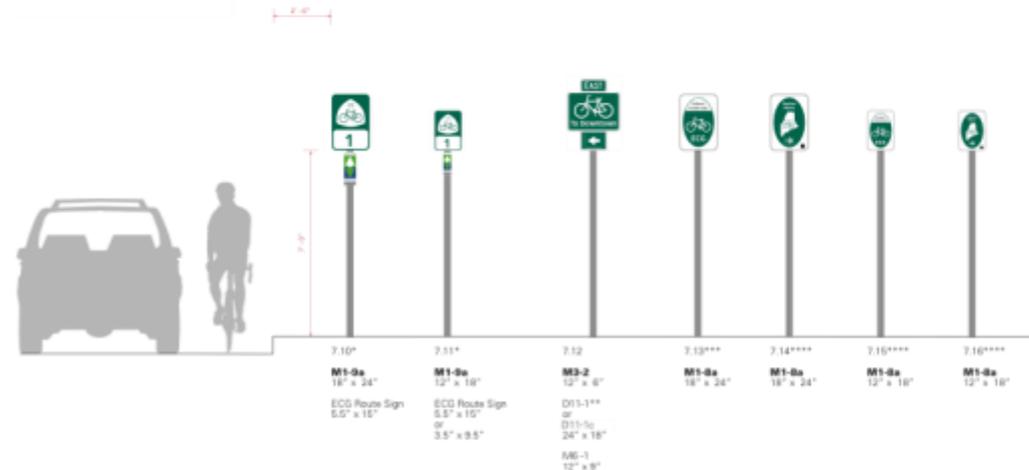


**Bicycle Sign Types**

Bicycle Routes,  
On-Road and Shared-Use Paths

**Guide Signs -  
Bicycle Route**

U.S. Route		State, Regional, or Local Route	
On-Road	Shared-Use Paths	On-Road	Shared-Use Paths



Note:  
Signs 7.14, 7.16, and 7.17  
require permission  
to experiment from the FHWA.  
Width precedes height.

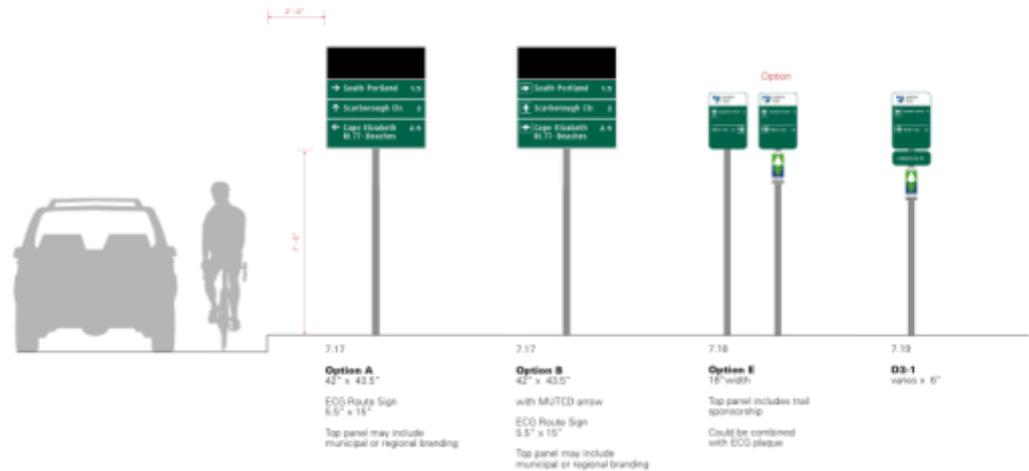
\*For use where USBRI and ECG are  
co-located  
\*\*For use where no  
unique designation of  
routes exists  
\*\*\*For use  
where a route  
has received a  
unique  
designation  
\*\*\*For use on  
State approved  
routes included  
in "Explore Maine  
by Bike"  
\*\*\*For use on  
State approved  
routes included  
in "Explore Maine  
by Bike"  
\*\*\*For use on  
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**Bicycle Sign Types**

Bicycle Routes,  
On-Road and Shared-Use Paths

**Guide Signs -  
Destination and Street Name Signs**

U.S. State, Regional, or Local Route	
On-Road	Shared-Use Paths



Note:  
Signs 7.14, 7.16, and 7.17  
require permission  
to experiment from the FHWA.  
Width precedes height.

