

Community Character And Quality Of Life

3

Overview

Most people who choose to live in Madison are attracted by the unique character and ambience of the community and the quality of life here. There is a strong appreciation for what Madison has and its importance to community well-being. Preserving and enhancing the character and quality of life in Madison is a key focus of the Plan.

While the elements of community character and quality of life are personal to each resident of Madison, some of the common elements seem to include:

- providing facilities to meet community needs,
- protecting scenic resources (including Long Island Sound),
- providing for open spaces and trails,
- retaining undeveloped land as long as possible,
- preserving historic resources, and
- promoting community spirit (including community events).

This Plan recommends the Town make every possible effort to retain and protect its character assets because these assets are important to residents.

*Efforts to preserve
community
character in
Madison must
continue ...*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The 2000 Plan of Conservation and Development recommended that Madison establish a Conservation Commission to help identify and conserve important resources.

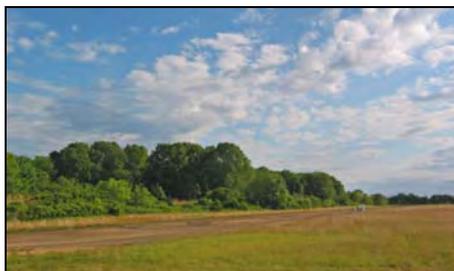
That Commission was established in 2006 and continues to work on a number of issues related to conserving important resources in Madison and educating the community about important conservation topics.

Winter At Hammonasset



Patricia Anderson

Constitution Park



Patricia Anderson

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since adoption of the 2000 POCD, the Town established a facility review committee to evaluate the needs of Town departments and the potential uses of some Town facilities.

This type of process was recommended in the 2000 POCD and is encouraged for the future.

In 2011, a ribbon-cutting was held for a newly constructed Senior Center.

Efforts are underway to evaluate the expansion of the Scranton Memorial Library – a private facility which receives some funding from the Town.

Maintain Excellence In Community Programs

The quality of the programs and facilities offered by the Town are often identified as key features that attract people to Madison. These programs and facilities (such as for education, recreation, public works, and public safety) contribute significantly to Madison’s community character and quality of life. Services and facilities provided by other organizations (library, churches, sports clubs, etc.) also contribute to Madison’s character and quality of life.

In the telephone survey conducted as part of this planning process, 82 percent of residents indicated that Madison is doing a good job managing its community facilities. Ensuring that these facilities are adequate to meet community needs is an important part of a planning process. Madison has established a Joint Facilities Review Committee to evaluate and prioritize potential needs associated with Town and School facilities. This type of approach can help ensure that community facility needs are identified and addressed in a comprehensive way. The Plan recommends that Madison maintain this type of comprehensive approach to addressing community facility needs.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Identify and prioritize community facility needs.
- B. Allow expanded use of school facilities to meet local recreational and community needs.
- C. Seek to re-use and/or re-purpose Town and School facilities.
- D. Consider acquiring land adjacent to existing facilities to enable future expansion since it will be more efficient and economical than establishing new facilities elsewhere.

Complete These Tasks:

- 1. Evaluate possible recreational facility needs.
- 2. Evaluate possible library facility needs.
- 3. If maintaining a volunteer fire department becomes difficult, evaluate long term staffing needs for fire response.
- 4. Implement the Constitution Park master plan.

Daniel Hand High School



Senior Center



Community Facilities Map

Madison, CT

For more detail, see maps online at madisonct.org.

Education

- 1 Jeffrey Elementary School
- 2 Hand High School
- 3 Island Avenue Elementary School
- 4 KH Ryerson Elementary School
- 5 Brown Middle School
- 6 Polson Middle School

Parks and Recreation

- 7 Surf Club
- 8 Bauer Park
- 9 Rockland Preserve
- 10 West Wharf Beach
- 11 East Wharf Beach
- 12 Constitution Park

General

- 13 Town Hall Campus
- 14 Senior Center
- 15 Memorial Town Hall
- 16 Former Academy School

Public Safety

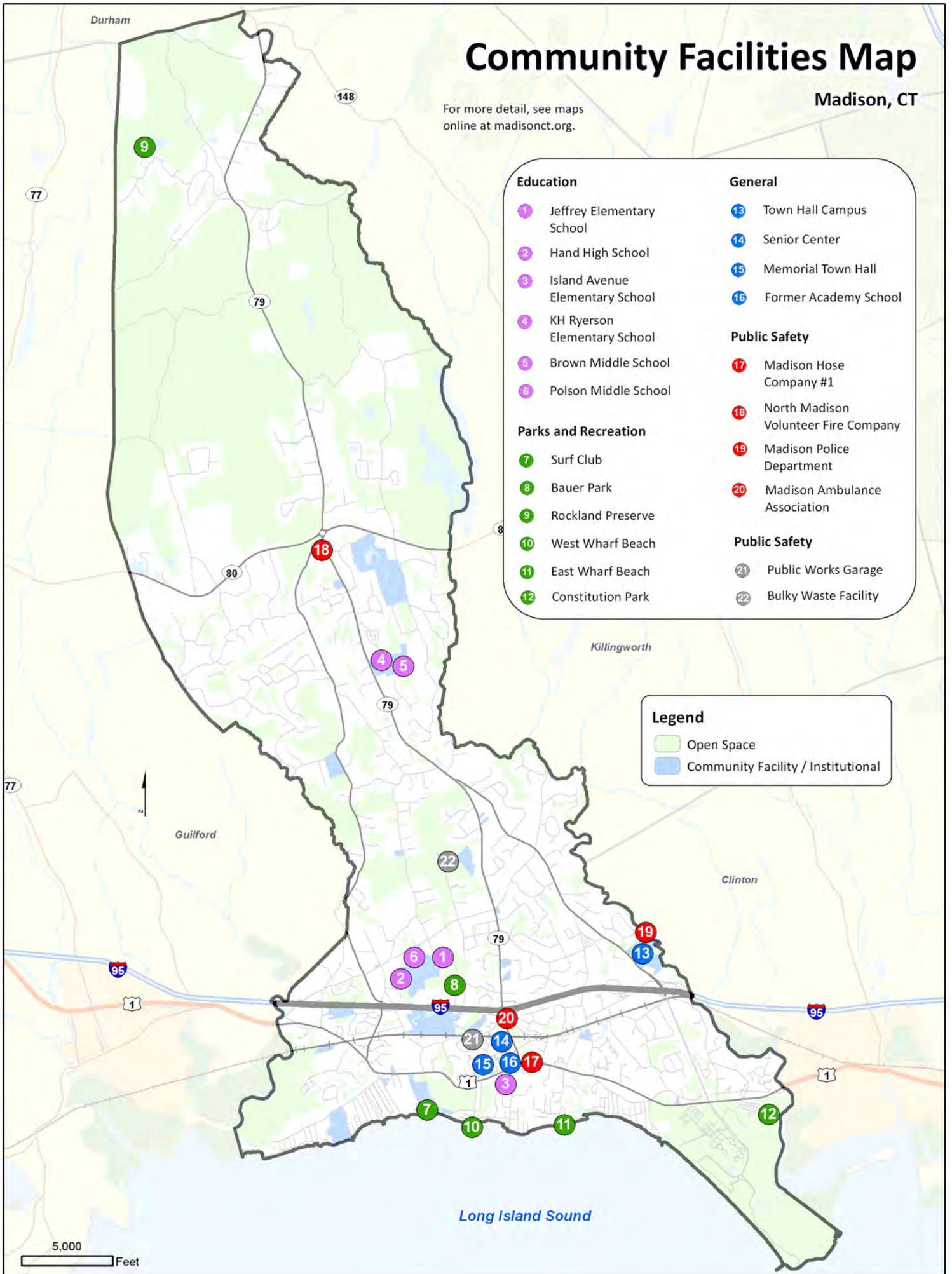
- 17 Madison Hose Company #1
- 18 North Madison Volunteer Fire Company
- 19 Madison Police Department
- 20 Madison Ambulance Association

