

Connecticut Department of Transportation

State Project No. 0027-0129
Federal-Aid Project No. 6027(007)
Replacement of Bridge No. 06956
Town of Clinton

February 13, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom and YouTube Live

Minutes of Public Information Meeting

Present:

Todd Hajek	Town of Clinton	thajek@clintonct.org
Marc Byrnes	CTDOT	marc.byrnes@ct.gov
Jeffrey Organek	CTDOT	jeffrey.organek@ct.gov
Zachary Guarino	CTDOT	zachary.guarino@ct.gov
Sean Laudati	BL Companies	slaudati@blcompanies.com
Daniel Pinto	BL Companies	dpinto@blcompanies.com

3 Public Zoom Attendees

Presentation: A Public Information Meeting was held for this project on February 13, 2025. This meeting was held virtually via Zoom. The formal presentation began at 6:00 p.m.

Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Project Manager Marc Byrnes began the presentation by introducing the project, providing the project email and webpage address, as well as explaining how attendees could participate in the question and answer (Q&A) session following the presentation. He then introduced the Town of Clinton Director of Public Works, Todd Hajek, who gave welcoming remarks. CTDOT Project Manager Marc Byrnes then introduced additional representatives of the CTDOT and representatives from BL Companies (BLC), the Consultant Liaison Engineering firm.

A representative of BLC, Daniel Pinto, described the conditions of the existing structure, Bridge No.06956 carrying Country Village Lane over an unnamed brook in the Town of Clinton. He continued to describe the purpose and need of the project, and the proposed replacement of Bridge No. 06956.

The presentation included the following items:

- Bridge No. 06956, constructed in 1970, consists of four (4) 49-foot long corrugated steel arch pipe culverts with a concrete headwall and wingwall. The Average Daily Traffic (ADT) over the bridge is estimated at 100 vehicles per day
- Bridge No. 06956 is in serious condition based on the latest inspection report due to condition of the existing structure. The culverts exhibit deteriorated steel, rust, and perforations. There is deflection along the tops of the pipes and reverse curvature along the bottom. The structure also exhibits undermining of up to 12 inches.
- The project's purpose and need is to address the structural deficiencies of the existing structure.

- The project involves replacing the existing structure with a 20-foot wide by 6-foot tall precast concrete box culvert. Concrete cutoff walls, return walls, headwalls, and wingwalls will be constructed at the inlet and outlet of the proposed structure.
- Construction will be performed in two stages, constructing approximately half the structure in each stage.
- Two lanes of traffic will be maintained at all times during each stage of construction.
- The project will require the following permits:
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers General Permit (Self Verification)
 - Town of Clinton Inland Wetland Permit
 - Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Flood Management Certification
- Right-of-way impacts are anticipated and consist of two (2) partial property takes, one (1) construction easement, and one (1) drainage right of way easement.
- Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2027 and be completed in fall 2027. The current opinion of probable construction cost is approximately \$2.5 million.

CTDOT Project Manager Marc Byrnes, concluded the presentation and reviewed the question & answer procedures; the formal presentation lasted approximately 20 minutes.

Public Comments and Questions: Following the formal presentation, a live question-and-answer session was opened to attendees. The questions and comments below were provided via voicemail, email, and Zoom Live Event chat:

- Email question: When you move the power lines, you will be clearing a lot of trees and brush, correct?

BLC explained that the current layout for utilities is preliminary, noting that a utility coordination meeting with the utility companies would be held to discuss an appropriate location for temporary utility relocation. Minimum clearances for the power lines would be examined and established so that the facilities are far enough away from construction. They continued that impacts to the trees would be minimized as much as possible. A representative of CTDOT added that any trees that are impacted as a result of tree clearing within the construction easement would be accounted for in the evaluation and payment to the property owner.

- Email question: After looking more closely at the figures, it appears that my property and the protected woodlands that provide some privacy will be impacted as the power lines will be moved northward for the construction. I'm understanding that my property will be mostly affected. Will the power lines be moved back along the street after construction?

BLC explained that the aerial utilities will be moved to their approximate existing locations after construction.

- Email question: Moving the power lines will impact my existing underground power lines to my house as well as fiber optic lines for internet. How long will we be without power and internet? Will temporary above ground lines be installed?

BLC explained that CTDOT and BLC are coordinating the design and staging with the aerial utility companies. Currently, the temporary relocation design is preliminary and will be advanced by the utility companies. They will work to minimize any disruptions to power and internet. If disruptions are required, the contractor and utility companies will provide sufficient notice to the residents.

- Email question: Will the area north of the road be allowed to return to woodlands or will this area be cleared regularly to maintain access to the power lines if the plan is to leave them in place?

BLC explained that the power lines will be moved back to their approximate existing location after construction. As noted during the presentation, some areas within the proposed easement will be cleared to allow for construction activities, and the extent of any clearing will be better defined as the project develops. Additionally, CTDOT noted during the presentation that any trees that are impacted as a result of tree clearing within the construction easement would be accounted for in the evaluation and payment to the property owner during the property acquisition process.

Adjournment: The email address, telephone number, and project webpage address were provided for any additional questions or comments regarding the project following the meeting. Attendees were reminded that any additional comments will be received until February 27, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.