

Town of Westerly
Rhode Island

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
OFFICE OF PLANNING



Westerly Town Hall
45 Broad Street
Westerly, RI 02891

"The vision for the Town of Westerly is to preserve and enhance its quality of life for all generations as a safe, resilient, and compassionate community with a healthy environment, a distinctive heritage, extraordinary cultural and natural resources, a strong, stable, equitable economy, and a responsible and publicly-engaged government."
-Town of Westerly 2020-2040 Comprehensive Community Plan

MEMORANDUM

To: Division of Statewide Planning

From: Doug Loveland, AICP - Town Planner/Administrative Officer

Date: October 6, 2026

Subject: Report on Five Year Implementation of the 2020-2040 Comprehensive Community Plan

Community: Westerly

Date of Approval of Comprehensive Plan: May 13, 2021

The following individuals participated in our research regarding the five-year implementation of the Comprehensive Community Plan.

Shawn Lacey	Town Manager
Kyle Zalaski	Town Engineer
Melissa Davy	Assistant Town Manager
Massimo Sposato	Director Utilities Division
Peter Chiaradio	Director of Public Works Highway Dept
Charles Sposato	Manager of Buildings and Grounds
Paul Gingerella	Police Chief/Harbormaster
Mike Harris	Director of Information Technology
Julia Beasley	Director of Recreation
Elizabeth Scungio	Town Assessor
Dave Murphy	Building Official

Eileen Cardillo	Purchasing Agent/Risk Manager
Amy Grzybowski	Emergency Management
Kimberly Rayner-Russell	Assistant Harbormaster
Martin Loiselle	Zoning Official
Chris Levesque	Principal Planner
Doug Loveland	Town Planner
Diego Martin	Planning Fellow
Steve Morrone	Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Areas of Progress

We have completed a number of action items called out in the plan. For example, housing opportunity action items 1.1B and 1.1D regarding administration aspects related to affordable housing are complete. An action item regarding protection of potable water with the Pawcatuck basin recharge area via ordinance amendments is also complete. An action item regarding installation of ADA-compliant walking trails was addressed with the installation of new walking trails at Bradford Preserve. The Route 1 Corridor Plan was completed in 2002, which addresses an Economic action item regarding development and implementation of a strategy for commercial corridors. Per action item Trans – 1.1G, property at 14-18 Canal Street has been remediated and improved for use as a public parking lot, which serves as parking for the downtown area and the Westerly train station.

An area that still requires work is amendments of the Zoning and Subdivision regulations, which are required in order to incorporate the suggested actions in the completed Route 1 Corridor Plan. Work on several transportation action items have begun, but are not yet complete, including establishment of a replacement program to install ADA compliant ramps at intersections.

	Natural Resources	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY26-27 YEAR 6
GOAL NAT-1	Westerly's natural resources will be available for the future enjoyment of its residents and visitors.					
Policy NAT-1.1	Provide long-term conservation of natural resources.					
Action NAT-1.1.A	Support the local land trusts in the acquisition of open space and, when applicable, trail creation and maintenance.	Ongoing	Grant Support	Town Council	Recreation Department	The Planning Office has been coordinating with the Westerly Land Trust (WLT) and Westerly Municipal Land Trust (WMLT) on open space acquisition opportunities, particularly as they relate to development projects with sensitive natural resources onsite. In 2024, the Planning Office helped facilitate acquisition of 8.10 acres by the WLT at 60 Ledward Avenue as part of a residential subdivision. The Planning Office has also been in discussion with the WLT on potential acquisitions along the Pawcatuck River and in the Aquifer Protection Overlay District.
Action NAT-1.1.B	Provide annual training opportunities to land-use decision-makers on natural resource protection and management.	Ongoing	Training	Town Council	Statewide Planning Nature Conservancy	State training requirements changed in 2023. New requirement was met in March 2025 is ongoing every year.
Action NAT-1.1.C	Implement the Salt Pond Region SAMP.	MT 5-10 years	Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	RICRMC Statewide Planning	The Planning Office has been incorporating discussion of the SAMP in development project review with the Planning Board and has begun writing an ordinance to reflect the SAMP regulations on a local level. Awaiting further opportunity to proceed.
Action NAT-1.1.D	Protect and conserve existing rural settings and wildlife and aquatic environments to preserve local biodiversity and natural beauty through the continuation of conservation efforts.	Ongoing	Program	Town Manager (Conservation Commission) Harbor Manager	Recreation Department Statewide Planning	Several conservation programs are ongoing in Westerly. The Farm Forest and Open Space (FFOS) program encourages land owners to conserve their properties to receive tax reductions annually. In 2023, the Town engaged GEI Consultants to create a Lake Management Plan for Chapman Pond to manage invasive species and restore biodiversity. This plan was completed in March 2025 and funding is currently being sought out to assist with implementation. The full plan is available here: https://westerlyri.gov/888/Chapman-Pond-Lake-Management-Plan
Action NAT-1.1.E	Protect the quality of potable water within the Pawcatuck Basin's local recharge area, including through expansion of the Aquifer Protection Overlay District (APOD) and ordinance amendments.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Zoning & Regulation Amendments; Study	Dept Public Works (Utilities) Dept Development Services (Enforcement)	Dept Public Works (Eng) (Utilities) Pawcatuck River stakeholders	COMPLETE - The Planning Board recommended amendments to the APOD to the Town Council in October 2021. The Town Council subsequently adopted such amendments on November 22, 2021. On May 10, 2021, the Town Council adopted amendments to the Sewer Ordinance to address illicit discharge, as presented by the Utilities Department and supported by the Planning Board & EDC.
Action NAT-1.1.F	Control non-point source pollution through rigorous enforcement of stormwater management, soil erosion and sediment controls, and illicit discharge regulations.	Ongoing	Enforcement	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management	The Town continues to enforce and improve upon stormwater management. On May 10, 2021, the Town Council adopted amendments to the Sewer Ordinance to address illicit discharge, as presented by the Utilities Department and supported by the Planning Board & EDC. In 2022, the Town began a partnership with Southern Rhode Island Conservation District to install green infrastructure on Main Street in Downtown. Additionally, the Town continues to review, inspect and enforce soil erosion and sedimentation control best management practices on all development projects.
Action NAT-1.1.G	Designate and monitor key locations to confirm targeted pollutants are being reduced in non-point source pollution areas, following environmental assessments.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	The Town received a Nonpoint Source Pollution grant from DEM in 2021 and installed a boat wash station and is in the process of having a Lake Management Plan prepared for Chapman Pond, identifying invasive plant species, removal strategies, and non-point source pollution reduction strategies. In 2026 the Town completed lining of several segments of sanitary sewers located along Grove Avenue where it is suspected that exfiltration may have caused cross contamination of adjacent storm sewers. Wet and dry weather sampling events are being scheduled to assess stormwater runoff contaminant reduction.

	Natural Resources	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY26-27 YEAR 6
Action NAT-1.1H	Develop marine spatial plan for coastal waters and Little Narragansett Bay so that marine habitats and species are not impacted, critical habitats such as submerged aquatic vegetation (eelgrass) and salt marsh are protected, and the aesthetics and navigability of these water bodies are not compromised. See Part II, Chapter 1, Subsection 1.4.1 for additional information about the marine spatial plan.	ST 1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept of Development Services	Watch Hill Conservancy, Neighborhood Groups,	Awaiting an opportunity to engage in discussion.
Policy NAT-1.2	Ensure the sustainable use and management of natural resources.					
Action NAT-1.2.A	Promote and encourage the utilization of voluntary conservation methods for conserving farmlands and forested areas zoned for residential use.	Ongoing	Policy	Town Council	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	119 Moorhouse Road rezoned to RR-60. The Farm Forest and Open Space (FFOS) program encourages land owners to conserve their properties to receive tax reductions annually.
Action NAT-1.2.B	Maintain the Town's water rights on land in the neighboring Town of North Stonington, Connecticut through a new Memorandum of Agreement.	Ongoing	Policy	Town Council	Town of North Stonington Dept Public Works (Utilities)	This action item is ongoing.
Action NAT-1.2.C	Fund the design and reengineering of the Westerly Public Schools' bus refueling station to mitigate pollution of groundwater or relocate the facility to a location outside the APOD.	ST 1-5 years	Facilities	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Westerly Public Schools	Pare Corporation prepared an Environmental Vulnerability Assessment Report dated March 2026 for the 8 Springbrook Road Bus Depot. The report concluded that the existing facility is generally permissible under current regulations, but identified certain dificiencies in best management practices that can be improved upon to afford greater protection to groundwater resources.
Action NAT-1.2.D	Revise the Zoning Ordinance to update the classification of uses permitted in special flood hazard areas and the APOD.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		APOD revisions were adopted in November 2021. See NAT-1.1.E above. Need to engage on SFHA.
Action NAT-1.2.E	Establish a River Corridor Overlay District to complement the Pawcatuck River's federal designation as Wild and Scenic.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Recreation Board Recreation Department	Planning Office working with Wood-Pawcatuck Wild & Scenic River Stewardship Council on model ordinance - Need to engage in discussion on Westerly Ordinance revisions.
Action NAT-1.2.F	Investigate the expansion of the public wastewater system in targeted commercial and industrial areas for new development or redevelopment, in conjunction with future improvements to the WWTF.	ST 1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Study Facilities	Dept Public Works (Utilities)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	The Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan update for the capacity of the facility to accommodate existing and reducing nitrate levels, has been approved by DEM for 100% construction documents. RIIB funding was approved in July 2026 and construction has just begun. \$1.8 million in grant funding is also going toward this project from the EPA.
Action NAT-1.2.G	Amend regulations to provide conditions and standards that protect and create sustainable use of natural resources as part of the land-use decision-making process.	ST 1-5 years	Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Conservation Commission Dept Public Works	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action NAT-1.2.H	Develop and adopt coastal greenway regulations, green infrastructure, and other soft stormwater control methods and implement in the development review process for projects in proximity to the Pawcatuck River and in the shore communities.	ST 1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Study Regulations	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Planning Office working with SRICD on Downtown Stormwater project installing green infrastructure - Master Plan for Main Street has been created. Over \$1 million in funding obtained. Additional funding being pursued. LID regulation updates underway with technical assistance from a consultant. A study for developing revised stormwater regulations and practices has not yet been conducted.
Action NAT-1.2.I	Bring in technical assistance and grant funding for the restoration of impaired waterbodies and aquatic habitats, including the Little Narragansett Bay and Winnapaug Pond.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Dept Development Services	Restricted Account set up for contingency funding at \$50,000 per year to support dredging project for Winnapaug Pond. American Civil Core of Engineers last completed a dredge in 2019. Additionally, Master Plan for Main Steet witch extensive Stormwater considerations, continues to move forward.
Action NAT-1.2.J	With stakeholder engagement, develop a marine spatial plan for Little Narragansett Bay, the Salt Ponds, and the Atlantic coastal waters. Ensure competing uses in these areas do not have a detrimental impact on fisheries and ecosystems.	ST 1-5 years, MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Service	Watch Hill Conservancy, Neighborhood Groups	Awaiting an opportunity to engage in discussion.