Public Safety

- 21 Public Works Garage
- 22 Bulky Waste Facility

Legend

-  Open Space
-  Community Facility / Institutional



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The 2000 POCD recommended that Madison work with the Connecticut Department of Transportation to designate some state highways as Scenic Roads.

In 2008, a portion of Route 1 was so designated and there is now a higher level of review associated with State highway projects along this roadway.

In 2010, a portion of Route 80 in North Madison was also designated as a State Scenic Road.

Enhance Community Character

Protect Scenic Resources

For many years, scenic resources have been recognized as one of the features residents appreciate about Madison. The locations of some of the major scenic resources in Madison are presented on the map on the facing page. Scenic resources include:

- areas (scenic areas that are viewed from elsewhere),
- vistas (locations affording scenic views from them),
- roads (routes which are especially scenic), and
- features (such as stone walls, barns, fences, and tree canopies).

In a telephone survey conducted as part of the planning process, 92 percent of respondents indicated that Madison should continue to protect scenic resources such as scenic views and scenic roads. Also from the survey, 60 percent of respondents indicated that Madison should adopt regulations restricting the complete “clear cutting” of all trees from a single lot.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Protect scenic resources.
- B. Maintain a scenic landscape.

Complete These Tasks:

1. Create and maintain an inventory of scenic resources in Madison.
2. Amend local regulations to include scenic resources as a consideration in the review of special permit and subdivision applications.
3. Consider adopting regulations to address “clear cutting” of trees.
4. Protect tree canopies from unreasonable destruction by State or utility pruning.
5. Promote designation of State roads as scenic roads.
6. Adopt a local scenic road ordinance.
7. Identify roads to be designated as local scenic roads.
8. Review local road construction standards to promote more scenic roads.

Scenic Resources Map

Madison, CT

For more detail, see maps online at madisonct.org.

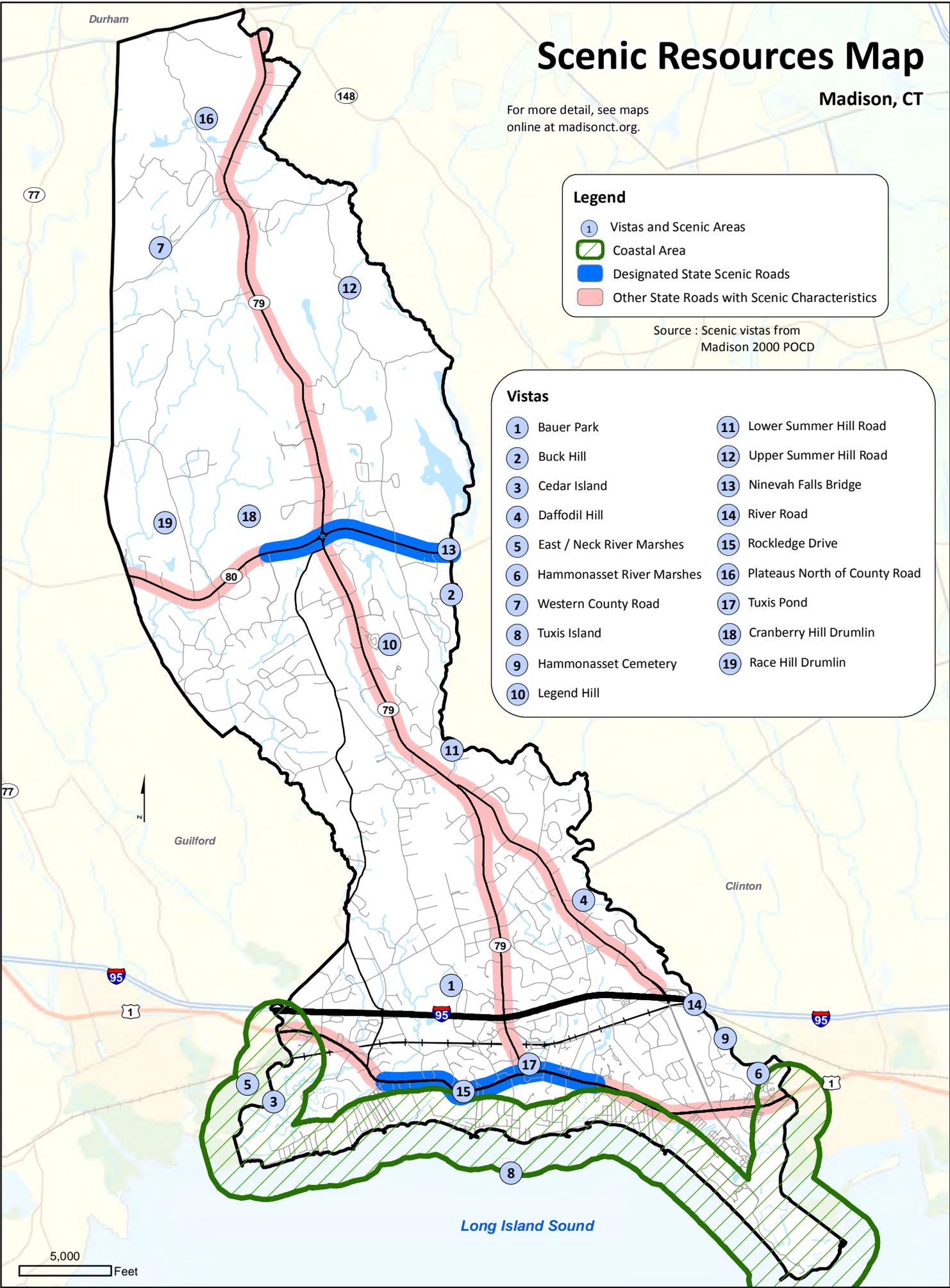
Legend

- 1 Vistas and Scenic Areas
- Coastal Area
- Designated State Scenic Roads
- Other State Roads with Scenic Characteristics

Source : Scenic vistas from Madison 2000 POCD

Vistas

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Bauer Park | 11 Lower Summer Hill Road |
| 2 Buck Hill | 12 Upper Summer Hill Road |
| 3 Cedar Island | 13 Ninevah Falls Bridge |
| 4 Daffodil Hill | 14 River Road |
| 5 East / Neck River Marshes | 15 Rockledge Drive |
| 6 Hammonasset River Marshes | 16 Plateaus North of County Road |
| 7 Western County Road | 17 Tuxis Pond |
| 8 Tuxis Island | 18 Cranberry Hill Drumlin |
| 9 Hammonasset Cemetery | 19 Race Hill Drumlin |
| 10 Legend Hill | |



5,000 Feet

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2005, Madison received a grant from the Connecticut Trust For Historic Preservation to inventory historic properties.

