

Environmental Monitor Archives



January 7, 2014

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No Post-Scoping Notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

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No State Land Transfer Notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

The next edition of the Environmental Monitor will be published on **January 21, 2014.**

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Scoping Notices

"Scoping" is for projects in the earliest stages of planning. At the scoping stage, detailed information on a project's design, alternatives, and environmental impacts does not yet exist. Sponsoring agencies are asking for comments from other agencies and from the public as to the scope of alternatives and environmental impacts that should be considered for further study. Send your comments to the contact person listed for the project by the date indicated.

The following Scoping Notices have been submitted for review and comment.

1. Notice of Scoping for Meriden Transit Oriented Development

Municipality where proposed project might be located: Meriden

Address of Possible Project Location: Intersection of Colony Street and Church Street

Project Description: The City of Meriden, the Meriden Housing Authority, and its selected developer have asked for the Connecticut Department of Transportation's (Department) participation in a transit-oriented development (TOD) in Meriden in conjunction with the reconstruction of the Meriden train station as part of

the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) rail project. The proposed TOD project will include construction of a four-story mixed-use building that will include 63 residential units, retail space on the first floor, plus a shared-use parking garage of approximately 275 spaces. The Department's participation in the project is limited to costs of construction of the garage and providing one of three (3) lots being used for the mixed-use building and garage structures. The garage will serve rail commuters and tenants of the new building. At least 200-250 spaces will be reserved for the Department to accommodate rail commuters and non-resident TOD. The developer will construct the garage which will be owned by the Meriden Housing Authority upon completion with the Department retaining air rights to the upper levels of the garage ("Air Rights Garage") and access for maintenance. The parking structure will be funded primarily by the Department, but the developer will pay the cost of spaces that will be reserved for the tenants of the residential portion of the mixed-use building.

Project Maps: Click [here](#) to view a map of the project area.

Click [here](#) to view project design renderings.

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **Friday January 17, 2014**

Any person can ask the sponsoring agency to hold a Public Scoping Meeting by sending such a request to the address or email below. If a meeting is requested by 25 or more individuals, or by an association that represents 25 or more members, the sponsoring agency shall schedule a Public Scoping Meeting. Such requests must be made by Friday December 27, 2013.

Written comments and/or requests for a Public Scoping Meeting should be sent to:

Name: Mr. Mark W. Alexander, Transportation Assistant Planning Director

Agency: Connecticut Department of Transportation
Bureau of Policy and Planning

Address: 2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131

Fax: 860-594-3028

E-Mail: dot.environmentalplanning@ct.gov

If you have questions about the scoping for this project, contact:

Name: Mr. John Bernick

Agency: Connecticut Department of Transportation
Bureau of Engineering and Construction

Address: 2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131

Phone: 860-594-3304

E-Mail: John.Bernick@ct.gov

2. Notice of Scoping for Property Acquisition on Crown Street in City of Meriden

Address of Possible Project Location: 11 Crown Street

Project Description: The Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) was awarded a \$2 million Community Challenge Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (U.S. HUD). Portion of the funds will be utilized to purchase property in the City of Meriden for the purposes of Transit-oriented Development including housing. One of the properties being considered is 11 Crown Street which currently houses the Record Journal Building.

The U.S. HUD is currently conducting an environmental review (Environmental Assessment Checklist) of the proposed property acquisitions as per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 24 CFR Part 50 which will satisfy the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) requirements. This Scoping Notice serves as an invitation for public consultation, participation and comments required as per NEPA, CEPA and the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106).

Project Map: [Click here to view a map of the project area.](#)

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **Thursday, February 6, 2014**

Any person can ask the sponsoring agency to hold a Public Scoping Meeting by sending such a request to the address below. If a meeting is requested by 25 or more individuals, or by an association that represents 25 or more members, the sponsoring agency shall schedule a Public Scoping Meeting. Such requests must be made by **Friday, January 17, 2014**

Written comments and/or requests for a Public Scoping Meeting should be sent to:

Name: Binu Chandy
Agency: CT Dept. of Economic and Community Development
Address: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford CT 06106
Fax: 860.706.5740
E-Mail: binu.chandy@ct.gov

If you have questions about the public meeting, or other questions about the scoping for this project, contact:

Name: Binu Chandy
Agency: CT Dept. of Economic and Community Development
Address: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford CT 06106
Phone: 860.270.8154
Fax: 860.706.5740
E-Mail: binu.chandy@ct.gov

3. Notice of Scoping for New Haven Rail Yard Maintenance of Way Building and Parking Lot

Municipality where proposed project might be located: New Haven

Address of Possible Project Location: 1 Brewery Street, New Haven CT

Project Description: The proposed project, which is part of the overall New Haven Rail Yard Facilities Improvements program, consists of demolishing the existing 113,000 square foot freezer warehouse and constructing an approximately 25,000 square foot Maintenance of Way (MOW) facility to house the Metro-North Railroad (MNR) personnel who maintain the main line and rail yard infrastructure. This includes the Track, Structures, Power, and Communication & Signals (C&S) Departments. The remainder of the property will be graded and paved for employee parking.

Existing Brewery Street will be relocated as part of this project, so that it runs through the center of the 1 Brewery Street property. The proposed Brewery Street relocation would also require acquiring a partial take from the IKEA property just east of the 1 Brewery Street property and would require rearranging the access easements on the Hummel Brothers property to the west. This would provide better geometry for the relocation and it's tie-in to the existing street system.