	Recreation	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
GOAL REC-1	Recreation will increase in value as an essential component of Westerly's quality of life and attractiveness.					
Policy REC-1.1	Enhance recreational programming to serve all demographics.					
Action REC-1.1.A	Expand recreational programming to meet changing demands and occur year-round by pursuing a variety of funding sources (i.e. grants, sponsorships and donations) and prepare a formal assessment of recreational programming needs in the Town.	Ongoing	Program	Recreation Department and Recreation Board	Dept Development Services, Dept Public Works, Westerly Municipal Land Trust, Town Manager	Grants: RI Foundation Youth Coordinator 2025-26 Grant: not renewed. Learn 365: \$55,000 Governors initiative to address absenteeism, test scores and improve ASA resources. 2025 United Way Summer Learning initiative: \$75,000 to improve experiential learning at our Cimalore Summer Camp and combat learning gaps from covid and out of school time. Will not be renewed in 2026. Tunes on the Dunes Summer Concert Series: 2025 Concerts on the Beach Comittee raised \$19,836 featuring dancing to live music for all ages. 2024-2025 Ice Rink Dasher Board Fundraiser: \$80,550. 2025-2026 Lion's Club Donation: \$7,695 for a new Ice Rink Scoreboard. Royce Family Fund donated \$350,000 for Padel Courts; Bradford Preserve Fundraiser underway for 17 Bench Memorial Plaques.
Action REC-1.1.B	Revise the Zoning Ordinance to update the classification of uses for both indoor and outdoor recreation permitted in the CR, OSR, and PD zoning districts.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action REC-1.1.C	Create partnerships with recreation departments in surrounding communities that will share resources and strategies for the provision of recreational programming.	Ongoing	Administrative Program	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Other Towns	All Westerly Recreation Programs are open to residents in surrounding towns. Some programs have a non-resident increased fee. Non resident Padel and Pickleball given same rates as Westerly.
Policy REC-1.2	Enhance recreational facilities to serve all demographics and be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant.					
Action REC-1.2.A	Implement the 2017 Westerly Athletic Facilities Master Planning Site Analysis and Evaluation.	ST 1-5 years	Facilities	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Dept Public Works (Highway) Dept Development Services	Cimalore Sports Complex and Craig Field parking lots paved. Bradford Playground design being finalized. 2025 Capital request includes Cimalore bathroom repairs. Tennis court crack repair; Craig Field outfield netting and small improvements to Cimalore Camp area; scoreboard donated for Ice Rink. Padel and pickleball courts installed at 61 Main Street, Ice Rink will return for winter months.
Action REC-1.2.B	Install new, accessible, ADA-compliant walking trails at the Bradford Preserve, Cimalore Field, Craig Field, and Gingerella Sports Complex.	ST 1-5 years	Facilities	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Westerly Municipal Land Trust, Dept Public Works (Highway)	<i>The Town applied for a RI DEM Recreation Development Grant in December 2021 to install new walking trails at Cimalore Field and Gingerella Sports Complex but funding was not granted. Bradford Preserve walking trails installed Fall 2022 include 17 ADA-compliant benches surrounding the trail and DEM ribbon cutting Sat. September 23, 2023. blaze orange requirement signs posted. Bulletin board was replaced.</i>
Action REC-1.2.C	Produce a Recreation Facilities Master Plan for town beaches and waterways.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Dept Development Services	Grant from SECOORA Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association and NOAA, Partners included NERACOOS * Westerly Town Beach * University of Rhode Island * Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council * and Surflife installed a webcam pointing west down the shore from the pavilion to monitor shoreline change & beach usage and gather data (https://webcoos.org/cameras/westerly/), Only camera in Rhode Island. Town Engineer redesigned Town Beach oceanside parking lot to include angled parking spaces. Acquisition of Sorrenson Property, trefes Property, McGlogan Propoerty abutting the Town Beach lots increasing the proposed conservation, restoration and passive recreational spaces owned and operated by the Town of Westerly. DEM and Naragansett Estuary grant
Action REC-1.2.D	Prepare and implement a plan for ongoing improvements to playgrounds and facilities for community recreation.	ST 1-5 years	Study	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Dept Public Works (Highway)	Bradford School Playground design underway. Funding increased. Town Council approved \$50,000 to improve the bathrooms at Cimalore Field. Baseball Field Lights installed and Softball Field Lights installed in September 2025.
GOAL REC-2	Increased investments in open space will yield long-term recreational opportunities and ensure public health.					
Policy REC-2.1	Promote and enhance access to and use of waterways for recreation.					Dumpster removed from ponside kayak launch area and placed farther into parking lot and away from public access point to the pond.
Action REC-2.1.A	Maintain public rights-of-way to the Pawcatuck River and shoreline that have been designated by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) and the Town through signage, permanent boundary markers, vegetation controls, and regular inspection.	Ongoing	Facilities	Dept Public Works Harbor Manager	Dept Development Services (Eng)	The RI DEM (Department of Environmental Management) Recreation Trails Grant was awarded in 2021 to make improvements to the White Rock Road kayak launch, across from Gingerella Sports Complex. Drainage repair design complete to improve access to the kayak launch.
			Study		Recreation Department	The Town applied for a RI DEM Recreation Development Grant in December 2021 to create

	Recreation	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5	
Action REC-2.1.B	Implement the Downtown and River Center parking/park/kayak launch plans with connections up river to Potter Hill and Bradford.	MT 5-10 years	Zoning Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Dept Public Works (Highway)	the Riverside Park and Recreation Center at 116 Canal Street. Funding not was granted. As noted in REC-2.1.A, the Town began a White Rock Road kayak launch renovation project to improve accessibility in March 2025. As part of this project, the Town secured a \$99,000 grant, which includes a 20% match from the Town. Ths Kayak launch is now completed. Potter Hill recreation site with launch plans are also in progress.	
Action REC-2.1.C	Create a parking, kayak launch, and program plan for Winnapaug Pond.	ST 1-5 years	Facilities	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Dept Development Services, Engineering, Dept Public Works	Kayak racks increased to 8 at Old Town Beach Pondsides for WTB sticker holders. 1 rack at Tourist Booth Pondsides and 1 at Watersedge Public Access point. Rental info can be found on the Rec catalog. westerlyri.gov/rec CRMC permit granted to move dumpster and increase public access to the pond with designated boat trailer parking. Winnapuag Pond Conservation Area at the entrance of 330 Atlantic Ave has Public Access and a Free 3 hour parking area with signage as of June, 1, 2026. 328 is awaiting a site plan from DEM.	
Action REC-2.1.D	Identify and prioritize opportunities to secure additional sites for public access to the shore and implement improvements to all new sites, beginning with the list of “Prospective Sites” listed in the Harbor Management Plan.	ST 1-5 years	Facilities	Town Manager Harbor Management Commission	Conservation Commission, Recreation Department	Grant funding was awarded from AA in partnership with DEM/CRMC to acquire the Sorensen property (338 Atlantic Avenue) for wetland restortion, preservation, and formalize existing access to Winnapaug Pond. 328 Atlantic Ave (the Sorenson property) has now been purchased by the Town through a combination of municipal funding and grant funding. The property is owned in fee title by the Town of Westerly with a Conservation Easement (CE) held by RIDEM. The Town is currently reviewing and considering site development options for public recreational use. Additioanl research on access points, including discussions to place bike racks at access points, is ongoing.	
Action REC-2.1.E	Require that new development and redevelopment projects provide public access (e.g. boardwalks, walls, or walkways) to compensate fully for any interference with or loss of public access to the shore consistent with CRMC regulations.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Recreation Department Dept Public Works	Walking path being planned for the new parcel at 328 Atlantic Ave along the Winnapaug Pond connecting lots.	
Action REC-2.1.F	Provide for long-term maintenance of rights-of-way to the shore and river through the annual budget process, including signage, regular site checks, regular trash removal, periodic mowing, removal of obstructions, and landscape improvements.	Ongoing	Budget	Town Manager	Dept Public Works	Additional signage has been installed at multiple rights-of-way to the shore. All other maintenance including trash removal, mowing, and landscape improvements occur routinely and as needed.	
Policy REC-2.2	Foster awareness and appropriate use of and access to local natural resources for recreational purposes.						
Action REC-2.2.A	Establish a consistent, reliable funding source and criteria matrix for the acquisition and maintenance of open space for recreation.	MT 5-10 years LT 10 years+	Program	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Dept Development Services	Greater Bradford Community Development Association to conduct memorial bench plaque fundraiser to support the installation of a safety shelter and ADA paths to the portable toilets. Westerly Recreation Department applied for a DEM grant in 2026 but was not awarded it. Fundaising and Capital Request to be submitted Oct. 1 2026 to support pavilion and ADA accessible paths.	
Action REC-2.2.B	Assess the open space and recreational values of land contiguous to and within the greenway system established in the Bradford, Dunn’s Corners, and Woody Hill neighborhoods.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Town Council (Westerly Municipal Land Trust)	Westerly Municipal Land Trust	Design of the Bradford Recreation Complex (Bradford school playground) is complete. Permitting is in process. Construction is anticipated to be funded by a combination of <u>municipal funds and grant funding</u>	
Action REC-2.2.C	Develop a plan to connect recreational areas for the bicycling public, including new bicycle routes, bike rack, and signage at each recreational area, and encourage biking through an educational campaign.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Recreation Department (Recreation Board)	Dept Development Services	Westerly Recreation Department created an entrance from North Woody Hill Road to the back of the Bradford Playground which will prevent bikers from having to use congested Church Street entrance. ON SHARE BIKE RENTAL PROGRAM launched July, 2026 at 2 locations to encourage biking along Atlantic Ave. Removable racks have been installed at both 342 Atlantic Ave next to the kayak racks at Old Town Beach and 318 Atlantic Ave at the Misquamicut Tourist Booth. Trail maintenence continued at Woody Hill Management area by members of NEMBA and is supported by the Westerly Municipal Land Trust.	

	Historical and Cultural Resources	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5	
GOAL HCR-1	Westerly's identity and cultural heritage will be preserved and enhanced through reinvestment in its historic assets.						
Policy HCR-1.1	Promote Westerly's history and heritage to residents and visitors.						
Action HCR-1.1.A	Investigate the installation of educational and interpretive signage and exhibits in historic places and in public and civic spaces as a method of generating interest and improving visitor experience.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services, Neighborhood Groups, Watch Hill Conservancy	Not currently a high priority	
Action HCR-1.1.C	Update and expand the Town's historic resource survey and documentation, including existing historic districts.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services	Rhode Island Historic Preservation & Heritage Commission, Westerly Public Schools, Watch Hill Conservancy	Not currently a high priority	
Action HCR-1.1.D	Evaluate options for the preservation of iconic landmarks and historic and cultural assets, including relocation.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Town Council Town Manager	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Commission, Watch Hill Conservancy	Not currently a high priority	
Policy HCR-1.2	Achieve the objectives of historic preservation standards and guidelines to promote the unique characteristics of Westerly's neighborhoods and its overall sense of place.						
Action HCR-1.2.A	Revise the uses and design review standards of the DC-I and DC-II zoning districts to better unify with the historic districts along the riverfront.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Architectural Review Board	Need to engage in discussion	
Action HCR-1.2.B	Revise the uses and design review standards of the Historic Mill Overlay District to better incorporate associated village development.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Architectural Review Board	Not currently a high priority	
Action HCR-1.2.C	Investigate an Historic Overlay District as a vehicle for implementing traditional historic preservation standards and guidelines for façade alterations, scale, landscaping, streetscaping, lighting, and signage.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Architectural Review Board, Watch Hill Conservancy	Not currently a high priority	
Action HCR-1.2.D	Establish a River Corridor Overlay District to complement Stonington's Pawcatuck River Greenway initiative.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Architectural Review Board	Planning Office partnering with WPWSRSC on RCOD; need to engage in discussion.	
Action HCR-1.2.E	Provide the Architectural Review Board greater involvement with the creation and implementation of architectural, urban design, and historic preservation review standards.	Ongoing	Policy	Town Council	Dept Development Services	In the Spring and Summer of 2025, the Planning Office engaged the ARB in a series of workshops to assist in the creation of architectural and urban design review standards for Westerly's Route 1 Corridor. Final standards were the result of numerous work sessions between the ARB, EDC and Planning Board. These standards were referred to Town Council for adoption in December 2025. ARB continues to play an important role in DPR and multi-family development.	
GOAL HCR-2	Westerly's overall attractiveness and quality of life will be elevated by the continued vitality of historical and cultural investment.						
Policy HCR-2.1	Protect and promote scenic views, streetscapes, parks, rivers, major bodies of water, and natural and human-made landscapes.						
Action HCR-2.1.A	Identify cemeteries and burial grounds at risk from natural and human-made conditions.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Town Manager (Conservation Commission)	Rhode Island Historical Cemetery Commission	Not currently a high priority	
Action HCR-2.1.B	Establish and maintain a municipal register of areas and structures of historical or architectural significance, historical landscapes, and public art, especially in those areas that are under the threat of climate change impacts.	MT 5-10 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services	Conservation Commission Information Technology	Not currently a high priority	
Policy HCR-2.2	Encourage educational and artistic opportunities within and for the community to strengthen the connections between people and places to maximize their shared values.						
Action HCR-2.2.A	Collaborate with and support community partners in pursuit of contemporary artistic and cultural opportunities and institutions.	ST 1-5 years, Ongoing	Partners	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	The Town of Westerly continuously partners with and supports the United Theatre, Westerly Library and Wilcoix Park, The Granite Theater, and more, in pursuit of artistic and cultural opportunities.	
Action HCR-2.2.B	Support cultural and artistic events that celebrate and showcase Westerly's local heritage and identity.	Ongoing	Program , Budget	Town Council & Town Manager	Finance Board	This is action item is addressed through annual budget subsidies.	
Policy HCR-2.3	Seek welcoming and human-scaled public spaces and streetscapes that shape the Town's identity and improve its living conditions.						

