POCD Greenscape Committee Recommendations
June 2020

The Greenscape Committee is the first short term advisory group, as established in Section 4, Implementation, of the 2019 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).

As a recognized Tree City, Silver Level Sustainable Community, Level 2 Arboreta by ArbNet, the Town of Greenwich strives to be a green, sustainable community. As the main thoroughfare through Greenwich, Putnam Avenue is the primary location to showcase these ideals. With the formation of this Greenscape Committee, Planning and Zoning will coordinate with relevant town departments, civic groups and developers to create a comprehensive beautification plan for Putnam Avenue.

By establishing and enabling the following “Guiding Principles”, the Planning & Zoning Department and Commission can coordinate efforts to improve the existing conditions, and to create a cohesive plan for all future development along Putnam Avenue.

Guiding Principles

- **Adapt for Climate Change and Encourage Sustainability**
  - Use appropriate plantings/species, which encourage carbon retention, assist with drainage, and provide cooling and shade while recognizing the need to anticipate climate change
  - Employ best engineering practices in managing drainage and water quality (as found in the 2019 POCD)
  - Employ long-term planning for infrastructure and plantings/species choices (refer to [https://sustainablect.org](https://sustainablect.org) for Guidelines of Dynamic and Resilient Planning)

- **Enhance and Enforce the Natural Esthetic of Greenwich**
  - Remove clutter
  - Manage visual impact of signage and utility infrastructure
  - Discourage inappropriate plantings

- **Preserve and Enhance Roadside Historical and Cultural Sites**
  - Historical (Founder’s Monument, Putnam Hill, Tavern)
  - Cultural sites (Crocus Hill)
  - Encourage art-scapes

- **Preserve and Enhance Sites of Natural Significance**
  - Improve sight lines to natural views
  - Protect Notable Trees
  - Protect natural tree lines and ridgelines
  - Protect rock outcroppings and their native vegetation

- **Reclaim Paved Areas within Town and/or State right-of-way**
  - Reduce size and locations of existing and proposed curb cuts
  - Site plan enforcement

- **Replace Lost or Removed Trees and Protect Significant Trees**

(continued)
Guiding Principles

- **Promote landscape buffers between cyclists, vehicles, sidewalks, and hardscape areas.**
  - Increase sidewalk continuity
  - Maintain grass strips along sidewalks consistent with Town Standards
- **Employ “Highway Horticulture” to Enhance Visual Driving Experience**
  - Support roundabouts as a planting opportunity
  - Reclaim hardscape for landscape areas along the roadway
- **Establish a Cohesive Sense of Place**
  - Promote neighborhood branding through conceptual design consistency, street architecture, signage, and horticulture
- **Foster Community and Public-Private Partnerships**

Putnam Avenue (Post Road/Route 1) Potential Improvement Plans

Consistent with the Guiding Principles, the following are 37 plans the Committee reviewed which graphically indicates the recommended improvements.

The committee has identified five (5) locations (listed from West to East) for improvements, based on conformance with Guiding Principles and engagement of key stakeholders. Consideration should be given to both sides of the road.

1. Western Gate Way – Map 1
2. Edgewood Triangle – Maps 8 and 9
3. Chestnut Alley – Map 22
4. Exit 5 Interchange – Map 32
5. Greenwich / Stamford Border – Map 37
6. Intersection at Sound Beach Avenue - Map 33 (Alternate)
Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

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SHEETS
1 Port Chester Gateway
2 Western Junior Highway Intersection
3 Western Junior Highway to East Weaver Street
4 East Weaver Street to Valley Drive
5 Valley Drive to Old Post Road #3
6 Old Post Road #3 to Harold Avenue
7 Harold Avenue to Oak Street
8 Oak Street to Edgewood Avenue
9 Edgewood Avenue to Prospect Street
10 Prospect Street to Brooks Drive
11 Brooks Drive to Dearfield Drive
12 Dearfield Drive to Benedict Place
13 Benedict Place to Greenwich Avenue
14 Greenwich Avenue to Church Street
15 Church Street to Milbank Avenue
16 Milbank Avenue to Park Avenue
17 Park Avenue to Old Church Road
18 General Putnam Memorial
19 High School Stadium Area
20 West Brother Drive to Woodside Drive
21 Woodside Drive to Indian Field Road
22 Indian Field Road to Field Road
23 Field Road to Strickland Road
24 Strickland Road to Relay Place
25 Relay Place to Orchard Street
26 Orchard Street to Diamond Hill Church
27 Diamond Hill Church to River Road
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30 Riverside Avenue to Sheep Hill Road
31 Sheep Hill Road to Breezemore Avenue
32 Exit 5 Intersection
33 Exit 5 to Sound Beach Avenue
34 Sound Beach Avenue to Old King’s Highway
35 Old King’s Highway to 1700 East Putnam Avenue
36 1700 East Putnam Avenue to Wendle Place
37 Stamford Gateway

