



NEWTOWN LIVABLE COMMUNITY

5/10 YEAR PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

About Age Friendly Newtown- Based on information made available by AARP, discussions began in Newtown among members of the board of *Friends of Newtown Seniors* (FONS). As a result of these discussions research was done to better understand the process and possible outcomes of becoming part of the AARP Network of *Age-Friendly Livable Communities*. A general meeting was planned and held November 2017 at Newtown Middle School to present the concept to the public and begin the process of finding volunteers to help work toward participation in the Network. Volunteers from AARP presented the general outline of what the program entails. Following this meeting and bolstered by the positive response of those present, FONS presented the idea of joining the network to the *Board of Selectmen* (BOS) in December of 2017 and the officers were not only surprised by the positive response of BOS but that their approval was contingent on FONS taking responsibility for spearheading this initiative for the town of Newtown. FONS has worked unceasingly to bring other groups into the process with presentations to local groups and direct participation in the workings of the *Commission on Aging* and various town departments.

The *Livable Community Initiative* (LCI) led by Friends of Newtown Seniors (FONS) established 7 goals for the initiative:

1. Plan public forums to gather input from the community
2. Design and distribute both electronically and in print, a survey based on the guidelines in the AARP booklet concerning surveying the community.
3. Review data collected by that survey and data collected by COA through a 2013 survey and AARP statewide survey 2014
4. Identify “low hanging fruit” for initial work and planning
5. Develop a written plan based on published plans on AARP website
6. Begin implementation of the plan in 2019 with 5/10-year timeline
7. Explore grant opportunities to fund work in support of the 5/10-year plan.

The long-range plan would require the establishment of working committees including fundraising to support the work as it was defined. FONS began the process of promoting the concept of Age-Friendly Livable community through regular publicity in the local newspaper, monthly open meetings, presentations at the senior center and social events. In the meantime, work was begun on communications including building a website, developing an email list, creating a Facebook page and developing communications for distribution via hard copy and electronic means. The monthly meetings and social events generated volunteers and leadership for LCI projects and advocacy. Much of the early time and energy was devoted to the development of a plan for the new senior center and the eventual building and outfitting of the center. Early successes at obtaining funding also allowed for special programs such as pottery, mosaics, self-defense for seniors, Krav Maga, physical fitness and yoga in cooperation with Newtown Youth Academy (NYA). These activities all supported our work aimed at social participation to combat isolation and to support community and health services. The plan developed and

submitted to the BOS included goals and objectives for all 8 of the domains identified by AARP as part of the Age-Friendly Livable Community project.

Our Community- Refer to the index of this report for a profile of our community summarizing various data that the State of Connecticut compiles on each community. The town was founded in 1711 and has a rural suburban nature. Stately homes line Main Street with a small town center nearby.

Close to the center of town a closed state mental health facility has been converted to a park with walking paths, various recreation fields and houses various town amenities including the Municipal Center, Community Center and Senior Center. This area referred to as Fairfield Hills has become a “Central Park” to our little town. The town has many local restaurants and only Starbucks and Dunkin Donuts represent national chains. Three large food stores, a TJ MAX, and a Tractor Supply Store are the major retail enterprises. A new Camper sales, service and supply center will be opening in 2022.

Mission Vision and Guiding Principles- The mission of the Friends of Newtown Seniors is to provide advocacy and services to Newtown seniors (those 55+ who reside in Newtown). This will be accomplished in two complementary ways: through new initiatives conceived and developed by its board of directors and by partnering with various non-profit, for-profit, governmental, political and religious organizations serving the Newtown senior population. The work of the Livable Community Initiative has been guided by this mission and broadened to encompass the needs and wants of the entire community.

Vision- The Livable Community Initiative is working with a variety of organizations and businesses to establish Newtown as a leader by the year 2025 in quality of life for seniors in our community. Programs designed to eliminate social isolation, build confidence and positive attitudes, and promote healthful lifestyles are the hallmark of this initiative.

Guiding principles:

1. The Livable Community Initiative will solicit ongoing input through all means possible to ascertain information concerning the needs of all Newtown residents.
2. Funds received from any source will be applied to programs specifically designed to deliver direct service to Newtown residents.
3. No funds will be used to pay for any advocacy activity. Should expenses be incurred by those involved in advocacy, those expenses will be borne by those members or non-members of Friends of Newtown Seniors with no expectation of reimbursement from any funds collected or controlled by the Organization.
4. All members of the Board of directors of the Organization shall refrain from any activity that might be construed as a conflict of interest, including but not limited to profiting from activities sponsored by or implement by the Organization.
5. All members and officers shall serve as volunteers with no expectation of remuneration or reimbursement for expenses resulting from their participation in activities sponsored by or implemented by the organization.

HOW WE STARTED

The lead organization Friends of Newtown Seniors (FONS)

Friends of Newtown Seniors is an all-volunteer non-profit organization which works with local government agencies, business and organizations that provide services to seniors in the town of Newtown. Founded

in 2016 FONS officers and board work in cooperation with these various organizations through standing and Ad Hoc committees to provide services which combat social isolation, encourage healthy lifestyles, and promote positive attitudes in the senior population. The small operating costs are the result of excellent support from local businesses in our work. Many of our expenses are covered through in-kind services provided by these companies and small contributions from the general population.

Start-up funds were provided through an interest-free loan from the President and Vice President of this organization. Through the maintenance of very low operating costs and targeted fund raising for specific programs, Friends of Newtown Seniors provides ongoing education and services in cooperation with government agencies, non-profit organizations, for profit and non-profit businesses and private organizations.

The Livable Community Initiative

The why of this initiative is both a simple and complicated concept. The old adage of think globally and act locally is certainly appropriate in this case since we are looking at the global issue of livability. It is important to note that livability was a focus of the world health organization and was adopted nationally by AARP. Although government agencies exist at the federal, state, and local levels, they are often impaired by slow moving or immobile bureaucracies and the constraints placed on them by legal and technical issues, which are necessary to ensure fair government but at the same time make progress difficult, if not impossible. George H.W. Bush spoke some years ago of the thousand points of light and the power that individuals and groups could bring to bear on problems large and small. Non- Government Agencies (NGO's) have become part of the lexicon of modern political discourse as it has become apparent that non- profit, and for-profit agencies can often move more nimbly where government agencies bog down. A cooperative effort between and among these groups and local government makes it possible for the Livable Community Initiative to move forward efficiently and effectively. The Livable Community Initiative is focused locally to tackle issues that are confounding when examined at the state, national or global level.

The LCI works with agencies and organizations including but not limited to local and state government, local non-profit, and for-profit groups to:

1. establish appropriate facilities for recreational and social activities including a dedicated senior and community center
2. provide programming aimed at ending social isolation and promoting general mental and physical health and well-being
3. promote education concerning good health and well-being and also specific programs aimed at fraud prevention, financial security and the availability of benefits and supports
4. support those efforts to provide volunteer and/or paid professional and paraprofessional help to keep seniors living independently in Newtown
5. support efforts to provide funding to those in need of basic living requirements including housing, transportation, nutrition
6. encouraging the development of affordable housing for senior members of our community
7. where possible we will also help to provide financial, legal and personal support
8. other needs as identified through the work of the initiative

Our Members and Volunteers

All those 55+ years of age and who reside in Newtown are automatically members of FONS and the LCI follows the same philosophy. There are no dues or membership assessments of any kind. Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in promoting the welfare of seniors in Newtown. There are no requirements of membership other than an earnest interest in seniors and assuring their ability to live in an Age-Friendly Livable Community. Volunteers are drawn from all parts of the community and include a wide range of ages, socio-economic status, racial, ethnic, gender and religious groups. FONS has a nondiscrimination policy and the LCI is committed to that policy as stated here:

FONS is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and does not discriminate in the terms, conditions, or privileges of contract assignment; volunteer work; any social or business activities; or any personal or business interactions on account of race, age, color, sex, sexual preference, gender identity, national origin, physical or mental disability, or religion or otherwise as may be prohibited by federal and state law. Any member, board member, volunteer or client who believes that s/he or any other affiliate of FONS has been discriminated against is strongly encouraged to report this concern promptly to the Board of Directors.

NEWTOWN HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND DEMOGRAPHICS



Located in northern *Fairfield County*, which occupies the southwestern corner of Connecticut, Newtown was established in 1711 and covers nearly 60 square miles of both rural and suburban areas, making it the fifth largest town in the state. Its 250 miles of roadways which are serviced by Interstate Route 84 and many other regional roadways, are loosely divided into five safe “neighborhoods,” making nearly all transportation highly dependent upon personal vehicles.

The 2019 profile of Newtown, compiled by the *Connecticut Economic Resource Center*, contains detailed demographics and is provided in the [Appendix](#). This profile documents a population of about 28,000 with a median household income of over \$115,000. There are nearly 900 active businesses and industries (government, schools, health care, retail trade, food-services, etc.) located in the town that employ more than 8500. The poverty rate is about 4%, less than half that of the state of Connecticut. The unemployment rate was 3.5% when this report was compiled and the property and violent crime rate (per 100,000 residents) was only about 20% that of the state. The over 10,000 housing units in Newtown have a current median value of nearly \$400,000, 89% of which is comprised of single households. The median age of a Newtown resident is about 45, approximately 80% having earned a high school diploma and (56%) a bachelor’s degree or higher with (24%) a high school diploma and Associate’s degree.