	Historical and Cultural Resources	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
Action HCR-2.3.A	Develop streetscaping standards and guidelines to guide improvements to public spaces.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Town Manager Town Council	Dept Public Works (Highway), Dept Development Services	The Planning Board and EDC supported streetscaping standards in Route 1 Corridor plans; Main Street Corridor revitalization and streetscape underway, and Urban Forest Plan begun.
Action HCR-2.3.B	Provide the proper resources necessary to maintain and make better use of the Town's public spaces, including sidewalk furniture, pocket parks, memorials, public art, bike racks, etc.	Ongoing	Administrative	Town Council Town Manager	Dept Public Works (Highway) (Facilities)	The Town has an annual budget item for these kinds of improvements. Most recently, additional bike racks have been installed in beach areas with plans to install additional rack in other locations around Westerly.

	Housing Opportunities	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
GOAL HSNG-1	A broad range of integrated, inclusive, age-friendly, and affordable housing options town wide will securely meet the needs of all households and individuals in the community.					
Policy HSNG-1.1	Continue towards achieving the State requirement for a minimum of 10% of the total year-round housing stock to be subsidized, deed-restricted, and occupied by LMI households.					
Action HSNG-1.1.A	Revisit the inclusionary zoning ordinance based on State law changes, market trends, incentives, and new land-use policies, and amend accordingly.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	State of RI, Housing Network	The Office of Planning is revisiting this through 2026-2027.
Action HSNG-1.1.B	Work with the Westerly Housing Authority to developed and maintain a database of deed-restricted, subsidized affordable housing units owned and monitored by them.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services	Westerly Housing Authority,	COMPLETE - The Planning Office coordinated with Westerly Housing Authority to update the documentation for all deed-restricted affordable housing units in Town; as requested by RIH. Though not all backup documentation is available, the Town now has a list of all units. Those monitored by WHA but not managed by them have been reassigned to CHLT.
Action HSNG-1.1.C	Identify parcels most suitable for development of qualified LMI units by comprehensive permit and pre-qualify for development consistent with this Plan.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		The Planning Office completed existng conditions reports for 5 town-controlled sites that were identified as suitable for future housing in the Housing Needs Assessment & Market Study (2024) by Camoin Associates. Following review and feedback from the Planning Board and Town Management, the Planning Office engaged consultants to conduct comprehensive study on the financial feasibility and economic impact of moving forward with housng on two sites: 18 Springbrook Road, and 109 White Rock Road.
Action HSNG-1.1.D	Partner with Community Housing Land Trust of RI to reestablish monitoring of LMI units.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services	Community Housing Land Trust	COMPLETE - CHLT took over monitoring of all LMI units formerly managed by the Westerly Housing Authority in March 2023 and continues to be the Town's regulatory authority.
Action HSNG-1.1.E	Include LMI qualified units in neighborhood revitalization, residential rehabilitations, and new construction.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Dept Development Services	Westerly Revolving Fund	LMI units are incorporated in new constructions projects through the Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Permits. The Town is looking into participating in the CDBG residential rehabilitation program to add LMI units in rehabilitation projects.
Action HSNG-1.1.F	Upon publication of the 2020 HUD Census Data, revisit residential buildout and realign density bonuses awarded through comprehensive permits with prevailing needs.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		Intern updated Census data in spring 2023 to be incorporated in comprehensive plan amendments and created a Community Profile. Buildout and density bonuses was reviewed at as part of the Housing Needs Assessment & Market Study, completed in June 2024.
Action HSNG-1.1.G	Encourage the use of the comprehensive permit for the development of housing where 50% or more of the units qualify as LMI, with restricted sales price or rental rates for a period of at least 30 years.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Affordable housing developers	The Housing Needs Assessment & Market Study completed in June of 2024, includes re-examining Comprehensive Permits. 2023 changes to RI General Laws have made development of 50% or more LMI units more attractive to developers.
Policy HSNG-1.2	Assure current and future residents that a broad range of opportunities to live in the community will be available.					
Action HSNG-1.2.A	Continue to support initiatives providing housing and housing-related assistance for persons experiencing homelessness and persons with special needs.	LT 10 years+ Ongoing	Subsidy Endorsement	Town Council	Westerly Housing Authority	The Town applied for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding with WARM and Looking Upwards as subrecipients in 2021, supporting their initiatives to providing housing and assistance to people who are homeless or have special needs. Awarded in 2022. Additional funds were applied for with Looking Upwards in 2022. Westerly is working with the HEZ regional office on initiatives to pair housing services.
Action HSNG-1.2.B	Continue to work with public agencies and private non-profit and for-profit entities in creating integrated affordable housing opportunities, family, transitional, and cooperative housing.	LT 10 years+ Ongoing	Administrative	Dept Development Services	Westerly Housing Authority	The Planning Office has been coordinating with Habitat for Humanity & WDC on identifying parcels suitable for affordable housing development. From 2025 - 2026, the Planning Office also launched a housing needs survey initiative that sought to collect feedback from Westerly' three most cost-burdened demographics; seniors, families, and seasonal workers. The Town collected over 300 responses. The Town is currently looking for opportunities to apply findings from this initiative.
Action HSNG-1.2.C	Adopt a tax credit for property owners undertaking substantial rehabilitation of blighted properties restricted to affordable housing.	MT 5-10 years	Tax credit program	Town Council	Finance Department, Tax Assessor, Westerly Revolving Fund	The Housing Needs Assessment and Market Study was completed in June of 2024. It addresses this idea, as the Town considers and incorporates its findings into housing-related activities.
Action HSNG-1.2.D	Develop and implement a program to focus and coordinate integrated affordable housing initiatives and funding, with priority given to existing housing over new construction.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services	Westerly Revolving Fund	The Housing Needs Assessment and Market Study was completed in June of 2024. It addresses this idea, as the Town considers and incorporates its findings into housing-related activities. Following 2025 state law changes, adaptive reuse projects have increased and the number of housing rehabilitation projects now out numbers the new housing construction projects in the Town.
Action HSNG-1.2.E	Adopt regulations that incorporate live-work housing in downtown neighborhood.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		Downtown Corridor discussion is ongoing.
Action HSNG-1.2.F	Amend Zoning Ordinance to broaden the availability of accessory dwelling units.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		The Housing Needs Assessment and Market Study was completed in June of 2024. It addresses this idea, as the Town considers and incorporates its findings into housing-related activities. 2025 RI Gen Law changes were also adopted as local zoning ordinacne changes in the spring of 2026 to reflect State law changes in regards to this.
Action HSNG-1.2.G	Develop and implement a program within the town government to focus on and coordinate affordable housing initiatives.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Town Council	Dept Development Services	In 2025, Town Council established the Westerly Housing Committee as an advisory board to the Planning Board that will advise on housing-related matters including the creation of LMIH housing and senior housing. Additionally, the Housing Needs Assessment and Market Study was completed in June of 2024. It addresses this idea, as the Town considers and incorporates its findings into housing-related activities.

