

Determination of Effect on Historic Properties

Author:	C. Scott Speal	Date:	August 5, 2026
Project:	State No.: 171-522 F.A.P. No.: 000T(518) Project Title: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons Town: Various – District 1		
Finding of Effect:	No Historic Properties Affected		

Project Description:

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT), with funding support from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) pedestrian crossing equipment at 32 locations across State Maintenance District 1—the central part of the state. This project involves installing or upgrading RRFB assemblies, sidewalk landing areas, ramps, and sidewalk connections to existing sidewalk networks. Advanced warning signs and associated pavement markings will also be installed. The RRFB assemblies themselves consist of a foundation and pedestal, accessible pedestrian signal push buttons, flashers, and signs. The RRFBs will be solar powered unless the device cannot be placed due to overhead utility conflicts or solar panels are in a location that receives no direct sunlight. Depending on the existing pedestrian facilities, the sidewalk work can include construction/reconstruction of curb ramps, blended transitions, sidewalk extensions, landing areas, detectable warning surfaces, realignment of skewed crosswalk pavement markings and associated revisions to other pavement markings.

All work is intended to fall within the limits of the existing transportation right-of-way (ROW). However, construction and/or permanent easements may be needed for RRFB appurtenances and/or sidewalk ramps. It is assumed that property maps will need to be developed for some of the locations. RRFBs, sidewalks, and curb ramps will be owned and maintained by the municipality upon completion of the project.

District	Town	State or Local Road	Location Name	Lat	Long
1	Bristol	Local	South St at Ridge Rd	41.6681076	-72.928823
1	Bristol	Local	Lake Ave at Lake Compounce Employee Lot (822 Lake Ave)	41.6436961	-72.922829
1	Bristol	Local	West Washington St at Hubbel School	41.6778635	-72.909035
1	Bristol	Local	Stevens St at Northeast Middle School	41.7150005	-72.908813
1	Cheshire	Local	Jarvis St at Farmington Canal Trail (400 ft E of Peck Ln)	41.528947	-72.908774
1	Cheshire	Local	Sandbank Rd at Farmington Canal Trail West of Industrial Ave	41.5357517	-72.902636
1	Cheshire	Local	Schoolhouse Rd at Farmington Canal Trail (1,200ft E of Peck Ln)	41.5474867	-72.900456
1	Ellington	Local	Abbott Rd at 11 Abbott Rd (100ft S of Ardsley Ln)	41.8722892	-72.499026
1	Ellington	Local	Abbott Rd at Ellington Ridge Condominiums (1 Abbott Rd)	41.8711889	-72.499013
1	Enfield	State	Route S (Enfield St) at Park Ave	42.000767	-72.593836
1	Hartford	State	Route 187 (Blue Hills Ave) at Greenfield St	41.7846781	-72.698371
1	Hartford	State	Route 187 (Blue Hills Ave) 200ft South of Tower Ave	41.8001468	-72.694983
1	Hartford	Local	Farmington Ave at Lorraine St	41.7669974	-72.705138
1	Hartford	Local	Spruce St at Union Station Parking Lot	41.7687671	-72.682347
1	Meriden	Local	Oregon Rd 200ft East of Route 70 (River Rd)	41.522662	-72.838018
1	Meriden	Local	Coe Ave 200ft East of Peacock Dr	41.5340405	-72.824734
1	Middletown	State	Route 545 (Washington St) at Melilli Plaza	41.562651	-72.649947
1	Middletown	Local	Main St at Old Church St	41.5572992	-72.647645
1	Middletown	Local	West Lake Dr at Russett Ln (Hunters Crossing Apartments)	41.597002	-72.701233
1	Middletown	Local	Spring St at Pease Ave	41.5662943	-72.65619
1	New Britain	Local	Slater Rd at Jefferson School	41.696487	-72.800975
1	New Britain	State	Route 71 (Stanley St) at Stratford Rd	41.687417	-72.769995
1	New Britain	Local	Village Square Dr at Stanley Loop Trail & Park and Ride	41.709900	-72.767280
1	New Britain	State	Route 71 (Stanley St) at Commonwealth Ave	41.689840	-72.770830
1	Newington	State	Route 287 (East Robbins Ave) at Flagler St	41.686941	-72.71883
1	South Windsor	Local	Avery St at Philip R Smith Elementary S Driveway	41.8405481	-72.511662
1	Tolland	State	Route 195 (Morrow Rd) at 4 Tolland Green (300ft S of Old Post Rd)	41.86895	-72.367066
1	Wethersfield	Local	Harford Ave at Northbrick Ln	41.7190395	-72.660338
1	Wethersfield	Local	Wolcott Hill Rd at Clearfield Rd	41.6983922	-72.668282
1	Wethersfield	Local	Nott St at Folly Brook Blvd	41.7141258	-72.679193
1	Wethersfield	State	Route 175 (Wells Rd) at Folly Brook Blvd	41.7035334	-72.67282
1	Windsor	State	Route 178 (Park Ave) at Plymouth St	41.8398953	-72.656527

Under the provisions of the Programmatic Agreement (PA) executed between CTDOT, FHWA, the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Officer (CT SHPO), and other Federal transportation agencies regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) regarding transportation programs¹, the CTDOT Office of Environmental Planning (OEP) intends to make a determination of effect on historic properties for the described undertaking.

