

Environmental Monitor Archives



May 20, 2014

Scoping Notices

1. Department of Veterans' Affairs Cemetery Expansion, Middletown
2. New Britain Infrastructure/Roadway Improvements along Route 71, New Britain

Post-Scoping Notices: Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) Not Required

1. Atlantic St. / Henry St. Intersection Improvements, Stamford
2. **NEW!** Waterbury Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility, Watertown

Environmental Impact Evaluations

1. STEM Residence Hall University Of Connecticut, Mansfield
2. New Engineering and Science Building, Mansfield

State Land Transfers

No state land transfer notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

The next edition of the Environmental Monitor will be published on **June 3, 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 the CT Department of Veterans' Affairs Cemetery Expansion

Municipality where proposed project might be located: Middletown

Address of Possible Project Location: 317 Bow Lane

Project Description:

Located at 317 Bow Lane in Middletown, Connecticut, the State Veterans' Cemetery is the largest State-operated cemetery in Connecticut. The site is set on 24 acres of land, approximately 12 of which are developed. The site currently accommodates approximately 7,400 occupied burial sites, an administration building within which is a nondenominational chapel, and an internal vehicular travelway to access the burial sites. The cemetery was established in 1985.

Current issues of concern at the Veterans' Cemetery include limited capacity for additional grave sites, an inadequate internal access road system, loss of sections of the cemetery due to high water table, code compliance within the administration building, and inadequate parking.

As of 2012, a total of 7,123 gravesites were utilized. Projected gravesite utilization for 2013 was 479, bringing total utilization to 7,602 by December 2013. Based on the rate of filling, the cemetery is anticipated to be depleted of space in approximately 4.6 years.

CTDVA intends to construct a 3,000-niche columbarium, 3,200 feet of access driveway, limited parking, and improvements to the existing administration building. These improvements are needed in order to bring the building up to code, including handicapped access, and to extend the life of the cemetery by approximately ten years, thus providing the necessary time for CTDVA to locate and develop a new state cemetery. Details of the project are described in greater detail in the Draft Environmental Assessment (link below).

Project Map(s): [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: **May 22, 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 **May 2, 2014.**

Additional information about the project can be viewed in person at CT DAS-DCS, 165 Capitol Avenue, Room 482, Hartford, CT 06106 or online at: [Draft Environmental Assessment](#) (DCS website).

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

Name: Jeff Bolton, Supervising Environmental Analyst

Agency: DAS - Division of Construction Services

Address: 165 Capitol Avenue, Room 482, Hartford, CT 06106

Fax: 860-713-7250

E-Mail: Jeffrey.bolton@ct.gov

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

Name: Jeff Bolton

Agency: DAS - Division of Construction Services

Address: 165 Capitol Avenue, Room 482, Hartford, CT 06106

Phone: 860-713-5706

Fax: 860-713-7250

E-Mail: Jeffrey.bolton@ct.gov

The agency expects to release a Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in accordance with NEPA for this project, for public review and comment, in June 2014

Other information: https://www.ct.gov/ctva/lib/ctva/Cemetery_Brochure_rev_4.pdf

2. Notice of Scoping for New Britain Infrastructure/Roadway Improvements along Route 71

Municipality where proposed project might be located: New Britain

Address of Possible Project Location: Along Route 71, New Britain, CT

Project Description: The City of New Britain is requesting state financial assistance for certain infrastructure/roadway improvements along Hartford Road (CT Route 71) and the Route 9 northbound off-ramp at Hartford Road to support economic development and job creation in the City of New Britain. The City has approved plans for the construction of a new Costco Wholesale facility on a nearby parcel of property owned by the City adjacent to the existing Target store. The identified roadway infrastructure improvements will enable the Costco project to move forward. As part of the project, the State DOT will convey 15.5 acres of unused land located in the Town of Newington to the City of New Britain. Part of this land will be used for golf course improvements and part of it will be protected from development by a conservation easement. This conveyance is authorized by Special Act 13-23, approved by the Connecticut General Assembly and signed by Governor Malloy.

The roadway improvements would fix a long-standing problem of limited left-turn capacity from the Route 9 northbound off-ramp onto Route 71. The construction of an additional left-turn lane will help to alleviate traffic congestion in the area. The construction activity at the Route 9 off-ramp would occur entirely on land owned by the State Department of Transportation. This land was previously graded and improved as part of the overall overpass improvements previously built at Route 71 and Route 9. As part of this project roadway improvements would also be made to Route 71, on land currently owned by the State and the City of New Britain, to safely accommodate traffic in the area.

Project Maps: [Click here to view an aerial photo map](#) of the project area. [Click here to view a Site Plan](#) of the project area. [Click here to view a map of proposed golf course improvements](#).

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: **June 20, 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 **May 30, 2014.**

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

Name: Mark Hood

Agency: Department of Economic and Community Development

Address: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Fax: 860-270-8157

E-Mail: mark.hood@ct.gov

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

Name: Mark Hood

Agency: Department of Economic and Community Development

Address: 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Phone: 860-270-8089

Fax: 860-270-8157

E-Mail: mark.hood@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.

The following Post-Scoping Notices have been submitted for publication in this edition.