	Housing Opportunities	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
Action HSNG-1.2.H	Upon publication of the 2020 HUD Census Data, revisit residential buildout and apply the policies of this Plan to create new housing opportunity strategies.	MT 5-10 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		Intern hired for Winter/Spring 2023 to update Census data. Buildiout and housing will be part of the proposed housing needs assessment.
Action HSNG-1.2.I	Develop standards for achieving a mix of residential uses into mixed use districts.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		As part of the Route 1 Corridor plan, residential uses are being encouraged in mixed use areas, and existing residential areas preserved
Action HSNG-1.2.J	As part of neighborhood planning effort, conduct public forums/working meetings that address local housing needs.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Administrative	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		Public forums/working meetings were included in the housing needs assessment. Additionally, from 2025-2026, Westerly's Municipal Planning Fellow conducted a series of community outreach activities to include surveying the public regarding family, elderly and workforce housing needs.
Action HSNG-1.2.K	Identify appropriate measures of communication and information sharing regarding affordable housing opportunities within the community.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services		Public input was included in the housing needs assessment partnered with a survey and public worksession.
Action HSNG-1.2.L	Identify opportunities to add living quarters for seasonal employees.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		In 2025, the Planning Office solicited survey responses from over 14 restaurant/hospitality business owners, with a combined seasonal workforce of over 500 employees, to gauge their preferences and level of commitment toward a shared seasonal housing solution. Additionally, the Planning Office continues to discuss seasonal workforce housing with local developers including the adaptive reuse of the former Griswold Mill on White Rock road.
Policy HSNG-1.3	Promote the development and rehabilitation of integrated affordable-by-design housing throughout the community.					
Action HSNG-1.3.A	Work to eliminate unsafe and non-compliant housing and improve housing conditions through enforcement of minimum housing requirements and building code compliance.	Ongoing	Enforcement	Dept Development Services, Minimum Housing Officer, Building Officer	State, Westerly Police Department	With the addition of a new minimum housing officer in 2021, several long-standing minimum housing issues have been brought to court and are being settled. Legalizing or removing unpermitted accessory apartments have been a primary focus for these departments, as they are some of the most frequent cause of unsafe housing conditions. The housing study identified specific housing conditions and recommends specific actions.
Action HSNG-1.3.B	Coordinate with regional, state, and federal agencies to leverage local resources by bringing expertise and funds to community initiatives that support affordable housing in line with community objectives	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services	State agencies, Dept Housing and Urban Development, Non-governmental organizations	The Planning Office has introduced several developers to Habitat for Humanity to help achieve the requirements of the inclusionary zoning ordinance. In partnership with HousingWorksRI, the Planning Office has hosted educational information sessions on affordable housing at Planning Board meetings. In 2024, the Planning Office was awarded a \$100K technical assistance grant for the hiring of Camoin Associates to produce the Housing Needs Assessment & Market Study. In 2025, Westerly was awarded a grant from the Executive Office of Housing to employ a Municipal Housing Fellow to assist with advancing housing-related initiatives. This Housing Fellow went on to secure a \$66,123 grant from RIHousing to advance predevelopment work on two town controlled sites that are being considered for future affordable housing development
Action HSNG-1.3.C	Establish a formal partnership with a local revolving fund to increase the availability of municipal resources for residential rehabilitation projects.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Partner	Town Council	Westerly Revolving Fund, Finance Department	Not yet accomplished.
Action HSNG-1.3.D	Create neighborhood plans that coordinate preservation and/or revitalization of existing residential structures with affordable housing strategies.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Neighborhood Organizations	Adaptive reuse and infill development activities are being investigated.
Action HSNG-1.3.E	Adopt regulations that incorporate residential units that are affordable by design, such as micro-lofts, micro-apartments, and studios, including downtown.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		Not yet accomplished.
Action HSNG-1.3.F	Modernize the eligibility and processes of municipal property tax exemptions to promote and increase greater owner-occupied housing affordability.	ST 1-5 years	Tax Exemption	Town Council	State of RI	Not yet accomplished.
Action HSNG-1.3.G	Revise zoning ordinance and land development regulations to encourage family rental units (of 1 to 3 bedrooms) designed in 2- to 4-unit structures.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		The Planning Office, in coordination with the Zoning Office and Assistant Solicitor for Planning and Zoning, have been working on zoning ordinance amendments, including this revision to multifamily development regulations.
Action HSNG-1.3.H	Improve the existing review, approval, and permitting process to facilitate more efficient and effective construction and completion of development.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services	State of RI Information Technology	A weekly departmental meeting allows for these 3 offices to connect on common projects on a regular basis, reducing confusion at different stages of review. As mandated by RI Gen Law changes, Planning, Zoning, and Building Offices have all migrated their permitting process to an online portal: OpenGov. This change has reduced the amount of paper and in-person visits needed for simple zoning applications. Implementing other recommendations from the Housing Needs Assessment & Market Studys will also further streamline the permitting process
Action HSNG-1.3.I	Develop and implement context sensitive design guidelines for reconstruction and infill to assure new development is compatible in massing and scale with the existing neighborhood context.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Architectural Review Board	Westerly's Route One Corridor Plan was completed in 2022 with the objective of creating context sensitive design standards. In 2025, the Planning Office engaged the Planning Board, ARB, and EDC to further refine these design standards, with a focus on building form, setbacks, signage, site circulation, and right of way improvements. The creation of a Route One Corridor overlay district has been recommended to Town Council and is awaiting review.

	Economic Vitality	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
GOAL ECON-1	A place-based approach to economic development will attract broad opportunities for all participants in the local economy.					
Policy ECON-1.1	Focus on unique features and existing community assets to draw new investment.					
Action ECON-1.1.A	Create neighborhood plans through significant public engagement.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Development Services	Neighbor Groups	Discussions at the Planning Board have peaked the interest of several neighborhood groups in Town, some of which have already begun the process of creating neighborhood plans for their section of the community. The Planning Board and EDC have been working on their own Route 1 Corridor Plan, which could be considered a neighborhood plan, though a commercial one.
Action ECON-1.1.B	Undertake a comprehensive study of key economic trends and projections for tourism-related industries.	ST 1-5 years	Study	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce, Southern Rhode Island Tourism Council	Not a current priority
Action ECON-1.1.C	Continue to approve public subsidies to institutions with missions and actions that address the needs of local businesses consistent with the policies in this Plan.	Ongoing	Policy	Town Council	Finance Board	The Town continues to provide municipal subsidies to the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce on an annual basis.
Action ECON-1.1.D	Review and revise provisions of the Zoning Ordinance as a strategy to promote longer stays by visitors and tourists and to encourage year-round economic opportunities.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Property Owners	Not a current priority
Action ECON 1.1.E	Develop a comprehensive marketing plan for Westerly targeting developers and potential new businesses.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Business Owners, Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce,	Westerly's EDC conducted preliminary work on developing a marketing plan in 2024. Development paused in 2026 but is expected to continue.
Action ECON 1.1.F	Create a marketing strategy for the Riverfront area in concert with the Town of Stonington, CT, and their Economic Development Commission.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Business Owners, Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce,	Shared interest, no immediate action.
Action ECON 1.1.G	Develop an overall marketing strategy for Mill Villages that clearly articulates the town's vision and attracts investors and commercial businesses to these areas.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Not a current priority.
Policy ECON-1.2	Encourage regulatory reform, incentives, and other tools to create the appropriate conditions for equitable, robust economic activity.					
Action ECON-1.2.A	Amend the Zoning Ordinance to incorporate beneficial elements of neighborhood planning appropriate to the existing built environment.	MT 5-10 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Economic Development Commission Architectural Review Board	EDC will support Planning Board actions as appropriate.
Action ECON-1.2.B	Explore opportunities to create financial incentives for redevelopment, such as tax stabilization agreements (TSAs) and tax increment financing (TIF).	MT 5-10 years to LT 10 years +	Tax Agreements	Town Council	Finance Board	The EDC is engaged in preliminary findings and discussion.
Action ECON-1.2.C	Modify permitting and approval processes to enhance the efficiency of regulatory review.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services	Information Technology Town Manager State of RI	All Town Clerk, Planning, Building, and Zoning permits are completed online via OpenGov, as dictated by RI Gen Laws.
Action ECON 1.2.D	Develop an overall strategy for Downtown that clearly articulates this plan's vision and attracts investors, commercial businesses, and residents.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Business Owners, Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce,	Preliminary Assessment completed in 2019. No follow up has been made.
Action ECON 1.2.E	Support the development and implementation of changes that allow for Transit Oriented Development (TOD) at and/or near the train station.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	The Town continues to offer support to groups working on enhancing and renovating the Westelry Amtrak rail. The Planning Office also tries to remain active in conversations regarding expansion of Commuter Rail and enhanced Amtrak service via infrastructure upgrades in Westerly.
Action ECON 1.2.F	Support the development and implementation of a strategy for commercial corridors that clearly articulate the town's vision and attracts investors and commercial businesses to these areas.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Route 1 Corridor Plan was completed in 2022. Implementation has begun with 2025 Comprehensive Plan amendments and Zoning Ordinance revisions.
Action ECON 1.2.G	Support the development and implementation of town ordinances to sustainably allow for the future buildout of our commercial corridors.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	ZO amendments currently underway. 16 Post Road rezoned in 2023 to general commercial and amendments to the zoning ordinance to specify parking requirements for ministorage use to allow for reuse of this underutilized parcel.
Action ECON 1.2.H	Support the development and implementation of a revised Historic Mill Village Overlay District to provide for the sustainable future buildout of these assets.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Not a current priority.
Policy ECON-1.3	Ensure that new economic development opportunities preserve community assets and character.					
Action ECON-1.3.A	Revise the Zoning Ordinance to expand and broaden uses permitted in the DC-I, DC-II, LI, and NB zoning districts at an appropriate scale for Downtown Westerly and its surrounding, historic neighborhoods.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		Several ordinances were modified - most notably the parking requirements downtown. Working on more.

	Economic Vitality	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5	
Action ECON-1.3.B	Revise the Zoning Ordinance to expand and broaden uses within the GC, GI, HC, MC, ORAT, P-15, and SC G zoning district boundaries to reduce commercial sprawl and promote better utilization of existing district.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		Not a current priority	
Action ECON-1.3.C	Collaborate with other influencers on the restoration of the barrier beaches and Salt Pond shoreline access to safeguard both natural and economic value.	ST 1-5 years	Partnership	Town Council	Various Conservation Partners Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	In spring 2023, the Town partnered with RIDEM and CRMC on submitting a letter of intent for an acquisition grant for property on Atlantic Avenue for habitat restoration and public access to Winnapaug Pond. This parcel (328 Atlantice Ave) is now owned in fee title by the Town of Westerly with a Conservation Easement (CE) held by RIDEM. The Town is currently reviewing and considering site development options for public recreational use.	
Action ECON-1.3.D	Support the development and implementation of a downtown parking strategy and zoning ordinance changes to expand parking availability while also protecting the character and charm of Westerly.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Parking requirements downtown were reduced by zoning amendments.	
Action ECON-1.3.E	Support programs and financing of road and sidewalk maintenance and improvement.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept of Public Works	Recommendations in the Route One study support this action item.	
Policy ECON-1.4	Encourage the creation and retention of high-quality, well-paying workforce opportunities.						
Action ECON-1.4.A	Investigate and pilot new planning tools for existing commercial and industrial areas to enhance business activity and increase local job opportunities.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	Not a current priority	
Action ECON-1.4.B	Support growth in the trades, professional, and general services needed for the maintenance and renovation of residential property year-round by removing barriers to mixed-use and light industrial development.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services	Economic Development Commission	Not a current priority	
Action ECON-1.4.C	Study and plan for community characteristics needed to ensure Westerly is both a tourist-friendly town and a good candidate for full-time relocation by families.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services, Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	Not a current priority	
Action ECON-1.4.D	Work with local, State and Federal agencies, publicize the use of the train station, and connected bus stops to increase ridership and expand the routes and/or places (i.e. Train stop at Green Airport) that they serve.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Amtrak, RIPTA, Stonington	Not a current priority	
GOAL ECON-2	Diversification of local industries will create a more sustainable economic base for the community and the region.						
Policy ECON-2.1	Promote a locally-based community food system that offers healthy, affordable products for the benefit of residents, businesses, and the environment.						
Action ECON-2.1.A	Amend the Zoning Ordinance to expand permitted community food system activities that accommodate the production, processing, distribution, and consumption of locally- and regionally sourced products.	MT 5-10 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Westerly Land Trust, Farmers, Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	Not a current priority	
Action ECON-2.1.B	Establish opportunities for the public to learn about agriculture with special emphasis on urban agriculture in coordination with the School Department, WEC, and social service agencies.	MT 5-10 years	Partnership	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Westerly Land Trust, Southern Rhode Island Conservation District	Not a current priority	
Policy ECON-2.2	Encourage knowledge-based industries that attract telecommuting and work-from-home opportunities.						
Action ECON-2.2.A	Establish the infrastructure necessary for high-quality telecommunications on which knowledge-based industries rely.	MT 5-10 years	Facilities	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Economic Development Commission, Purchasing	Not a current priority	
Action ECON-2.2.B	Establish opportunities for the public to learn about new technologies and computer skills in coordination with the School Department, WEC, and social service agencies.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Westerly Public Schools, Westerly Education Center	The Town is constructing a Community Center funded in part by LLC funding through State DOA Pandemic Recovery Office that will provide public access to skills and workforce development and social services access.	
Action ECON-2.2.C	Amend the Zoning Ordinance to encourage home-based businesses and work-from-home opportunities.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Economic Development Commission	Not a current priority	
Policy ECON-2.3	Foster entrepreneurial activities in the community.						
Action ECON-2.3.A	Identify and pursue new industries, markets, products, services, and processes compatible with community assets and character.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	Not a current priority	
Action ECON-2.3.B	In partnership with the OCCVC, prepare and implement a strategic plan to guide the future development of tourism-related industries.	ST 1-5 years	Partnership	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	EDC and Town Council prefer EDC not focus on tourism	
Action ECON-2.3.C	Create a program to attract businesses that maintain family image, diversify offerings, encourage extended stays, and provide an economy of local residents.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	This action item will most likely be the next task that will be included in the marketing plan that the EDC will develop.	
Action ECON-2.3.D	Plan for the sustainable future buildout of commercial corridors within commercial zones.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Economic Development Commission	Route 1 Corridor plan has been developed.	