Top panel may include  
municipal or regional branding  
with MUTCD arrow  
Top panel may include  
municipal or regional branding  
Top panel includes trail  
sponsorship  
Could be combined  
with ECG plaque

# Freeport Main Street Upgrades (24)





SCHOOL

SPEED  
LIMIT  
25

WHEN  
CHILDREN  
ARE PRESENT

BIKE ROUTE

Cole Haan

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.  
MUSEUM

KBK6V

# Falmouth Town Center Upgrades (22)



**It's Good to Share, But...**



**...Do It Safely!**



# Rumble Stripes



# Vertical Signing



# Horizontal Signing



# Vertical Signalization



# Winn Road Shoulder Extension (19)



# Route 1 / Johnson Road (16)



R10-22

Sign image from the Manual of Traffic Signs <<http://www.traffic-sign.us/>>  
This sign image copyright Richard C. Moeur. All rights reserved.

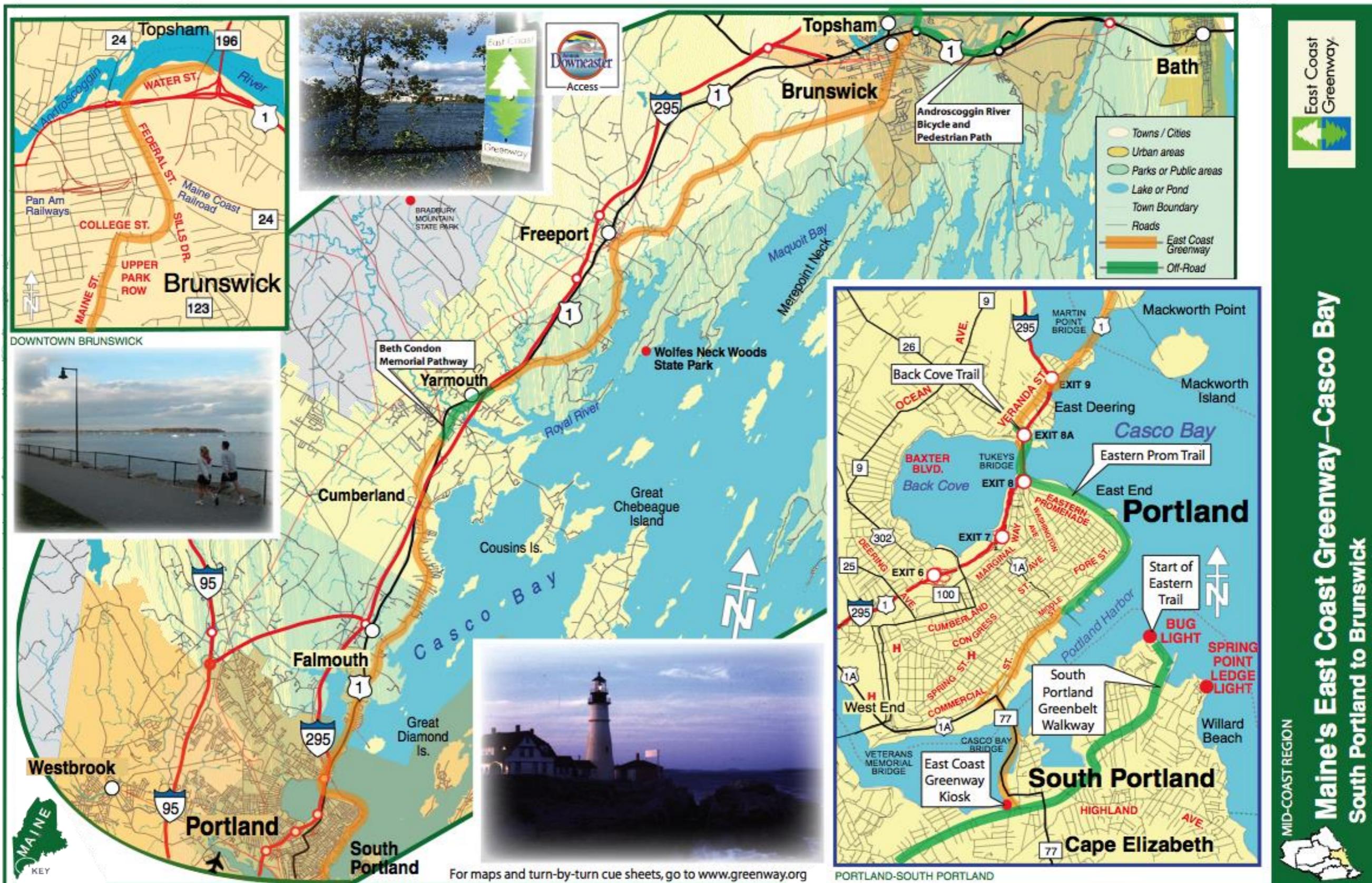




# Long-term Projects: Maximum 31 Points

- Route 88 Upgrades: **22**
- Atlantic + St. Lawrence Rail-with-Trail: **21**
- I-295 Overpass Freeport: **20**
- Yarmouth to Freeport Amtrak Rail-with-Trail: **20**
- Blackstrap Road Shoulders: **19**
- Route 9 Shoulders (North Yarmouth): **19**
- Beth Condon Path Route 1/Freeport Extension: **18**
- Falmouth Schools Amtrak Underpass: **17**