In 2006, Madison adopted a demolition delay ordinance for buildings more than 60 years old. The ordinance allows time for exploring alternatives to demolition or for historical documentation of threatened structures.

Madison established a local historic district in 2007 for an area west of Madison Center . This followed recommendations in the 2000 POCD related to preserving community character and protecting historic resources.

Studies looking at the possibility of establishing additional local historic districts are underway for:

- Liberty Street
- Boston Post Road (west)

Protect Historical And Archeological Resources

Historical buildings and areas as well as archeological sites contribute to the overall character of Madison. Even though historic buildings are a relatively small percentage of all buildings in Madison, they provide an important visual benchmark in terms of the community character and their impact far exceeds their number.

Madison has a variety of historic resources ranging from a local historic district (LHD) to listings on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the State Register of Historic Places (SRHP):

Name	Location	Type
A. Madison Green National Historic District	Boston Post Road	NRHP / SRHP
B. Madison Historic District	Boston Post Road	LHD
1. Allis-Bushnell House (c. 1785)	853 Boston Post Road	NRHP / SRHP
2. Meigs-Bishop House (c. 1695)	45 Wall Street	NRHP / SRHP
3. Jonathan Murray House	76 Scotland Road	NRHP / SRHP
4. Shelley House	248 Boston Post Road	NRHP / SRHP
5. State Park Supply Yard	51 Mill Road	NRHP / SRHP
6. Deacon John Grave House	581 Boston Post Road	NRHP / SRHP
7. Hammonasset Paper Mill	Green Hill Road	NRHP / SRHP

There are other historic buildings and areas in Madison which are not on the National Register or the State Register. Efforts to nominate and recognize these historic resources should continue.

The greatest protection for historic resources comes from sensitive owners (voluntary preservation) and/or establishment of a local district (regulatory oversight). A listing on the National Register of Historic Places provides recognition of a historic resource but does little in terms of protecting it. For example, it does not prevent a property owner from undertaking activities detrimental to the historic resource. Efforts to identify and protect historic resources should continue.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Protect historic resources.
- B. Encourage and support owners of historical resources in preserving those resources.
- C. Work with the Madison Historical Society, Deacon John Grave House, Charlotte Evarts Archives, and other organizations that promote historic preservation.

Complete These Tasks:

- 1. Update the inventory and map of historical and archeological resources in Madison.
- 2. Apply for designation as a Certified Local Government in order to be eligible for funding assistance for historic preservation.
- 3. Provide information on-line about historical resources in Madison.
- 4. As appropriate, designate additional historic districts and/or historic properties.

Historic Resources Map

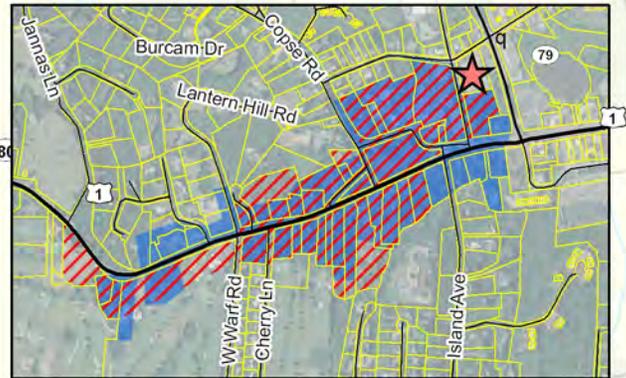
Madison, CT

For more detail, see maps online at madisonct.org.