	Economic Vitality	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5	
GOAL ECON-3	Sustain a local economy that is resilient to natural and human-caused disasters.						
Policy ECON-3.1	Anticipate the impact of catastrophic events on the local economy.						
Action ECON-3.1.A	Update the Hazard Mitigation Plan to incorporate a cost analysis for the upgrading and maintenance of the services and facilities that the local economy is most dependent on.	ST 1-5 years	Study	Town Manager	Emergency Management, Dept Public Works (Eng)	The HMP was updated in March 2023 and approved by FEMA. Cost analysis was not included, as it was outside the scope of this plan. Separate analysis should be completed prior to the next update.	
Action ECON-3.1.B	Develop an economic action plan for catastrophic events to ensure a foundation for rebuilding that sustains the local economy through the recovery process.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Various Partners	Demonstration model considered for Misquamicut Beach Nourishment	
Policy ECON-3.2	Reduce the burden of climate change impacts on municipal finances and the local and regional economies.						
Action ECON-3.2.A	Work with relevant Federal and State agencies on shared objectives and guiding principles, such as those identified in Resilient Rhody to reduce the burden of climate change impacts on the local economy and municipal finances.	MT 5-10 years	Partnership	Town Manager Town Council	Federal and State Entities	Not a current priority	
Action ECON-3.2.B	Evaluate and, if required, update the Town's emergency permitting system for effective post-disaster administration.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services	Economic Development Commission	Not a current priority	
Action ECON-3.2.C	Review the Town's procedures and responsibilities to ensure its readiness to and accountability for responding to catastrophic events.	Ongoing	Administrative	Emergency Manager	Westerly Police Department, Fire Districts, Dept Public Works (Highway)	This action itme is ongoing; annual meetings are conducted with stakeholders to ensure the Town's readiness in timely and efficient responses to catastrophic events.	
Policy ECON-3.3	Ensure economic resilience and sustainability through smart city and strong town strategies.						
Action ECON-3.3.A	Quantify the value of all property and resulting tax revenue that would be impacted by increased flooding, SLR, and storm events.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Tax Assessor	Tax, Dept Development Services, Watch Hill Conservancy	The EDC began studying this question with help from students in an economics class at Northeastern University. Properties and tax revenues surrounding Winnapaug Pond subject to flooding and SLR were studied. The project was not pursued further, as the results did not warrant immediate attention and other priorities were pursued.	
Action ECON-3.3.B	Publicize the incentives available for business and residents to undertake adaptation and resiliency measures for their properties.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services, Information Technology	Not a current priority	

	Services & Facilities	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
GOAL SF-1	Westerly will provide services critical to the community’s continued health, safety, and well-being.					
Policy SF-1.1	Support the mission and activities of organizations and businesses that provide services to veterans, families, elderly persons, those of low- and moderate-income, those experiencing homelessness, and those with special needs.					
Action SF-1.1.A	Continue as an active partner in Age-Friendly Westerly through town staff participation in planning and programing for aging residents.	LT 10 years+ Ongoing	Policy Services	Town Council	Age-Friendly Westerly, Recreation Department, Dept Development Services	The Town Manager and other Town staff provide feedback on and directly participate in monthly Age-Friendly Westerly meetings. As of January 2025, the Assistant Town Manager and one Planning Office staff member have volunteered to co-chair the Age Friendly Westerly Housing Work Group. Presentation and updates are prepared quarterly to discuss progress and initiatives that focus on expanding access to senior housing.
Action SF-1.1.B	Align human services activities of the Town with the activities of social service agencies based on demographic changes and constituents’ needs to maximize opportunity to improve community health, safety, and well-being.	LT 10 years+ Ongoing	Policy Services	Town Council	Age-Friendly Westerly, Police Department, Recreation Department, Dept Development Services	The Town assumed operational oversight of the Westelry Senior Center
Action SF-1.1.C	Through changes to zoning, provide incentives for mixed commercial and professional services in redevelopment within the HC zoning district.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		The Route 1 Corridor Plan outlines recommendations for Zoning Ordinance amendments to support these uses.
Action SF-1.1.D	Continue to approve public subsidies to institutions with missions and actions that address the needs of the community consistent with the policies in this Plan.	Ongoing	Subsidies	Town Council	Finance Board, Town Manager	The Town provides public subsidies to a variety of community services annually.
Action SF-1.1.E	Collaborate in obtaining grant funding to support services that align with this Plan.	Ongoing	Endorsements	Town Council	Finance Department	CDBG funding is pursued annually on behalf of local non-profits.
Action SF-1.1.F	Attract more organizations and jobs in the human services sector by improving mixed use and development regulations.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		Currently engaged in discussion.
Action SF-1.1.G	Identify and document the needs of veterans, families, elderly, and individuals with special needs and improve existing programs and facilities to meet these needs.	MT 5-10 years	Study Program	Town Council	Age-Friendly Westerly, Westerly Housing Task Force, Dept Development Services	The Town continues to provide access to the state Special Needs registry through the Town of Westerly website.
Action SF-1.1.H	Publicize the opportunities to volunteer, including the citizens emergency response team, and develop ways to match interest and skills with options.	ST 1-5 MT 5-10 years Ongoing	Program	Town Manager	Information Technology, Town Clerk	This is ongoing through the Town website, social media, and news flash notications.
Policy SF-1.2	Ensure continuous improvement to municipal programs, services, facilities, and the local government’s interaction with human services organizations.					
Action SF-1.2.A	Base school facility decisions on long-range student population forecasts, capacity and condition of facilities, neighborhood context, operating costs, and societal concerns.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Administrative	Westerly Public Schools	Town Council, Finance Board, Town Manager	Construction of Springbrook Elementary and State Street School Elementary was completed in Fall of 2026.
Action SF-1.2.B	Coordinate the expertise of Town and Westerly School District personnel to improve school facilities and address school safety and security.	Ongoing	Administrative	Town Manager	Westerly Public Schools, Town Council	This action is ongoing.
Action SF-1.2.C	Improve collaboration between the Recreation Department and Westerly School District on recreational programming for children and young people and facility management.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Program	Recreation Department	Westerly Public Schools	This action is ongoing.
Action SF-1.2.D	Advance the Town’s technological capabilities across all municipal departments and the school district for greater productivity, accessibility, and coordination.	ST 1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Facilities	Information Technology	Finance Department, Westerly Public Schools, Purchasing	The Town is maintaining ongoing improvements to cybersecurity, network, and software infrastructure. Digitization projects are ongoing.
Action SF-1.2.E	Train land-use decisionmakers on the impact of development on community provided services and facilities.	Ongoing	Training	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Dept of Public Works	Planning Board priority for 2026-27.
Action SF-1.2.F	Redesign the process used annually for the capital improvement program (CIP) to ensure that all of the critical functions of the CIP are employed and adopted level of service standards are maintained.	ST 1-5 years, Ongoing	Administrative	Town Manager Town Council	Finance Department Dept Development Services	The Planning Office has been working with the Finance Director to redesign the CIP process to make it is more successful for the Town. Planning Board and Finance Board are in discussion on coordinate efforts.
Action SF-1.2.G	Continue to improve municipal application procedures and the availability and delivery of information for applicants and the public.	Ongoing	Facilities	Information Technology	Finance Department, Town Clerk, Dept Development Services, Purchasing	The Planning & Zoning offices are moving the application process online and making information available to the public & applicants online with all Board agendas.
Action SF-1.2.H	Maintain and exceed the achieved 35% recycling rate through increased enforcement, educational programs, and special events that highlight the benefits.	Ongoing	Enforcement	Dept Public Works (Facilities)		As of 2023, the Town is recycling at a rate of approximately 28%.
Action SF-1.2.I	Meet and exceed a 50% trash diversion rate by reducing solid waste generation and increasing recycling and composting opportunities for municipal operations, residents, and businesses.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works (Facilities)		As of 2023, the Town is diverting at a rate of approximately 33%.

	Services & Facilities	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
Action SF-1.2.J	Publicize the Town’s recreation programs to increase youth and senior participation.	Ongoing	Administrative	Recreation Department	Recreation Board	April 2023 Rec Dept launched new website found at www.westerlyri.gov/rec . Rec Dept added adult rec classes, including Adult pickleball and Women's Softball, which returned to Westerly summer 2023. Recreation Girls Softball, Recreation Soccer and Recreation Hockey have all increased enrollment. Beach Parking Stickers for Seniors increased as well as attendance for beach concerts that includes dancing. Senior Bus Trip being planned for New York Botanical gardens. Learn 365 Grant to support students during out of school time with Homework help, Mentor Club, After School Science and Math programs, was increased to \$63,300 from \$40,000.
Action SF-1.2.K	Continue to provide Town officials and staff with training in human services and the social sciences.	Ongoing	Program	Human Resources	Town Manager, Purchasing, Dept Development Services	New human resources training platform, BIZLibrary, has been introduced. New training modules are assigned to and completed by Town staff on a bi-monthly basis.
Action SF-1.2.L	Publicize the Town website’s <i>Notify Me</i> tool to increase the number of individuals subscribed to digital Town notifications.	Ongoing	Administrative	Information Technology		As part of the 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, the Notify Me tool was created and integrated into the online public survey that was conducted, encouraging residents to provide feedback that were not already signed up. At present, the Town is continuing to promote the location of the tool through social media posts. The Notify Me tool will continue to be promoted in outgoing communication.
Action SF-1.2.M	Establish a user-friendly digital service that provides the public with quick, easy access to the Town’s services and information while offering high-quality customer/citizen service.	Ongoing	Administrative	Information Technology	Human Resources, Purchasing	The Town's IT Department continues to manage consistent updates to the Town webpage, news releases, Facebook postings and responses to questions. A substantial website redesign is also scheduled for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.
Action SF-1.2.N	Upgrade emergency services radio network to digital along with wireless infrastructure upgrades to reduce impacts of wind-related communication interruptions.	ST-1-5 years Ongoing	Facilities	Westerly Police Department	Dept Public Works (Utilities), Information Technology	The radio system was completely upgraded in 2019. “Hot spots” for Wi-Fi have been added in each of the police cruisers for the body camera system, which can be used for emergency events. These are inspected regularly, updated, and replaced as needed.
Action SF-1.2.O	Improve use and awareness of evacuation routes across municipality via educational outreach, better mapping of alternative routes and closures, enhanced understanding of flood impacts, and installation of early warning systems.	ST-1-5 years Ongoing	Program	Emergency Managert	Westerly Police Department, Dept Public Works (Highway)	Emergency evacuation route signs are in good condition, and all route signs are marked off according to the map. It was noticed in 2022, especially in the Misquamicut area, that the distance between some of signs was too far apart and to resolve this, we ordered four Evacuation Route Signs. These are now installed. Westerly also reviews re-entry checkpoint locations annually with the police and fire chiefs to ensure the locations are appropriate for areas likely to be evacuated.