In spite of being located only about 60 miles from New York City and less than a 3-hour ride from Boston MA, Newtown still retains its Americana charm throughout, with a Mainstreet lined by churches, historic and stately homes, several inns and eateries, the town library as well as the former townhall now transformed into a performance and sport center, bank offices, an historic general store, and a long-standing and cherished symbolic flagpole at its core. Equally charming is the streetscape of *Sandy Hook* “village” just a short distance away. Sidewalks in the town center and in Sandy Hook are wide and fully handicap accessible with friction pads on many of the road crossings as well as overhead LED lights at key in-town locations.



Newtown Scenes © 2020 Rick Kuhn
(PAINTING)

Under a Charter first adopted over 60 years ago, the government has an elected Board of Selectmen, with the First Selectman acting as the town’s Chief Executive and Administrative Officer, along with a 12-member Legislative Council. The town offices are located within a refurbished *Municipal Center* situated on a recently developed open campus called *Fairfield Hills*. The newly-built and separate 47,000 square foot *Community Center*, equipped with both lap and therapeutic pools available to all ages, lies adjacent to a 13,000 square foot newly-constructed *Senior Center* building.



The *Fairfield Hills Campus* also houses the non-profit *Newtown Youth Academy* and athletic complex, a sprawling complex of all types of athletic facilities open to all ages. One can also find on the Campus the separate and modern facility for the town's *Volunteer Ambulance Corps*, which is supported by a staff of about 70 certified emergency medical technicians.



The Newtown Volunteer Ambulance facility- Fairfield Hills Campus

Lastly, the Campus also includes at its main entrance separate administrative offices for the Department of Human Services' *Center for Health and Wellness and Social Services*. Located not far away is the administrative office for the *Parent Connection*, a social service program that aims to prevent the use of drugs and alcohol among the town's youth by increasing awareness through education.



FAIRFIELD HILLS CAMPUS NEWTOWN, CT

Active & Passive Recreation · Municipal Offices · Cultural & Civic · Commercial Development

All other buildings, situated on the expansive Campus grounds formerly housed a state medical facility, were obtained by the town along with the land several decades ago. This area has now been converted to a 185-acre *Fairfield Hills Campus* sporting both riding and walking, bicycle, & jogging paths, ball fields, and open spaces that are also used for Town-wide events. All of the occupied buildings were rebuilt according to ADA standards and therefore are fully handicap accessible and the entire Campus is connected to the central town just a short distance away by new sidewalks.

A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE

Newtown has a good mix of older and younger residents with 16% aged 65 and older and twice as many under 25 years of age. Over 11% of our residents are Asian, black, Hispanic or another race/ethnicity. The town supports a public pre-school, four grammar schools (K through 4), an intermediate (5 & 6), a middle (7 & 8), as well as a single high school, all of which are housed within up-to-date facilities that support the quality education of over 4000 students yearly. The high school has a 4-year graduation rate greater than 96%. In addition, the town also contains no fewer than three private schools, including a *Montessori* school.



Newtown High School



Sandy Hook Elementary School

Daytime learning is supplemented with an extensive array of evening programs and adult education classes, as well as extensive summer camps and sport and art programs offered by our *Parks & Recreation Department* and *Community Center*. For higher education, there are more than 14 regional colleges and universities situated in the southern half of Connecticut, including a state university only 8 miles away in Danbury which is readily accessible via local roads and highways.

Although there is a broad range of restaurants, delis, and specialty shops distributed throughout numerous “mini malls” within the town, few represent national chains. In addition to professional offices, the major established commercial enterprises within the town are represented by three large supermarkets, a major clothing store, numerous banks, a pet emporium, and a purveyor of farm/tractor supplies. A camper/RV sales, service and supply center is currently being built on property formerly housing a drive-in theater that lies adjacent to the highly utilized municipal recycling center. Shopping at the larger, national chain stores is only a short ride away in neighboring Danbury and Brookfield. A beautifully situated vineyard serves as a focus of Newtown’s own winery and there are also at least two active breweries in town, one situated on the *Fairfield Hills Campus*.

Newtown supports a 49-member police force, including officers, animal control personnel, and support staff all housed in a recently built first-class facility. Volunteer fire, ambulance, and rescue departments are also strategically situated throughout the town. The town proudly supports not only a first-rate library, but in addition, has an historic cinema & live performance center as well as athletic facilities all contained within its former *Town Hall*. The *Edmond Town Hall* presents live musical as well as local and touring acts and is centrally located along historic Main Street. The town is also proud to have a regional playhouse of its very own that has been active over the last 80 years. Newtown also supports numerous fitness facilities, equestrian and walking trails, municipal pools, a municipal beach and boat launch, and two golf courses.



Edmond Town Hall



New state of the art police facility

Newtown sponsors a well-patronized seasonal farmer market as well as a ‘victory garden’ that provides food to local pantries. In addition, a local non-profit called ‘food share’ donates nearly 30,000 pounds of produce each year, which is distributed to food banks throughout the region. The town has an active historical society, 2 garden clubs, and sponsors numerous art, food, music and holiday festivals. These include annual Fourth of July and Labor Day parades, Thanksgiving and other seasonal road races, including a 5 K ‘Rooster Run’, now in its 48th year, as well as a 10K race. The garden clubs not only contribute produce to the food pantry but maintain gardens at traffic islands, in parks and at memorials around the town. There is also a community-sponsored Halloween ‘trick-or-treat’ on Main Street that attracts children and adults of all ages as well as an annual ‘Egg Hunt’ in April. The town also sponsors a traditional holiday tree-lighting and other events that attracts hundreds of residents of all ages. These occur on our centrally-located historic and bucolic *Rams Pasture* that dates back to 1705. In winter, the duck pond provides ice skating opportunities that generate images right out of *Currier & Ives*.



Just a short distance from Main Street we have a recently redeveloped municipal park that sports a band shell, the site of many free summer concerts. The park also contains a state-of-the-art playground, tennis courts, several ball fields, along with a busy skateboard area, as well as a large covered picnic/BBQ pavilion with plenty of available parking. The park is fully handicap-accessible with convenient dedicated parking, paved sidewalks, and portable toilets. Construction of an inclusive wheelchair-accessible children's playground, among the first of its kind in the state, is also now underway at this location.

Some of Newtown's employers include long-standing companies like *Curtis Packaging* that dates back over 170 years, historically a comb and button factory that was initially responsible for attracting many foreign immigrants to the area. Another is *Sonics and Materials, Inc.*, engineers of high-performance ultrasonic technology founded over 50 years ago. Likewise, Newtown is serviced by two outstanding publishing companies, the first, *The Bee Publishing Company/Trumbull Printing*, in business since 1882, is responsible for creating the town's weekly newspaper, the *Newtown Bee*, in addition to *Antiques and the Arts Weekly*, which services the entire northeast region of the country. The second, *The Taunton Press*, founded over 45 years ago, publishes periodicals and reference books for special-interest enthusiasts in woodworking, home building & preservation, gardening, and sewing. The town's major employers include the regional cable TV and internet provider *Charter Communications/Spectrum*, the *Newtown Savings Bank*, and the Town of Newtown and its School District.

The C.H. Booth Library, 25 Main Street

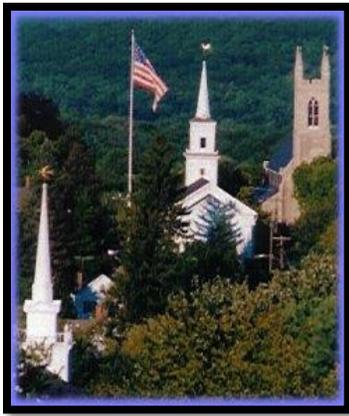


We have an outstanding public library, initially built and endowed by a generous gift of the town's benefactress, Mary E. Hawley nearly a century ago. In addition to its general circulation holdings of over 150,000 volumes, the library has extensive digital holdings with wide appeal to children, teens and young and older adults alike. It is open seven days a week and its sponsorship of hundreds of insightful and informative educational programs has helped it attract over 50 thousand visitors of all ages in the last year alone. Art and other exhibits appealing to all ages, and book sales provide an important resource to the community. It also sponsors a home delivery service, "Words on Wheels," as a convenience for the house-bound, as well as a curbside pick-up service.

The town has been designated 'A Green Community'. Newtown's *Sustainable Energy Commission* reported recently that 84% of its municipal electric usage is supplied by solar energy! For example, there are extensive solar panel installations in the adjacent fields of the Town's Transfer Station, as well as panel arrays positioned on the town's middle school roof and other municipal and privately-owned buildings. The *Municipal Center* has two-port electric car charging stations, and more installations are expected soon elsewhere in town. In addition to extensive recycling drop-off at the *Transfer Station*, the recycling needs of the town are also serviced by the regional *Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority* which offers all residents free weekly curbside recycling pickup. In addition, the *Transfer Station* now also offers food scrap recycling in cooperation with a regional composter. Thus, Newtown fully expects to be a major leader in the state for waste reduction as well as a leader in reducing dependence on fossil fuels.



There are at least 10 churches within the town, including Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, Episcopalian, Methodist, and Congregational, a Church of Latter-Day Saints, as well as a synagogue and several Jewish worship groups. All have active ministries that provide social and religious programs to the entire



community such as youth services, Bingo nights, and church suppers in addition to support groups (e.g., for drug & alcohol abuse, weight loss, mental illness, Alzheimer's & Parkinson support, as well as bereavement). Several Islamic centers are also located within Newtown and there are also mosques located in adjacent communities. In short, Newtown is a community where people want to live, raise a family, retire and enjoy life. However, the tragic events of December 14, 2012 that took the lives of 20 first grade students and 6 educators, not only shocked the world, but it also shook our community to its very core. These horrific events, however, have given us a resolve to appreciate our families, friends, and neighbors as never before, so that even though we must acknowledge what happened here, these events will never define who we are as citizens of Newtown.