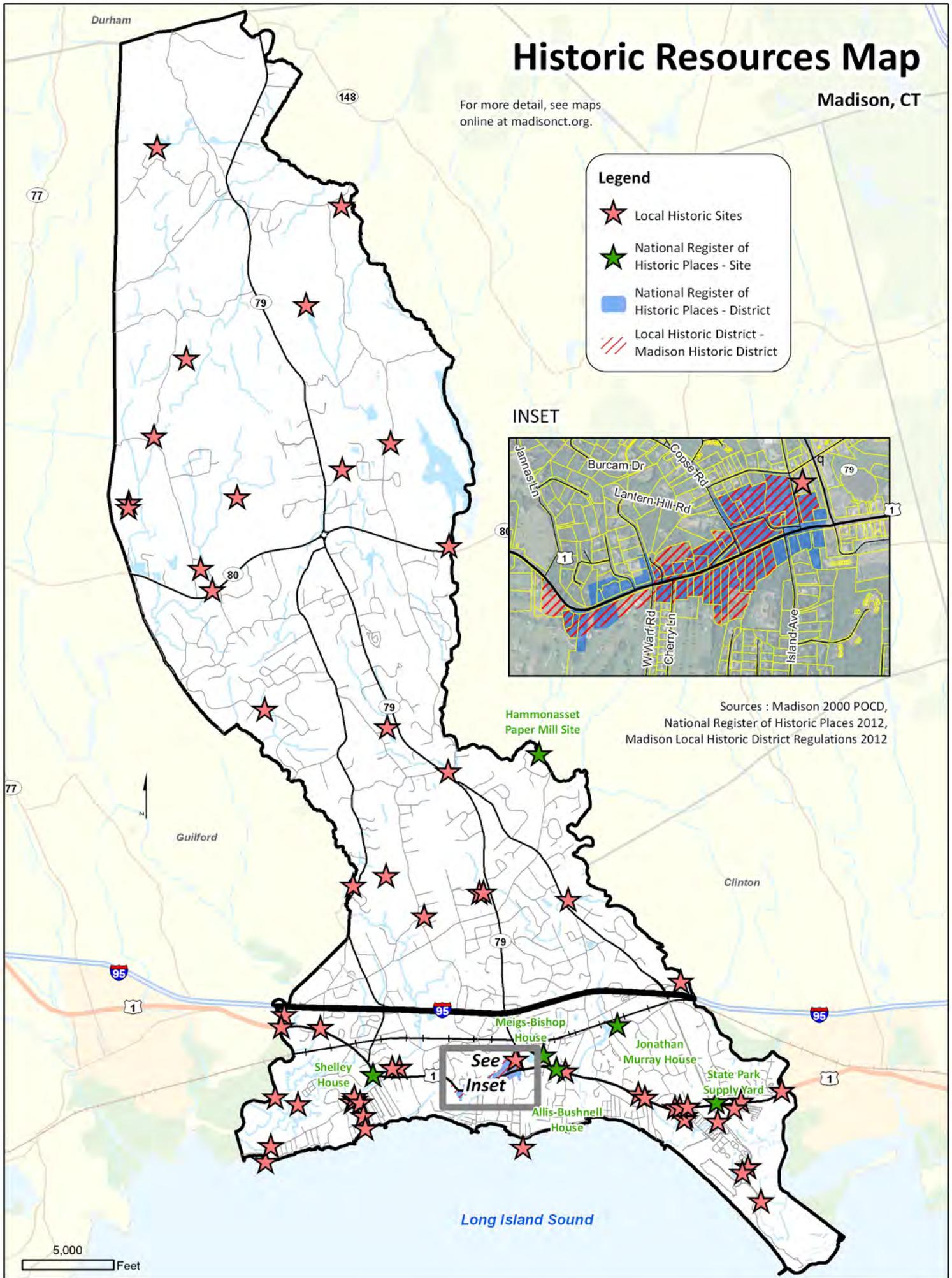
Legend

- ★ Local Historic Sites
- ★ National Register of Historic Places - Site
- National Register of Historic Places - District
- ▨ Local Historic District - Madison Historic District

INSET



Sources : Madison 2000 POCD, National Register of Historic Places 2012, Madison Local Historic District Regulations 2012



Hammonasset Paper Mill Site

Meigs-Bishop House

Jonathan Murray House

Shelley House

Allis-Bushnell House

State Park Supply Yard

Long Island Sound

5,000 Feet

Promote Architectural Character

The architectural style of buildings has an important influence on the overall character of Madison. When buildings are harmonious and complement each other, they enhance the overall character of the area and help create an overall “sense of place”. When buildings are discordant and compete with each other for attention, it can detract from the appearance and attractiveness of a community.

In order to help promote good design and overall architectural character, Madison has had an Advisory Committee on Community Appearance (ACCA) since 1986. This nine-member committee is appointed by the Planning and Zoning Commission to review applications for all uses in business zones and for conditional uses in residential zones and “consider how the proposal for which the application is made will harmonize with and enhance the appearance of the area in which it is situated.” The regulations guiding ACCA are codified in Section 22 of the Madison Zoning Regulations. Some design guidelines are contained in Appendix A, Appendix B, and Section 30 of the zoning regulations.

ACCA submits their *advisory* comments to the Planning and Zoning Commission for consideration as part of any applications referred to it. Although ACCA recommendations are not mandatory, they influence the Commission. This process has proven extremely useful in helping to guide development proposals in Madison for about 30 years. This design review process should be continued and expanded to help guide community design.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Continue the Advisory Committee on Community Appearance.
- B. Maintain a design review process.

Complete These Tasks:

1. Review and refine design guidelines (Appendix A, Appendix B, Section 30) to help inform applicants of desirable (and undesirable) design treatments for areas of Madison.

**Development With
Design Guidelines
(McDonalds in Freeport Maine)**



**Development Without
Design Guidelines
(McDonalds Prototype)**



Minimize Character Detractions

It is important to promote and support the character and quality of life in Madison while minimizing or eliminating those things that detract from community character. For some people, these types of interruptions or distractions can change their overall perception of a community.

Property condition is one element that is important to people. When a property falls into disrepair, it can have a negative effect on adjacent properties and can even extend to an entire neighborhood. Enforcing zoning regulations and health codes is one way to help address these situations. A number of communities (such as Rocky Hill, Newington, Portland) have adopted a property maintenance ordinance which can be a more effective tool to manage the types of situations that may be of concern. Madison should consider adopting such an ordinance.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Enforce local zoning requirements.
- B. Enforce health code requirements.
- C. Enforce lighting regulations.
- D. Enforce sign regulations.

Complete These Tasks:

- 1. Adopt a property maintenance (“blight”) ordinance.
- 2. Review lighting regulations and issues.
- 3. Consider adopting a noise ordinance.
- 4. Review sign regulations and issues.
- 5. Allocate additional resources for streetscape, landscape and sidewalk maintenance.

Sign Enforcement



John De Laura

Property Maintenance / Improvement



Patricia Anderson

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since the 2000 POCD, Madison residents supported the acquisition of the Griswold Airport property for open space and other municipal purposes. This area was named Constitution Park.

In addition, the Selectmen appointed a Committee For Land Acquisition Strategy to help address the preservation of open space.

Preserve Open Lands

Provide For Open Spaces And Trails

Madison residents value the contribution of “open space” to the character of the community and its quality of life. Madison is fortunate that a significant amount of open land is maintained by the South Central Regional Water Authority, the State of Connecticut, the Madison Land Conservation Trust, the Town, and other entities.

In a telephone survey conducted as part of the planning process, it was learned that:

- 70 percent of respondents indicated that Madison should strive to preserve more open space areas,
- 73 percent indicated that Madison should strive to interconnect open spaces into continuous greenbelt areas with public trails, and
- 55 percent indicated that Madison should set aside funds in the budget each year for the purchase of open space.

This support for open space preservation is fairly stable over time. For example, in a telephone survey conducted for the 2000 POCD, about 75 percent of residents surveyed at that time indicated the Town should do more to preserve open space in Madison.

Madison should continue to preserve open space and seek to interconnect open space areas into a cohesive overall system of “greenbelts” with pedestrian trails (see page 26 for additional discussion of improving walking opportunities).

Types of Open Space

The Madison Conservation Commission operates with the following definitions of open space:

Dedicated Open Space –

land which is permanently protected in a natural state by ownership and/or a conservation easement on the property

Managed Open Space – land

which is currently in a natural state but which could change use at a future time

Active Open Space – land

which is actively used (such as farm fields, recreation fields, cemeteries, etc.) but does not contain significant buildings.

Perceived Open Space – land

which is not currently developed or which is not developed to its full zoned potential.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Interconnect existing open space into a greenbelt system.
- B. Preserve land as open space at the time of subdivision of a property.
- C. Maintain and enhance the existing trail network, connecting trails where possible.
- D. Maintain an open space fund.
- E. Work with the Madison Land Conservation Trust and other open space preservation organizations.
- F. Support continued development of the Shoreline Greenway Trail.
- G. Consider acquiring water company lands and State lands if they become available.

Complete These Tasks:

1. Identify key open space parcels or connections in order to initiate conversations related to their eventual preservation.
2. Consider amending subdivision regulations to allow dedication of land elsewhere in Madison to meet the open space requirements of a development.
3. Consider zoning open space lands into an “Open Space” zone in order to guide present and future use of these properties.
4. Strive to put monies in the open space fund each year for the purchase of open space.
5. Initiate an “adopt-a-trail” program to help maintain the extensive trail network in Madison.
6. Develop and maintain an inventory of potential land acquisitions for municipal use and natural resource protection.

