

Long Range Plan 2016 Suggestions

A. Protect Coastal Resources

Under Possible Planning Program Coastal Resources

Suggested Policies



As Darien's unique coastal granite headlands and outcroppings are not protected under any regulation, P&Z regulations for coastal residential foundation blasting is the only action that would preserve these valuable assets. (More specifics of our rare landmark coastline is contained in a copy Town Historian's 2013 Coastal Site Plan Review proposal on Darien Coastline given tonight for background.)

C Continue to Promote Architectural Character p.36 (Wording on Architectural Character good, and I support the inclusion of the Design Guidelines.)

12 , Suggested Initial Tasks. Change of wording. Consider adoption of a Scenic Road Ordinance that includes trees, open areas as well as build streetscapes.

B Protect Historic Resources. P.32

Change.

In the interest of historic preservation, and providing information for Connecticut's Historic Resources Inventory, in the late 1970's The Junior League of Stamford-Norwalk filled out forms with written and visual descriptions of over 500 important historical and architectural structures in Darien. This is locally called the Natural Architectural Preservation Survey, or NAPS, and forms the basis for a building's qualification on the State Register of Historic Places. It was given to P&Z and is also at The Darien Historical Society.

Change.

The National Register District is one of the most important aspects of character and preservation in Darien, and is more significant, as well as threatened, than the Town Protected Landmarks. I urge you to move it from the margins and include some wording such as "The Boston Post Road National Register District comprises 17 structures on the Boston Post Road, 6 on Brookside Road and 3 on Old King's Highway North. "I also think is it important to print the map in a reduced form.

Change.

Demolition Delay Ordinance. Wording change. Darien's Demolition Delay Ordinance (initial caps) provides for up to a 90-day demolition waiting period for structures over 50 years old for **both historically and architecturally** important structures of any century. This includes architecturally/historic important buildings in the 18th, 19th 20th century, and soon to be the 21st.

Preservation Programs p.33

I would like to clarify 5. Tax abatement programs for both restoration and for acquisition of Conservation Easements.

Addition.

8. Consideration of placing a Conservation Easement on your home.

I would request the elimination of "it appears there are appropriate provisions in place to protect historic resources." All our historic, and environmental resources - which is the make up of our character - are always going to need constant, vigorous protection. There are only *some* provisions in place currently.

Protect Historic Resources. P.34

Suggested Policies addition

7. Zoning regulations should be flexible enough to encourage the protection and restoration of old New England stone walls.

Suggested Initial Tasks. addition

8. P&Z review of set back requirements of cemeteries /ancient burying grounds for greater protection.

9. Continue to fill out the NAPS forms for the Connecticut Historic Building Inventory.

10. Encourage the formation of Local Historic Districts or additional National Register Districts as we have several natural areas for these.

Cemeteries have been very neglected and they form an important part of our character and sense of place. People do not have any idea of where they are or how many we have. I would urge that a reduced map and a list, in sentence form, be added. They are also our town landmarks.