AGE-FRIENDLY AMENITIES

There are numerous age-friendly amenities already available to all residents in the town of Newtown in addition to those previously outlined.

The Newtown Senior Center at Fairfield Hills Campus



The 13,000 square foot *Newtown Senior Center, Center for Active Living*, is open Monday through Friday 9:00-4:00 (and later and on weekends for special events) and serves as a community focal point that provides programs and services for those 55 and above at a very nominal cost. Newtown's Senior Center was relocated from its former location to its current home, a brand-new state of the art building, in 2019. The facility has a covered drop off/pick-up entrance with seating and 6 handicap parking spaces. It provides a modern and friendly environment where members may participate in health and wellness classes, social, cultural and educational activities, as well as recreation such as playing cards, billiards, ping pong, doing puzzles, or just socializing and hanging out. The center thus aims to help members enhance their independent living, support mental health, and improve both their physical and social wellbeing.

Programming includes discussion groups, art and foreign language classes, educational speakers, virtual tours to distant lands, coffee & conversation round-table discussions with the *First Selectman* on local issues that seniors care about, bus tours to places of interest within the region, crafts, and memoir writing to name just a few. For many members, the highlight of their membership is the "Lunch & Learn" weekly program that brings in an array of speakers to discuss a wide-range of topics of interest to seniors from health and aging related topics, to entertainers. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the Senior Center made most all programs and health and wellness classes accessible virtually.

Detailed monthly newsletters, sent to all members well in advance, summarize the schedule of programs and events. A recent example of the newsletter can be found by [clicking here](#). A hard copy of one example can be found in the appendix of this document.

To facilitate convenient transportation to outside events, The Senior Center was recently awarded the funds to obtain a 10-passenger, handicap-accessible van from a competitive grant application. Senior Center members also have the opportunity to join the *Newtown Community Center* at a discounted senior rate, allowing them direct access to the aquatic facilities located within the adjacent Community Center which sponsors multigenerational classes and events in its 6-lane lap pool. This facility also has a therapy pool with zero entry access for mobility-restricted individuals of all ages. The centers' administrator is a LCSW and also serves as Director of the *Department of Human Services (DHS)* for the town. In addition to the Director, DHS is supported by a Senior Center staff of two assistants, and social services staff which includes 2 licensed clinicians and a case manager. The DHS holds the role of the Municipal Agent for the Elderly connecting Newtown's older citizens to support services and resources such as energy assistance, Renter's Rebate, food support, and assistance around medical insurance needs.

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings.

Most public buildings now meet or exceed ADA requirements. Five town parks provide residents with swimming, tennis, skateboarding, softball and baseball, turf and grass sport fields, a dog park, riverfront and shaded picnic areas, pavilions and playgrounds for the enjoyment by residents of all ages and abilities. Many have toilet and handicap facilities, good signage, and ample free parking. There are miles of hiking trails and open spaces throughout the country hills and pastures of Newtown, many of which are supported by *The Newtown Forest Association*. This group was established in 1924 and represents the oldest non-profit private land trust in Connecticut and is the largest private landowner in the town dedicated to preserving open spaces. It now owns no fewer than 17 wildlife preserves containing more than 200 acres as well as 45 other, smaller, spaces, many open to the public from dawn to dusk seven days a week. *Paugussett State Forest* is also located within the town and features more than six walking trails that vary from over 5 to just under a mile in length. The town’s *Fairfield Hills Park* contains numerous walking trails and a 2.9 mile running trail that is good for all skill levels. There are benches along some of the trails, many of the trails are paved, making them readily wheelchair accessible.



The *Community Center* outdoor walkways on the *Fairfield Hills Campus* provide direct access to bathrooms and drinking water 24 hours. The Department of *Parks & Recreation* also provides high quality recreational programs in addition to maintaining parks, camps, trails and open space for all the citizens of Newtown. As an example, *The Newtown Hikers* is a program consisting of a group of outdoor enthusiasts that attracts like-minded residents to share their enthusiasm for the outdoors on short or long hikes every month of the year. The town is currently expanding its efforts to attract seniors with the improvement of its current trails as well as the development of new trails. We are also currently working on plans to expand bike trails as well as formulating plans for bicycle rentals throughout the town.



Two golf courses are located in Newtown, one of which is a 9-hole, par 72 course, rated “one of the top ten public golf courses in the U.S.” by *Golf Digest*. Newtown also has several hunting, fishing and bridle clubs as well as lakes offering a range of recreational opportunities for members. The *Newtown Youth Academy* at the *Fairfield Hills Campus* is a non-profit that provides a sprawling, modern facility that supports healthy living through exercise and all types of sport programs for all ages, including pickleball, and is open daily. Well over a dozen tennis courts, open to all age groups, located in both public parks and schools as well as in private clubs, are distributed throughout the town.



Newtown Youth Academy, located in Fairfield Hills

COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES

The *Senior Center* and The *Department of Human Services* are highly responsive to the health needs of the senior community. This was evidenced for example through the curbside and outdoor programming at the height of the pandemic to combat social isolation, its vital role in organizing COVID-19 vaccine clinics for residents 55+, and the distribution of COVID test kits and N95 protective face masks for residents 55+. In addition, the new *Senior Center* facility includes a health room, which is the location for monthly blood pressure clinics and any health/medical-related activities. As previously stated, Senior Center programming includes an array of health- and aging-related educational presentations. The Town Departments, including DHS and the Health District, partner very closely together to ensure that the health needs of the senior community are appropriately identified and prioritized.

The DHS also works in close partnership with the Newtown *Police Department* to help ensure that the safety needs of our seniors are prioritized and met. Newtown officers receive extensive Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and bring in DHS to cases that may involve instances of senior abuse, neglect, exploitation, or concerns that increased support services may be required so that a senior may continue to age in place safely. DHS often makes welfare checks to vulnerable seniors and makes appropriate plans to meet needs identified from those contacts, for example assisting a senior qualify for *Meals On Wheels*, or making routine deliveries from Newtown's *FAITH Food Pantry*, to homebound seniors.

Finally, success in meeting the community needs of seniors is clearly evidenced in the diverse offerings of programming directed toward senior interest and multigenerational events with an emphasis on senior engagement. Examples include events sponsored with DHS across departments including Parks and Recreation, the Newtown *Community Center*, and the CH Booth Library.

HOUSING

Of the greater than 9000 seniors, age 55 and over, currently residing in Newtown, a substantial number prefer to live within their own homes allowing them to 'age in place'. Newtown's Department of Human Services funds the *Center for Support and Wellness* which is centrally located in town. Their mission is to provide seniors in need with wellness resources via an extensive referral system to local, state, and federal social programs that provide financial assistance to this age group. For example, the DHS works closely with Connecticut's *Department of Social Services*, including their *Home Care Program for Elders* (65+). Other Connecticut agencies that help seniors enjoy living in their own homes also include the *Energy Assistance Program*, and the *Rental Rebate Program*. Help with home delivery of prepared meals is coordinated with Newtown's *Meals on Wheels Inc.* as well as deliveries of groceries through the *FAITH Food Pantry*. Work with Federal agencies, such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, helps to provide long-term stability for elders residing in Newtown. The town also now provides significant tax relief to eligible seniors and the disabled.

However, many seniors also choose to reside in senior developments that provide more resources for social enrichment and health support while still maintaining an independent life style. Newtown has two major facilities, all modern and offering a full-array of services for the elderly and disabled. *Church Hill Village* that opened in 2019 provides independent living, assisted living and memory care; and *Maplewood at Newtown*, a luxury senior living facility offering these same services. Both provide expanded services for their residents as well as transportation not only within the town but also to various destinations beyond our community. Another senior and assisted-living facility conveniently located within the town is the *Newtown Rehabilitation and Health*

Care Center which offers independent living memory care as well as both short- and long-term care, outpatient and rehabilitation services, and hospice care.

In addition to these well-established facilities Newtown has several age-restricted developments: the *Woods at Newtown; Regency; Liberty* and *Walnut Tree*, all providing independent living to seniors. The town is currently considering proposals for the construction of restricted housing developments, including some that offer age-restricted housing that also provide special amenities as well as other options that would benefit our seniors.

TRANSPORTATION

Newtown has been described as a “transportation dessert.” To better address the town’s needs, a recent town-wide written survey directed to our senior citizens (fall, 2021) indicated that the vast majority (86%) currently depend on personal auto transport to navigate within and beyond Newtown and that just under half of respondents limit night-time driving or don’t drive at all after dark. Whether most would prefer alternate means of day and night transportation is still an open question. Given the enormous geographic size of the town and its limited resources, it is very unlikely that a comprehensive public transport solution will ever materialize. However, although alternate means of transport are available, most services are not timely or economically feasible for day-to-day needs for many seniors. For example, taxi and limousine services can be expensive or hard to get on demand. *Uber* or *Lyft* transport, while utilized by some of our seniors, doesn’t provide a reasonable alternative for many. Within this region of Connecticut, however, there are for-hire private medical transport companies available for both long- and short-haul distances to all regional medical facilities. Again, these services are often not practical and too costly for on demand day-to-day travel such as for grocery or other shopping.