# Long-term Projects / Cooperation (ECG)



# Route 88 In Need of Consistency (22)

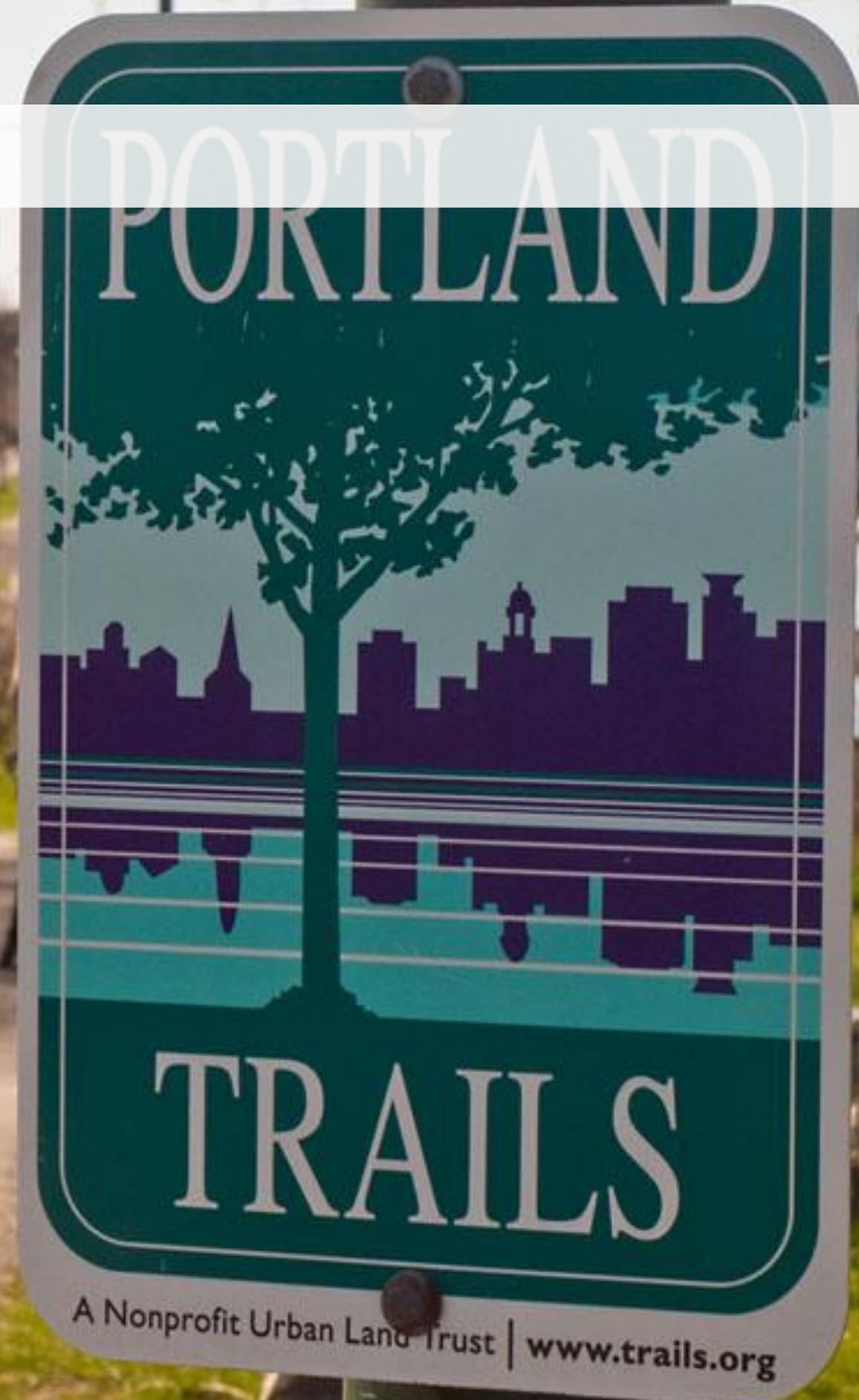


# “Auburn to the Atlantic Trail” (21)



## Maine's Rails with Trails

- Eastern Promenade Trail
- Downeast Sunrise Trail (Ellsworth)
- Kennebec River Trail
- Sebago to the Sea Trail
- **Atlantic to the Androscoggin Trail??**



November 16

## Hauling beans for B&M not paying off for Maine railroad user

**St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad wants to discontinue the freight line that connects Portland with Auburn.**

By Tom Bell [tbell@pressherald.com](mailto:tbell@pressherald.com)  
Staff Writer

The freight railroad that operates on the historic line between Portland and Montreal wants to stop running trains to Portland – and serving its last customer east of Auburn.

The maker of B&M Baked Beans, which relies on trains for deliveries of dried beans from the west, would have to find another way to bring supplies to its plant on Portland's waterfront.

Meanwhile, some proponents of passenger rail say that removing freight from the line could make it easier to re-establish passenger service between Portland and Auburn.

St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad President Mario Brault said the railroad is losing money on the line between Auburn and Portland because it must maintain the tracks and crossings to serve just one customer.

"For us to maintain operation for this property is a money-losing venture, and



Railroad tracks lead into the B&M plant in Portland. Some hope the line can be used for passenger service to Auburn. [click image to enlarge](#)

