

# CITY OF HARTFORD Pilot Project in Blue Hills

This past year, the City of Hartford has been working to design slower, safer streets in Blue Hills.

After gathering and reviewing input from several community conversations and workshops, the intent is to install traffic safety projects across the neighborhood in 2024.

The focus area for traffic calming includes Cornwall, Granby, Lyme, Palm, Tower (East), and Coventry Streets. A timeline of efforts to date is to the right. A few sample traffic calming types and the Rawson School area pilot are also included in this brochure.

For more information about the project, please visit our website: <u>https://www.hartfordct.gov/pz/slowstreets</u>

Contact Us at: <u>safestreets</u> <u>@hartford.gov</u>

Take a survey at: <u>tinyurl.com/Hartford</u> <u>TrafficSurvey-BH</u>





## **PROJECT TIMELINE**

Spring 2023

A design team is brought on board. Community Kickoff workshop occurs in May.

### Fall 2023

Preparations for outreach and installation are made for a temporary demonstration pilot project to slow speeds near Rawson Elementary School.

Spring 2024 Preparations are made for installation.

#### **Winter 2023**

Early public feedback is gathered through mailer and NRZ / Block Watch engagement

#### **Summer 2023**

A second community workshop introduces types of traffic calming treatments and locations.

### **Winter 2024**

Pilot project is installed near school in early December. Project to be evaluated and removed in January. Open house event hosted and followed by the final comment period **(ends Jan 13)**.



The neighborhood pilot will be evaluated again after a year. If successful, it will be transitioned to permanent, starting with the development of construction design documents.

# TEMPORARY PILOT PROJECT PROCESS

#### **PILOT INSTALLED**

DPW installs the project on the street

#### **OPEN HOUSE EVENT**

An open house is held to share how the project helps slow streets



The team studies how the project worked, then removes after a month

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**NEXT STEPS** Designs are updated based on performance



Traffic safety is a concern shared by many in the neighborhood, especially with the number of schools in the area. To introduce and test some safety improvements prior to larger scale implementation next year, the team installed a temporary safety pilot project near Rawson Elementary School:

Palm Street between Holcomb & Andover [Mini Island] Cornwall between Holcomb & Andover [Curb Extension-Mid-block] Intersection of Palm & Andover [Curb Extension-Intersection] Intersection of Palm & Westminister [Hardened Centerline]

As noted in the process to the left, the installation will be studied, then removed after a month. The pilot will be evaluated, any findings and feedback will be used to inform the upcoming spring/summer implementation efforts.

In response to community comments received to date, the design of the installation included changes to material type, configuration, color, and spacing.

### SAFETY IN ACTION: Preliminary findings around the pilot installation indicate that...



**Speed Reduction.** Both average and peak speeds decreased after the installation of the mini island and hardened centerlines. At the mini island, almost all observed drivers drove slower than the average driver before pilot implementation.



**Compliance with Stop Signs.** At the intersection with curb extensions, the % of people coming to a complete stop or coming to a slow roll increased from 58% to 84%.



Have thoughts on the pilot project? Take a survey at: <u>tinyurl.com/Hartford</u> <u>TrafficSurvey-BH</u>









Base Image is adapted from photo taken by FHI Studio. Insert photos are sourced from: US Reflector

Curb Extension (Mid-block)

Base Image is adapted from photo taken by FHI Studio.



QUESTIONS? WEBSITE: hartfordct.gov/pz/SlowStreets EMAIL: safestreets@hartford.gov PHONE: 860-757-9222

Image sourced from: Treetop Products



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The above images show interim treatments intended to improve safety in the shorter term. In the long term, the City is working to transition projects from pilot to permanent.



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