This leaves a single regional transport service that provides a paid service for Newtown: SweetHART/ Dial-A-Ride. This is a door-to-door transportation service for seniors age 65 or older and persons of any age with a mobility disability. The cost of the program is subsidized substantially by the taxpayers of Newtown, as well as DOT grant funding, and is of nominal cost to the rider (\$1.00 each way!). Rides are available throughout Newtown and to 3 neighboring communities all week days as well as on Saturdays. There is no Sunday service. Reservations are absolutely necessary and must be made at least one day in advance. Although the survey results showed that Newtown riders who utilized the service were very pleased with the quality of the door-to-door service provided by *SweetHART*, the lack of on-demand, same-day service substantially limited their use of this alternate means of transport. Surprisingly, many seniors were completely unaware of what this service could provide them and that it was not just for the disabled. Thus, even though a substantial number of residents might depend on or would prefer to access alternative means of transport, they are largely restricted to the use of their personal vehicles. Nevertheless, increased and more effective means of communication should encourage more seniors to utilize the ride services already available to them.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Newtown encourages all its residents, including seniors, to volunteer and become actively engaged within the community. The town has an active *Chamber of Commerce*, both long-standing *Lions* and *Rotary* clubs, an active American Legion Post, and a veteran’s association (*VFW Post 308*) located at its own facility within the town. The myriad of volunteer opportunities for all ages that these organizations provide, when added to those of other local groups, (e.g., *FAITH Food Pantry, Friends of the C.H. Booth Library, Newtown Families United, Kevin’s Community Center, Newtown Historic Association, The Newtown Bee*, etc.) provide a wide-

array of volunteer opportunities for all ages. The *CH Booth Library* purchased software and devotes staff time to coordinate volunteer opportunities throughout the area.

The town also publicly encourages informed seniors to provide their expertise to town boards, committees, and commissions. As a result, there is active participation of seniors on all Newtown advisory groups as well as on volunteer and official boards. Examples include advisory groups and appointed boards for the Community and Senior Centers and the town's *Commission on Aging*, among many others. Seniors are specifically encouraged to join and participate in the town's *Friends of Newtown Seniors* (FONS) which provides a second focus advisory group to help Newtown solve senior-related issues, by working with both local, state and national organizations (such as the AARP), as well as providing the opportunity for social enrichment (see later).

Newtown provides a wide spectrum of work opportunities in both its private and public sectors. We are currently pursuing ways in which seniors could be encouraged to improve their job skills through workshops and seminars offered at several of our community organizations, including the *Senior Center* and the *Booth Library*.

RESPECT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

In order to instill a greater sense of inclusion within the community and to help seniors overcome social isolation, we have reached out to our senior citizens in well-publicized open forums to gather input of their priorities and perceived needs. One result of these exchanges was the establishment of CHORE services organized by *Friends of Newtown Seniors* (FONS). This volunteer program aims to develop a list of (*Better Business Bureau & Chamber of Commerce*)-vetted service providers that can meet the needs of seniors living at home, including lawn & landscape contractors, building & roofing contractors, electricians, plumbers, and the like. The program has successfully operated now for over four years and continues to show increasing demand. In some cases, services are provided at reduced cost or on occasion, are complementary. In other situations, outside funds are sought to cover some or all of these services via grants as well as donations from individuals and local businesses.

We also encourage meaningful intergenerational activities by maintaining an ongoing dialog between our schools and senior organizations and by communicating to seniors by newsletters and such what schools are making available to them, usually free of charge. Seniors are encouraged to attend (and sometimes participate!) in school events such as music, stage performances, athletic events, club activities, and the like. On some such occasions, the activity is preceded with complimentary lunch or dinner for the seniors often sponsored by parent-teacher organizations. These sorts of activities aid greatly in increasing respect and understanding between the generations. Another specific example of a successful intergenerational activity is the establishment several years ago of *Team Newtown* that involves both seniors and students alike in master's games and in the CT '*Nutmeg Games*'. This program offered training and guidance in cooperation with FONS and the Parks and Recreation Department.

We are also attempting to continually review the structure and effective practices of town governance by encouraging seniors to participate in all town boards, both public and private, including various school groups. Such civic participation helps seniors convey their needs and interests while at the same time helping them enjoy a sense of pride in their abilities to make meaningful contributions to their community. The town's weekly newspaper, *The Newtown Bee*, publishes "Senior News" that details all the week's events

happening at the *Senior Center*, as well as articles of interest to seniors thus giving them a sense of the commitment the community has in bringing the attention of the greater community to senior issues.

There are also numerous examples of how seniors can increase their involvement within the community by participating in organized social activities including the *Newtown Bridge Club* which meets regularly at the Edmund Town Hall, as well as involvement with residents interested in photography, the *Flagpole Photographers Camera Club*, which has public exhibitions at various venues in town. In addition, Newtown seniors are well represented in both of the Garden Clubs in Newtown. Furthermore, many Newtown organizations provide free programs to members of the Senior Center, for example the Newtown *Parks & Recreation Department*, which sponsors topics of particular interest to seniors, such as on the process of ‘decluttering the home,’ and ‘downsizing.’

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

By utilizing any of the town’s available community calendars, news and electronic media and the like, seniors can stay well informed of the available social and other events occurring throughout the town, access to which can help reduce their sense of isolation and thus help improve their overall wellbeing. Our weekly newspaper, *The Newtown Bee*, publishes a weekly ‘Community Calendar’ of all types of events in town with broad appeal. Other sections of the newspaper highlight ‘Senior News’ ‘Support Groups,’ ‘Worship Services,’ ‘Theatre Reviews,’ ‘School’ & ‘Sports News’ and ‘Education’, as well as other events throughout the town, which are of interest to all ages. The newspaper also contains regular and occasional features promoting senior issues and activities.

Several of our town organizations (*Commission on Aging* and *FONS*) regularly hold well-publicized open meetings to collect input from seniors about their social preferences etc. These have helped the town increase the frequency and scope of social offerings attractive to seniors, including dances, holiday parties and celebrations and other social events, many of which are free or charge only a nominal cost. A specific example of our social outreach to seniors is the FONS-sponsored “Sunshine” committee’s work to help combat isolation of seniors, in sickness and in health. These volunteers call or send written notes to let seniors know they are not alone and that other residents are thinking of them. Another example provided by FONS, are the monthly dinner socials for any Newtown seniors which are held at local restaurants or the Senior Center. The *Senior Center* particularly, is already playing a vital role for enriching senior activities and interactions. Social programming has been expanded substantially, and opportunities for intergenerational social activities both within and outside the center are already ample as has been previously detailed.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

With an aging population that numbers in excess of 9000 individuals aged 55 and over (nearly 4500 are 65+), effectively informing everyone in this age group of the helpful resources available to them is a real challenge. Also recognizing that not everyone is current with the latest technology, communicating available resources to seniors requires an array of media applications for maximum effectiveness. Newtown’s primary focus to effectively accomplish this goal involves the town’s *Commission on Aging* (COA), *Friends of Newtown Seniors* (FONS), *The Senior Center*, and *The Newtown Bee* weekly newspaper.

The Newtown COA has published a pamphlet, the “*Senior Resources Guide*,” that helps connect seniors, their families, and caregivers to local and regional resources. The 19-page guide contains an alphabetical directory of available services with descriptions of services offered, web addresses and telephone numbers. These include services from ‘adult day care,’ ‘continuing education,’ ‘food pantry,’ ‘assisted and independent living,’ ‘nutrition,’ ‘recreation,’ and ‘transportation,’ to cite only some of the dozens of topics covered which are of particular interest to seniors. These guides are readily available at the *Senior Center* and other venues in town. To further develop awareness of information of importance to seniors, COA also provides timely information on the town’s website.

Another primary source of information for seniors is communicated via the *Senior Center’s* monthly newsletter, circulars, frequent e-mails, and in-house bulletin boards. *FONS* also e-mails timely information to senior members via e-mail at least weekly and more frequently as needed. This all-volunteer group has already established an effective open communication between and among government agencies, local organizations, and businesses to help in the dissemination of timely and useful information to all our seniors.

Other town organizations, including The *Booth Library*, *Parks & Recreation* Department, as well as other Newtown groups, provide a similar service for seniors who are on their mailing list. The town’s web site also includes Board meeting videos and other resources which help seniors to develop a greater awareness of current issues being discussed, thereby increasing interest and awareness of the workings of the town government.

Finally, publication of information useful to seniors is done effectively via the weekly newspaper, *The Newtown Bee*, including information in dedicated news sections of the paper as well as general information presented throughout the newspaper.

With all these communication formats, Newtown seniors can remain highly informed and up to date on the resources available to them.

