Environmental Monitor Archives



April 3, 2018

Scoping Notices

1. Removal of Traffic Signals on Route 9 and Associated Improvements, Middletown

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

1. Clinton St. Parking Structure, Hartford

Environmental Impact Evaluations

No Environmental Impact Evaluation has been submitted for review and comment.

State Land Transfers

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

The next edition of the Environmental Monitor will be published on April 17, 2018.

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Notices in the Environmental Monitor are written by the sponsoring agencies and are published unedited. Questions about the content of any notice should be directed to the sponsoring agency.

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 Notice has been submitted for review and comment.

1. Notice of Scoping for Removal of Traffic Signals on Route 9 and Associated Improvements

Municipality where proposed project might be located: Middletown

Address of Possible Project Location: Route 9 to include Washington Street (Exit 15) and Hartford Avenue (Exit 16). Route 17 overlaps a small section of Route 9 in this area.

Project Description: CT Route 9 is a north/south running freeway except for a short section of non-freeway in the downtown Middletown area where it overlaps with Route 17. This section of Route 9 stretches for approximately 0.36 miles (Exit 15 to Exit 16) and includes two atgrade signalized intersections. These signalized intersections contribute to significant delays and crashes.

The existing three-way signalized intersection of Route 9 and Hartford Avenue (Exit16) provides access to and from Hartford Avenue in the northbound and southbound directions of Route 9. The proposed design will eliminate the left-turning movements from Route 9 northbound onto Hartford Avenue in order to reduce conflict points and remove signalization. An at-grade deceleration lane will be provided for Route 9 southbound traffic in order to maintain access to Hartford Avenue. Access to Route 9 northbound will be maintained by constructing a bridge to convey Route 9 southbound over Hartford Avenue. Route 9 southbound will be accessible from Hartford Avenue with a free-flow acceleration lane.

In order to provide access to downtown Middletown from Route 9 northbound, a bridge will be constructed to convey northbound vehicles over Route 9 southbound as well as the railroad track and yard. The off-ramp will intersect Rapallo Avenue at a new signalized intersection. To the west of this intersection, Rapallo will be one way towards Main Street while two-way travel will be maintained to the east.

The existing traffic signal on Route 9 at the intersection of Washington Street extended allows for access to Washington Street from the northbound and southbound directions (Exit 15) and from Washington Street to Route 9 southbound. The proximity of deKoven Drive to this intersection creates a large footprint with abnormal traffic operations. The proposed design will eliminate the Route 9 northbound and southbound (Exit 15) access to Washington Street to reduce conflict points. Access to Route 9 southbound from Washington Street will be maintained with an at-grade acceleration lane. The lane configuration on Washington Street will be modified to provide a dedicated left turn lane onto deKoven Drive as well.

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This project is in the immediate vicinity of two additional proposed projects: Saint John's Square/ Main Street Intersection Improvements, and Sidewalk Bump-outs on Main Street between Union Street and Liberty Street. Although these projects are in close proximity to one another they are each stand-alone projects with independent utility and value. All three projects will be discussed at the public scoping meeting.

Project Map: Click here to view a map of the project area.

Project Plans: Click <u>here</u> to view proposed project plans. Included in the plans is the proposed work for the Sidewalk Bump-outs on Main Street, and the St. John's Square /Main Street Intersection Improvements. The approximate footprint for the Removal of Traffic Signals and Associated Work is shown with a red border.

Written comments from the public are welcomed and will be accepted until the close of business on: Friday, April 6, 2018

There will be a Public Scoping Meeting for this project at:

DATE: Thursday, March 22, 2018 (Snow date March 23, 2018)

TIME: Presentation to begin at 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: Middletown High School Auditorium, 200 La Rosa Lane, Middletown, CT

NOTES: The meeting location is ADA accessible. If language assistance is needed please contact the Department of Transportation's Office of Communications at 860-594-3062 (voice only) at least five days prior to the meeting. Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS). Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.

Written comments should be sent to:

Name: Mr. Erik A. Jarboe, P.E.- Transportation Supervising Engineer

Agency: Connecticut Department of Transportation Bureau of Engineering and Construction

Address: P.O. Box 317546, Newington, CT 06131

E-Mail: Erik.Jarboe@ct.gov

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

Name: Mr. Stephen D. Hall, P.E. - Project Engineer

Agency: Connecticut Department of Transportation Bureau of Engineering and Construction

Address: P.O. Box 317546, Newington, CT 06131

Phone: 860-594-2591
E-Mail: Stephen.Hall@ct.gov

Other information: Project plans will be available at the Middletown City Hall Town Clerk's Office two weeks prior to the meeting

Post-Scoping Notices: Environmental Impact Evaluation Not Required

This category is required by the October 2010 revision of the <u>Generic Environmental Classification Document</u> 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 Notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

1. Post-Scoping Notice for New Parking Structure

Municipality where proposed project will be located: Hartford

CEPA Determination: On January 2, 2018, the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services (DAS) published a <u>Notice of Scoping</u> in the Environmental Monitor to solicit public comments for the proposed construction of a new parking garage at 10 Clinton Street. During the scoping period, the DAS received comments from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Department of Public Health, and the Office of Policy and Management.

The DAS has taken those comments into consideration and has concluded that the project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation under CEPA. The agency's conclusion is documented in a <u>Determination</u> of Environmental Significance.

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

Name: David Barkin, AIA, Chief Architect

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Agency: Connecticut Department of Administrative Services

Division of Construction Services

Address: 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 1301, Hartford, CT 06103

E-Mail: david.barkin@ct.gov

What happens next: The DAS expects the project to go forward. The project may potentially be transferred in full to the Capitol Region Development Authority for implementation.

This is expected to be the final notice of the project 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).

No EIE Notice has been submitted for publication in this edition.

State Land Transfer Notices

Connecticut General Statutes <u>Section 4b-47</u> 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. <u>Read more about the process.</u>

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

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