

# Town of Orange Plan of Conservation and Development



**Public Workshop #1**  
**November 13, 2024**



# INTRODUCTIONS

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## Planning & Zoning Commission

Oscar Parente, Esq., Chair

Judy Smith, Vice Chair

Kevin Cornell, Esq.

Thomas Torrenti, P.E.

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## BFJ Planning

## Town Staff and Consultant Team

Jack Demirjian, Zoning Administrator & Enforcement Officer

Frank Fish, FAICP, Principal-in-Charge

Suzanne Goldberg, Project Manager

Mark Freker, Transportation & Mobility

Thomas Madden, AICP, Economics Advisor

# AGENDA

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- 1 What is a Plan of Conservation and Development?
- 2 Project Overview
- 3 Proposed POCD Chapters
- 4 Stakeholder Engagement
- 5 Information on Demographics and Transportation
- 6 Coffee Break & Visioning Boards
- 7 Town Hall Q&A

# WHAT IS A PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT?

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An expression of the **community's shared vision of the future**.



A **Town-wide framework** for plans, initiatives, and investments.  
It lays the **groundwork** for decisions on the zoning code, capital budget, and general policy.



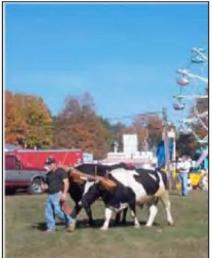
A “to-do list” for the Town to **track implementation** of short-, medium, and long-term goals.