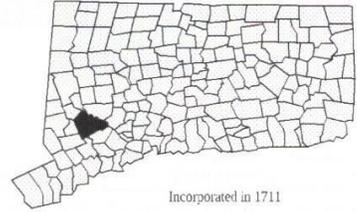
Appendix

Newtown, Connecticut

CERC Town Profile 2019 *Produced by Connecticut Data Collaborative*

Municipal Center
3 Primrose St
Newtown, CT 06470
(203) 270-4210

Belongs To
Fairfield County
LMA Danbury
Western Planning Area



Incorporated in 1711

Demographics

Population				Race/Ethnicity (2013-2017)										
	Town	County	State		Town	County	State							
2000	25,031	882,567	3,405,565	White Non-Hisp	24,866	595,323	2,446,049							
2010	27,560	916,829	3,574,097	Black Non-Hisp	341	98,931	350,820							
2013-2017	28,030	947,328	3,594,478	Asian Non-Hisp	558	48,421	154,910							
2020	27,788	944,692	3,604,591	Native American Non-Hisp	39	1,372	5,201							
'17 - '20 Growth / Yr	-0.3%	-0.1%	0.1%	Other/Multi-Race Non-Hisp	224	22,631	84,917							
				Hispanic or Latino	2,002	180,379	551,916							
	Town	County	State		Town	County	State							
Land Area (sq. miles)	58	625	4,842	Poverty Rate (2013-2017)	4.1%	8.8%	10.1%							
Pop./Sq. Mile (2013-2017)	486	1,516	742	Educational Attainment (2013-2017)										
Median Age (2013-2017)	45	40	41		Town	County	State							
Households (2013-2017)	9,749	337,678	1,361,755	High School Graduate	3,450	18%	673,582	27%						
Med. HH Inc. (2013-2017)	\$115,137	\$89,773	\$73,781	Associates Degree	1,101	6%	188,481	8%						
	Town	County	State	Bachelors or Higher	10,613	56%	953,199	38%						
Veterans (2013-2017)	1,353		180,111	Age Distribution (2013-2017)										
Age Distribution (2013-2017)				0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total				
Town	1,024	4%	4,093	15%	3,941	14%	4,948	18%	9,649	34%	4,375	16%	28,030	100%
County	53,055	6%	125,776	13%	126,096	13%	229,587	24%	271,888	29%	140,926	15%	947,328	100%
State	186,188	5%	432,367	12%	495,626	14%	872,640	24%	1,031,900	29%	575,757	16%	3,594,478	100%

Economics

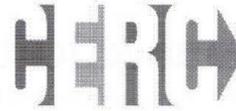
Business Profile (2018)			Top Five Grand List (2018)	
Sector	Units	Employment		Amount
Total - All Industries	876	8,523	Eversource	\$45,707,670
23 - Construction	87	391	E&A / I&G Sandhill Plaza Ltd Partnership	\$15,732,280
31-33 - Manufacturing	26	542	Iroquois Gas Transmission System (CT FO)	\$13,800,960
44-45 - Retail Trade	62	751	Newtown Landlord CT LLC	\$11,922,150
56 - Administrative and Waste Services	66	830	Advanced Fusion Systems LLC	\$11,282,600
62 - Health Care and Social Assistance	81	1,030	Net Grand List (SFY 2016-2017)	\$3,085,990,418
Total Government	24	1,596	Major Employers (2018)	
			Town of Newtown School District	Garner Correctional Facility
			Town of Newtown	Newtown Savings Bank
			Charter Communications / Spectrum	

Education

2018-2019 School Year			Smarter Balanced Test Percent Above Goal (2017-2018)					
	Grades	Enrollment	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 8	
			Town	State	Town	State	Town	State
Newtown School District	PK-12	4306	82.0%	53.8%	65.8%	51.3%	67.2%	43.0%
			80.1%	53.1%	67.6%	54.9%	75.8%	56.1%
Pre-K Enrollment (PSIS)			Rate of Chronic Absenteeism (2017-2018)					
		2018-2019	Connecticut		Newtown School District		All	
Newtown School District		70					10.7%	
			Newtown School District				4.1%	
4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate (2017-2018)			Public vs Private Enrollment (2013-2017)					
	All	Female	Male	Town		County		State
Connecticut	88.3%	91.8%	85.1%	Public		82.2%		86.8%
Newtown School District	96.5%	97.0%	96.0%	Private		17.8%		13.2%

Newtown, Connecticut

CERC Town Profile 2019



Connecticut
Economic
Resource Center

Government									
Government Form: Selectman - Town Meeting									
Total Revenue (2017)	\$122,483,989	Total Expenditures (2017)	\$120,851,086	Annual Debt Service (2017)	\$9,428,266				
Tax Revenue	\$103,098,824	Education	\$81,899,663	As % of Expenditures	7.8%				
Non-tax Revenue	\$19,385,165	Other	\$38,951,423	Eq. Net Grand List (2017)	\$4,507,343,813				
Intergovernmental	\$16,585,900	Total Indebtedness (2017)	\$66,965,653	Per Capita	\$161,178				
Per Capita Tax (2017)	\$3,678	As % of Expenditures	55.4%	As % of State Average	106.8%				
As % of State Average	125.5%	Per Capita	\$2,395	Moody's Bond Rating (2017)	Aa1				
		As % of State Average	95.3%	Actual Mill Rate (2017)	33.60				
				Equalized Mill Rate (2017)	22.82				
				% of Net Grand List Com/Ind (2017)	8.4%				
Housing/Real Estate									
Housing Stock (2013-2017)									
Total Units	Town: 10,282	County: 369,044	State: 1,507,711	Distribution of House Sales					
% Single Unit (2013-2017)	89.0%	58.0%	59.2%	Less than \$100,000	Town: NA	County: 34	State: 536		
New Permits Auth (2017)	50	1,719	4,547	\$100,000-\$199,999	NA	343	5,237		
As % Existing Units	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%	\$200,000-\$299,999	NA	749	6,681		
Demolitions (2017)	4	538	1,403	\$300,000-\$399,999	NA	865	3,863		
Home Sales	NA	5,187	21,880	\$400,000 or More	NA	3,196	5,563		
Median Price	\$403,400	\$417,800	\$270,100	Rental (2013-2017)					
Built Pre-1950 share	15.9%	29.0%	29.3%	Median Rent	Town: \$1,431	County: \$1,439	State: \$1,123		
Owner Occupied Dwellings	8,385	228,666	906,798	Cost-burdened Renters	53.4%	54.6%	52.3%		
As % Total Dwellings	86.0%	67.7%	66.6%						
Subsidized Housing (2018)	248	34,037	167,879						
Labor Force									
Residents Employed	Town: 13,678	County: 461,750	State: 1,827,070	Connecticut Commuters (2015)					
Residents Unemployed	490	19,017	78,242	Commuters Into Town From:					
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	4.0%	4.1%	Newtown, CT	1,830	Town Residents Commuting To:			
Self-Employed Rate	13.0%	13.0%	10.0%	Danbury, CT	816	Newtown, CT	1,830		
Total Employers	876	36,389	122,067	Southbury, CT	378	Danbury, CT	1,711		
Total Employed	8,523	420,674	1,673,867	New Milford, CT	343	Stamford, CT	641		
				Waterbury, CT	312	Norwalk, CT	526		
				Bethel, CT	278	Bethel, CT	422		
				Bridgeport, CT	258	Bridgeport, CT	416		
						Fairfield, CT	383		
Quality of Life									
Crime Rates (per 100,000 residents) (2017)									
Property	Town: 368	State: 1,777	Distance to Major Cities		Miles		Residential Utilities		
Violent	42	228	Hartford	40	Electric Provider		Eversource Energy		
			New York City	61	(800) 286-2000				
			Providence	100	Gas Provider		Eversource Energy		
			Boston	133	(800) 989-0900				
			Montreal	286	Water Provider		Municipal Provider		
					Local Contact				
					Cable Provider		Charter Communications of Western CT		
					(800) 827-8288				
Disengaged Youth (2013-2017)									
Female	Town: 0.0%	State: 4.2%							
Male	2.6%	5.6%							
Library circulation per capita									
	Town: 7.38								

ITEM 2: recent Newtown Senior Center newsletter example [CLICK HERE](#)





Goals and Objectives for the Newtown Age Friendly Livable Community Long Range Plan

INTRODUCTION:

We present here a table summarizing the goals and objectives of our *Age Friendly Livable Community* long-range plan. Please note the use of a key to identify lead and potential partners. Our hope is that the reader will gain an insight into what we are trying to accomplish, who will be involved, a basic timeline of events and the measures we will use to gauge the success of our efforts. The timeline often indicates DONE (or ONGOING) which is our way of saying that the mechanisms to achieve the goal are in place but often is an ongoing effort to maintain the outcomes of the goals and objectives.



Goals and Objectives for the Newtown Age Friendly Livable Community Long Range Plan

KEY:

Acronym	Organization/Individual	Acronym	Organization/Individual	Acronym	Organization/Individual
BB	Borough	FONS	Friends of Newtown seniors	SHOP	Sandy Hook Organization for prosperity
BD	Building department	FS	First selectman	TA	Town attorney
BF	Board of finance	HART	Housatonic Area Regional Transport	TC	Trails committee
BOS	Board of selectmen	HD	Health Department	TE	Town engineer
CA	Cultural arts commission	HO	Highway operations	TO	Tax office
CC	Conservation Commission	HS	Human services	TTD	Town tech department
CD	CT Dept. Transportation	IW	Inland Wetlands	VC	Volunteer council
CH	CH Booth Library	LA	Lake Authorities	WC	Worship- churches, synagogues, mosques
CL	Clubs and organizations	LC	Legislative Council	WCAAA	Western CT Area Agency on Aging
COA	Commission on aging	LI	Lions Club	WS	Water sewer authority
COC	Chamber of Commerce	MC	Municipal center	ZA	Zoning board of appeals
CM	Community Center	NB	Newtown Bee	ZE	Zoning enforcement
DHS	Department of Human Services	NC	Newtown Community Center	WHO	World Health Organization
DP	Director of planning	NYA	Newtown Youth academy	NGO	Non-governmental Organization
DR	Design review board	NYFS	Newtown Youth and Family Services		
EC	Emergency Communication	PD	Police Department		
ED	Economic Development	PC	Police commission		
EM	Emergency Management	PR	Parks and Recreation		
ET	Edmund town hall	PS	Public schools		
FD	Financial director	PW	Public Works		
FFH	Fairfield Hills	PZ	Planning and Zoning Commission		
FFP	Fairfield Hills Plan	POCD	Plan of Conservation/ Development		
FH	Fairfield Hills Authority	SC	Senior Center		
FI	FISH Friends in Service to Humanity	SCORE	Service Corps of Retired Executives		
FM	Fire Marshall	SHC	Senior housing centers		



