



9 East Avenue
Westerly, RI 02891
sricd.org

NEWS RELEASE

Southern Rhode Island Conservation District
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Southern Rhode Island Conservation District and the Town of Westerly host walking tour and design sessions for Main Street Resilient Riverfront Renewal Project

WESTERLY, Rhode Island, May 23, 2024 – The Southern Rhode Island Conservation District and the Town of Westerly will host three sessions to provide key stakeholders including elected and town officials, business and property owners and community organizations and individuals an opportunity to provide input on the design concepts for the next phase of the Main Street Resilient Riverfront Renewal Project along the Pawcatuck River. All sessions are open to the general public.

The sessions will be conducted by Fuss & O'Neill engineering, who in an earlier phase of the project, assessed the stormwater needs and evaluated the traffic on Main Street. This data fueled the design for improvements to mitigate stormwater and improve the experience along Main Street for seven parcels in the corridor.

The next phase of the project is to gather input to help develop a design that will integrate a variety of green infrastructure features along Main Street to reduce flooding, filter pollutants from stormwater, provide pollinator and bird habitat, improve air quality, mitigate extreme heat, and add beauty and walkability to the economic center of Westerly.

June 4: Main Street Guided Walking Tour and Input Session (rain or shine)

11 am – 2 pm

Park and meet at 107 Main Street, Westerly

Small groups led by a member of our project team will tour the Main Street corridor, stopping at several designated stations to discuss concerns and offer ideas and suggestions.



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June 11: Design Workshops

Session 1: 2 – 5 pm

Session 2: 6 – 8 pm

Westerly Education Center, 23 Friendship Street, Westerly

Participants will receive a brief overview and history of the Main Street Resilient Riverfront Renewal project followed by input sessions led by our project technical leads on various goals of the project including water quality, flood management, pedestrian safety, etc.

To register for one or more of these sessions, contact Christine Cooke at ccooke@sricd.org.

The project is funded through grants as well as financial support from the Town of Westerly. The goal of the project is to help further the town's resiliency goals relating to water quality and flooding, as well as the town's Comprehensive Plan's goals, to embrace the Pawcatuck River and build support for Westerly's economic development as a gateway town to Rhode Island.

To learn more about the project visit <https://www.sricd.org/resilient-riverfront-renewal>.

The Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD) promotes and achieves a healthy environment and sustainable use of natural resources for the people of Kent and Washington Counties and the State of Rhode Island, now and for the future, by coordinating partners to provide technical, educational and financial resources.

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