1. Post-Scoping Notice for Atlantic St. / Henry St. Intersection Improvements

Municipality where project will be located: Stamford

CEPA Determination: On January 22, 2013 the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) published a [Notice of Scoping](#) to solicit public comments for this project in the *Environmental Monitor*. The original scope required the full acquisition of 745 Atlantic Street, which is listed as a contributing resource to the National Register of Historic Places listed South End Historic District in Stamford (listed in 1986). The CTDOT received comments from the [Department of Energy and Environmental Protection](#), the [Department of Public Health](#), as well as the [Historic Neighborhood Preservation Program, Inc.](#) Since this time, through a collaborative effort with the City of Stamford, the CT State Historic Preservation Office, the Historic Neighborhood Preservation Program, and the South End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone, the project has been redesigned to prevent the acquisition of 745 Atlantic Street. Click [here](#) to view the current design concept. The CTDOT has taken all comments received into consideration and has concluded that the revised project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation under CEPA.

The agency's conclusion is documented in an [Environmental Assessment Checklist](#) and a [Memo of Findings and Determination](#).

If you have questions, you can contact the agency at:

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

Agency: Bureau of Policy and Planning
Connecticut Department of Transportation

Address: 2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, Connecticut 06131

Phone: 860-594-2931

E-Mail: dot.environmentalplanning@ct.gov

What happens next: The Connecticut Department of Transportation expects the project to move forward. This is expected to be the final notice of the project to be published in the *Environmental Monitor*.

2. Post-Scoping Notice for Greater Waterbury Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility

Municipality where project will be located: Watertown, CT

CEPA Determination: On March 18, 2014 the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) published a [Notice of Scoping](#) to solicit public comments for this project in the *Environmental Monitor*. A revised [Notice of Scoping](#) was placed in the *Environmental Monitor* on April 8, 2014. The notice was revised to inform the public of a scheduled Public Information Meeting and to extend the public comment period. Comments were received from the [Department of Public Health](#) and the [Department of Energy and Environmental Protection](#). The CTDOT has taken those comments into consideration and has concluded that the project does not require the preparation of Environmental Impact Evaluation under CEPA. This project was previously reviewed under CEPA and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued in 1999. A hardcopy of the FONSI can be viewed in person at the CTDOT's Office of Environmental Planning. The agency's conclusion is documented in an [Environmental Assessment Checklist](#) and a [Memo of Findings and Determination](#).

If you have questions about the project, you can contact the agency at:

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

Agency: Connecticut Department of Transportation

Address: 2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131

Phone: 860-594-2931

E-Mail: dot.environmentalplanning@ct.gov

What happens next: The Connecticut Department of Transportation expects the project to go forward. This is expected to be the final notice of the project to be published in the *Environmental Monitor*.

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 Environmental Impact Evaluations have been submitted for publication in this edition.

1. Notice of EIE for University of Connecticut, Storrs, Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Residence Hall

Municipality where project is proposed: Mansfield

Address of Possible Project Location: Alumni Drive on the University of Connecticut Storrs Campus, Mansfield, Connecticut

Project Description: UConn proposes to construct a Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Residence Hall next to the Hilltop Residence Halls (Hale and Ellsworth) on Alumni Drive. The proposed residence hall consists of 650 to 800 beds in an 8 or 9-story building or buildings totaling 200,000 to 250,000 gross square feet. The STEM Residence Hall would provide housing for first-year students and is part of the capital project initiatives in support of Next Generation Connecticut, a program intended to significantly expand educational opportunities, research, and innovation in the STEM disciplines at UConn over the next decade.

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 No Action alternative.

Project Map:

[Click here to view a map of the project site](#) of the proposed STEM Residence Hall on Alumni Drive.

Comments on this EIE will be accepted until the close of business on: Friday, June 6, 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 Warrentville Road, Mansfield, CT

A copy of the EIE will be available here:

[Environmental Impact Evaluation: UCONN Science, Technology, Engineering and Math \(STEM\)Residence Hall](#)

A public hearing will be held on this EIE on:

DATE: **May 29, 2014**

TIME: 7:30 p.m., or immediately upon the close of the new Engineering Science Building's EIE public hearing, whichever is later.

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

NOTES: Doors will be open at 6:00 p.m. to allow review of informational materials.

Written comments should be sent to:

Name: Paul Ferri

Agency: University of Connecticut – Office of Environmental Policy

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

Phone: 860-486-9295

Fax: [860-486-5477](tel:860-486-5477)

Email: paul.ferri@uconn.edu

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

2. Notice of EIE for New Engineering & Science Building, University of Connecticut, Storrs

Municipality where project is proposed: Mansfield

Address of Possible Project Location: Glenbrook Rd. at University of Connecticut, Storrs Campus

Project Description: The University of Connecticut is seeking to build a New Engineering & Science Building off Glenbrook Road at the Storrs Campus. This five-story, 118,000 GSF building is proposed to be located between the Chemistry Building and the Psychology/Biology Building, partially within the footprint of the old Central Warehouse, which will be demolished. The New Engineering & Science Building will serve the university staff and students, offering new laboratories and offices, classrooms, and meeting rooms. New construction associated with this project will incorporate best practices of sustainability with a minimum goal of LEED Silver and conformance with High Performance Building standards.

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 No Action alternative.

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

Comments on this EIE will be accepted until the close of business on: **Friday, June 6, 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 Warrentville Road, Mansfield, CT

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

[Environmental Impact Evaluation: UConn Science and Engineering Building](#)

Written comments: from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the end of June 6 2014.

There will be a Public Hearing for this project at:

Date: **May 29, 2014**

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Room 146, UConn Bishop Center; One Bishop Circle; Storrs, CT 06269

Notes: Doors will be open at 6:00 p.m. to allow review of informational materials.

Written comments should be sent to:

Name: Jason Coite

Agency: UConn - Office of Environmental Policy
Address: 31 LeDoyt Road, U-3055; Storrs, CT 06269
Fax: 860-486-5477
E-Mail: jason.coite@uconn.edu

If you have questions about the Environmental Impact Evaluation, please 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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