Goals and Objectives for the Newtown Age Friendly Livable Community Long Range Plan

1. Buildings and Outdoor Spaces

“Parks, sidewalks, safe streets, outdoor seating, and, accessible buildings (Think elevators, stairs with railings, etc.) can be used and enjoyed by people of all ages” (WHO)

Goal 1. The Town of Newtown works to ensure that the concepts of Age Friendliness are meaningfully considered as municipal projects are planned, reviewed, permitted and executed. (2024)						
OBJ #	Objective	Lead organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current resources	Metrics
1	Evaluate and incorporate Age-Friendly concepts in the towns plan of conservation and development.	PZ, FH	BOS, LC, FONS	Ongoing	POCD review	Age-Friendly initiatives are consistent with POCD
2	Utilize COA and FONS as senior advisory groups for reviewing plans and modification of public buildings and outdoor spaces.	HS	FONS, COA, PZ, FH	Ongoing	POCD	Include age-friendly designation as part of POCD and FHH
3	Evaluate the feasibility of complete streets philosophy in planning decisions.	LC, BOS, PZ, FH	FONS, COA	Ongoing	POCD, FFP	Incorporation of complete streets in POCD
SIDEWALKS Goal 1.1 The town is implementing a sidewalk plan based on location, access, ease of use, care and maintenance						
4	Establish standards for sidewalk materials, maintenance, lighting, crosswalks	BOS, BB, PW, TE	PZ	DONE	Guidelines in place	Protocols in place, state and local guidelines exist
5	Sidewalk review to note condition and repair	BB, PW	BOS, LC	DONE Ongoing	Part of existing budget	Condition of sidewalks
6	Sidewalk planning that considers, public input, concentrations of senior housing, connecting parks and schools and municipal services.	BB, PW, PZ	FONS, COA	DONE	Extensive sidewalk plan in place which considers all of these factors	Increasing use of sidewalks as they complete connections between populations and services
7	Add crosswalks with traffic calming and push button controls where appropriate to allow older persons to cross safely		BB, PC, PW	Ongoing	Planning review considers these issues. Borough active in this	Feedback from public, data related to traffic flow and accidents
8	Educate residents with sidewalk frontage of responsibility regarding clearing snow	FS	BB, FONS, COA	Ongoing	Town ordinance	Pedestrian feedback
9	Create a program to assist older persons clear snow from sidewalks in front of their homes.	FONS	COA, WC, CL	2024 Ongoing	Chore service started providing services 2021	Records of services rendered by chore services



Goals and Objectives for the Newtown Age Friendly Livable Community Long Range Plan

PARKS Goal 1.2 Quality parks serve the active and passive recreational interests of Newtown residents of all ages and abilities. (2025)						
OBJ #	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current Resources	Metrics
10	Parks and other outdoor municipal spaces have adequate and well-lit parking and safe and walkable surfaces, benches for rest and socializing, access to lavatories and water	PR, FH,	BOS, LC, PW	Ongoing	POCD, FFP,	Public input
11	Create well-developed signage locating amenities and points of interest	PR, PW, DOT, FH	BOS, LC, PW	DONE Ongoing	Good cooperation state and local	Signage in place
12	Implement special senior activities such as a senior day, intro to pickleball, stretching and exercise activities.	PR, HS, NYA	COA, FONS	2020 and Ongoing	Activities have been planned and more are being considered	Active participation of seniors in a variety of activities in the parks and at Fairfield hills and at the senior center
13	Improve/enhance recreational opportunities for seniors, such as pickleball and bocci	PR, NYA,	BOS, LC, PW	2022	Parks and recreation and NYA working together	Addition of courts for pickleball and bocce NYA
14	Enhance town website to improve user friendliness and enhance information pertaining to events	TTD	FONS, FS	2024 Ongoing	Senior button added to website	Public feedback and increased participation of seniors in activities in parks
15	Create pocket parks in neighborhoods	ED, PR, CL,	Neighborhood groups	2025	Park planned for Sandy Hook by SHOP	As each neighborhood develops small parks are considered
TRAILS Goal 1.3 Trails in Newtown will be well developed and maintained and accessible and usable by people of all ages and abilities. (2026)						
16	Establish a trails committee	FS	CC, PR	DONE	Trails committee established and includes seniors	Improved trails and availability of trail information
17	Create cadre of volunteers to maintain trails and markings	TC	FS, PR	2020	High interest among hikers	Identified volunteer list
18	Place trail markings at regular intervals	TC	FS, PR	2022	Existing maps	Public feedback
19	Develop a five-year plan for trail development and improvement	TC	FS, PR	2025	Existing trail maps and markers	Clear maps available, access to well marked trails
20	Produce trail maps that rates difficulty	TC	FS, PR	2025	Existing maps	Clear usable maps
21	Create special events	TC	PR, LC, FONS	Ongoing	Already have staged well attended events	Track attendance and feedback



Goals and Objectives for the Newtown Age Friendly Livable Community Long Range Plan

FAIRFIELD HILLS Goal 1.4 Improve the Fairfield Hills Campus for social uses and for active and passive recreation (2026)						
OBJ #	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current Resources	Metrics
22	Provide public restrooms, accessible from walks and trails	FH	PR, PW	DONE	Bathroom at community center with outside access	Access to bathrooms within 5 minute walk of any point in the park
23	Provide picnic tables and where possible shade along trails	FH	PR, PW	2024	Tables in some locations	Adequate seating to encourage socialization
24	Add more poop bags along trails	FH	PR, PW	2024	Stations have been added	Mitigation of poop problem in all areas
25	Install additional containers for trash, and recyclables	FH, CC	PR, PW	2024	few receptacles in place	Attractive easily accessible and well maintained containers
26	Enhance recreational activities for seniors	PR, FH	PW	Done	Bocce by NYA, also pickleball PR, NYA	Adequate courts to meet demand at high seasons
27	Create dedicated pedestrian areas with outdoor seating and amenities	FH	PR, PW	2025	Some seating has been added, Fruit trail established	Seating at intervals that allows safe access by people of all abilities
28	Develop a bike plan for Fairfield Hills	FH, TC	PR, PW	2025	Regular use by bikers and walkers need to consider safety	Trails marking separating bikes and pedestrians where possible
BICYLCING Goal 1.5 Improve bicycling as a real transportation and recreation option (2027)						
29	Add bicycle racks at Senior Center	PR, HS, FH	FONS	2024	In place at community center	Bike rack at entrance to senior center
30	Implement plan for bicycle rental/borrow on Newtown parks and trails	PR	FH, CL, TC	DONE for kids FFH Adults 2026	Model in place for kids consider adults	Bicycles rentals or loan available for all ages
31	Complete a bicycle and pedestrian access plan which would include the study of multiuse trails	TC	PR, PW	2027	Existing maps and guidelines	Safe use of trails by both bicycles and pedestrians
32	Extend the Pequannock trail from Monroe to Newtown	TC	PR, PW	2027	Trails is roughed in	Complete trail of comparable design to that extending from Monroe to Trumbull



Goals and Objectives for the Newtown Age Friendly Livable Community Long Range Plan

PUBLIC BUILDINGS Goal 1.6 Ensure that public buildings welcome all members of the community and meet use and access needs of senior citizens. (2024)						
OBJ #	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current Resources	Metrics
33	Sufficient drinking fountains, rest rooms, seating,	ET, BOS	FONS, COA	2022	In place CM, SC, MC, CH	Review of all buildings
34	Reconfigure handicap parking and library driveway access to better accommodate handicap and drop off and pickup.	BOS, CH, LC	FONS	2023	In process	Parking close to building and drive around driveway in place.
35	Create standards for public buildings, access, hearing other needs of seniors	BOS, LC	FONS, COA	2025	ADA requirements	Most buildings meet or exceed ADA requirements
36	Covered drop off pick up locations with seating provided	BOS, LC	FONS, COA	2025	In place at CM and SC, MC, CH	Many public buildings have covered drop off pick up
37	Doors of relative ease or mechanized, walkways level, elevators, interior signage and hearing loops in Municipal Center meeting rooms (where most public meetings are held)	ET, BOS	FONS, COA	2026	In place CM, SC, MC, CH	Review of all buildings



Goals and Objectives for the Newtown Age Friendly Livable Community Long Range Plan

2. Transportation

“Driving should not be the only way to get around. Transportation options should exist which allow all members of the community to move about as needs and desires dictate.” (WHO)

Goal 2.1 The public are aware of the transportation options available						
OBJ #	Objective	Lead organization	Potential partners	Timeline	Current resources	Metrics
38	Conduct educational sessions concerning transportation options and how to use them. Produce resource guide	HS, SC	FONS, COA	2023 and ongoing	Hart Bus, Lyft, Uber, taxi, FONS and private medical transport	Well-designed simple handouts explaining options and how to use them
39	Establish mechanism to co-ordinate existing services	HS, SC	FONS, COA	2023	Hart Bus, Lyft, Uber, taxi, FONS and private medical transport	Ride use data, public feedback
Goal 2.2 Increase options and efficacy of current and added new transportation services. (2024)						
40	Continued assessment of ride services and options in other communities	HS, FONS	COA	On-going	Information gathered from various communities	Data from communities concerning ride services
41	Review of Newtown’s use of state and federal funds	FS, BF, FD	FONS, COA	On-going	Budgets info	Rides data and cost data Hart role of other services
42	Review of Connecticut’s Long-Range plan 2018- 2050	BOS	BF, FD, FONS	FONS provided input to process	The towns long-range plan for development	Funding to support area initiatives in line with state’s long-range plan
43	Develop organization to coordinate rides	HS, FONS	COA, HART	2025	Small grant from WCAAA	Establishment of single contact for ride info and scheduling
44	Explore expansion of HART service and connection to surrounding towns via fixed and flexible bus routes.	FS, HS	FONS, COA, HART	2025	Existing bus routes and dial a ride services	Routes that allow movement to shopping and medical facilities not available in Newtown
45	Explore feasibility of a bus loop connecting town Fairfield Hills, schools and commercial clusters	FS, HS	FONS, COA, HART	2025	Existing bus routes and dial a ride services	Ease of movement in center of town and commercial clusters
46	Explore after hours transportation options which allow socialization and cultural enrichment after 4 PM	FS, HS	FONS, COA,	2026	Uber, Lyft, Hart, FONS, van use, taxi	Public feedback and 2021 survey on transportation