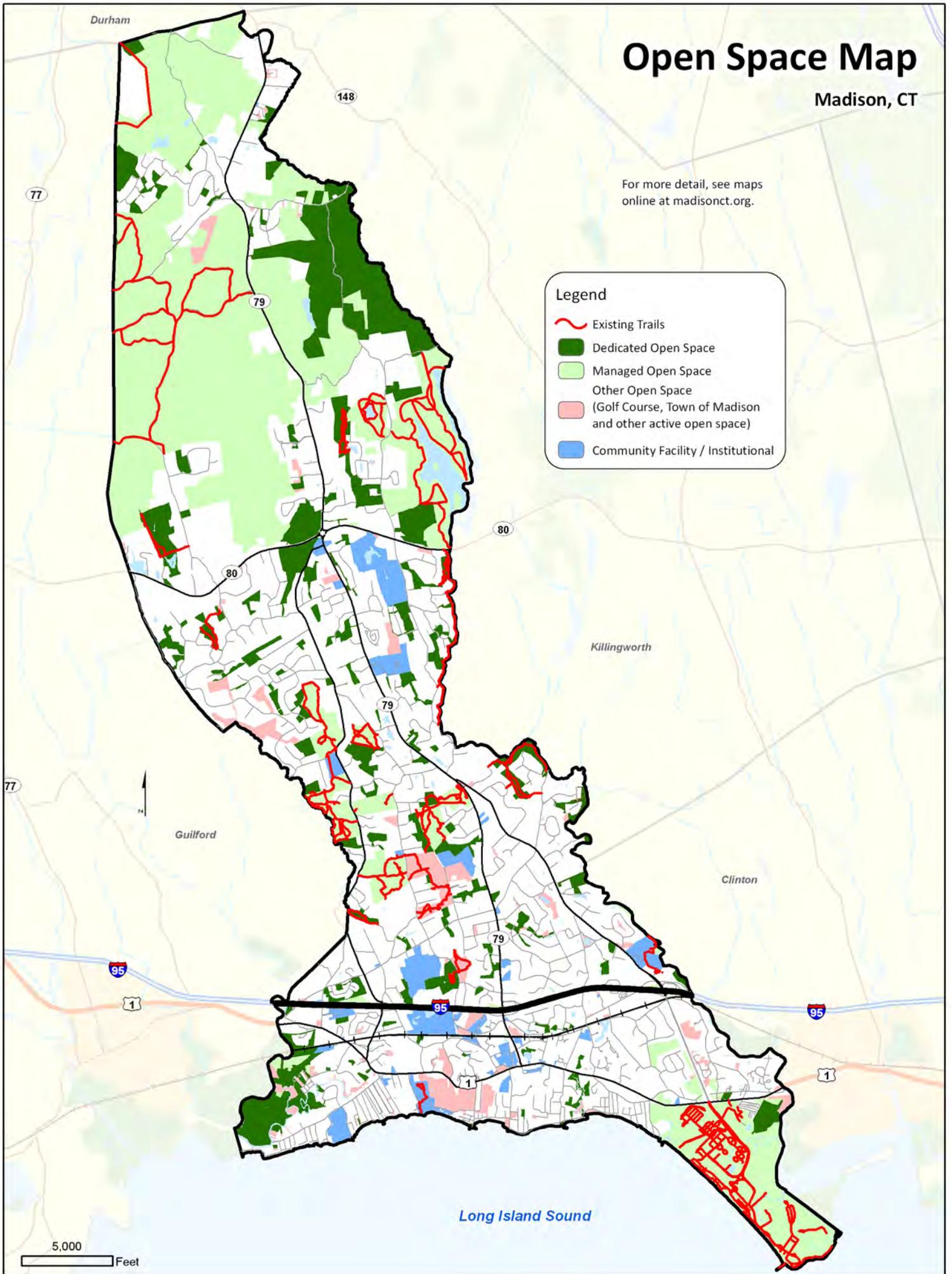
Open Space Map

Madison, CT

For more detail, see maps online at madisonct.org.

Legend

-  Existing Trails
-  Dedicated Open Space
-  Managed Open Space
-  Other Open Space
(Golf Course, Town of Madison and other active open space)
-  Community Facility / Institutional



Retain Undeveloped Land

Undeveloped land (such as farms and forests) helps to maintain community character. Although such land remains in private ownership and may be subject to development in the future, it contributes to community character while it is undeveloped.

Under a State program (known as Public Act 490 and codified as CGS 12-107) a landowner is entitled to a lower assessment on land used for:

- farm purposes meeting state criteria,
- forest land meeting state criteria,
- maritime heritage land (for lobster fishermen) meeting state criteria, or
- “open space purposes” meeting criteria recommended in the Plan of Conservation and Development and adopted by Town Meeting.

Madison adopted a PA-490 open space assessment policy in 1997. The Plan recommends that Madison continue its current policies and continue to participate in the PA-490 program in order to retain undeveloped land.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Maintain the PA-490 open space assessment policy in order to promote the retention of undeveloped land in residential zones.

Complete These Tasks:

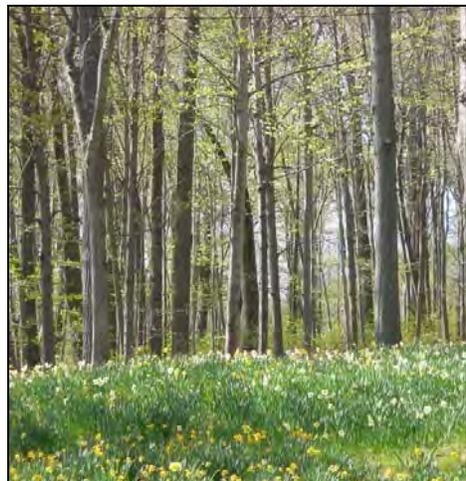
1. Review the criteria adopted in 1997 for eligibility for the PA-490 “open space” assessment program.

