

**From:** [Margaret Woolley Busse](#)  
**To:** [Kristin Alexander](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Acton2020 questions for the Sidewalk Committee  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 22, 2011 3:23:46 PM

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From Sidewalk committee

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**From:** Vasilios Marathias [mailto:[vmarathias@wesleyan.edu](mailto:vmarathias@wesleyan.edu)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2011 9:57 PM  
**To:** Margaret Woolley Busse  
**Subject:** Fwd: Acton2020 questions for the Sidewalk Committee

Hi FYI

Bill

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kate Chung <[katewchung@yahoo.com](mailto:katewchung@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** February 22, 2011 8:45:22 PM EST  
**To:** [vmarathias@wesleyan.edu](mailto:vmarathias@wesleyan.edu)  
**Subject:** Fw: Acton2020 questions for the Sidewalk Committee

Hi Bill -  
Below, please find the answers to your questions.  
Kate

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**From:** "[vmarathias@wesleyan.edu](mailto:vmarathias@wesleyan.edu)" <[vmarathias@wesleyan.edu](mailto:vmarathias@wesleyan.edu)>  
**To:** Kate Chung <[katewchung@yahoo.com](mailto:katewchung@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Tue, February 15, 2011 10:10:53 PM  
**Subject:** Acton2020 questions for the Sidewalk Committee

Hi Kate,

As part of the Acton2020 committee working towards the Acton master plan, could you please answer the following questions so we can incorporate your answers into the document?

o What are you working on? What are your main projects

We are currently working on the following 5 projects:

1. Great Road – Davis Rd. to Woodvale Condos. Woodvale to Main St. has been surveyed/designed. Davis to Main will be surveyed in 2011.
2. High Street - #77 to Parker Street – rough drawings

have been sketched and will be sent out to homeowners this Spring (2011).

3. Summer Street – to be surveyed in 2011: 2 gap sections: from Central St. to Willow St. and a small gap by Ethan Allen Road

4. Taylor Road (and possibly part of Minot Avenue) – “Right of Entry” forms have been mailed out to abutters and are slowly returning to Engineering Dept. Next step is to survey the entire street, draw up plans, and proceed with design.

5. Martin Street – gap section from the Railroad tracks to Central Street. This will be completed when pedestrian gates go in on Martin Street.

o What are your 3 (doesn't have to be precisely 3) main goals?

1. Improve pedestrian safety
2. Increase connectivity for pedestrians
3. Facilitate the prioritization and construction of sidewalks in Acton

o What do you see as challenges and opportunities coming up in the future?

1. Challenges - Money and man hours, willingness of residents to permit a sidewalk on their property.
2. Opportunities - There are discussions with Boxboro to create a sidewalk along 111. This sidewalk could be eligible for funds from MAGIC (Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination ). The organization has identified this stretch of road as being a critical project.

o What long-range plans are you working on or contemplating working on?

We have developed design guidelines that we hope will be implemented long-term and evolve over time.

o What are the 3 (doesn't have to be precisely 3) things that you would like Acton citizens to know about the town (this should be in the context of what the specific committee works on)

- When considering sidewalks, Acton citizens should know that not every resident

has a car. Sidewalks would enable these residents to safely walk to their destinations.

- A portion of the funding for sidewalks comes from developers in town who have donated to the sidewalk fund. We expect the High Street sidewalk to be paid for almost entirely with funds provided by a 40B project in Concord. The Great Road sidewalk will largely be funded from money contributed by the developer of Hillside Place and Quail Ridge.
- In a 2008 Survey of Acton Residents ([http://www.actonoutreach.com/pdfs/Survey\\_residential\\_report.pdf](http://www.actonoutreach.com/pdfs/Survey_residential_report.pdf)), sidewalks were viewed as wanting in Acton. Three questions in particular stood out:

1) What type of actions should the Town take?

52% responded: provide more safe-bicycle and walking trails/lanes and sidewalks

2) What would you like to see MORE of in Acton?

The number one answer: Sidewalks

3) Three Most Important Challenges

43.4% answered: lack of continuous pedestrian/bike paths

o Do you have any long-range planning documents you can give us for input? If not, would you be willing to draw some up? [This question may be more relevant for some committees than others.] n/a

Best Regards

Bill Marathias

Acton2020