Goals and Objectives for the Newtown Age Friendly Livable Community Long Range Plan

3. Housing

“Most older adults want to age in place. Doing so is possible if homes are appropriately designed or modified and if a community includes affordable housing options” (WHO)

AGING IN PLACE Goal 3.1 Aging in place is facilitated by services for Newtown seniors. (2024 and ongoing)						
OBJ #	Objective	Lead organization	Potential Partners	timeline	Current resources	Metrics
47	Chore services are made available	FONS	HS, COA	Pilot 2020 2022 full program, Ongoing	Habitat for Humanity and Handy Dandy Handyman	Collecting data on needs and services provided to senior residents
48	Implement “Home-Fit program”	FONS, COA	HS	Planning 2022 In place 2024 Ongoing	Chore service Habitat and Handy Dandy Handyman	Collecting data on needs will collect data on services provided as implementation proceeds
49	Homefront program	LI, First Congregational church	FONS,CL	Each year a project	Bring in Homefront	Screen possible clients and complete project
50	Communication concerning services available	FONS	CL, HS, NB	Ongoing	Constant contact	Count of email addresses as communication hub is developed
AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING Goal 3.2 Increase Availability of Affordable Senior Housing in Newtown (2026)						
51	Identify possible funding sources for housing	ED, Local banks	FONS	2023	FHP, POCD	Addition of rental units at 20% below median income
52	Support efforts to meet State requirements around affordable housing	BOS, LC, ED	PZ	Ongoing	POCD, FHP	Continue discussions with ED, PZ
53	Research options for the development of affordable housing in Newtown for seniors	ED, PZ, BOS, LC	FONS, HS	In process 2025	FHP	Addition of rental units affordable at 20% below median income
54	Develop an affordable housing plan as required by the State	ED	BOS, LC	Done.		The Affordable Housing Plan as required by the State was recently ratified



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4. Social Participation

“Regardless of one’s age, loneliness negatively affects a person’s health and sense of wellbeing. Isolation can be combatted by availability of accessible, affordable and fun social activities”(WHO)

Goal 4.1 Develop multifaceted-communication plan to inform all seniors of social activities using traditional, social, electronic and traditional media.						
Obj #	Objective	Lead organization	Potential partners	Timeline	Current resources	Metrics
55	Encourage Bee and other papers to add features that focus on clubs and organizations especially those involved in intergenerational activities.	NB, Voices, New Times	FONS	2022	Spotlight in NB, articles in NB and voices	Regular features promoting senior issues and organizations supporting senior activities
56	Electronic and hard copy community calendar	NB, TTD,CH	FONS	2025	Existing calendars on-line NB, TTD hard copy NB	Tracking of hits on sites. Reader Feedback on Newtown Bee
57	Leverage local TV cable studio	Charter	FONS	2025 Ongoing	Relationship exists	Professional spots developed for use where screens are available
58	Use community mailings to connect senior citizens with similar interests	SC, FONS	COA	2025 Ongoing	SC bulk mail permit	Metrics
59	Engage Faith based organizations to include community activities in their bulletins and newsletters	WC	FONS	2025 Ongoing	Crossover memberships in WC and FONS	Regular inclusion of activities in Newsletters and bulletins
60	Form a phone chain to maintain connections between seniors	SC, FONS	PD, COA	2025 Ongoing	Phone numbers of members are available	Regular planned contact with isolated seniors
61	Explore a dedicated phone number that seniors can call to get information on social activities, access services, and community events	SC	FONS, COA	2025	Volunteers are available	Regularly staffed phone to respond to calls
Goal 4.2 Collect input from seniors on needs and desired programs.						
62	Hold open meetings to collect input from seniors	HS	FONS, COA	Ongoing	COA sessions at SC, FONS ,COA	Calendar of meetings is established and published
63	Combat isolation through outreach	HS	PD, COA, FONS	2025	Calls made by SC when seniors do not show up	Planned program which includes welfare checks on seniors who are isolated
64	Develop a cadre of ambassadors in clubs, organizations and senior housing to help maintain effective contact	HS	FONS, COA	2025	Groups are siloed but attempts being made to bring together	All clubs and organization which impact the lives of seniors represented at meetings to discuss senior issues
65	Enhance effective means of communication	HS	FONS, COA	2026	Several lists maintained by various organizations	A single data base with contact info for all seniors residing in Newtown



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Goal 4.3 Rebrand senior center (2024)						
Obj #	Objective	Lead organization	Potential partners	Timeline	Current resources	Metrics
66	Emphasize the center as a vital and active hub for senior activities and interactions.	SC	FONS, COA	Ongoing	Tag line was added to title "Center for Active Living"	Renaming as "Center For Active Living" New mission emphasizing new role
67	Expand programming at the senior center	SC	FONS, COA	DONE Ongoing	Many new programs have been added	Partnerships established with colleges and universities
68	Expand opportunities at the senior center and outside the center for intergenerational activities	SC, CM	FONS, COA, PS, NYFS	Ongoing	New opportunities have been added.	Regular meeting between and among, FONS, PS, COA, HS, NYFS and other interested groups
69	Enrich programming to include, staying active, socialization, continued learning, navigating longevity, men centered	SC, CM	FONS, COA, PS, NYFS	Ongoing	Opportunities have been added.	Doubling of membership and increase participation



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5. Respect and Social Inclusion

“Intergenerational activities are a great way for young and old to learn from another, honor what each other has to offer and at the same time feel good about themselves.” (WHO)

Goal 5.1 Input from seniors is regularly collected to determine needs and wants. (2023) ongoing effort						
Obj#	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current resources	Metrics
70	Hold open meetings to collect input from seniors	HS	FONS, COA	Ongoing	Regular meetings	Calendar of meetings established and published
71	Communicate to general public how town government systems work. Presentations.	BOS	FONS	2024 Ongoing	Outreach at senior center	Feedback from participants at senior center presentations
Goal 5.2 Develop a list of vetted service providers that are designed to meet the needs of seniors. FONS Chore Services (2024)						
72	Develop a process for screening service providers	FONS	COC	DONE Ongoing	Better business Board ratings	List and mechanism for client feedback in place
73	Make list available through CHORE service established by FONS	FONS	HS, COA	2024 Ongoing	Work with Chamber of Commerce	Development of contact list for all 9,000 55+ residents of Newtown
Goal 5.3 Ensure positive and non-stereotypical image of seniors through improved media exposure. (2024)						
74	Make a positive public relation image the focus of all information provided by HS, SC and all groups serving seniors.	NB, CH, HS, SC	FONS, COA, Voices	2024 Ongoing	Limited staffing	A clearing house established at the senior center for dissemination of information and articles for papers and other media
75	Work with the Bee to enhance the senior portion of the paper.	FONS, NB	HS, SC, COA	2024 Ongoing	Articles and letters appear in Bee	Positive feedback from readers and increased subscriptions among seniors
Goal 5.4 Family and school events in Newtown are designed to include seniors and encourage their participation. (2024)						
76	Encourage senior volunteering in the schools and attendance at school events	PS, NYFS	FONS	2022 Ongoing	Volunteerism exists	Volunteers and other senior involvement part of PS planning process
77	Ongoing dialog between schools and senior organizations	FONS	HS, COA, SC	2024 Ongoing	Regular meetings between PS, & FONS, with COA and HS participation	Regular meetings and regular correspondence among all senior focused groups and PS
78	Team Newtown involves seniors in Master’s games and CT Nutmeg Games	PR, NYA, FONS	HS, SC, COM	2024	Team started in 2020	Increased Active enrollment in competition
79	Communicate to all seniors what is already offered to them at the schools	PS	FONS, NB	Ongoing	Schools’ concerts, art events seniors, included free. FONS SC constant contact	Regular attendance of seniors at school sponsored events



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Goal 5.5 Review town governance structure and practices with regards to senior needs and interests. (2022)						
Obj#	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current resources	Metrics
80	Review the impact of Commission on Aging	FS	HS, FONS, COA	2023	COA and FONS share board members	Feedback from seniors concerning the effectiveness of COA
81	Review senior participation on all boards, commissions and committees	FONS	FS	2023	Many boards have senior representation	List of board members who are seniors
82	Encourage interactions and collaborations between and among the COA, PD, PS, PR, CA, CM	COA, FONS PD, PS, PR, CA, CM	FS	2024	All boards meet regularly	List of identified collaborations among the groups mentioned
83	Present mission statement and COA By-Laws revised and establish annual goals	COA	FS	2024	Ready for presentation	Annual review of COA using bylaws and mission.