*Gordon Chibroski/Staff Photographer*



# I-295 Connectivity (20)



**MaineDOT**

**VHB** Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.



**Conceptual Improvements  
To  
Desert Road  
Town of Freeport  
Cumberland County**

October 3, 2012

# Policy, Planning + Programming



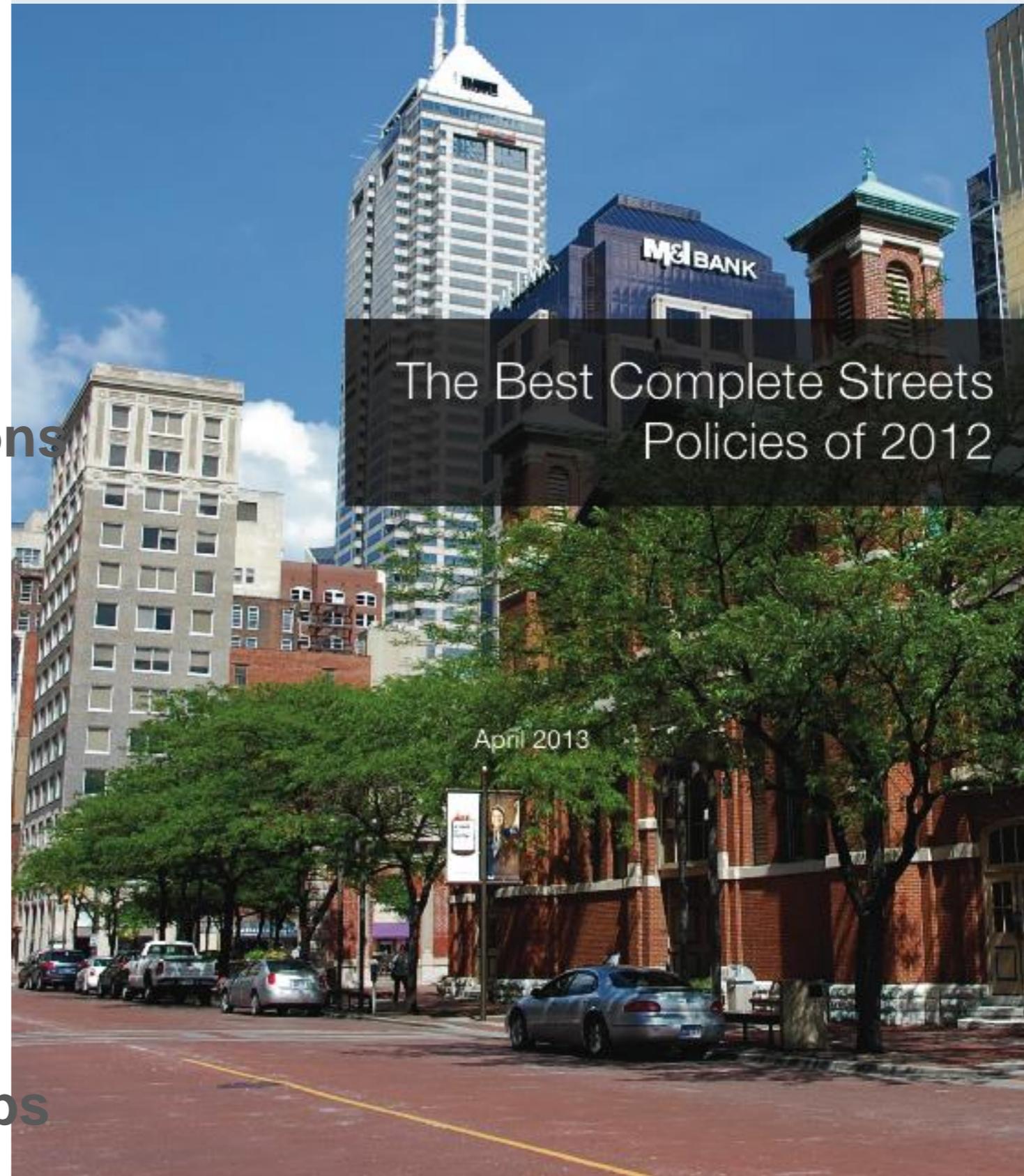
# #1 A New Policy Framework: Complete Streets





# The Ten Elements of a Good Policy

- 1) Vision + Intent
- 2) All Users + All Modes
- 3) All Project + All Phases
- 4) Clear, Accountable Exceptions
- 5) Network
- 6) Jurisdiction (Buy-in)
- 7) Design
- 8) Context Sensitivity
- 9) Performance Measures
- 10) Implementation + Next Steps