	Infrastructure	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
GOAL INF-1	Sustainable infrastructure will be in place to ensure water quality, efficient wastewater treatment, and effective stormwater management.					
Policy INF-1.1	Enhance the resiliency of Westerly’s water system by developing programs and projects that improve maintenance and provide protection and redundancy.					
Action INF-1.1.A	Amend the Land Development and Subdivision Regulations to provide standards that align infrastructure demands associated with new development and redevelopment with capacity.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services Dept Public Works (Eng)	Jacobs, C & E Engineering, State	The Utilities Department reviews all development projects proposing new water and/or sewer service, with assistance from Jacobs & C&E Engineering, to ensure capacity is available. Amendments to the Land Development and Subdivision Regulations have not been prepared as of 2026. The Utilities Division has engaged Jacobs to prepare a Town-wide hydraulic model of the wastewater network, and has started requiring developers to complete a wastewater hvrdraulic model to confirm adequate sewer capacity.
Action INF-1.1.B	Prepare a <i>Source Water Protection Plan</i> to reduce or eliminate existing and potential risks to the drinking water quality of the public water system.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works (Utilities)	State	The Town has begun discussions regarding preparation of this plan; early projections estimate completion in conjunction with the upcoming WSSMP due at the end of the year.
Action INF-1.1.C	Assess the current condition of all active well sites and the possibility of physical damage or contamination by either man-made or natural hazards. Create a monitoring and maintenance program to ensure long-term viability.	ST 1-5 years, Ongoing	Study	Dept Public Works (Utilities)	State	The Utilities Department performs annual inspections on the physical condition of well sites and weekly sampling of water quality. We have also implemented a redevelopment schedule with our contractor for all wells to be on a cycle.
Action INF-1.1.D	Review the adequacy of security measures providing protection to wellheads, pump stations, and water tanks and take appropriate actions to address any security concerns identified.	ST 1-5 years, Ongoing	Study	Dept Public Works (Utilities)		The Utilities Department is satisfied with current security of the wellheads, pump stations, and water tanks. Cages, alarms, and locked vaults protect the infrastructure. Security cameras have also recently been installed at all wellfield and pumping stations. Additionally, a hyrdraulic study for both water and sewer usage is now required by the utilities department prior to approval of any new development/redevelopment.
Action INF-1.1.F	Study existing and projected effects of drought on local public health and safety, economic activity, and environmental resources in preparation for a drought response plan.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Public Works (Utilities)	Dept Development Services	Currently in discussion with DOA on ongoing drought conditions across the state. We have also proposed to the local town council to implement a yearly odd/even water ban from Memorial Day - Labor Day starting May of 2027.
Action INF-1.1.H	Review and revise local regulations and provide for enforcement for the long-term protection of water quality.	ST 1-5 years, Ongoing	Enforcement	Dept Public Works (Utilities)	Dept Development Services (Utilities), State	The APOD amendments and Sewer ordinance amendments improved protection of groundwater quality. Disconnection of illicit discharges of stormwater into the sewer system is currently being enforced. Enforcement ongoing with these ordinances and SESC & Stormwater requirements.
Action INF-1.1.I	Continue annual communications from Utilities Division informing residents about actions they can take to improve water quality.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Development Services (Utilities)		Utilities Dept annually sends out EPA Water Quality Report.
Action INF-1.1.J	Reduce undesirable chemicals in the municipal well system.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Development Services (Utilities)	Dept Development Services, Department of Health	The APOD amendments and Sewer ordinance amendments improved protection of groundwater quality. While the current testing indicates no need for action at this time, the Town is continuing to explore options to mitigate PFAS and other contaminants in the municipal well system.
Policy INF-1.2	Ensure high-quality wastewater treatment and prioritize improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Facility.					
Action INF-1.2.A	Prepare and adopt a sewer service expansion plan providing environmental protection, accommodating economic development, and allowing multi-family housing development.	ST 1-5 years, MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Public Works (Utilities)	Jacobs	The Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan update for the capacity of the facility to accommodate existing and reducing nitrate levels, has been approved by DEM for 100% construction documents. RIIB funding was approved in July 2026 and construction has just begun. \$1.8 million in grant funding is also going toward this project from the EPA.
Action INF-1.2.B	Pursue available state and federal funding to improve the wastewater treatment system.	Ongoing	Budget	Dept Public Works (Utilities)	Dept Development Services, Jacobs	The Town has applied for and obtained grant funding for a variety of wastewater treatment system upgrades. Grants were awarded to improve resiliency of Canal Street pump stations. Grants for upgrades to the WWTF were not awarded.
Action INF-1.2.C	Test sewer lines for groundwater infiltration on an annual basis.	Ongoing	Administrative	Dept Public Works (Eng and Utilities)	Dept Development Services	The Town has an ongoing annual sanitary sewer inspection program with Weston & Sampson where defects, including groundwater infiltration, are assessed and addressed as part of the annual sewer lining program.
Policy INF-1.3	Improve stormwater drainage treatment and conveyance systems.					
	Prioritize stormwater treatment and conveyance systems for repair and replacement	ST 1-5 years, Ongoing	Study	Dept Public Works	Dept Public Works (Highway), Dept	Stormwater conveyance systems have been reconstructed, repaired, or added to several roads throughout Town. Many of these projects have been prioritized by road resurfacing projects. Green infrastructure such as retention ponds and drywells have been

	Infrastructure	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
Action INF-1.3.A	Monitor stormwater treatment and conveyance systems for repair and replacement based on age and condition and incorporate green infrastructure.	MT 5-10 years	Study Administrative	Dept Public Works (Eng)	(Highway), Dept Development Services	incorporated into several of the stormwater improvements. The Town continues annual inspections of stormwater drainage systems, which primarily focus on roads slated for resurfacing. However, The Town continues to focus on areas with problematic drainage conditions to repair and incorporate green infrastructure where feasible and effective.
Action INF-1.3.B	Reduce groundwater infiltration into wastewater treatment system with facility upgrades and a grey water program.	MT 5-10 years LT 10 years+ Ongoing	Facilities	Dept Public Works (Engineering and Utilities)	Dept Public Works (Highway), Dept Development Services	water and sewer line upgrades are performed as needed. Additionally, the Town has implemented an illicit connection program; we do home inspections in subareas of the Town each year. We also CCTV approx. 32,000lf a year, making necessary repairs and lining of the pipelines as needed. We have received a \$680,000.00 grant to complete some of this work. The Town has an ongoing annual sanitary sewer inspection program with Weston & Sampson where defects, including groundwater infiltration, are assessed and addressed as part of the annual sewer lining program. The Town has not yet established a grey water program.
Action INF-1.3.C	Identify detrimental land uses in the existing Aquifer Protection Overlay District (APOD) and revise land-use regulations to mitigate negative environmental impacts and limit new development of detrimental land uses in this area.	ST 1-5 years	Study, Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	State, Dept Public Works (Utilities)	The APOD amendments improved protection of groundwater quality.
Action INF-1.3.D	Revise the Zoning Ordinance and Land Development and Subdivision Regulations to reduce the amount of impervious surface allowed in new development and redevelopment projects.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Planning Office worked with URI to complete LID Municipal Self-Assessment and is using that as a guide to incorporate LID development standards in regulations with technical assistance from a consultant. Need to discuss implementation.
Action INF-1.3.E	Revise the Stormwater Management Ordinance to require green infrastructure in new private and public projects during road creation or improvement, installation of pedestrian rights-of-way (including sidewalks), and surface parking areas.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Planning Office worked with URI to complete LID Municipal Self-Assessment and is using that as a guide to incorporate LID development standards in regulations with technical assistance from a consultant. Need to discuss implementation. Draft revisions to the Stormwater Management Ordinance have not been prepared as of 2026.
Goal INF – 2	Proactive management and maintenance of all physical assets under the town’s control, including buildings, roads, and land.					
Policy INF-2.1	Maintain a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that is consistent with the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan and provide timely implementation.					
Action INF-2.1A	Adopt an adequate operational and maintenance budget for all municipal infrastructure.	ST 1-5 years	Budget	Town Council	Finance Department, Finance Board, Dept Public Works	The action is not a priority at this time.
Action INF-2.1.B	Program for new and improved infrastructure to ensure water quality, efficient wastewater treatment, and effective stormwater management.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Public Works	State, Dept Development Services	Incrementally upgrading infrastructure along with TIP projects. Awaiting opportunity to plan for long-term maintenance. Currently part of CIP discussion.
Action INF-2.1.C	Create orderly and efficient provision of infrastructure facilities and services through long-range capital facilities planning consistent with this Plan.	ST 1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Administrative	Dept Public Works	Finance Board, Finance Department	Westerly’s Department of Public Works is currently engaged in discussion as part of the CIP process.
Action INF-2.1.D	Address deficiencies, if any, to accommodate desired future growth and development.	Ongoing	Administrative	Dept Public Works		Wastewater Treatment Facility upgrade plan is currently underway. See INF-1.2A.
Action INF-2.1.E	Establish electronic infrastructure to increase access to high-quality internet and Wi-Fi communications for businesses, government, schools, and organizations that support the public.	ST 1-5 years	Technology	Information Technology Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Purchasing	IT indicated developed portions of town have plenty of high-quality internet & wifi, all provided by private entities.
Action INF-2.1.F	Develop strategies to address potential SLR, storm surge, and other climate changes on Westerly’s infrastructure.	ST 1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Development Services	Dept Public Works, Emergency Management, State	WWTF and pump station resiliency upgrades ongoing. Plans to implement fiber connections through Town sites to increase connection speeds and resilience by 2025. HMP&FMP includes plans for highways and other facilities.
Action INF-2.1.G	Continue to improve the Town’s GIS data on existing water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure.	Ongoing	Technology	Information Technology Dept Public Works	New England GeoSystems (NEGEO)	The Engineering Division continuously verifies and adjusts the stormwater and sewer GIS data.

	Energy	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY26-27 YEAR 6
GOAL NRG-1	Renewable energy generation will be increasingly available to the community.					
Policy NRG-1.1	Encourage the development of and residential access to renewable energy resources.					
Action NRG-1.1.A	Seek partnerships with other organizations to facilitate renewable energy initiatives.	Ongoing	Policy	Town Council Town Manager		Solar panels installed on the DPW building at Larry Hirsch Lane. Town is pursuing potential solar development on the landfill.
Action NRG-1.1.B	Support RIRRC in any undertaking of a waste-to-energy program.	Ongoing	Policy	Town Council Town Manager	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	This action item is ongoing.
Action NRG-1.1.C	Study the suitability of integrating wind energy systems within the municipality as part of a strategic energy plan.	ST 1-5 years	Study	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Public Safety	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action NRG-1.1.D	Revise the Zoning Ordinance and Land Development and Subdivision Regulations to encourage the installation of on-site renewable energy generation facilities in new developments and redevelopment projects.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Providers	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action NRG-1.1.E	Review current regulations to further allow renewable energy generation in appropriate areas of the community.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Providers	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Policy NRG-1.2	Continue to reduce Westerly's dependence on fossil fuels.					
Action NRG-1.2.A	Review capital improvement requests to include steps towards carbon reduction.	Ongoing	Administrative	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Finance Board	This action is ongoing.
Action NRG-1.2.B	Consult the State of Rhode Island, the State of Connecticut, and neighboring municipalities on technological advances in the generation of electrical power for compatibility with the community and potential incorporation into municipal regulations.	ST 1-5 years	Study	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Purchasing	Limited progress has been made on this action item.
Action NRG-1.2.C	Through facility improvements and fleet replacement, decrease the overall annual volume of greenhouse gas emissions produced by municipal facilities and vehicles.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works (Facilities and Highway)	Purchasing, Westerly Public Schools	Solar panels installed on the DPW building at Larry Hirsch Lane. Town is pursuing potential solar development on the landfill.
Action NRG-1.2.D	Achieve at least 15% of the Town's total municipal thermal energy consumption being sourced from renewable energy by 2035 by including alternative energy technology in all municipal capital projects.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Purchasing, Westerly Public Schools	Limited progress has been made on this action item.
Action NRG-1.2.E	Review and revise regulations to limit the amount of land disturbance during site development and construction to protect carbon sinks, such as forests and fields.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Planning Office worked with URI to complete LID Municipal Self-Assessment and is using that as a guide to incorporate LID development standards. Discussion and draft revisions to regulations that limit land disturbance have not progressed as of 2026.
GOAL NRG-2	Westerly will use energy resources efficiently to mitigate climate-related quality-of-life and public health impacts and reduce energy consumption.					
Policy NRG-2.1	Ensure all existing and future energy infrastructure is planned, constructed, and adequately monitored to avoid negative impacts to the local environment and the community's quality of life, including public health.					
Action NRG-2.1.A	Require re-vegetation, specifically the re-planting of trees, of properties disturbed through development of energy infrastructure to protect carbon sinks, such as forests and fields.	Ongoing	Policy	Dept Public Works (Highway)	Purchasing	Planning Office worked with URI to complete LID Municipal Self-Assessment and is using that as a guide to incorporate LID development standards.
Action NRG-2.1.B	Amend the Zoning Ordinance and Land Development and Subdivision Regulations to require the incorporation of elements for reducing surface solar heat conduction and wind velocity, such as by increasing the area(s) of proposed greenscapes and/or avoiding the use of thermal-conductive impervious materials.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	State	Planning Office worked with URI to complete LID Municipal Self-Assessment and is using that as a guide to incorporate LID development standards.

