



PaTHs 4 Bethlehem

In March of 2009, the PaTHs 4 Bethlehem (Pathways to Homes, Hamlets, and Healthy Hearts) committee was established with the mission of providing a resource that effectively uses a 5E approach (engineering, education, enforcement, engagement, and encouragement) to advise the town, educate the community, and advocate for opportunities to improve mobility and connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians.

It consists of 11 members including:

- A Bethlehem Central School District liaison
- Representatives from the planning, engineering, parks and recreation, and highway departments
- Residents

The committee holds monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in town hall, room 101.

To date, the PaTHs committee has been very active in supporting Sustainable Bethlehem and the Town's mobility goal from the Comprehensive Plan:

"Improve mobility-the ability of people, regardless of age and status, to engage in desired activities at moderate cost to themselves and society-throughout the town. This includes strategic investments in needed highway infrastructure, improved access to public transportation and development that is supportive of public transportation, and significant enhancements to the safety and attractiveness of non-motorized modes of travel."

The PaTHs Committee has worked to achieve the following milestones:

- Pass a complete streets resolution in August 2009
- Facilitate a bicycle skills stations at the Town Bike Expo
- Create a bicycle and pedestrian priority network
- Create an evaluation process for new pathway investment
- Create and distribute bicycle and pedestrian safety tip palm cards
- Participate in the CDTA/CDTC Bike Rack Program and were awarded 23 new bicycle racks for the Town

Many other Bicycle and Pedestrian projects are currently underway including two new bicycle route projects, new education and encouragement materials, and a sidewalk maintenance manual to assist the Town's Public Works Department in keeping its pedestrian infrastructure well-maintained and up to ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards . The Town is also pursuing a Bicycle and Walk Friendly Community Designation.