Established in 1899, Weston & Sampson is a full-service planning, landscape architecture, engineering, and environmental consulting firm.

Our staff of more than 500 professionals serves public and private sector clients throughout the Northeast and along the East Coast.
What We Do...

- Surveying & Mapping
- Master Planning
- Landscape Architecture
- Civil Engineering
- Resource Permitting & Compliance
- Construction Phase Services
1. Develop a vision
   - Identify users
   - Obtain community input
2. Identify user experiences
3. Prepare the plan of attack
4. Getting community buy-in.

- Two examples
What makes a trail successful?
What makes a trail successful?

- Fulfills a need
- Connects destinations
- Creates a sense of place
- Promotes social interaction
- Leverages Community Investment
- Accommodates Multigenerational Users
Where to start - Planning!

1. Develop Ideas.
2. Identify Audience
3. Prioritize Tasks
4. Identify Investment
5. Create Buy-in
Identify Audience/ Users

- Trail Groups
- Running Clubs
- Kids Groups
- Senior Groups
- Sportsmen
- Cycling Clubs
- Fitness “Boot Campers”
- New residents
- Dog Walkers
- Photographers
- Colleges
- Geocachers
Context

Capturing what is unique and special about the place.
Destination Places -
- Places for people to not only walk in the woods, but to have certain expectations, including experiences, with a reason to visit.

Value Added Experiences
- Enhancements of either natural features or installations that draw visitors special places.
Identify desire lines
… connect with desired routes
Don’t forget the users and their input!
Public Engagement

- Public Meetings
- Task Force
- Online Survey & Mapping
- Social & Multi-media
- Site Visits

Stakeholder Input
Workshops & Charrettes
Mapping Input

- Use Green Dots to Identify Inebriated Area Locations
- Use Red Dots to Identify Problem Area Locations
- Use Blue Dots to Identify Barred Area Locations

Also, please let us know your preferred street from this area.
Walking & Biking Tours
Two Case Studies:
1. Eastman Conservation Trail
2. Rutland Creek Path
Eastman Conservation Trail
Needham, MA
The Challenge
The Challenge
The Challenge
The Challenge
The Challenge

- Narrow, inaccessible trail
- Boulder’s and roots across pathway
- Narrow trail overgrown
- Puncheon bridge not accessible
- Existing teaching area undersized, not accessible
- "Double decker" boardwalk structurally failing undersized, not accessible
- Existing dock structurally failing not accessible
- Narrow trail frequently muddy
- Mowed lawn path
The Opportunity
The Opportunity
The Process
The Process
Results
Working within Nature
Working with Nature
Reconnecting the Place
Reconnecting the Place
Rutland Creek Path
Rutland, Vermont
The Vision

- Connect Rutland’s most densely populated and economically challenged neighborhoods
- Create a walking and biking connection through Rutland.
Why is it important?

- Since 1990, obesity in Vermont has been steadily increasing.
- In the US, 300,000 annual deaths due to overweight and obesity.
- Walking or bicycling for 30 minutes a day produces measurable results.
Connecting People with History
Connecting People with Nature
Connecting People with People
Community Investment

- City Contribution: $50,000
- State/ Federal Funds: over $1.2M
- Local Fundraising/ In-kind Donations: over $200,000
1. Develop a Vision
   - Identify users
   - Obtain community input
2. Identify User Experiences
3. Prepare the plan of attack
4. Getting buy-in from the community.
Thank you!

Questions & Discussion

Daniel Biggs, RLA

ASSOCIATE | Sr. Landscape Architect
BiggsD@wseinc.com
518-463-4400