

CT Department of Transportation
State Project No. 0173-0542
Federal Aid Project No.
Installation & Revision of Traffic Control Signals in District 3
Virtual Public Informational Meeting
March 25, 2025 6:00 p.m.
Zoom Virtual Event

Report of Meeting

In Attendance: There were 22 attendees in the Zoom webinar, five (5) of which were panelists. Of the remaining attendees one (1) was a CTDOT staff member, two (2) were Council of Governments staff members, one (1) was a Connecticut General Assembly staff member, seven (7) were municipal representatives, and five (5) were part of the public.

Name	Organization	Email
Kaethe Podgorski	CTDOT	Kaethe.Podgorski@ct.gov
Nick Welsh	CTDOT	Nicholas.Welsh@ct.gov
Elle Funari	CTDOT	Gabrielle.Funari@ct.gov
Malcolm Thomas	CTDOT	Malcolm.Thomas@ct.gov
Lisa Conroy	CTDOT	Lisa.Conroy@ct.gov
Matt Blume	CTDOT	Matthew.Blume@ct.gov
Gina Musinski	Fuss & O’Neill	Gina.Musinski@fando.com
Meghan Sloan	MetroCOG	msloan@ctmetro.org
Tiger Mann	Town of New Canaan DPW	Tiger.Mann@newcanaanct.gov
William Hurley	Fairfield Engineering Dept.	whurley@fairfieldct.org
Jonathan Steinberg	CT General Assembly (CGA)	jonathan.steinberg@cga.ct.gov
Laura Francis	SCRCOG	lfrancis@scrcog.org
Sandeep Aysola	City of New Haven	saysola@newhavenct.gov
Fred Eshraghi	City of Norwalk	feshraghi@norwalkct.gov
Peter Ratkiewicz	Town of Westport DPW	pratkiewicz@westportct.gov
Keith Wilberg	Westport DPW	kwilberg@westportct.gov
Matthew Niski	Town of Westport	mniski@westportct.gov
Renee Carlisle	Madison Service Center, LLC	-
Kelly Pollard	Landlord	-
Lee Frey Saveliff	Public	-
Vin Porzio	Flash Car Wash	-
Collene Byrne	Tighe & Bond	-

Presentation: The meeting went live at 6:00 p.m. with an informative introduction slide for attendees to view before the event began. The official start of the meeting was at 6:05 p.m. with an introduction from Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Project Manager, Kaethe Podgorski, who also covered the process for how attendees could interact with the project team, provided a meeting overview, summarized the Title VI information, introduced the project team before discussing the project overview.

The meeting was turned over to Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Project Engineer, Nick Welsh, who discussed the specific locations and details of the full replacement upgrades for each location, who then passed the meeting to Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Traffic Engineer, Elle Funari to discuss the specific locations and details of the partial replacement upgrades. Malcom Thomas, Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Assistant Right of Way Coordinator then provided a brief overview of the acquisition process of property rights where needed. The team gave an approximately 35-minute PowerPoint presentation followed by a Question-and-Answer session assisted by Gina Musinski, Consultant Liaison Engineer from Fuss & O'Neill. Lisa Conroy, PE was also present and involved with providing information during the Q&A event on behalf of the CTDOT.

The presentation covered the following items:

- The purpose of the project is to replace aging signal infrastructure with new signal equipment to achieve a state of good repair.
- Review of current public outreach was provided for various meetings that were held.
- An overview of “District Various” signal replacement projects was provided
- Signal components (mast arms, signal heads, detection, controllers, pre-emption, and communication) were discussed for general information purposes.
- The proposed full signal replacement and partial signal replacement locations were reviewed in detail. Installations of crosswalks and new sidewalk construction were highlighted.
- Project coordination efforts were discussed.
- Rights of Way processes were reviewed.
- The estimated construction cost is approximately \$16 million with 100% State funds.
- Project schedule was summarized for general review.
- Pending next steps were summarized.
- Information was provided on how to contact the design staff with questions/comments
- Question-and-Answer session

Comments and Questions:

During the Q&A session that followed the presentation, there were five questions posed by the attendees as follows:

1. **Question:** What municipalities are impacted by the replacements?
Response: Fairfield does not have any locations impacted by this project. Towns with full/partial replacements are Bridgeport, East Haven, Guilford, Madison, New Haven, North Branford, Norwalk, and Westport.
2. **Question:** Will pedestrian phasing be concurrent or exclusive?
Response: CTDOT will consult with Town on preferred pedestrian phasing.
3. **Question:** Will the Department be including LPI technology?
Response: CTDOT's preference is to utilize LPI with concurrent pedestrian phasing when applicable. However, if existing exclusive pedestrian phase exists CTDOT would get feedback from municipality if it should remain or be changed to concurrent.

4. **Question:** Will the presentation documents be available following the meeting?
Response: Within 2 weeks a summary of the presentation along with the PowerPoint will be posted to the project web page, and a recording of this video can be viewed the Connecticut DOT YouTube page.
5. **Question:** Was this project coordinated with 0158-0215?
Response: The US 1 Intersection Improvements project is to the west of this project and on a different system. We will speak with our Highway Operations group to see if additional coordination with timings is necessary.

Questions received via email/phone:

6. **Question:** Can a four to three lane road diet be considered under this project along Route 1 in New Haven at the two intersections included in this project?
Response: The improvements being done as part of State project 0173-0542 are limited to the intersection areas only. CTDOT attempts to incorporate as many "complete street" improvements as possible, but bicycle lanes and road diets are corridor-wide changes that would impact larger segments of Route 1. Therefore the changes associated with a road diet are beyond the scope of our signal improvement projects to implement. However, please discuss your observations and concerns with New Haven officials since they would be able to work towards planning and implementing more comprehensive improvements along the Route 1 corridor.
7. **Question:** Are No Turn On Red signs proposed at intersection 059-222?
Response: We are currently in the preliminary design phase and will review again if any approaches to the intersection meet the criteria for no turn on red restrictions (there are none currently). However, regardless of if permanent restrictions are installed, illuminated "blank out" signs will be added that will indicate "No Turn on Red" if there is a pedestrian present that has called the crossing phase, so there will be some countermeasures to address the conflict with pedestrians you noted.
8. **Question:** Can printed materials from the presentation be mailed to a member of the public?
Response: Yes, following receipt of mailing information our team will mail paper copies of the presentation and project description.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 6:57 pm when new questions stopped coming in. Attendees were reminded to fill out the survey and that the comment period would be open until April 8, 2025, should anyone wish to submit further comments or questions to the project email or phone number.