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6. Civic Participation and employment

“An age-friendly community provides ways older people can, if they choose to, work for pay, volunteer their skills and be actively engaged in community life”. (WHO)

Goal 6.1 Opportunities for seniors include a range of flexible options for volunteer work and employment, with training, recognition, guidance and support provided as needed. These options will be well publicized.							
Obj #	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current Resources	Metrics	
84	Explore the establishment of a position to coordinate town wide volunteer activities and serve as a liaison for senior employment opportunities	CH	SC,HS, FONS, COA	2024	Current staff have specific duties	Position in place and volunteer and job-related functions defined.	
85	Offer volunteer skills training	CH, SC	HS, FONS, COA	2024	Handbook being developed	Training schedule published	
86	Seniors on town boards/commissions	SC, FS	HS, FONS,COA	DONE	On boards and commissions	Increased representation	
Goal 6.2 Build a strong volunteer-based structure to support all seniors in Newtown regardless of social-economic status and without regard to race, sexual orientation/identification, ethnicity, physical or mental disabilities or religious affiliation. (2024)							
87	DHS Care Navigator will serve as liaison to Choices and work with WCAAA to promote choices program.	SC	HS, FONS, COA	Done	Building volunteer base	Defined program organized and supervised by DHS Care Coordinator	
88	Reinstitute special friends network to reach out to those who are isolated and or homebound	HS, SC	FONS, COA	2024	Building volunteer base FONS Sunshine committee	Defined program organized and supervised by volunteer coordinator at senior center	
Goal 6.3 Education and training in post-retirement options and opportunities is provided to Newtown Seniors. 2025							
89	Offer jobs skills, training to seniors through the senior center in cooperation with SCORE	CH, SC	HS, FONS, COA	2025	Expanding programming	Defined program organized and supervised by volunteer coordinator at senior center	
90	Research town needs for employment and what other towns are doing in area of training senior workers	CH, SC	HS, FONS, COA	2025	Current staff have specific roles	Volunteer/training coordinator at senior center	
91	Self-employment workshops in partnership with SCORE	CH, SC	HS, FONS, COA	2025	Current staff have specific roles	Defined program organized and supervised by volunteer coordinator at senior center	
92	Engage the Chamber of Commerce and other employer groups in holding workshops for members on the benefits of employing seniors. SCORE	CH, COC, SC	HS, FONS, COA	2021	Current staff have specific roles	Defined program organized and supervised by volunteer coordinator at senior center	
93	Maintain updated database of skills that seniors have to offer employers as employees or consultants.	CH, SC	HS, FONS, COA	2022	Current staff have specific roles	Volunteer/training coordinator at senior center	



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7. Communication and Information

“Age-friendly communities recognize that not everyone has a smartphone or internet access that information needs to be disseminated through a variety of means.” (WHO) The senior population is as diverse as any other segment of the population. It is comprised of very aware and technologically savvy people and those who are not, with a large number in the middle. Concerns that seniors are tech illiterates diminishes every year as the town’s population ages.

Goal 7.1 An efficient communication system must be established to provide timely information to the senior population of Newtown through a variety means. (2025)						
OBJ#	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partner	Timeline	Current resource	Metrics
94	Establish and maintain open communication between and among government agencies, local organizations and businesses to promote the posting of relevant information.	FONS	TTC, CL, COC, BOS,	2022	Good communication exists. HS director attends FONS meetings	Formalized connections exist between and among all interested parties
95	Assure coordination and support between and among groups offering senior activities or services.	SC	FONS, COA	2023 Ongoing	Newsletters exist	All newsletters share and coordinate dissemination of information pertinent to seniors
96	Establish means to work with all of the senior housing centers to display and share senior news.	FONS, COA, SC	COA, SHC	2024	Many newsletters exist	Comprehensive and concise information is shared by all housing centers consistently.
97	Create an omnibus website for information from all organizations providing services to seniors.	COA	TTC, NB, FONS	2024	Link in place on town website	One central site with easy access is identified and maintained
98	Establish a column for discussion of senior issues on a timely bases in the Bee	FONS	NB, HS, COA	2024	Good communication has been established	A regular weekly column appears in the Bee.
99	Curate materials to be displayed at the senior center, Library and other appropriate locations to publicize senior activities and senior organizations.	FONS	SC, CH, COA	2024 Ongoing	Display exist	Well designed and curated displays are developed and maintained in key locations where seniors visit
100	Develop direct mail strategies to reach all seniors in Newtown	FONS	CL,	2025	Organizations offer sign up to their members	Increase signups for FONS free membership and establish email and direct mail contact
101	Explore all correspondence, and contact methods available through any town department to optimize outreach and dissemination of information to seniors	FS, TO	FONS, HS, COA	2024	Webpages	Carefully planned announcements and bulletins are included in in town communication where possible



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Goal 7.2 Promote a greater interest and awareness by seniors of the workings of the town government. (2023)						
OBJ#	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partner	Timeline	Current resource	Metrics
102	Develop awareness of info available on the town website including meeting video.	CH, FONS	HS, SC, COA	2023	Much info is available	Seniors use town website to remain informed of government activities Feedback
103	Develop outreach before elections and referenda to inform seniors of the issues	NB, FONS, COA	HS, SC,	2023	Volunteer base is being developed	Formal system is in place and seniors provide positive feedback
104	Encourage the placement of monitors in public buildings and businesses which share important information about local events	COC, BOS	FONS, COA, HS	2025	Some monitors are in place but messages are not consistent	Monitors in place in CM, SC, CH, MC, ETH, banks and restaurants



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8. Community & Health Services

“At some point, everyone gets hurt becomes ill or simply needs a bit of help. While its important that care be available nearby, It is also essential that residents are able to access and afford the services provided.” (WHO)

Training of Municipal staff.						
Goal 8.1 First responders, municipal staff and others serving the public have awareness of possible special needs in the general public and especially in the senior population which impact how they react in certain situations (Alzheimer's patient for instance) (2026)						
Obj #	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current Resources	Metrics
105	First responder training for dealing with various forms of Dementia.	FS	FONS, HS, COA, SC	Ongoing	Training is a part of current training policies	All first responders receive recommended training- including PD, EMS, Fire, and Dispatch
106	Training for appropriate town employees, interns and volunteers who interact with the public during the course of their duties. Including dementia response.	FS	HS, FONS, COA, SC, CM	2026 Ongoing	Some training has been done	All staff have completed a certifying program which they must renew every two years
Clearing House Repository						
Goal 8.2 Develop a central resource for all activities involving seniors, including classes, trips, service providers, volunteer engagement, events and resources (2024)						
107	To maximize impact and simplify planning all activities and resources should be reviewed through the lens of existing programs. Resource book and activity listings by all groups are coordinated.	HS, FONS, COA	NB, all town departments	2024 Ongoing	Many lists exist	All activities, events, resources, are shared among groups who communicate with the senior population
108	Review all programs, events and resources to recommend collaborations, consolidations, and additions	HS	FONS, COA	2024 Ongoing	Many lists exist	Redundancies are removed from the repository
Coordinate and Consolidate Initiatives of Town and Outside Agencies						
Goal 8.3 Coordinate efforts at improving services to seniors in Newtown						
109	The 5/10 year Age Friendly Livable Community Initiative must include input from all town departments and agencies to ensure on-going review and modification to meet changing senior needs.	HS	FONS, COA	2021	Much overlap in efforts to improve services	Five year plan approved by the Selectmen brings all town departments and agencies together in a unified effort
110	Develop a fiscal plan and budgeting priorities to meet the needs of the expanding senior population.	FS	BOS, BF, LC	2024 and Ongoing	Current budget review process encourages input from all stakeholders	Final plan in place for staffing and continued funding for appropriate level of service.
111	Record service volumes of all government and NGO initiatives.	HS	FONS, COA,	Ongoing	No means exists currently	An online location for storing this info
112	Coordinate the various departments which impact senior lives to better define roles and responsibilities. HS, HD, CM, SC, PR, PD etc	FS	HS, HD, CM, SC, PR, PD	Ongoing	Monthly meetings with FS include all departments	Map of responsibilities related to senior issues



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Obj #	Objective	Lead Organization	Potential Partners	Timeline	Current Resources	Metrics
113	Review existing studies to see how they align with the 5/10 year Livable Community Plan	COA, FONS, HS	SC	Ongoing	POCD, FFH, PR study, Senior Center, SS Plan	Develop a grid showing crossover between Livable Community Plan and other town plan documents
Emergency Communication						
Goal 8.4 Emergency and support services have information provided by town seniors that facilitates their ability to respond to emergency situations and keep in contact. (2023)						
114	Continue special effort to reach those most vulnerable due to isolation and lack of local support networks.	HS, COA,	FS, PD, FONS	Ongoing	HS collects information on isolated individuals and vulnerable populations	A formal strategy involving all key departments to track and establish contact with vulnerable population.
115	Encourage use of and education around Code Red and Smart 911	EM, EC	FS	Ongoing	Data is available from voter roles	Push out information about registration through various Town vehicles (ie. The Bee, email blasts from various organizations, presentation at the SC)
116	Educate interested seniors with a refresher each year of programs which support their safety and provide services.	FS,	All departments	Ongoing	Some training done at senior center	Formal calendar of training events. Accurate accounting of participants
Fairfield Hills or Other Sites for Possible Medical Facilities						
117	Encourage development of professional uses on Fairfield Hills site.	ED	BOS, PZ	Ongoing	POCD, FFP	Summary of all medical services available in the town of Newtown
118	Encourage the development of medical offices and facilities in existing commercial areas.	ED	BOS, PZ	Ongoing	POCD, FFP	Summary of all medical services available in the town of Newtown