The Best Complete Streets  
Policies of 2012

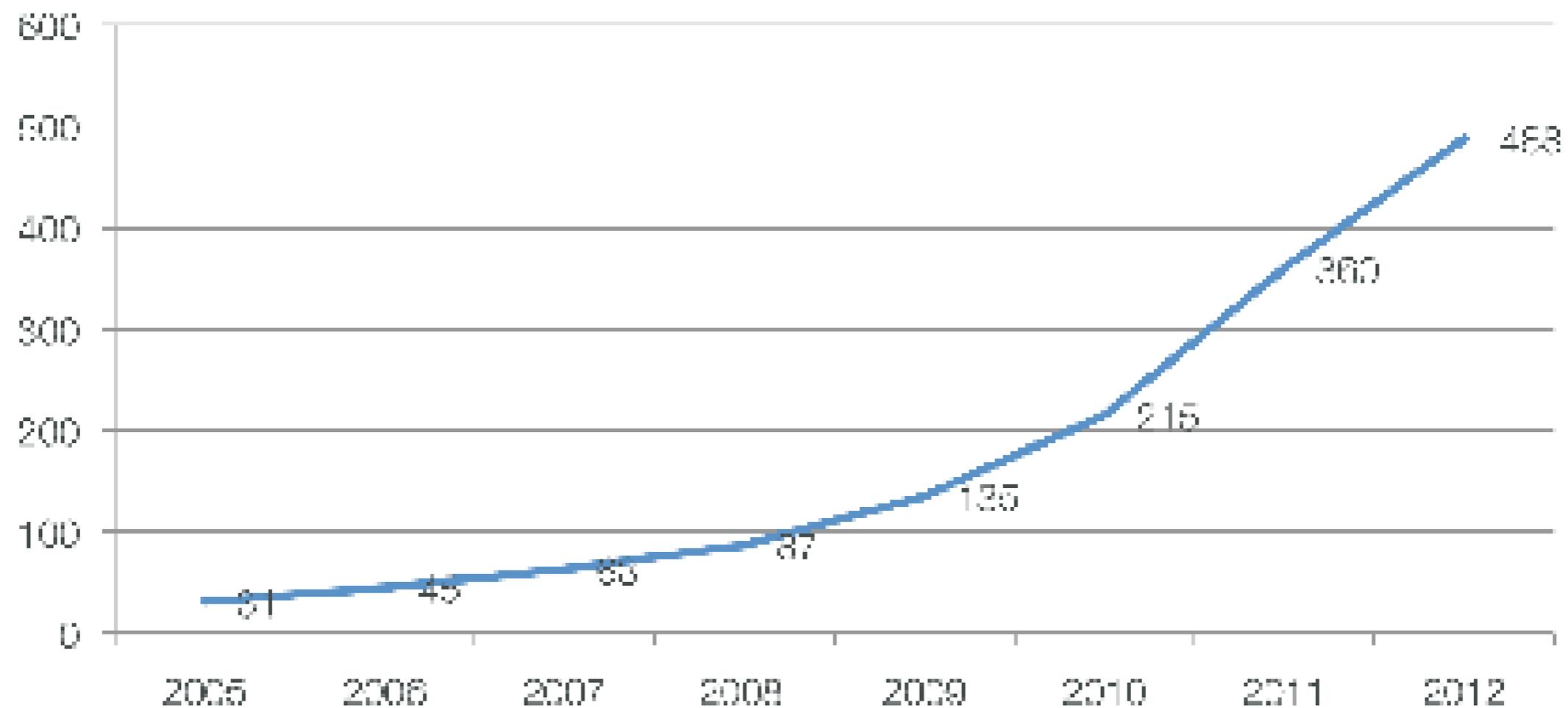
April 2013

# Growing support for Complete Streets nationwide

This year's analysis revealed that the Complete Streets movement grew in 2012, continuing a national trend since 2005 (see Figure 1 below).

