JUNE/JULY 2025 | ISSUE 61 STAMFORD DOWNTOWN MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT #REIMAGINEBEDFORDPROJECT

Bedford Street has long served as a landmark of Downtown. The street's iconic eateries, boutique retailers, Ferguson Library and the historic Avon Theater, combine to welcome visitors from neighborhoods throughout Stamford and communities across Fairfield and Westchester Counties. Like many urban corridors, Bedford Street faces the lingering effects of COVID. Bedford Street has witnessed a spike in delivery bike services, the permanent conversion of some on-street parking spaces into dining areas and changing dining patterns. To continue its station as the center for Downtown life, the City of Stamford and Stamford Downtown have partnered on the Re-Imagine Bedford Street initiative.

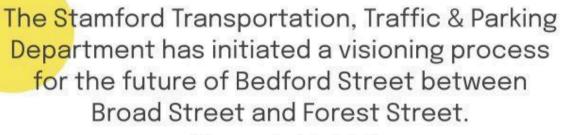
As part of this process, the City of Stamford and Stamford Downtown have retained Street Plans, an award-winning transportation planning, urban design, and placemaking firm. Street Plans will first work to better understand how people occupy and use Bedford Street. This analysis will study pedestrian flow patterns, pedestrian dwell times, seating occupancy rates, bike rack occupancy, social interactions, and common behavior or gathering trends that should be considered within a future street redesign. The project will include an in-depth study of morning, afternoon, and evening hours to better understand how the street works over the course of the day. A survey tool (veoci.com/v/p/form/323eu5qamzjn) has been created for stakeholders to share their observations and insights. This tool remains available and has generated strong feedback.

Finally, Street Plans will compare the market conditions and physical design of Bedford Street with other successful downtown commercial streets that are located within similar settings. This comprehensive process will generate an array of short-, intermediate-, and long-term recommendations that the City of Stamford, Stamford Downtown and stakeholders may use to direct the future of this vital street. The City and Stamford Downtown will circulate regular updates about this project.





We want to hear from you!



(Survey link in bio)



STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

STREETPLANS

New York Bites Now Open & Your New Go-To for Late-Night Cravings!



Get ready, Stamford! New York Bites, a brand-new deli, is opened its doors at 296 Bedford Street in Stamford Downtown. Perfect for any time of day, this spot will offer a huge variety of deli favorites, from classic sandwiches and fresh juices to smoothies and delicious fried foods like chicken wings and tenders. Whether you're an early bird or a night owl, New York Bites has you covered, opening as early as 6 or daily and staying open until 3 AM on Fridays and Saturdays, and 1 AM the rest of the week. Stop by and grab a bite! <u>New York Bites (@nybitesct)</u>



A Green Transformation: UConn Stamford Veggie Garden Thriving!



What was once a bare and forgotten tree well at the corner of Franklin Street and Broad Street has been transformed into a bountiful community vegetable garden, thanks to a fantastic collaborative effort!



Planted in late May with the dedicated help of five enthusiastic Future 5 volunteers, the UConn Stamford veggie garden is flourishing. The plant materials were generously sourced through Stamford Downtown's trusted landscape maintenance vendor, Eastern Land Management, providing a strong start for our green initiative. With weekly weeding and watering diligently performed by the Future 5 volunteers, the garden continues to thrive. It's now brimming with a diverse array of fresh produce, including tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, fragrant basil, mint, dill, squash, and much more! We invite you to come and see this wonderful transformation for yourself. It's a true testament to community spirit!



<text>

July 31 & August 21 5pm–9pm

Enjoy extended outdoor dining, live music, entertainment and more! stamford-downtown.com



Meet Our New Intern: Isabelle Noel!



/NTOWN

We're delighted to introduce Isabelle Noel, who has joined the Stamford Downtown team as our newest temporary intern! Isabelle has quickly become an invaluable part of our operations, supporting us with a range of important administrative tasks, from promoting exciting events to assisting with downtown program marketing.

"I am having a fantastic time supporting the team," Isabelle shares. "I've already learned so much about Stamford's lively downtown, as well as all the work that happens behind the scenes, and I am so grateful to be a part of it."

Isabelle has been particularly impressed by our supportive environment. "I'm surrounded by an amazing staff who have been incredibly helpful, from teaching me new skills to offering me guidance," she notes. "I am excited to continue my internship here, knowing I will learn so much more. It is great to be able to contribute to this team!"