	Energy	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY26-27 YEAR 6
Action NRG-2.1.C	Pursue local agricultural production and food availability to reduce the community's energy consumption.	Ongoing	Program	Dept of Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	This action item is ongoing.
Policy NRG-2.2	Reduce energy consumption across all municipal facilities and public infrastructure.					
Action NRG-2.2.A	Publicize State-level and non-profit programs which assist qualifying applicants in home weatherization activities to improve energy efficiency.	Ongoing	Program	Purchasing	Dept Development Services	This action is ongoing.
Action NRG-2.2.B	Adopt a strategic energy plan in accordance with Energy 2035, the Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, and RIIB requirements, with assistance from a qualified energy consultant.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Town Council, Town Manager	An Energy Management Plan was created in 2016, setting quantitative energy goals, a renewable energy goal, and a low emissions vehicle fleet goal. This plan should be updated in accordance with RIIB requirements.
Action NRG-2.2.C	Pursue opportunities to provide publicly accessible electric charging stations and local government workplace charging through the Electrify RI Program.	ST 1-5 years	Facilities	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Dept Development Services	The Town installed electric charging stations for Town vehicles in the Town Hall parking lot in 2021.
Action NRG-2.2.D	Investigate both the costs and benefits of electric charging stations to commercial development.	ST 1-5 years	Study	Dept of Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Dept Development Services	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action NRG-2.2.E	Require all newly constructed municipal buildings and public schools to be LEED-certified.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Purchasing, Westerly Public Schools	This action is ongoing.
Action NRG-2.2.F	Require all new fixtures and appliances used in municipal buildings and public schools to be Energy Star® rated.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Facilities	Dept Public Works (Facilities)	Purchasing, Westerly Public Schools	Completed - all new fixtures and appliances are energy star rated.
Action NRG-2.2.G	Purchase hybrid and/or electric vehicles (EVs), including public school buses, to replace existing fossil fuel-powered vehicles.	ST 1-5 years Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works (Highway)	Purchasing, Finance Department	Capital requests included EV school buses in 2021 and 2022.

	Transportation Network	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
GOAL TRANS-1	Residents and visitors will have access to a high-quality, multi-modal transportation network that includes options for travel by air, land, and water.					
Policy TRANS-1.1	Enhance the efficiency and resiliency of Westerly's multi-modal transportation system.					
Action TRANS-1.1.A	Adopt a complete streets program to be phased in through future pavement resurfacing and road reconstruction projects and provide for long-term and continued reinvestment.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services Dept Public Works (Eng)	Dept Public Works (Highway), Westerly Police Dept	The Town currently has a complete street inventory which includes a resurfacing and reconstruction plan. The Town executed a contract with BETA Group, Inc. to complete a condition assessment of all Town roads, which will be utilized for preparing a phased program schedule and budgetary costs of road resurfacing and preventative maintenance. This assessment is scheduled to begin in Fall of 2026.
Action TRANS-1.1.B	Motivate residents living in close proximity to downtown to walk or bike as a means to conserve parking spaces for other residents and visitors travelling to downtown from further distances.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Dept Development Services Dept Public Works (Highway)	Department of Transportation, Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action TRANS-1.1.C	Study the establishment of active transportation (walking and cycling) infrastructure within existing municipal rights-of-way.	MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Development Services Dept Public Works (Eng)	Recreation Department, Dept Public Works (Highway)	This topic was investigated in the Route 1 Corridor Plan and will be considered in other areas of Town. Bradford Village has the potential for a Greenway connecting neighborhoods to Dunn's Corners area. No further study has been planned as of summer 2026.
Action TRANS-1.1.D	Pursue, with RIPTA, the opportunity for a transit mobility hub, the expansion of the Flex-bus route, the inclusion of Misquamicut State Beach on the existing seasonal beach, and special event bus service.	MT 5-10 years	Partnership	Dept Development Services	Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, Misquamicut Business Association, Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	Members of the EDC, Planning Staff, the Town Manager, and Town Council president met with RIPTA regarding a bus from Downtown to the beach. A pilot study to determine ridership demand was discussed.
Action TRANS-1.1.E	Collaborate with the regional neighboring towns in Rhode Island and Connecticut to thoroughly study the feasibility and projected outcomes of connecting additional transportation networks, such as an off-street bike path	MT 5-10 years	Partnership Study	Town Council	Recreation Department, Towns Dept Development Services	An extension of the Southern Connecticut Rail line to Westerly Train Station is being studied.
Action TRANS-1.1.F	Pursue the remediation of 14-18 Canal Street (Assessor's Map 56, Lots 26 and 27) for potential use as a public parking lot.	ST 1-5 years	Policy	Town Manager Town Council	Dept Development Services	COMPLETE - This property has been remediated and is now a public parking lot.
Action TRANS-1.1.G	Incorporate appropriate, non-auto-dependent land-use patterns in future neighborhood plans.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Westerly Police Department, Dept Public Works (Eng)	This topic was investigated in the Route 1 Corridor Plan, and will be considered in other areas of Town.
Action TRANS-1.1.H	Through small area planning, seek better non-automotive connections between neighborhoods and key locations for satisfying daily errands and common personal needs.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Westerly Police Department, Dept Public Works (Eng)	This topic was investigated in the Route 1 Corridor Plan, and will be considered in other areas of Town.
Action TRANS-1.1.I	Review and revise off-street parking regulations in the Zoning Ordinance to incorporate automobile parking maximums based on need, the inclusion of bicycle parking minimum, and access to transit.	ST 1-5 years	Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board))		This item is being incorporated in the Route 1 Corridor Plan implementation.
Action TRANS-1.1.J	Research, identify, and apply appropriate strategies that provide public access to the coast and the Pawcatuck River.	ST 1-5 years	Study	Dept Development Services Harbor Manager	Conservation Commission	This topic is being investigated in several projects, including the RCOD, Westerly Marina site, Whtie Rock Kayak Launch, and investigation of ROW to the shore. Additionally, the White Rock kayak launch was completed in 2025, and new ROW signage has been installed at several sites.
Action TRANS-1.1.K	Coordinate with RIDOT to better identify Route 216 and Route 91 as bicycle routes with proper signage.	MT 5-10 years	Partnership	Dept Development Services Dept Public Works (Highway)	Rhode Island Department of Transportation	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Policy TRANS-1.2	Promote Amtrak service as a travel option for residents and visitors.					
Action TRANS-1.2.A	Collaborate with RIDOT, RIPTA, Amtrak, and other relevant agencies to augment the use and role of Westerly Station within Downtown and the surrounding region.	MT 5-10 years	Partnership	Dept Development Services	Rhode Island Department of Transportation, Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, etc.	An extension of the Southern Connecticut Rail line to Westerly Train Station is being studied.
Action TRANS-1.2.B	Pursue a public-private partnership to provide high-quality redevelopment, and revitalization within a half-mile radius of Westerly Station that is vibrant, compact, and pedestrian-oriented.	MT 5-10 years	Study Partnership	Dept Development Services	Westerly Education Center, State	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action TRANS-1.2.C	Through TOD, promote, enhance, and develop the conditions for increased ridership on the Northeast Regional line to and from Westerly Station.	LT 10 years +	Zoning & Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)		This action item is not a priority at this time.

	Transportation Network	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
Action TRANS-1.2.D	Work with RIDOT and Amtrak to establish monitoring and maintenance of all pedestrian access areas of Westerly Station, including the underpass.	ST 1-5 years	Partnership	Town Manager Town Council	Rhode Island Department of Transportation	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action TRANS-1.2.E	Seek a feasibility study on extending MBTA's Providence line and/or ConnDOT's Shoreline East to Westerly Station.	LT 10 years+	Study	Town Manager Town Council	Dept Development Services	The Planning Office has been in communication with ConnDOT's Shoreline East program looking to extend to Westerly Station.
Action TRANS-1.2.F	Encourage ridership by disseminating information about local Amtrak service.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	This action item is ongoing and a subset of Amtrak and Commuter Rail efforts.
Action TRANS-1.2.G	Collect Amtrak ridership statistics to monitor, study and subsequently determine the nature and extent of TOD appropriate to Downtown Westerly.	Ongoing	Administrative	Dept Development Services		The Westerly Rail Advocates group continues to study Amtrak ridership and opportunities for TOD; the Town continues to support their efforts whenever possible.
GOAL TRANS-2	Transportation in and around Westerly will ensure safe, efficient, and equitable travel which enhances the quality of life for both residents and visitors.					
Policy TRANS-2.1	Ensure traffic safety, including means of ingress and egress and particularly pedestrian and motor vehicle operator safety, is considered in the review of all future development plans.					
Action TRANS-2.1.A	Through TOD regulatory changes, promote walkability and require safe, comfortable pedestrian movement within all new construction and redevelopment projects, particularly residential, commercial, and mixed uses.	LT 10 years+	Zoning & Regulation Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Westerly Police Department, Dept Public Works (Eng)	This topic was investigated in the Route 1 Corridor Plan, and will be considered in other areas of Town.
Action TRANS-2.1.B	Revise the Land Development and Subdivision Regulations to require all future traffic impact analyses conducted as part of application submissions to examine pedestrians and bike riders/cyclists in addition to automobiles.	ST 1-5 years	Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Dept Public Works (Eng)	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action TRANS-2.1.C	Revise the Land Development and Subdivision Regulations to incorporate road design standards as a requirement for the approval of all new public and private street creations and for any opening of existing paper streets.	ST 1-5 years	Regulation Amendments	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Dept Public Works (Eng)	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Policy TRANS-2.2	Ensure that the municipal transportation system, including, but not limited to roads, bridges, and culverts, effectively and resiliently meets the community's needs.					
Action TRANS-2.2.A	Increase enforcement of snow and ice removal from sidewalks to meet ADA standards to the greatest extent feasible and revise the Sidewalk Snow Removal Ordinance to include childcare centers, post-secondary schools, senior centers, and any place that serves as an emergency shelter and/or warming center.	ST 1-5 years	Enforcement	Westerly Police Department	Dept Public Works (Highway)	
Action TRANS-2.2.B	Establish a program to prioritize and replace all remaining curbs at intersections with ADA-compliant ramps.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Dept Public Works (Highway)	The Engineering Division has worked with the Planning Division under CDBG grants to reconstruct at least 25 sidewalk wheelchair ramps to comply with ADA guidelines. The Engineering Division has overseen reconstruction of over 3,000 linear feet of sidewalks equipped with ADA compliant wheelchair ramps on Church Street in Bradford. An ongoing Town-wide Sidewalk Improvements project is undertaking approximately \$1,000,000 in sidewalk repairs, reconstructions, and construction of ADA-compliant wheelchair ramps. The Town GPS located and conducted a condition assessment of all Town sidewalks in 2021, which is used as a baseline for project planning. The condition assessment notes all wheelchair ramps that are not ADA-compliant, but a direct program to prioritize replacement has not progressed. Replacement of sidewalks and wheelchair ramps are conducted annually based on contriubting factors such as overall sidewalk condition, frequency of pedestrian use, and proximity to schools, churches, medical care facilities, and the communicated public interest.