Farm Assessment Land



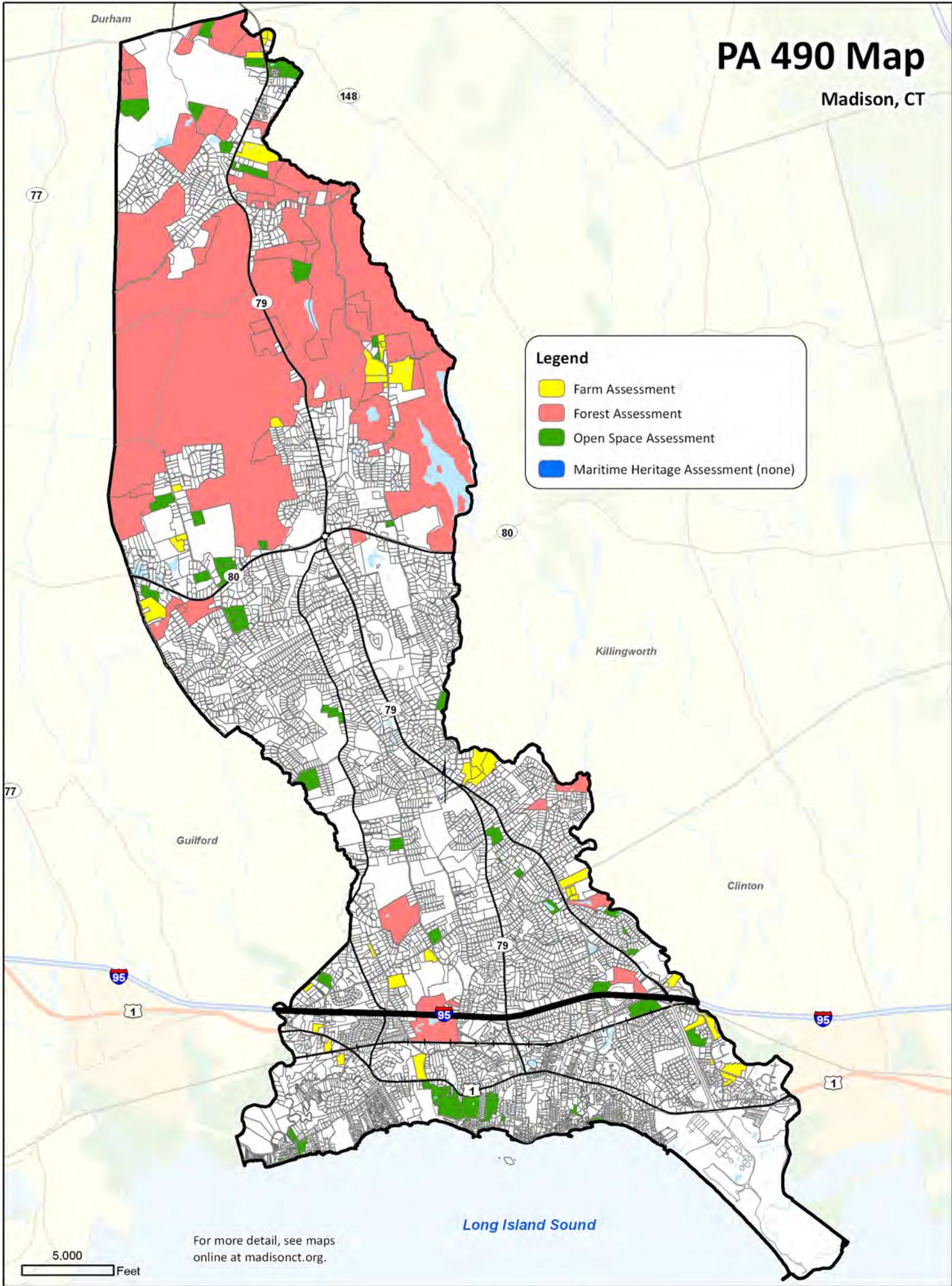
bing.com

Forest Assessment Land



PA 490 Map

Madison, CT



Legend

- Farm Assessment
- Forest Assessment
- Open Space Assessment
- Maritime Heritage Assessment (none)

5,000 Feet

For more detail, see maps online at madisonct.org.

Long Island Sound

Water Dependent Uses

Since most of the shoreline area in Madison is sandy beach and there are no major coves or harbors, there are few sites suitable for “water dependent” businesses or industries (businesses such as ports or marinas that need to have a water location to perform their business function or role).

Another area for consideration is whether and how to provide access from Long Island Sound to Madison for boaters. This may include recreational docking facilities at:

- East Wharf,
- West Wharf,
- the Hammonasset River, or
- the East River / Neck River.

Expand Coastal Public Access Opportunities

Madison has a number of areas (such as Hammonasset State Park and the Surf Club) that provide for public access to the shore. In a typical year, Hammonasset State Park attracts over one million visitors.

Still, opportunities for additional public access should also be explored. In the telephone survey conducted as part of this planning process, 56% of survey respondents indicated that Madison should try to provide for more access to coastal areas.

Providing more access to coastal areas might include street ends and other areas appropriate for neighborhood and community access to Long Island Sound and other coastal areas.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Explore opportunities to provide public access in coastal areas.
- B. Provide for coastal access as opportunities arise.
- C. Develop signage identifying coastal access points.

Complete These Tasks:

1. Map coastal access points in Madison.
2. Prepare a coastal access management guide which evaluates coastal access points and recommends appropriate measures for each.
3. Consider where and how to provide access from Long Island Sound to Madison for boaters.

Hammonasset State Park



Patricia Anderson

Coastal Access



Support Community Pride and Spirit

Madison residents are proud of their community and this pride and spirit contributes to:

- the perception of the community,
- involvement in local events and activities,
- willingness to participate in the community, and
- the overall quality of life.

For example, the Town of Madison and other organizations help support community pride and spirit through special events and activities such as parades, festivals, and concerts.

These events should be ongoing. In a telephone survey conducted as part of this planning process, 64 percent of residents indicated that Madison should have more community events and activities to involve residents.

The Town (and other organizations) should continue to use the Internet (Town’s home page, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) and Madison Community Television to keep residents informed of upcoming events.

Continue These Policies:

- Provide for local activities that contribute to community spirit.
- Coordinate local activities through a regular “civic coordinators” meeting.
- Promote and encourage volunteer organizations.
- Inform residents about important civic events and activities.
- Continue programs to develop community volunteers (STEP).
- Continue to coordinate and promote activities with adjacent communities

Complete These Tasks:

- Establish programs to develop and recognize community volunteers.
- Provide for additional community events (such as the Shellfish Festival).
- Maximize links from the Town website to other community organizations and events.

Local Festival



Community Spirit



“Complete Streets”

In recent years, many communities like Madison have devoted efforts to establishing “complete streets”.

The term “complete streets” is used to refer to streets which are “designed and operated to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

Complete streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, and bicycle to work. They allow buses to run on time and make it safe for people to walk to and from train stations.”

In 2009, the Connecticut Legislature adopted Public Act 09-154 which established a “complete streets” policy for the State of Connecticut.

In our area, New Haven adopted a “complete streets” policy.

Improve Options For Mobility And Recreation

Enhance Walking Opportunities

People are walking more for recreation and other purposes. In the telephone survey, 64 percent of respondents indicated that Madison should do more to create a better pedestrian system such as sidewalks and trails.

Sidewalks - At the present time, sidewalks are located mainly in the Madison Center area where they are critical to providing a pedestrian-friendly environment and enhancing the area. Sidewalks should be required as part of any development in Madison Center. In addition, as opportunities arise, the Town should expand the sidewalk network within the Center and extend the network to surrounding areas.

