

**CT Department of Transportation
State Project No. 0173-0551
Federal Aid Project No. N/A
Various Signal Replacements in Eastern Connecticut (District 3)
Virtual Public Informational Meeting
July 14, 2026 6:00 p.m.
Zoom Virtual Event**

Report of Meeting

In Attendance: There were 15 attendees in the Zoom webinar, seven (7) of which were panelists. The following individuals were identified:

Panelists:

Name	Organization	Email
Kaethe Podgorski	CTDOT	Kaethe.Podgorski@ct.gov
Nicholas Welsh	CTDOT	Nicholas.Welsh@ct.gov
Elle Funari	CTDOT	Gabrielle.Funari@ct.gov
Fred Orlie	CTDOT	Ferdinand.Orlie@ct.gov
Jack Carlson	CTDOT	Jack.Carlson@ct.gov
Lisa Conroy	CTDOT	Lisa.Conroy@ct.gov
Collene Byrne	Tighe & Bond	CByrne@TigheBond.com

Audience:

Name	Organization	Email
WTNH News8	Media	N/A
Judah Reeves	Public	N/A
Louis Mall	RTM Westport	N/A
Benjamin Yeung	City of Norwalk	N/A
Gail Coykendall	RTM Westport	N/A
India	Public	N/A
Jonathan Steinberg	CT State Representative	N/A
Fred Eshraghi	City of Norwalk	N/A

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 outline, summarized the Title VI information, and introduced the project team before giving an overview of CTDOT's "District Various" traffic signal projects.

The meeting was then turned over to Collene Byrne from Tighe & Bond, consultant engineer for the project. Collene gave an overview of the signal equipment that will be used and pedestrian upgrades that should be anticipated at project intersections, then discussed specific plans for upgrades at each location. Ongoing and planned coordination efforts taking place for the project were also shared. Jack Carlson,

Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Assistant Right of Way Coordinator, then provided a brief overview of the acquisition process of property rights where needed. Kaethe then shared the cost, schedule, and next steps for the project. The team gave an approximately 40-minute PowerPoint presentation followed by a Question-and-Answer session assisted by Ferdinand Orlic, a Transportation Engineer with 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.
- An overview of “District Various” signal replacement projects was provided.
- Signal components (mast arms, signal heads, detection, controllers, pre-emption, and communication) were summarized for general information purposes.
- The proposed signal replacement locations were reviewed in detail.
- Project coordination efforts were discussed.
- Rights of Way processes were reviewed.
- The estimated construction cost is approximately \$18 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 was 1 comment and 4 questions posed by the attendees in the Zoom Q&A feature. No questions were received by phone or email.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 7:06 pm when it was confirmed no questions had come in. Attendees were reminded to fill out the survey and that the comment period would be open until July 28, 2026, should anyone wish to submit further comments or questions to the project email or phone number.

The email and voicemail were monitored throughout the two-week comment period. All questions and comments received before, during, and after the meeting up until the end of the comment period are listed below with the following responses.

Questions and Comments before the Virtual Public Interest Meeting:

Comment:	My dear Ms Podgorski, I own the property at 24-42 Grannis Street, East Haven, CT, the corner of North High and Granniss Streets. The street sign reads Grannis, which is why we always spelled it that way (it was the name of the family who owned a great deal of property here), but the correct spelling is as you have it, Granniss. Donald W. Thomas Jr., my husband, died in 2023. The property went through probate correctly, as did everything, but I noticed the property bills as well as the information at the assessor’s office, are still in Don’s name. I will try again to get it corrected before you need any information. At any rate, I am the sole owner of the property. Margaret H. Thomas I would very much like to attend the virtual meeting on July 14th at 6:00 PM, as I am interested in the design of the corrections you plan to make. Please send me the
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	information I will need to connect with the meeting on July 14th at 6:00 PM. I am old, but usually knowledgeable enough to get connected. Let us hope. I thank you in advance for any instructions you will have for me for connecting to the meeting. I already have two easements on the property, one is a town water line that runs from the dam at the lake running under Grannis Street, my property, North High Street and on to/under property on the other side of North High Street to the Farm River. There is also access to the pipe on my property—a manhole cover. The second easement was for switch boxes with the Southern New England Telephone Company, now owned by Frontier. You might want to know there is a pad for parking made of cement blocks under the grass. It was put there by SNETCo for their trucks to park. Town plans will show both of these easements, but I wanted to let you know they are there, though I doubt they will interfere with any of your plans. Should you connect with Frontier, I would appreciate it so very much if you would give me the name of a contact person and his/her contact information. Please. If you have any questions, my land line is 204.466.3332 and my cell phone is 203.605.6361. You have my email here, but know that I don't read it very frequently, so I usually respond more promptly with a call or text. Mrs. Thomas
Response:	Good Afternoon Mrs. Thomas, Thank you for your email. I'm glad information about project 0173-0551 and the upcoming public information meeting were able to reach you. To connect to our virtual public information meeting live (on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.) here is the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89187297077 The same meeting link is also provided on our project website: portal.ct.gov/DOTSouthwestCT0173-0551 If you are unable to attend the meeting live, it will be available to view on CTDOT's Public Information Meeting archive on YouTube here: portal.ct.gov/ctdotVPIMarchive At the meeting, we will share preliminary design concepts for each of the the traffic signal replacement locations in the project, including intersection 043-232 – Route 100 at Grannis Street. We will also share several ways that the project team can be contacted during or after the meeting (including at this email address) if there are any follow up questions or comments. While more information will be provided at the meeting, I will say that we are anticipating that all project work at intersection 043-232 will be done within the existing public right of way (with no new easements needed from any adjacent properties). We also anticipate that there will be no impacts to the existing easements on your property, and I will note that they are captured, as you describe, on our survey of the intersection area. Thank you again for reaching out and let us know if you have any more questions.
Comment:	Hello,

