

Public Meetings on Town Initiatives

It's shaping up as busy year for your Town government. I think it will be an especially productive year as well. You may recall my briefings from time to time on our core initiatives currently under way. None of them can amount to anything without your advice and ideas as residents of Pittsford.

Active Transportation Plan online survey – under way through 2/29

The Active Transportation Plan is a joint project of the Village and Town governments. Its purpose is to create a better pedestrian and bicycle-friendly network by improving safety and making it easier to get around town under your own power. We've just launched an online survey to learn more about current use of walkways and bike paths in Pittsford and to ask what kind of improvements are most important to you. You'll find the survey on the Town website at www.townofpittsford.org. Please take the time to complete it. It should take you no more than 15 minutes to complete. From my perspective, what you have to say is the most important component of the entire process.

Comprehensive Plan Update – Land Use & Design Workshop on March 3 at 6:30pm at the Sutherland High School cafeteria (55 Sutherland Street)

Our Comprehensive Plan serves as a policy guide for the Town's development over time. Its purpose is to state a clear set of principles that will define our community's future course. It will outline the actions and policy preferences to translate our shared vision into reality. Our first public workshop for the comprehensive plan, in November, marked a watershed in our progress toward defining the shared community vision that will underpin the plan. Now we've scheduled a second public workshop for March 3. Its goal is to identify those choices you deem important as the Town contemplates future residential development, and as it shapes policies defining its approach to greenways and trails, historic resources, commercial development, roads and corridors and scenic views. I hope you'll make an effort to attend.

Spiegel Community Center Restoration & Improvement Project – We have now, finally, completed preliminary work such as structural analysis of the building, use assessments and anticipated future growth in programs. We've received from our architects and engineers drawings that depict alternative conceptual approaches to the long-overdue rehabilitation and improvement of our Community Center. Our Citizen Advisory Committee for the project starts its work in February, beginning with consideration of the different concepts, including the operational and financial implications of each. In the months ahead you can expect to see the first of the public workshops in which we'll seek your opinions and advice for moving forward. At this point, I imagine we'll schedule the first of these sessions for late spring.

I can't state strongly enough how important your voice will be to the success of these important planning initiatives. Whether you're a resident, a Pittsford business owner or employee, a student here in town, someone who relies on our facilities and programs, or any combination of the above, without you we'll never get it right. I hope you'll take part in the survey for the Active Transportation Survey and in our public workshop for the Comprehensive Plan on March 3.

Finally, let me suggest that you **sign up for the Town's weekly eNewsletter** “News & Reviews.” You'll get one email each week containing pertinent information on Town projects, meeting schedules, programs and services. Occasionally, as necessary, you'll also receive notice of emergency situations or other matters of urgency. *The Town keeps your email address strictly confidential. We will not share it or use it for any purpose other than sending you the eNewsletter.* You can sign up for the newsletter by clicking the “eNews” side-tab icon on our website homepage at www.townofpittsford.org.

As always, you may contact me any time – on these or any other subjects – at bsmith@townofpittsford.org or by phone at 248-6220.