On-street Pathways - In shoreline neighborhoods, residents enjoy walking along the streets (such as Middle Beach Road) even though there are no sidewalks and no room for sidewalks. In heavily trafficked areas, adding signage and providing a painted stripe to visually separate a walking area from the vehicle lanes would be appropriate.

Off-Street Trails – In residential and open space areas of Madison, off-street trails are the most appropriate accommodation for walkers and hikers.

Efforts currently underway to establish the Shoreline Greenway Trail - a continuous path for bicyclists, walkers and hikers - extending from Lighthouse Point on the New Haven Harbor to Hammonasset Beach State Park in Madison will help enhance local efforts within Madison and should be supported.

The eventual goal should be to interconnect all of the pedestrian walkways in Madison (sidewalks, pathways, trails) into a cohesive overall system. The map on the facing page illustrates the location of these pedestrian “policy areas” in Madison.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Ensure that adequate sidewalks are provided in and near Madison Center.
- B. Expand the off-street trail network in Madison.
- C. Strive to interconnect all of the pedestrian ways in Madison into a cohesive overall system.
- D. Support continued development of the Shoreline Greenway Trail.

Complete These Tasks:

1. Develop a sidewalk plan which includes a map of existing sidewalks, pathways and trails.
2. Update sidewalk specifications.
3. Set aside funds for the extension and improvement of sidewalks, walkways, and trails.
4. Evaluate the provision of sidewalks around school facilities.
5. Consider adopting a local “complete streets” policy.

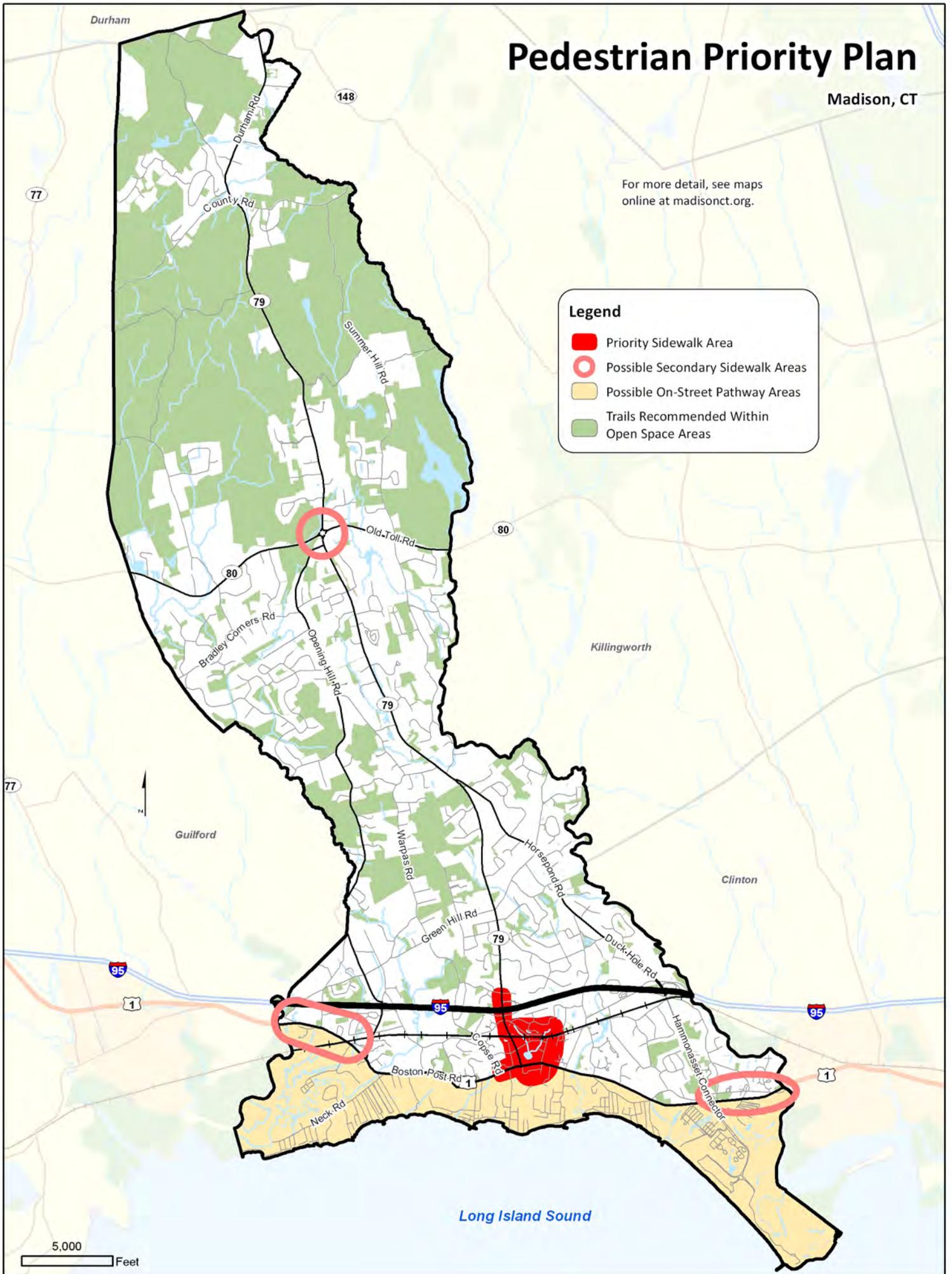
Pedestrian Priority Plan

Madison, CT

For more detail, see maps online at madisonct.org.

Legend

-  Priority Sidewalk Area
-  Possible Secondary Sidewalk Areas
-  Possible On-Street Pathway Areas
-  Trails Recommended Within
-  Open Space Areas



State Route Bicycle Mapping

Information on the potential for State highways as bicycle routes is available at

www.ctbikemap.org

A similar approach / matrix could be used to categorize local roads.

Local Calibration

In several communities, local bicyclists have gotten together to ride all major routes and assess them for potential bicycle use:

- West Hartford
- Tolland
- Simsbury

The current suitability of roads for bicycle use was reviewed and the types of improvements needed to make the roads more suitable for bicycling was determined.

Madison could consider a similar approach.

Shoreline Greenway Trail

The Shoreline Greenway Trail (SGT) is a good example of how bicycles can be accommodated in Madison and other communities.

The SGT is intended to be a 25-mile continuous off-road path for bicyclists and pedestrians extending from Hammonasset Beach State Park in Madison to New Haven. Trail sections have already been completed in the Hammonasset areas and work is continuing in all communities to extend and connect the trail components.

Identify Bicycle Routes in Madison

Bicycles are becoming an increasingly popular method of recreation and commuting. Appropriate provisions for bicycles will enhance the community and the quality of life. In the telephone survey, 67 percent of respondents indicated that Madison should do more to create a better bicycle circulation system.