Sources Consulted:

Both the National Park Service’s digital asset record system and ConnCRIS—the online cultural resource geodatabase maintained by CT SHPO—were consulted for the purpose of locating any properties listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) within the project area of potential effect (APE). Digital site records in ConnCRIS, as well as OEP’s own internally

¹ *Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Railroad Administration, the Connecticut Department of Transportation, the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regarding Transportation Programs in Connecticut*, signed May 5, 2025.

maintained geodatabase, were also consulted for the purpose of identifying any previously known archaeological resources within the APE. A predictive site model developed internally by OEP based upon U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service soil classifications was also consulted to assess the potential of the project area to contain as yet undocumented archaeological resources. Recent roadside and aerial photographs were consulted to assess the present state of soil integrity within areas likely to be affected by ground disturbance and proximity to structures that may potentially be NRHP-eligible.

Resources Potentially Affected:

All locations are situated adjacent to developed urban or suburban roadways characterized by pervasive previous disturbance from highway construction and maintenance, typically as well as sidewalks, buried utilities and artificial landscapes.

The Farmington Avenue location in Hartford is situated within the **Little Hollywood** and **West End NRHP Historic Districts**, with contributing structures on both crossing landings at 429 Farmington Avenue (Clemens Place / Rosalind Apartments) and 10 Lorraine Street. Both buildings are situated well back from the street front, however, and will therefore be subject to no adverse effect by the undertaking as proposed in the view of OEP. Work will require minor ROW easements from both properties.

The Spruce Street location in Hartford lies just across the parking lot from **Hartford Union Station**, independently listed on the NRHP. As the station building itself is located over 100 feet away to the east on the other side of the former rail viaduct, placement of new signal crossing equipment will have no substantive effect upon the resource.

The Oregon Road East location in Meriden is situated less than 200 feet from the 19th Century lenticular truss **“Red Bridge”** over the Quinnipiac River, independently listed upon the NRHP. The project involves no modifications to the structure itself however and will affect only an adjacent roadway, resulting in no substantive effect to the resource.

The Washington Street location in Middletown lies just at the margins of the **Middletown Main Street NRHP Historic District**. The contributing two-story brick Fagan’s Block building at 62 Washington Street lies at the north landing of the target crossing and will be affected by a minor easement to place a sidewalk ramp. No modifications to the structure itself are proposed, however, and the decidedly urban setting will not be diminished by the addition of modest pedestrian signal equipment in the view of OEP.

The *Main Street at Old Church Street location in Middletown* falls at the boundaries of both the **Middletown South Green** and **Metro South NRHP Historic Districts**. The Charles Boardman House at 48 Main Street and the Caleb Fuller House at 49 Main Street are contributing structures at each end of the target crossing. Both buildings are set well back from the roadway, and the decidedly urban setting will not be substantively altered by placement of additional signal equipment. No ROW impacts are proposed at this location.

The *Route 195 (Merrow Rd) location in Tolland* lies within the **Tolland Green NRHP Historic District**. This District is significant for its landscape qualities as a relatively original-appearing village green; for its historical associations with institutions and people important in the development of the area as a town center; and for the architectural qualities of its buildings, many of which represent well-preserved examples of particular periods and styles of architecture. The early 19th Century wood frame Colonial residences on each side of the road at 4 Tolland Green and 2 Cider Mill Road are both contributing to the District. As no modifications to standing architecture are proposed, OEP anticipates a finding of no adverse effect to the resource. Soils on both sides of the road are classified as Canton and Charleton at slight to moderate grades predicted to be high in archaeological potential. There is previous disturbance on both sides of the highway from sidewalks and storm drainage, however, that greatly diminishes such potential.

The *Hartford Ave / Northbrick Ln location in Wethersfield* lies within the **Old Wethersfield NRHP Historic District**. The District is significant in comprising one of the oldest areas of European settlement in Connecticut. Though the NRHP nomination form is decidedly vague, there are potentially contributing properties on both sides of the road at this location including the Bungalow style residence at 217 Hartford Ave and the 'S. Welles' House at 220 Hartford Avenue. The structures themselves are set well back from the roadway, however, and therefore unlikely to be subject to any substantive effect in association with the undertaking. Soils on the east side of Hartford Avenue are also predicted to be high in archaeological potential, but in light of recent roadside and aerial photography have been previously affected by sidewalks and utility poles.

Determination of Effect:

Consultation was initiated with Federally-recognized Native American Tribal authorities with ancestral ties to the State of Connecticut for this undertaking in April of this year. None of the solicited Tribes expressed any concerns with the undertaking within the allotted time frame.

Given the involvement of some nine (9) NRHP-listed resources at seven (7) locations, albeit without any anticipated project-related impacts that might compromise the integrity of the qualities that

render these resources significant, OEP hereby determines that there will be *no adverse effect to historic properties* in association with the present undertaking. With this determination, FHWA, through OEP, has concluded its responsibility to consider the potential effects of the described project on cultural resources under Section 106 of the NHPA via the provisions of the PA referenced above.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Speal', with a large loop at the beginning and a horizontal line at the end.

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Office of Environmental Planning
Connecticut Department of Transportation