# WHAT IS A PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT?

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## ORANGE

2015 Plan of Conservation and Development

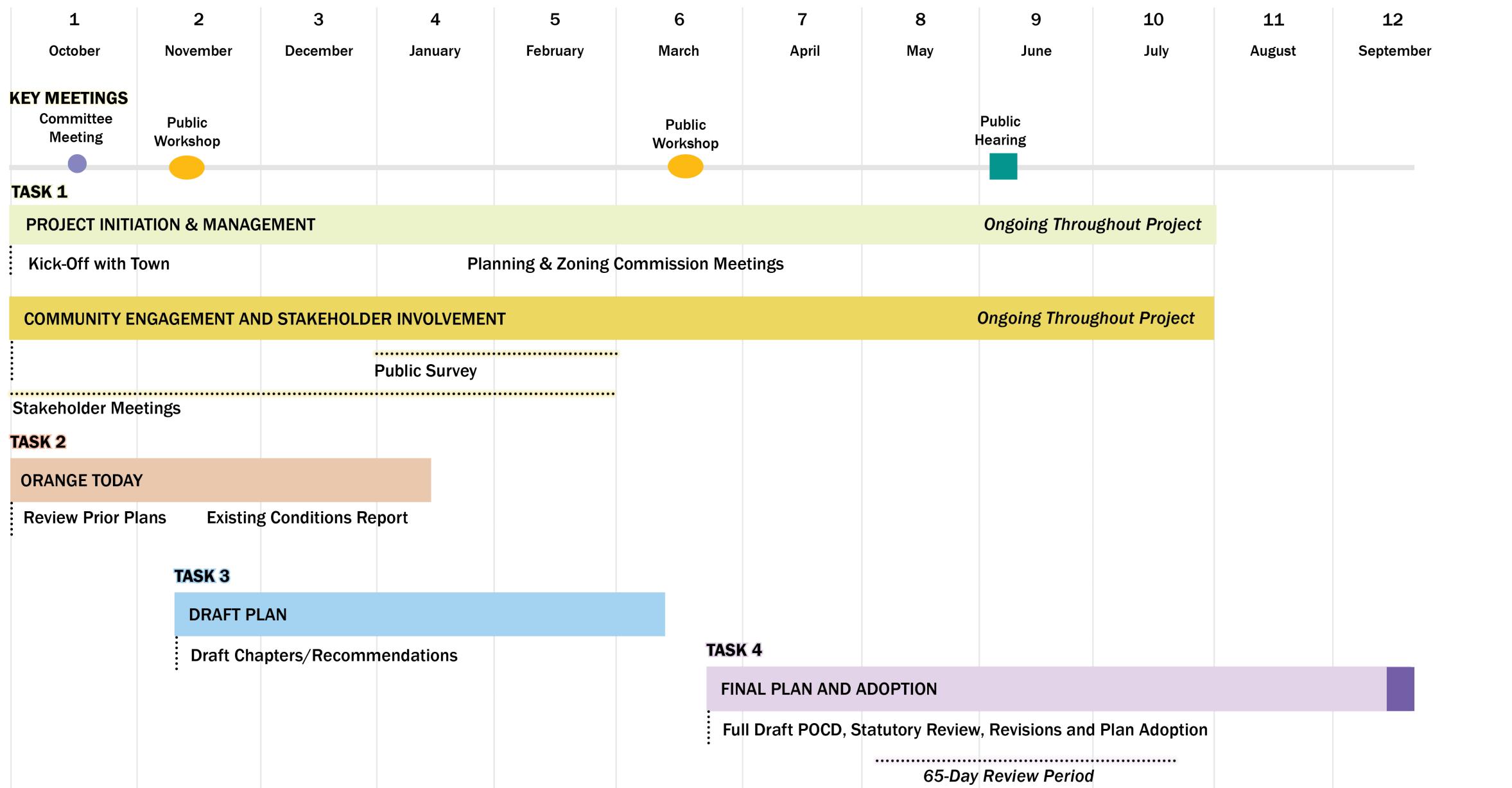


Town Plan and Zoning Commission

Effective Date – June 27, 2015

- State law requires municipalities to update POCDs at least every 10 years.
- POCDs are not laws; they make recommendations on the Town's future. Zoning must be consistent with the POCD.
- Certain POCD chapters are required by the State, but municipalities can look at additional topic areas.

# PROJECT OVERVIEW: POCD TIMELINE



# PROPOSED POCD PLAN CHAPTERS

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- 1** Introduction, Vision, and Goals
- 2** Demographic and Socioeconomic Trends (Orange Today)
- 3** Built Environment: Land Use and Zoning
- 4** Housing and Neighborhoods
- 5** Economic Development
- 6** Transportation and Mobility
- 7** Quality of Life (Historic, Cultural, and Parks)
- 8** Infrastructure (Community Systems, Sustainability, and Resilience)

# UPDATE ON STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

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## Town Departments & Boards

First Selectman

Finance Department

Fire Marshal

Police Department

Public Works Department

Building Department

Senior Center & Community Services Department

## Other Groups

Board of Education

Orange Land Trust

Chamber of Commerce

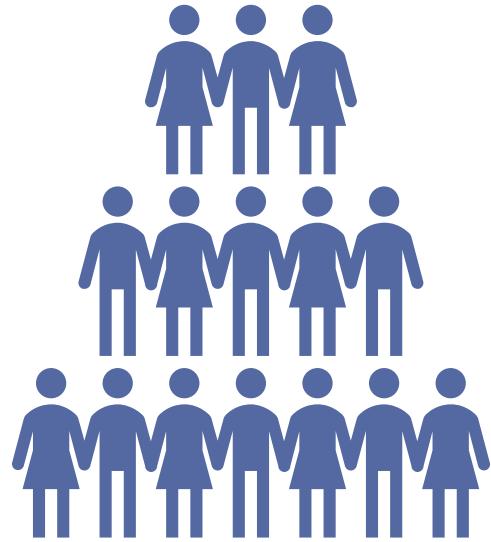
Conservation Commission

# STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS: KEY TAKEAWAYS

Theme	Details
<b>Open Space &amp; Sustainability</b>	<p>Open space conservation is a high priority.</p> <p>Desire to encourage sustainability and natural resource protection.</p>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<p>Lack of sewer infrastructure limits development.</p>
<b>Transportation Management and Mobility</b>	<p>Areas of high crash rates generally due to speed and volume of vehicles.</p> <p>Sidewalks could enhance commercial areas and improve pedestrian safety, i.e., Boston Post Road.</p> <p>State routes require coordination with CT DOT to implement major traffic solutions.</p>
<b>Housing and Economic Development</b>	<p>Desire to balance open space, housing, and economic development.</p> <p>Preserve existing single-family neighborhoods.</p> <p>Support the existing commercial areas and industrial parks.</p>
<b>Town Services</b>	<p>Increase in aging population has led to a need for services to support these residents.</p> <p>School system is a source of pride for the community.</p> <p>Town's buses and car service for seniors and disabled population is well utilized.</p>

# ORANGE TODAY: POPULATION

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Population increased 2.3% from 2010 to 2020 (13,956 to 14,280). Population is expected to increase moderately.

80.5% of the Orange population is White, 10.4% is Asian, 6.1% is Black or African American, and 2.4% is Hispanic or Latino (of any race).

# ORANGE TODAY: POPULATION

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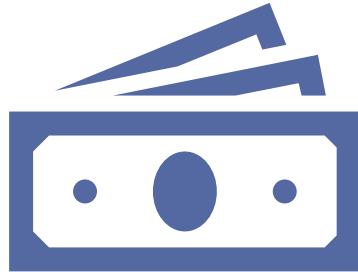
Median age is 45 years, older than the New Haven County median age of 40.8 years.



