

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The Department of Transportation (Department) will conduct a Virtual Public Information Meeting concerning the proposed Buckland/Spencer Park and Ride Transit Amenities Upgrade on Thursday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be live streamed via Microsoft Teams Live Event and YouTube Live. A Question and Answer session will immediately follow the presentation. The presentation will be recorded. Instructions on how to access the meeting and on how to provide comments or ask questions can be found at the project webpage:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DOTManchester170-3440>

The live stream of the formal presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m.

The project is identified as State Project No. 0170-3440.

Project No. 170-3440 aligns with Department's vision to create high frequency corridors with enhanced customer amenities to improve the experience for current customers and to draw new customers in as well. As part of this study the Buckland Park & Ride was identified as a parking & ride lot that would benefit from enhanced customer amenities, with the vision that it would become a bus hub to facilitate easy transfers to and from express, local, and circulator routes in the area. In addition, the Silver Lane corridor that is served by the CTfastrak route 121 was identified as suitable for on-street BRT elements including enhancing the Spencer Street Park & Ride.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Buckland Park and Ride

This assignment consists of parking lot and related improvements associated with the construction of a new, state-of-the-art, double platform bus stop designed to replace 2-existing bus stops within the Buckland Street park-and-ride. The park-and-ride is located in Manchester, CT, at the corner of Buckland Street and Pleasant Valley Road.

Major improvements associated with this project include the following:

- Construction of northbound and southbound bus stops consisting of bus platforms and associated bus dwelling areas, bus bypass lanes, and bus stop amenities which include bus shelters, smart stop E-readers, kiosks, and emergency call boxes.
- Construction of sidewalks along all site entrance driveways from Buckland Street and Pleasant Valley Road, which will connect to defined accessible routes within the park-and-ride.
- Construction of 47 paved parking spaces and 38 gravel overflow parking spaces located along the west parking lot edge and 2 paved parking spaces along the north Buckland Street entrance.
- General improvements to the existing park-and-ride which include new curbing, paving, bike stands, signage and striping.
- Expansion of the existing electric service to support expanded bus stop amenities which include bus shelter lighting and heating, platform lighting, and smart stop E-readers.
- Construction of new telephone service, from Buckland Street, to support emergency call boxes.

Spencer Park and Ride

This assignment consists of parking lot and related improvements associated with the construction of two upgraded, state-of-the-art, bus stops on Spencer Street, designed to replace the existing bus stop within the Spencer Street park-and-ride. The park-and-ride is located in Manchester, CT, at the intersection of Spencer Street (SR 502), Cemetery Road, and the I-384 WB Exit 1 off ramp.

Major improvements associated with this project include the following:

- Reconstructing the westbound (Hartford-bound) and eastbound bus stops on Spencer Street by widening the street shoulders to provide bus dwelling areas, constructing 160 of granite curbed concrete bus platforms and sidewalks, and adding bus stop amenities which include bus shelters, smart stop E-readers and kiosks.
- Construction of sidewalks connecting the Spencer Street park-and-ride directly to the westbound bus stop and constructing a sidewalk along Cemetery Road up to the entrance driveway. Crosswalks, new accessible sidewalk ramps, and pedestrian signals would be added to all approaches of the intersection.
- Relocating park-and-ride handicap parking spaces to the southeast corner nearest the bus stop; demolishing the existing bus platform within the lot and constructing 28 new parking spaces in its place.
- General improvements to the existing park-and-ride which include resurfacing the lot, new curbing, paving, bike stands, signage and striping.
- Expansion of the existing electric service to support expanded bus stop amenities which include bus shelter lighting and heating, platform lighting, and smart stop E-readers..

Right-of-way impacts associated with the proposed project are not anticipated.

Construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2023 based on the availability of funding, acquisition of rights of way and approval of permit(s). The estimated construction cost for this project is approximately \$ 3.49 million. This project is anticipated to be undertaken with 80 percent Federal Funds and 20 percent State funds.

The public informational meeting is being held to provide the public and local community the opportunity to offer comments or ask questions regarding the proposed project. Persons with limited internet access may request that project information be mailed to them by contacting Eric Dorsey by email at eric.dorsey@ct.gov or by phone at 860-594-2347. (Allow one week for processing and delivery.)

Individuals with limited internet access can listen to the meeting by calling (888) 566-5916 and entering the Participant Code when prompted: 9977843. Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS). The MS Teams Live Event offers closed captioning for the hearing impaired and non-English translation options. A recording of the formal presentation will be posted to YouTube following the event and closed captioning (including non-English translation options) will be available at that time. The recording will also be available in the list of DOT virtual public meetings here: <https://portal.ct.gov/dot/general/CTDOT-VPIM-Library>

Visit the project webpage for options for Apple users. During the Q&A session and the 14-day comment period that follows the meeting, individuals may leave a question or comment via email (preferred) at DOTProject170-3440@ct.gov. Individuals may also leave a voicemail question or comment by calling (860) 944-1111. Please reference the project in your voicemail.

Language assistance may be requested by contacting the Department's Language Assistance Call Line (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least 5 business days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.