	Transportation Network	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
Action TRANS-2.2.C	Identify unsafe intersections for submission as potential projects to be funded through the State Transportation Improvement Program.	ST 1- 5 years	Program	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Dept Development Services, Westerly Police Department, Dept Public Works (Highway)	Unsafe intersections are immediately addressed once identified and if needed a traffic study is done by the Special Services Division. RIDOT upgrade of signalized intersections and cross walks studied in early 2022. The Town identified several intersections that were studied as part of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Safe Streets for All (SS4A) program, which was supported by funding secured by the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) in 2023. The objective of the program is to develop a tailored safety action plan with comprehensive analysis, public engagement, high-risk area identification, safety improvement recommendations, and future funding guidance. In 2026, the Town prepared and submitted a grant application for the FY26 Safe Streets and Roads for All Funding for the redesign and construction of the intersection of Broad Street, Granite Street, and Elm Street.
Action TRANS-2.2.D	Develop an implementation plan to standardize and increase the use of marked crosswalks and install new sidewalks and clear trails in residential neighborhoods, commercial centers, and within the vicinity of schools, child care centers, civic institutions, and Westerly Train Station.	ST 1-5 years	Program	Dept Public Works (Eng)	Westerly Police Department, Dept Public Works (Highway), Dept Development Services	This topic was investigated in the Route 1 Corridor Plan, and will be considered in other areas of Town. Development of a plan as part of this action item has not progressed as of 2026.
Action TRANS-2.2.E	Partner with local organizations to improve public health, community engagement, and mobility independence, particularly for seniors and youth.	Ongoing	Partnership	Dept Development Services (Economic Development Commission)	Age-Friendly Westerly	Town staff continues to collaborate with Age Friendly Westerly partners—including Yale New Haven Health, Wood River Health, the Westerly Senior Center, Westerly Village, and more—to improve all aspects of wellness for seniors.
Action TRANS-2.2.G	Seek better and more accessible traffic data collection to improve the Town's future transportation planning and related decision-making.	ST 1-5 years	Administrative	Westerly Police Department	Dept Public Works (Highway)	There is plenty of traffic collection equipment in use and police are continuously doing studies as needed and will report accordingly any issues regarding traffic and future transportation issues.
Action TRANS-2.2.H	Consult with the State on potentially transformative impacts on traffic flow and safety from advances in motor vehicle autonomy.	Ongoing	Study	Westerly Police Department	Dept Public Works (Eng), Rhode Island Department of Transportation	This action is ongoing as the Westerly Polic Department routinely consults with the State on traffic flow and safety on a range of issues, including autonomous motor vehicles
Policy TRANS-2.3	Employ best practices to maintain a balance between Westerly State Airport's activities and quality of service and the quality of life in surrounding neighborhoods.					
Action TRANS-2.3.A	Work with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), RIAC, and elected State officials to ensure adequate and appropriate public involvement takes place as part of future planning for WST.	ST 1-5 years	Partnership	Town Manager Town Council	Dept Development Services, Rhode Island Airport Corporation, Federal Aviation Administration	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action TRANS-2.3.B	Develop a long-term plan that defines the future of WST and surrounding property, including public safety, emergency management, and economic benefits.	MT 5-10 years	Program	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Town Council, Rhode Island Airport Corporation	This action item is not a priority at this time.

	Natural Hazards and Resiliency	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5
GOAL RES-1	Westerly will be a resilient community, prepared for immediate and long-term environmental threats.					
Policy RES-1.1	Prioritize and protect at-risk municipal structures, property, and utilities.					
Action RES-1.1.A	Include floodplain management criteria in any future decisions by the Town to acquire or sell property located within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) or 500-year floodplain.	ST-1-5 years Ongoing	Program Administrative	Town Council Town Manger	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Atlantic Avenue property acquisition in partnership with RIDEM, CRMC & NOAA
Action RES-1.1.B	Work with the State of Rhode Island, the State of Connecticut, the Town of Stonington, the Town of North Stonington, and USACE to re-engineer and prevent potential failure of bridges in the event of a flood.	Ongoing	Administrative	Town Council Town Manager	Emergency Management, Dept Public Works (Highway), State	Awaiting opportunity
Action RES-1.1.C	Work with utility companies in identifying and replacing utility infrastructure that is determined to be vulnerable to natural hazards.	ST-1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Study	Dept Public Works	National Grid, etc. RI Energy	Westerly's Department of Public Works is working with RI Energy as well as local, award-winning, contractors to continue identifying opportunities to replace utility infrastrucutre that may be vulnerable to natural hazards.
Action RES-1.1.D	Identify and pursue grant opportunities to mitigate the vulnerability of existing utility infrastructure, such as requiring the installation of utilities underground in new developments to avoid damage from high winds and/or falling trees.	ST-1-5 years, Ongoing	Administrative	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Dept Public Works	Flood walls constructed around old and new Canal Street pump stations using grant funding- completed Sept 2022. Tree removal around public infrastructure vulnerable to falling trees was completed in 2022-2023 and will continue in the future, and others. Flood resilience measures around the Margin St pump station are being constructed and are grant funded.
Policy RES-1.2	Anticipate new development, redevelopment, structural elevations, and, if necessary, retreat from coastal shorelines and riparian zones in especially vulnerable areas.					
Action RES-1.2.A	Require design and construction in strict conformance with building code requirements and hazard mitigation strategies in the floodplain.	ST-1-5 years Ongoing	Enforcement	Dept Development Services	State	The Building office ensures all construction is in strict conformance with building codes and hazard mitigation strategies in the floodplain. The Town also participates in the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) which is a voluntary incentive program recognizing and encouraging community floodplain management practices that exceed the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
Action RES-1.2.B	Adopt regulations reinforcing CRMC requirements and conditions to protect and preserve existing native vegetation in vulnerable areas.	MT 5-10 years	Regulations	Dept Development Services	Recreation Department	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Action RES-1.2.C	Replace native vegetation on publicly owned open space properties within the SFHA where missing, damaged, or lost due to storm surge, beginning with the barrier beach/dune restoration.	MT 5-10 years Ongoing	Program	Dept Public Works	Recreation Department	Native vegetation replacement is conducted on an annual basis by Westerly's Department of Public Works at Barrier Beach and Dunes Park Beach.
Action RES-1.2.D	Determine changes needed to the Land Development and Subdivision Regulations and Zoning Ordinance for better protection of infrastructure within the SFHA and areas under regulation by the Shoreline Change SAMP.	MT 5-10 years	Zoning & Regulation Amendment	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Dept Public Works	This action item is not a priority at this time.
Policy RES-1.3	Prepare for the occurrence of extreme weather events and develop mitigation policies and procedures that best reduce fiduciary risk.					
Action RES-1.3.A	Comprehensively study existing and future land uses in areas most vulnerable to coastal erosion and storm surge and, with robust public engagement, evaluate alternatives to mitigate risk.	ST-1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Study	Emergency Manager Planning Office, Principal Planner Envionmental	Dept Development Services, Planning Board, State, Watch Hill Conservancy	Action item is not a priority at this time; will be referred to Principal Planner, Envionrmental for next update.
Action RES-1.3.B	Discuss, as a community, how best to curtail new development in the Coastal Barrier Resource System (CBRS), and all areas directly exposed to the Atlantic Ocean, in order to maintain natural resources that attract tourists and seasonal renters, while best providing for the safety of residents and visitors.	ST-1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Public Outreach	Emergency Manager Planning Office, Principal Planner Envionmental	Dept Development Services, Planning Board	Action item is not a priority at this time; will be referred to Principal Planner, Envionrmental for next update.
Action RES-1.3.C	Establish a protocol to pre-position public works forces and/or equipment prior to anticipated flood events to better remove flood debris as it is accumulating.	ST-1-5 years, Ongoing	Administrative	Emergency Manager	Dept Public Works	Westerly's Department of Public Works has discussed and planned for this at Emergency Management Agency (EMA) meetings. No formal written documentation

	Natural Hazards and Resiliency	IMPLEMENTATION HORIZON	ITEM TYPE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	LIKELY PARTNERS	STATUS ENTERING FY25-26 YEAR 5	
Action RES-1.3.D	Pursue completion of the action outlined in the Hazard Mitigation Plan and update the Plan at least every five years, as needed, and after every major natural hazard event which impacts the community.	ST 1-5 years MT 5-10 years, Ongoing	Administrative	Emergency Manager	Dept Public Works, Dept Development Services, etc.	HMP &FMP completed in March 2023, implementation is ongoing, with the advisory committee meeting every 6 months.	
Action RES-1.3.E	Establish a Resilience Committee to strategically plan for and operationalize more economic, social, ecological, and infrastructure resilience across the municipality.	ST 1-5 years MT 5-10 years	Administrative	Emergency Manager Town Council	Dept Public Works	Action item is not a priority at this time; will be referred to Principal Planner, Envionrmental for next update.	
Action RES-1.3.F	Dredge Winnapaug Pond and western Quonochontaug Pond in an ecologically responsible manner and use soils for local salt marsh restoration and beach nourishment projects.	Ongoing	Program	Dept Development Services	Army Corps of Engineers, State	Winnapaug Pond was dredged in late 2021. Sediment was used for eelgrass restoration within the pond. Test Plots were planted in June 2022.	
Action RES-1.3.G	Develop a priority map for the preservation of natural areas across the municipality that are not currently protected and will enhance resilience and plan for their acquisition.	ST 1-5 years, Ongoing	Study, Administrative	Dept Development Services (Planning Board)	Conservation Commission	Pursued as the opportunity is presented.	
Policy RES-1.4	Improve the water quality and navigability of the Pawcatuck River and Little Narragansett Bay.						
Action RES-1.4.A	Secure funding and remove the Potter Hill Dam.	ST 1-5 years, Ongoing	Study	Dept Development Services	National Conservation and WP, Recreation Department	The Town secured funding for dam removal activities through NOAA; funding was discontinued in 2026.	
Action RES-1.4.B	Propose local and State legislation requiring any new bridges and/or bridge replacements crossing the Pawcatuck River to include decks that fully span the River between abutments and avoid any structural need for piers or piles.	ST 1-5 years	Legislation	Town Manager Town Council	State Representatives	Awaiting an opportunity to pursue.	
Action RES-1.4.C	Repair the Stillmanville Bridge and remove the Stillmanville Dam as a combined construction project.	MT 5-10 years	Facility	Town Manager Town Council	Water and Sewer, WP, Stonington	The Stillmanville Dam has been removed and the Stillmanville Bridge has been repaired. However, remnants of the dam remain in the river and need to be removed.	