

Connecticut Department of Transportation

State Project No. 0164-0245 Rehabilitation of Bridge No. 01431 I-291 over Connecticut River Windsor and South Windsor

Thursday, February 22, 2024
Zoom Webinar

Minutes of Public Informational Meeting

Presenters/Speakers:

Meziane Meziani (CTDOT)
Jen Pixley (CHA)

CTDOT Attendees:

Luke Arno
Meziane Meziani
Boa Chuong

Design Consultant Attendees:

Ryan Cooley (CHA)
Jen Pixley (CHA)
Jeff LeMay (CHA)
Sam Martha (VN)

Public Attendees:

(7) via Zoom

Presentation:

A virtual presentation was held through a Zoom Webinar for the project and delivered by Mr. Meziane Meziani from CTDOT and Ms. Jen Pixley from CHA Consulting.

The presentation began at approximately 7:05 pm. Following an introduction of the project and the project design team, the following items were presented:

- The purpose of this project is to maintain the bridges in a “State of Good Repair”. The Project Needs includes extending service life, repairing structural steel, replacing deck joints, and removing the abandoned movable inspection platform.
- The bridge was built in 1958 and widened in 1993, which included a full replacement of the superstructure. The bridge is a 14-span structure comprised of a concrete deck supported by (9) welded steel plate girders. Spans 1-4 & 11-14 are 4-span continuous, and Spans 5-7 & Spans 8-10 are 3-span continuous over the piers. The superstructure is supported by concrete abutments and piers.
- A summary of the existing field conditions of the bridge and notable deficiencies related to the bridge and roadway.
- A summary of the proposed bridge & roadway improvements.
- A description of anticipated roadway traffic impacts and estimated construction duration.
- Construction is estimated to begin in Spring 2026.

- Total estimated construction cost is \$29.75 Million with 90% Federal Funds and 10% State Funds.

Public Comments and Questions:

Question:

The potential western laydown area is planned to be a park pending Town of Windsor referendum on March 12.

Answer: Based on this information additional laydown locations will be investigated as design progresses.

Question:

Is there any planned work on the abutments?

Answer: Yes, abutment work consists of concrete patching. Concrete patching includes repair to areas of deteriorated concrete. Deteriorated concrete includes areas of spalls (concrete has deteriorated and fallen off) and hollow areas (areas of deteriorated concrete which has not fallen off yet).

Question:

Can you explain the detour in more depth? Will there definitely be a detour during this project/ how long distance and time-wise can travelers expect there to be a detour?

Answer: The detour is not definite at this time. The detour route was presented as this is a possibility if the traffic volumes are too high to accommodate staged construction. The need for the detour will be further evaluated during the final design phase.

Question:

Why are the light structures being replaced? They seem to be in working condition when I drive over this bridge at night.

Answer: There is no concern about their function. The main reason for replacing these lights is due to their proximity to the roadway. It has been an ongoing concern, during the winter months, the plows are hitting these light standards with the potential to break off. Our hope is by offsetting these further away from the roadway we can mitigate this issue.

Question:

Can consideration be given to resurfacing abutment and pier concrete with decorative treatment?

Answer: This type of work would be considered a betterment and would impact funding. A decorative treatment will be considered and will require further discussed with the Department.

Adjournment: The project was generally well received by those attending the meeting. The live virtual presentation was closed at approximately 7:35 pm.

Drafted by: _____ Date: _____
Jennifer L. Pixley, P.E., Project Engineer
CHA Consulting, Inc.

Reviewed by: _____ Date: 3/1/2024
Ryan R. Cooley, P.E., Project Manager
CHA Consulting, Inc.

Approved by: _____ Date: 3/4/2024
Luke Arno, Project Engineer
Connecticut Department of Transportation

Jennifer L. Pixley/jlp/rrc
cc: Attendees