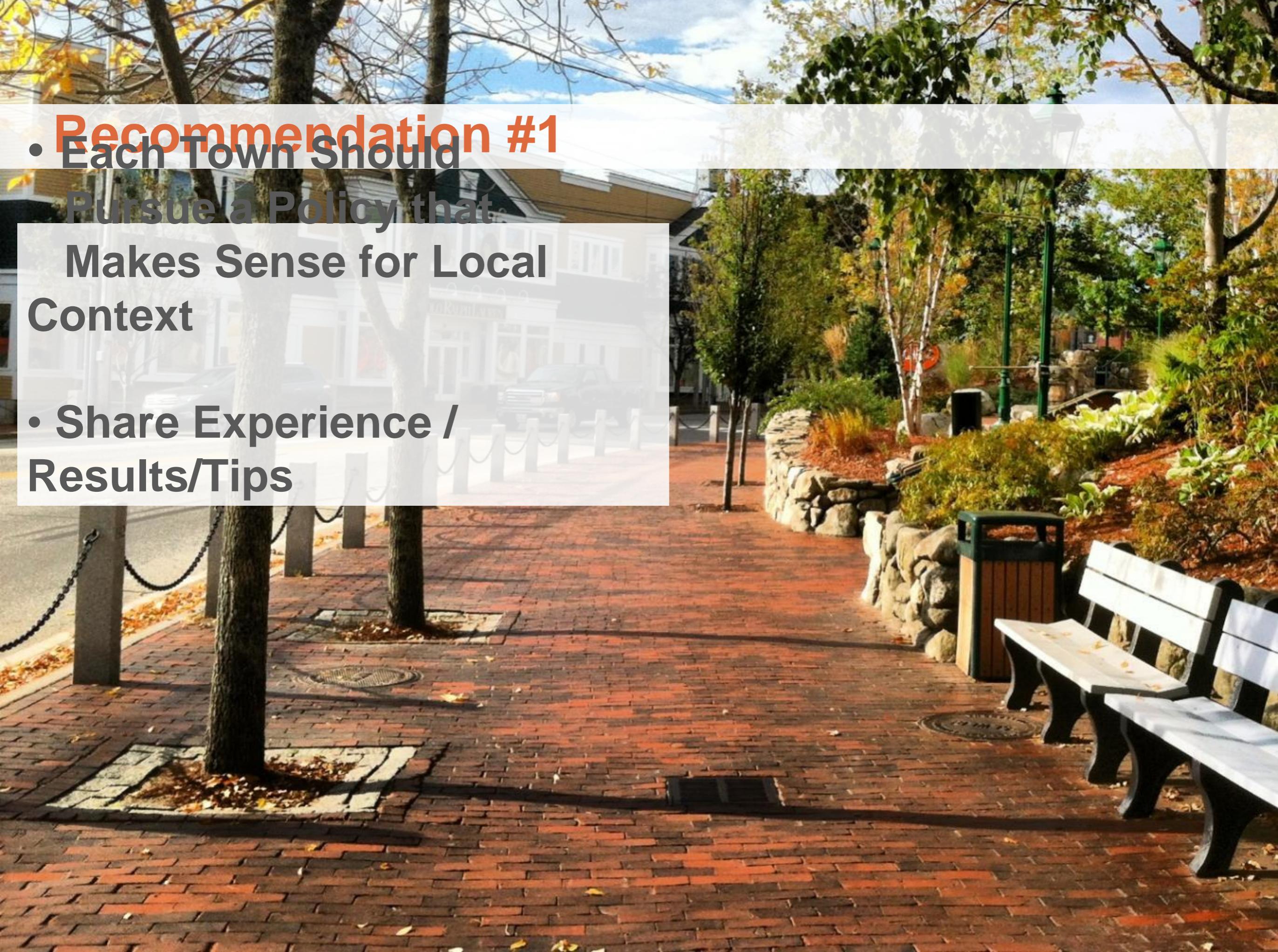
FIGURE 1

Number of Complete Streets policies nationwide, 2005–2012



# Local Example: Portland, Maine Ranked #6 (2012)



- 
- **Recommendation #1**  
Each Town Should Pursue a Policy that Makes Sense for Local Context
  - Share Experience / Results/Tips

# Recommendation #2: Annual Programming Focused Community, Health, Mobility



Test Out Low Cost Ideas and Have Fun!