We're thrilled to have Isabelle with us and look forward to her continued contributions!

Pop-Up Seating in Columbus Park



Have you spotted the vibrant splash of RED,

WHITE and **BLUE** in Columbus Park?

Our 15 new, colorful Adirondack chairs have made their debut, just in time for the patriotic holidays! These inviting seats are here for two-week stretches, offering you a perfect spot to relax and enjoy the downtown atmosphere, whether for a quick break or a longer unwind. Keep an eye out for their next appearance around Labor Day! We'd love to hear what you think of this new amenity – share your thoughts with us at <u>ops2@stamford-downtown.com</u>



Stamford Downtown **Events** Sumr

Arts & Crafts on Bedford

• Saturday, Sept. 20 • 10am - 6:30pm



OINK! in Stamford Downtown

Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit Through September



Farmers Market

Veterans Memorial Park Saturdays through October • 9am - 1pm

Free Fitness

Veterans Memorial Park

Classes

Latham Park &

Through August

Summer

Various Thursdays

through August

Veterans Memorial Park

Block Partv

• Thursdays, July 31 & Aug. 21

Lower Summer Street

Lower Summer

Trivia

• 6:30pm

• 5-9pm



Street Beats Pop-Up Performances

Various Downtown Locations

 Tuesdays & Thursdays through August

• 6-8pm

Open Play Chess

All Skill Levels Welcome

 Wednesdays 12–2pm Veterans Park

 Saturdays 1-3pm Latham Park

Pinot's Palette Outdoor Painting

Columbus Park

- Various Wednesdays through August
- Pre-register at
- stamford-downtown.com

Summer Restaurant Weeks

- Participating Stamford Downtown Restaurants August 18 through Sept 1



Learn more at stamford-downtown.com/events



STAMFORD DOWNTOWN



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2025 FREE OUTDOOR CONCERTS



BRASS QUINTET VETERANS PARK (130 ATLANTIC STREET) TUESDAY, JULY 15 6PM JAZZ TRIO KIWANIS PARK (61 ATLANTIC STREET) WED. SEPTEMBER 3 6PM

BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS, BLANKETS & PICNICS!





The Stamford Art Association Presents Two Exciting Summer Exhibitions:





SIGNS OF SUMMER

Exhibition Dates: July 1 – September 25, 2025 Reception: Thursday, July 10, 5:30–7:00 PM Location: The Ferguson Library, 1 Public Library Plaza, Stamford (Open daily)

In partnership with the Ferguson Library, this juried exhibition showcases works by local and regional artists, capturing the sensory beauty of summer—from seashores to sunlit streets.

Juror: Emily Derr – Founder of Art Collecting with Emily and host of Art Critic in 1 Minute on YouTube and Instagram. Emily encourages both new and seasoned collectors to support emerging and regional artists.

25th Annual Marine Show

Exhibition Dates: June 26 – July 31, 2025 Location: Stamford Art Association Townhouse Gallery, 39 Franklin St, Stamford

Gallery Hours: Friday–Sunday, 12:00–3:00 PM

This multimedia juried show honors founding members and passionate sailors Vivian and Stanley Reed. The exhibition celebrates the sea, shoreline, boats, local wildlife—and maybe even a mermaid or two. Juror: Mike Bagley – Local photographer and Vice President of Programs at SoundWaters, Mike brings a deep connection to Stamford's coastal culture and a keen eye for marine-inspired art.

About the Stamford Art Association

Founded in 1971 and located at 39 Franklin Street, the Stamford Art Association hosts regular exhibitions at its Townhouse Gallery and the Ferguson Library. It also offers free community programs, including children's art workshops at Mill River Park and Inspirica, Open Mic nights, and figure drawing sessions.

Upcoming Townhouse Gallery Exhibits:

Aug 7–21: Corina Imbrogno Solo Show & Annual Summer Pop-Up Show

Sept 4–Oct 3: Latam and Caribbean Show

Oct 9–24: Goth Pop-Up Show

Nov 13–Dec 18: 45th Annual Faber Birren Color Award Show

Visit: www.stamfordartassociation.org



JUNE 26-JULY 31, 2025

SEAFOAM DREAMS - JOANNE CONANT

25TH ANNUAL VIVIAN & STANLEY REED MARINE SHOW