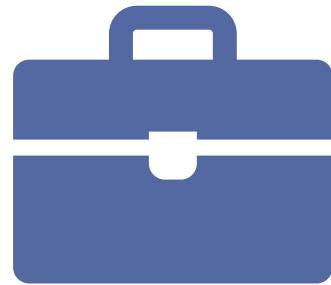
25% of the population is 55 years+, indicating that many older residents wish to age in place.

# ORANGE TODAY: INCOME & EMPLOYMENT

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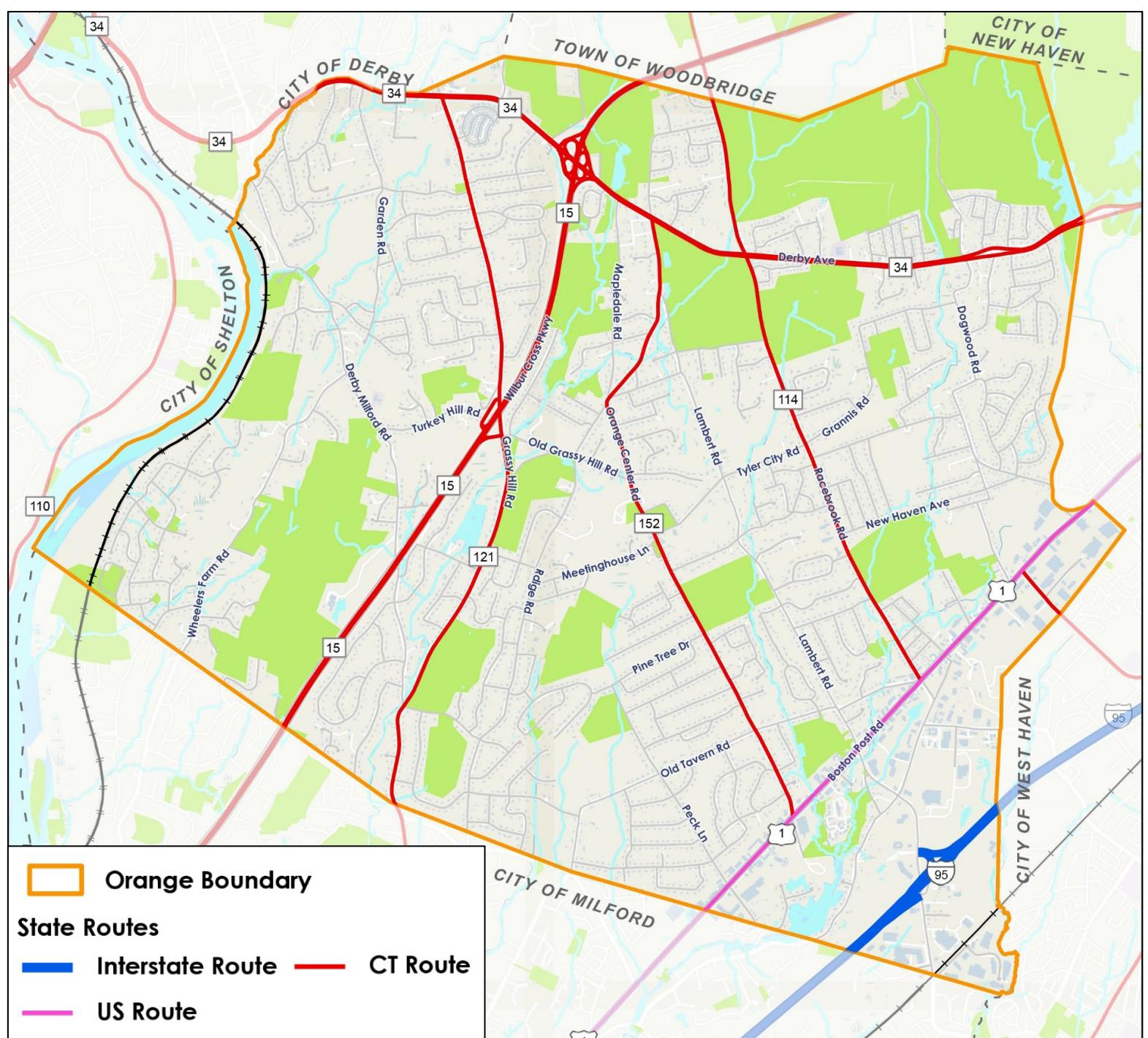


Median household income increased by about \$25,000 from 2010 (\$102,255) to 2020 (\$129,489).

