

CT Department of Transportation
Computerized Traffic Signal System (CTSS) Replacement Route 218 in Bloomfield
Virtual Public Informational Meeting for the Town of Bloomfield
July 30, 2024 – 6:30 p.m.
Zoom Virtual Event

Report of Meeting

In Attendance: There were 19 attendees in the Zoom webinar, seven (7) of which were panelists. Of the remaining attendees two (2) were CTDOT staff members, two (2) were part of the design team, and eight (8) were members of the public.

Name	Organization	Email
John Lockaby	CTDOT	john.lockaby@ct.gov
Gina Musinski	Fuss & O'Neill	Gina.Musinski@fando.com
Lisa Conroy	CTDOT	lisa.conroy@ct.gov
Kathleen Ericson	CTDOT	Kathleen.ericson@ct.gov
Mark Vertucci	Fuss & O'Neill	mark.vertucci@fando.com
Kwesi Brown	SLR	kabrown@slrconsulting.com
Thomas Daley	Gannett Fleming	tdaley@gfnet.com
Mohamed Aguib	SLR	maguib@slrconsulting.com
Sydney LaLuna	VN Engineers	slaluna@vnengineers.com
Matthew Blume	CTDOT	Matthew.Blume@ct.gov
Jonathon Corilla	CTDOT	Jonathon.corilla@ct.gov
Douglas Clifford	Public	dougclifford@hotmail.com
Laurie Julian	Public	Lauriejulian@gmail.com
Bruce Zwecker	Public	Bruce.zwecker@gmail.com
Michael Curran	Public	curranmf@snet.net
Deby Wood	Public	ctwoodski@hotmail.com
Louis Zarchen	Public	Louis.zarchen@comcast.net
Susanne Shrader	Public	birdgirrl@comcast.net
Henry Healy	Public	Henry.stephen.healy@gmail.com

Presentation: The meeting went live at 6:27 p.m. with an informative introduction slide for attendees to view before the event began. The official start of the meeting was at 6:35 p.m. with an introduction from Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Engineer, John Lockaby, who also covered the process for how attendees could interact with the project team, provided a meeting overview, summarized the Title VI information, and introduced the project team before turning it over to Kwesi Brown, the project's design consultant from SLR. Kwesi gave a 20-minute PowerPoint presentation with assistance from Thomas Daley from Gannett Fleming and Kathleen Ericson from the Division of Rights of Way, followed by a Question-and-Answer session. Lisa Conroy, Mark Vertucci, Gina Musinski were also present and involved with the event on behalf of the CTDOT.

The presentation covered the following items:

- Project improvements including purpose and need
- Review of signal replacement locations
- Traffic equipment composition
- Pedestrian accommodation upgrades
- Fiber optic communication explanation
- Utility and municipality coordination
- Anticipated rights of way impacts and process
- Environmental and historic property impacts
- The schedule and estimated Construction cost, which is \$10.84 million and using 80% Federal funds and 20% State funds
- Question-and-Answer session

Comments and Questions: The questions and responses from the Q & A session are listed below.

1. **Question:** Once physical activities begin, how long is the construction phase?

Response: Typically, the process requires two seasons. The first season is spent procuring the equipment and developing plans for construction. Following groundbreaking it will be about one year to a year and a half but largely dependent on the contractor's schedule.

2. **Question:** Will the project include installation of speed cameras?

Response: Speed cameras are not included in the project.

3. **Question:** Is there any possibility of including the Cottage Grove Road at Maple Road and Hall Boulevard intersection upgrade in this project? Are there any plans for this junction?

Response: This is a communications upgrade project to improve connection and connectivity. At this time that intersection is not included, but CTDOT is always looking to improve intersection traffic signal infrastructure, so please feel free to reach out to the Town with any concerns regarding intersections outside the project limits.

4. **Question:** I am a resident at Gillette Ridge community. The signal servicing Cigna Way has not been operating properly since July 2023. Is there any way to implement this project sooner than Fall 2025?

Response: Fall 2025 will be when the required review processes are complete and the earliest time at which construction can commence. CTDOT Traffic Engineering staff can coordinate with the CTDOT District 1 maintenance office and Town personnel to implement any short-term improvements if warranted. A primary objective of this design project is to improve the safety and efficiency of all traffic signal operations along the corridor.

5. **Question:** The lights have been well coordinated so far. What will I see in the way of enhanced flow along 218?

Response: Existing communications on Route 218 have been troublesome. The upgraded interconnection will improve response time for issues with signal appurtenances and will provide CTDOT with better feedback to allow for implementation of improvements before public notice. The project also includes volume projections to 2032 to provide for enhanced flow well into the future.

6. Question: Has this type of upgrade been undertaken in another Connecticut town? If so, what is the status of that project?

Response: CTSS projects have been or are in the process of being implemented in various areas including Newington, Rocky Hill, and Wethersfield amongst others and CTDOT also has projects under design in Fairfield, Branford, and Cheshire. These upgrades include new video detection systems which are prevalent in many CTDOT signal projects.

7. Question: Can you provide more details on the Cigna Way improvements for pedestrians across Cottage Grove Road?

Response: Pedestrian crossings, ramps, pedestrian signal heads, push buttons, and illumination will be provided at all four corners of the intersection and all crossings.

The meeting ended at 7:20 pm when new questions stopped coming in. Attendees were reminded to fill out the survey and that the comment period would be open until August 13th, 2024 should anyone wish to submit further comments or questions to the project email or phone number.