FIRST PHASE IMPLEMENTATION AREAS
1 Western Gateway Map 1
2 Edgewood Avenue Island Maps 8/9
3 Chestnut Allee Map 22
4 Exit 5 Interchange Map 33
5 Stamford Gateway Map 37
6 Sound Beach Avenue Intersection Map 33(Alternate)
Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

Sheet 1

First Phase Implementation Area #1: Western Gateway

Incorporate pollinator garden

Assess existing vegetation

New ‘Welcome to Greenwich’ sign

Bulbs and Wildflowers

BYRAM RD

HOMESTEAD LN

PEMBERWICK RD

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Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

Sheet 3

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Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

Sheet 5
Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

New sidewalk
Improve sidewalk, replace bituminous with concrete

Create Pocket Park, add benches, tables, etc.
Re-align intersection
- Traffic Calming
- Create more greenspace

New sidewalk to connect to existing sidewalk

Sheet 7
Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

First Phase Implementation Area #2
Edgewood Avenue Island

- Re-align intersection
- Traffic Calming
- Create more greenspace
- New sidewalk to connect to existing sidewalk
- Establish better defined curb cuts
- New sidewalk and buffer strip
- New concrete driveway apron (Typ.)
- Remove overgrown trees and shrubs
- Plant bulbs and wildflowers
- Add additional seating - benches, tables
- Incorporate pollinator garden
- Replace asphalt sidewalk with concrete
- New concrete driveway apron (Typ.)
- Entire Phase Implementation Area #2
Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

Sheet 9

First Phase Implementation Area #2
Edgewood Avenue Island

- Remove overgrown trees and shrubs
- Plant bulbs and wildflowers
- Add additional seating - benches, tables
- Incorporate polinator garden

New concrete driveway apron (Typ.)

Maintain existing trees

Map: 06/23/20

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Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan
Sheet 14
Replace existing guardrail with new decorative guardrail

Enhance/highlight Putnam Hill

Maintain wooded area

Replace metal pipe railing with decorative metal fence or "living fence"
Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

Sheet 19

- Replace existing guardrail with new decorative guardrail
- Replace metal pipe railing with decorative metal fence or living fence
- Decorative pavement to highlight bus stop
- Transform existing concrete wall into decorative art wall at bus stop
- OVERLOOK DR
- CLIFF RD

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Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan
Sheet 22

First Phase Implementation Plan #3
Chestnut Allee

- New sidewalk
- New Bus Shelter
- New perennial garden
- Relocate and improve bus stop
- New sidewalk
- Screen utility box
- Remove pavement, expand island and add trees and plantings
- Potential area for more formal shrub/perennial garden
- Potential area for more formal shrub/perennial garden
- Wildflowers and bulbs
- Incorporate pollinator garden
- Improve sidewalk and driveway curb cuts
Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

Remove pavement, expand island and plant wildflowers and bulbs
Replace artificial turf with grass
Enhance existing concrete as a decorative art wall, add plantings
Maintain existing vegetation

New plant beds
Enhanced streetscape with expanded existing plant beds, add planter boxes, benches

FIELD RD
TAYLOR DR
CROSS LN
STRICKLAND RD
OLD POST RD #6

Sheet 23

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Refer to "Cos Cob Neighborhood Plan" for design ideas in this area.

Enhanced streetscape with expanded existing plant beds, add planter boxes, benches.

Remove vegetation to enhance view.
Create enhanced wetland/buffer
New viewing platform.

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Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

Sheet 26
Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan
Sheet 31

- Determine what happened to existing trees
- Existing trees choked by vines
- Remove dilapidated existing wood fence
- Create planting island to reduce curb cut
- Remove existing roses, replace with low maintenance, salt tolerant ground cover or low shrubs
- Improve screening

Recently renovated and improved

NEIL LN
BREEZEMONT AVE

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Feet
Wide open area, provide plantings to screen highway

First Phase Implementation Area #6 (Alternate) Sound Beach Avenue Intersection

Expand center median

Wildflowers and bulbs, replace any trees that have been removed
Incorporate pollinator garden

Create gateway to Old Greenwich with enhanced planting and signage

Enhance planting to better screen side of building

Eliminate parking, expand greenspace

Plant wildflowers, bulbs

Wildflowers and bulbs, replace any trees that have been removed
Incorporate pollinator garden

Reclaim parking within right of way for additional green space

Sheet 33

Putnam Avenue Potential Improvement Plan

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Wildflowers and bulbs, replace any trees that have been removed
Incorporate pollinator garden
Enhance planting to better screen side of building
Relocate or screen dumpster
Eliminate parking, expand greenspace
Reclaim parking within right of way for additional green space