# Education / Enforcement



# Education

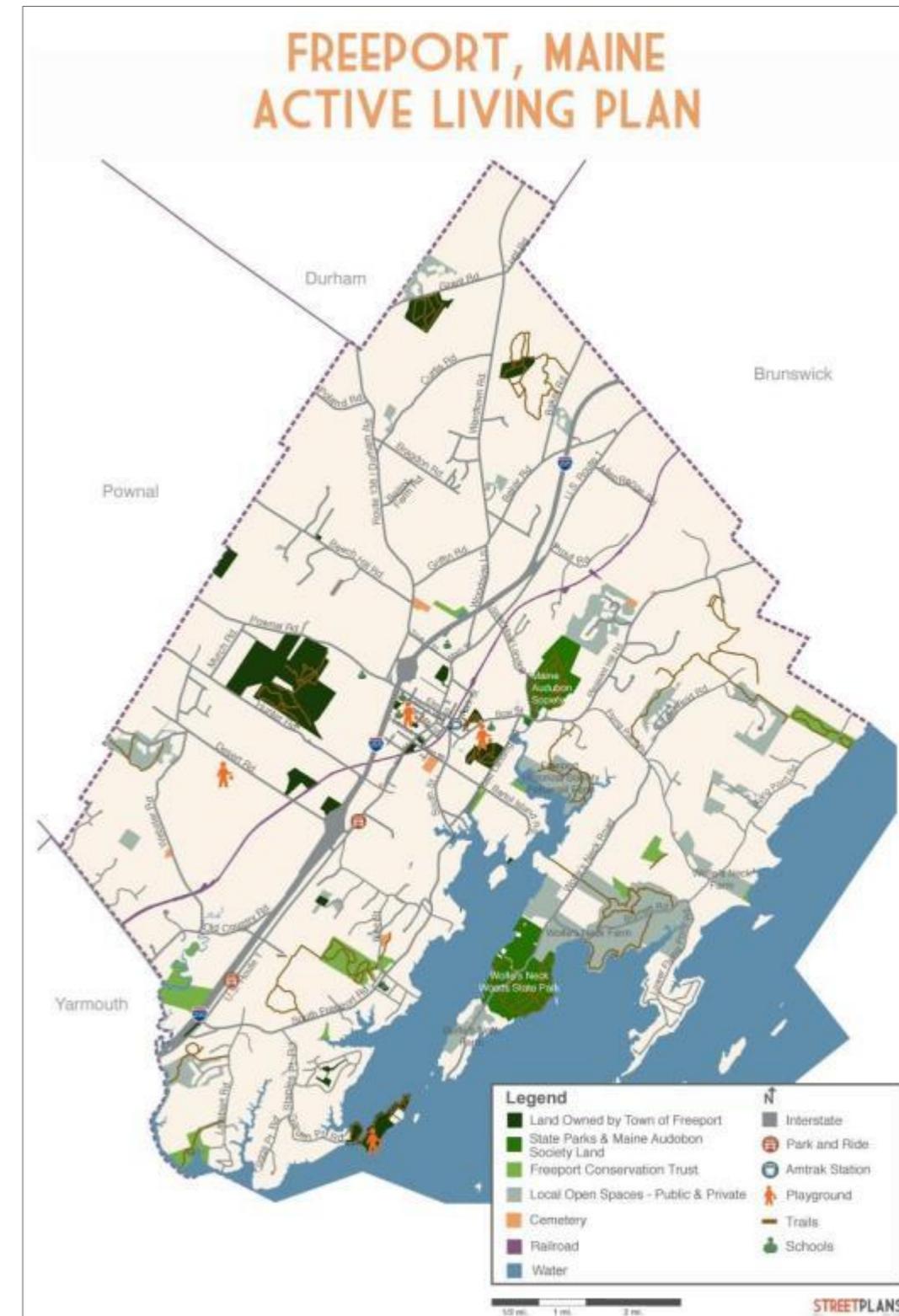
Work with BCM, local advocates, and leaders to advance education initiatives; including enforcement

- Events are wonderful opportunity for education/outreach and building a culture of slow, culture of safe
- Share Experience / Results/Tips



# Recommendation #3: Develop Local Plans

- **Planning Process Builds Public Support**
- **Aligns Existing / Future Funding**
- **Balances between on/of-street efforts**
- **Prioritizes ‘Quick Wins’**
- **More Competitive for Funding**
- **Economic Development – More Attractive Town Overall**



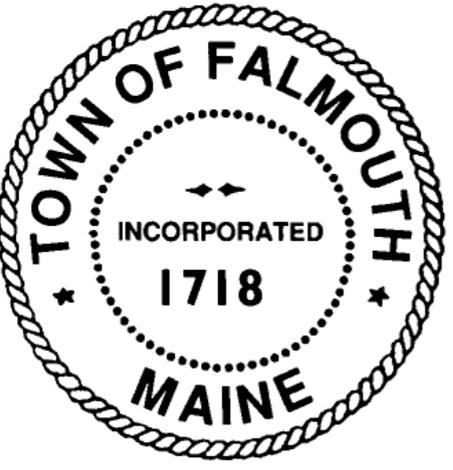
# Collaborative Framework >>

You Are Stronger Together

*This is Me, This is You*  
**TWINSISWE**



2014



# Working Together: A Framework for Action

- **Continue developing local committees; designate at least one member as regional liaison to communicate across town lines (not just 5 towns)**
- **Work with BCM to host an open meeting at least once a year to discuss projects/initiatives and project priorities. Have Town officials present.**
- **Use simple collaboration/social media communication tools to share ideas, initiatives and projects (Facebook + Google Groups are simple enough)**
- **Organize locally to prioritize/advocate for projects of regional significance in local capital budgets**
- **Volunteer your time.**
- **Pursue local/regional education opportunities for volunteers and staff:**

# Group Discussion

- 1. Set Up in Table Groups**
- 2. Review Short-Term and Long-Term Priority Projects**
- 3. Mark Locations and Discuss Where We Got It *Right* and *Wrong***
- 4. Offer Alternative Priority Projects for Consideration**
- 5. Designate Someone to Report Out to The Larger Group**
- 6. Open Discussion**
- 7. Our Next Steps**