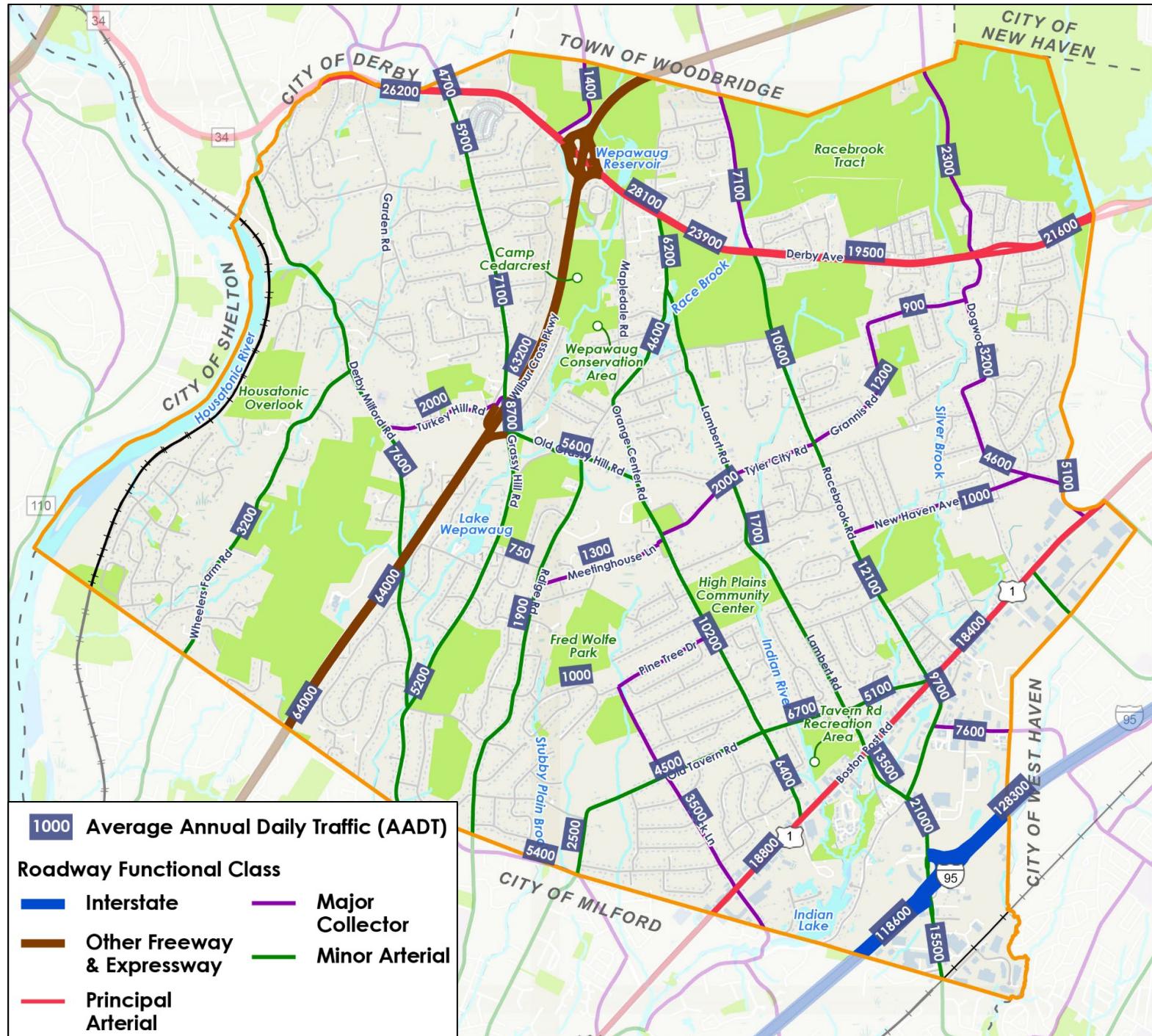


The largest proportion of workers is employed in the Education, Health and Social Service Industry.

# TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

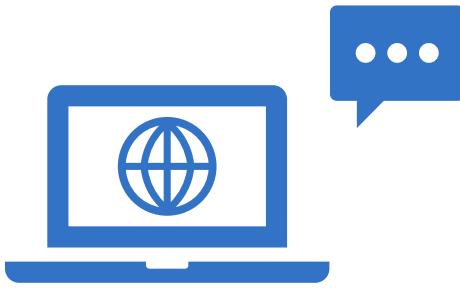


# TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION



# PROJECT STATUS: NEXT STEPS

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Launch survey to gather input on proposed POCD goals.



Develop recommendations and draft POCD chapters.



Share recommendations & gather community feedback at Public Workshop #2.

# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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- Boards around the room show goals from the 2015 POCD.
- Use **green dots** to agree or **red dots** to disagree.
- Provide comments on each goal.
  - Do you still agree with this goal?
  - What has changed since 2015?