Bicycles can also be accommodated on local roads and State highways. On State highways and major local roads, the preferred way to do this would be a shoulder bikeway (the use of the paved shoulder for bicycles) provided that a painted stripe can be installed to visually separate it from the vehicle lanes and marked and signed for bicycles. On local roads with less traffic and lower speeds, a “sharrow” (a shared use of the pavement for bicycles and vehicles) may be the best solution where the necessary paved width may not be available.

The map on the facing page suggests some key potential bicycle routes in Madison along major roads and areas near businesses, schools, parks, etc. It is intended to identify roadways where simple upgrades (adding signage, adding pavement markings; re-striping the shoulder) could make the roads suitable for bicyclists. The sidebar suggests ways this preliminary plan should be refined over time as the routes expand.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Make Madison a bicycle-friendly community.

Complete These Tasks:

1. Establish a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.
2. Identify and map appropriate and safe bicycle routes in Madison.
3. Designate bicycle routes with line striping, roadway markings and signage as needed.
4. Provide convenient bicycle parking facilities.
5. Investigate how to become designated as a Bicycle-Friendly Community.

Shoulder Bikeway



Shared Road (Sharrow)



Bicycle Routes Plan

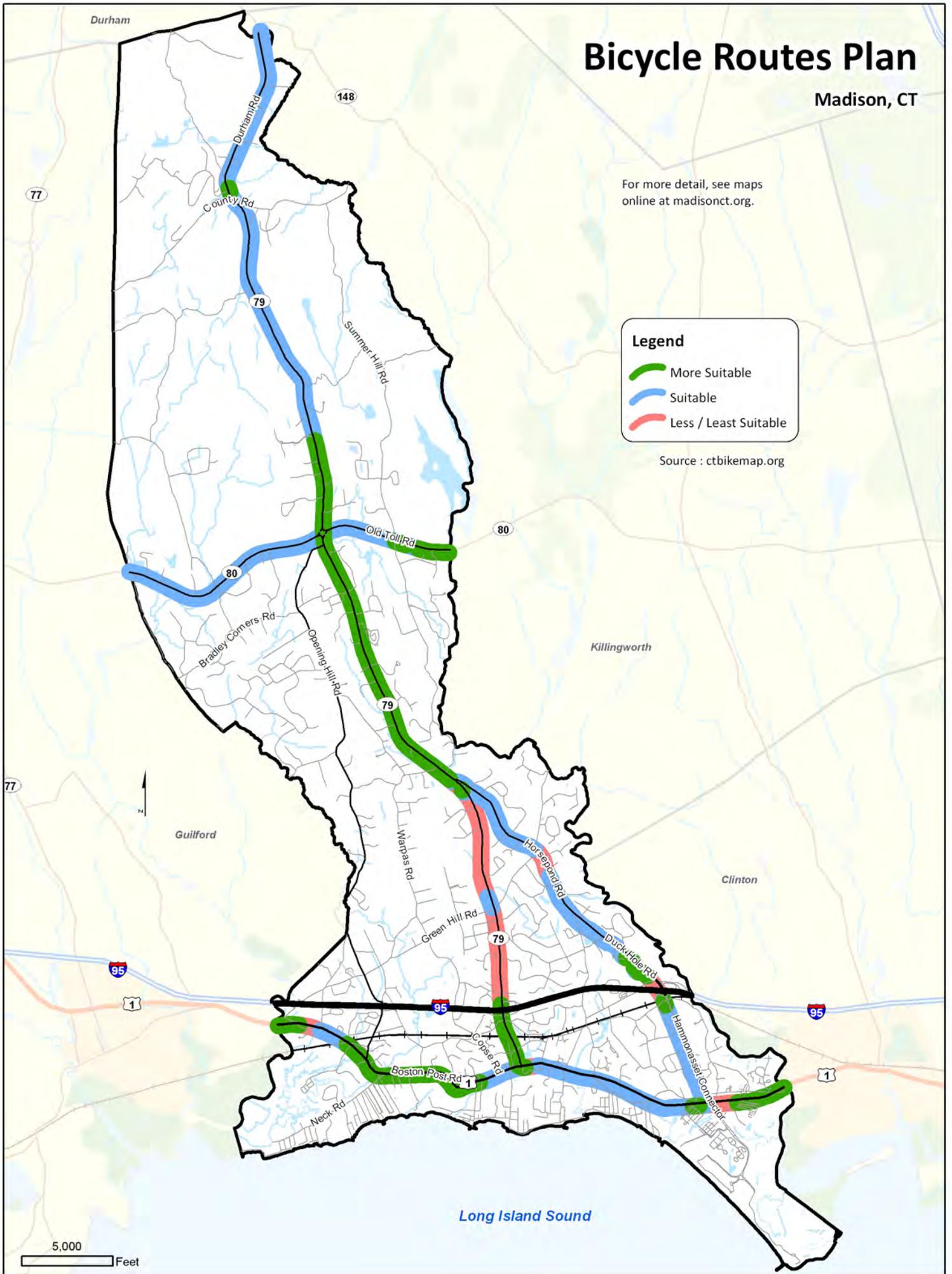
Madison, CT

For more detail, see maps online at madisonct.org.

Legend

-  More Suitable
-  Suitable
-  Less / Least Suitable

Source : ctbikemap.org



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since adoption of the 2000 Plan of Conservation and Development, the train station in Madison was relocated and the amount of parking was significantly increased.

Commuter Parking

In terms of commuter parking, Madison also has a commuter parking lot (on Route 79 at I-95) and parking at the train station.

These parking areas facilitate carpooling and vanpooling by Madison residents and should be maintained.

Enhance Transit Services

For the last 100 years or so, Madison households have relied primarily on private automobiles for transportation and mobility. The only transit services available in the community include:

- Weekday school buses for children attending Madison schools,
- Limited weekday dial-a-ride services (such as the Senior Services Bus and the Community Ride Service),
- A CT Transit bus (operated by DATTCO) that runs weekdays between Madison and New Haven,
- A 9-Town Transit – Estuary Transit bus that connects from Madison to Old Saybrook on weekdays and Saturdays, and
- The Shoreline East railroad service with service to New Haven and points further west and New London and points further east.

In the telephone survey, 63 percent of respondents indicated that Madison should seek ways to increase bus and dial-a-ride services *within* Madison. In addition, 56 percent of respondents indicated that Madison should seek ways to increase train and bus services *to and from* the community.

These transit services are important for meeting the transportation needs and desires of Madison residents. Bus and train services can also attract employers and businesses to Madison. Opportunities to expand these services should be supported.

Continue These Policies:

- A. Provide adequate transportation options for those in need, especially with an aging population which may need more mobility assistance in the future.
- B. Seek to improve transit services to, from, and within Madison (trains, bus, dial-a-ride, etc.).

Complete These Tasks:

1. Continue to work with CT-DOT and others to improve public transportation options.
2. Continue to work with CT-DOT to improve the rail station (north-side platform, pedestrian bridge, and expand parking).

Madison Train Station



Patricia Anderson

CT Transit Bus Service