Project Maps: [Click here to view a map of the project area.](#)

[Click here to view an Aerial Map of the project area](#)

[Click here to view Project Plans](#)

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **Friday February 7, 2014**

Any person can ask the sponsoring agency to hold a Public Scoping Meeting by sending such a request to the address below. If a meeting is requested by 25 or more individuals, or by an association that represents 25 or more members, the sponsoring agency shall schedule a Public Scoping Meeting. Such requests must be made by **Friday, January 17, 2014.**

Written comments and/or requests for a Public Scoping Meeting should be sent to:

Name: Mr. Mark W. Alexander, Transportation Assistant Planning Director

Agency: Bureau of Policy and Planning
Connecticut Department of Transportation

Address: 2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131

Fax: 860-594-3028

E-Mail: dot.environmentalplanning@ct.gov

If you have questions about this project, contact:

Name: Mr. Robert Messina, Transportation Supervising Engineer

Agency: Bureau of Engineering and Construction
Connecticut Department of Transportation

Address: 2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131

Phone: 860-594-3305

E-Mail: Robert.messina@ct.gov

Post-Scoping Notices: Environmental Impact Evaluation Not Required

This category is required by the October 2010 revision of the [Generic Environmental Classification Document](#) for State Agencies. A notice is published here if the sponsoring agency, after publication of a scoping notice and consideration of comments received, has determined that an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) does not need to be prepared for the proposed project.

No Post-Scoping Notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

EIE Notices

After Scoping, an agency that wishes to undertake an action that could significantly affect the environment must produce, for public review and comment, a detailed written evaluation of the expected environmental impacts. This is called an [Environmental Impact Evaluation](#) (EIE).

The following EIE has been submitted for publication in this edition.

1. Notice of EIE for the University of Connecticut Main Accumulation Area

Municipality where project is proposed: Mansfield

Address of Possible Project Location: UConn North Campus "Parcel G" Site, located between the existing North Hillside Road and C Lot on the University of Connecticut Storrs Campus, Mansfield, Connecticut

Project Description: The University of Connecticut (UConn) proposes to construct a new centralized facility for the temporary storage of chemical, biological, and low-level radioactive wastes from the University's academic research and teaching laboratories and facility operations on the Storrs campus. To protect public health and the environment and to ensure regulatory compliance, these wastes are managed by the UConn Division of Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations, as well as University health and safety policies and procedures.

The existing MAA is adequate to serve the current needs of the University and meets or exceeds state and federal requirements for safety and environmental protection. The existing MAA is located within the Fenton River watershed and the drainage basin of the Willimantic Reservoir, which is a public water supply. Although the facility has been operated safely since it was established in 1989, the University recognizes the public concern that remains about the location of the facility within the public water supply watershed. Also, space on the existing site is limited, resulting in poor circulation for waste transport vehicles, and its design is inconsistent with modern MAA facilities at other comparable research institutions. Further, the existing facility is expected to have difficulties meeting future needs without dramatically increasing the frequency of off-site waste shipments.

In 2012, UConn convened an Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from the Town of Mansfield, Windham Water Works, local watershed organizations, the Connecticut Institute of Water Resources, and University of Connecticut staff from Public Safety, Environmental Policy, and Residential Life. The Advisory Committee conducted a siting study to identify and assess potential sites for an upgraded MAA facility. The study recommended a prioritized list of alternative sites with the preferred alternative being the North Campus "Parcel G", located between the existing North Hillside Road and C Lot. This site is also located outside of the public water supply watershed.

The Proposed Action consists of constructing a new MAA facility on the North Campus Parcel G site and decommissioning of the existing MAA. The proposed facility consists of a waste storage building with a footprint of approximately 5,800 square feet and an overall site that is approximately 0.75 acres to accommodate vehicle circulation and parking.

The University has prepared an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) to further evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action, as well as other alternative sites considered, including the existing location (i.e., the No Action alternative).

Project Map:

[Click here to view a map of the site of the proposed MAA on North Campus Parcel G.](#)

Comments on this EIE will be accepted until the close of business on: **January 19, 2014**

The public can view a copy of this EIE at:

Mansfield Town Clerk's Office, Audrey P Beck Municipal Building, 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT

Mansfield Public Library, 54 Warrenville Road, Mansfield, CT

The EIE can also be viewed on line by clicking on the link below:

[Environmental Impact Evaluation, University of Connecticut, Main Accumulation Area](#)

[Appendix B](#)

A copy of the EIE will be available at the following website:<http://www.envpolicy.uconn.edu/eiestorage.html>

A public hearing will be held on this EIE on:

DATE: **January 8, 2014**

TIME: 7:00 p.m. (Doors will be open at 6:00 p.m. to allow review of informational materials.)

PLACE: Room 146, UConn Bishop Center; One Bishop Circle; Storrs, CT

Written comments should be sent to:

Name: Jason Coite

Agency: University of Connecticut – Office of Environmental Policy

Address: 31 LeDoyt Road, U-3055, Storrs, Connecticut 06269

Phone: 860-486-9305

Fax: 860-486-5477

Email: jason.coite@uconn.edu

If you have questions about the public hearing, or other questions about the EIE, contact Mr. Coite as directed above.

State Land Transfer Notices

Connecticut General Statutes [Section 4b-47](#) requires public notice of most proposed sales and transfers of state-owned lands. The public has an opportunity to comment on any such proposed transfer. Each notice includes an address where comments should be sent. [Read more about the five-step process.](#)

No State Land Transfer Notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

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