	I am writing about 158-221 Westport US Route 1 at Maple Avenue N/S. I use this crossing about 5 times every week when I am on foot and crossing the Post Rd from Maple Ave N to Maple Ave S. In my experience the timing is fine and does not need adjustment. It is predictable - always a green left turn arrow, followed by the traffic moving straight both east and west. It is very helpful when a signal is consistent since the pedestrian and motorist know what to expect. I think it adds to the safety of the intersection. If you need to change the physical part of the system that is one thing, but please keep the timing the same. There is ample time to turn left, and the east/west traffic also has a good amount of time for movement before the light changes. Sincerely, Luisa Francoeur
Response:	Luisa, Thank you for providing your thoughts based on personal experience. Your input will be considered during our Design. Safety is always the priority.

Questions and Comments during the Virtual Public Interest Meeting:

Comment:	Why aren't the traffic lights on Route 136 in Westport near I-95 being considered for replacement? The lights are not synchronized and sensors don't work properly, resulting in significant traffic jams and wasted time.
Response:	The locations in this project were selected based on multiple factors described earlier in the presentation. There are a limited number of traffic signals that can be included in projects each year. It's possible that only a few elements of the signal need to be replaced or adjusted such as detection equipment or signal timings and the equipment itself is in relatively good condition. (The signals are already part of a coordinated system). It's also possible that intersections are over capacity at certain times of the day or week. CTDOT can investigate the operation of these traffic signals to ensure they are working according to their plans.
Comment:	Why is there NOTHING about US1 Post Road and Route 33 Intersection (Wilton Road & Riverside Avenue) in Westport for Pedestrian Signal lights across RT 33? I have been trying for 26 years to get Pedestrian signal lights at one of the very worst intersections in the state of Connecticut! This is so sad and depressing. Someone is going to get killed crossing without signal lights at this intersection. Louis M. Mall RTM D2 Westport 203-258-4554
Response:	This location was in our FY2026 project 0173-0542 and plans include upgrades to pedestrian facilities. Physical construction for the project should occur in 2027-2028.

	The primary purpose for these projects is replacement of aging traffic signal infrastructure, so if you are observing operational or safety concerns, please coordinate with the LTA for your town. CTDOT initiates different projects to address various issues and some of them specifically target pedestrian safety. CTDOT often solicits input from Towns, so make sure your LTA is aware of issues.
Comment:	India van Voorhees, board of directors president of Regent's Park Condo Association - 1400 Post Rd East - Westport. As you are likely aware, there is seriously increasing traffic on Post Road. We are located between what will be the new traffic signal on Maple/Post Road and the intersection at Turkey Hill/Post Road. It has always been difficult to make a left turn from our exit driveways, and lately it is increasingly dangerous. Just recently there was an accident as a result - and it isn't the first one. Consequently, we would like you to consider changing the timing of the Maple/Post Road signal so that it is synched with the Turkey Hill/Post Road signal. This would allow left turns from Regent's Park to occur much more safely.
Response:	These signals are part of a coordinated system, but turning left out of driveways is an issue all along RT 1 as well as along many busy arterials in CT, the result of development and congestion. But signals and timings can be reviewed to make sure they are working properly.
Comment:	Thank you. What is an LTA, and who is ours in Westport?
Response:	An LTA is your Local Traffic Authority and Westport's is First Selectman Kevin Christie
Comment:	I get it now. This is for 2027-28. My concern is in the works.
Response:	No response given

Questions and Comments after the Virtual Public Interest Meeting:

Comment:	I can't believe I ate dinner through your meeting. I just forgot. Did you perhaps have it all on the computer so I can hear the part about the East Haven traffic lights. Maybe there is a printout? My sincere apology, but I got home and sat down—you should never sit down when you get home from work—and the time passed and my old brain failed me again. If there is any charge if you have the meeting recorded or printed, I would be happy to pay it. Margaret H. Thomas, 42 Grannis Street, East Haven, CT
Response:	Margaret, No worries on missing the Virtual Public Information Meeting for State Project 0173-0551. Please see below link to the YouTube video for your use. 173-551 Traffic Control Signal Replacements in Southwestern Connecticut
Comment:	Dear CTDOT and Mr. Roberts, I am writing on behalf of the Regent's Park Condo Association in Westport, located at 1400 Post Road East.

	Thank you, CTDOT, for informing us of the new traffic signal(s) that will be placed at the intersection of Maple Ave and Post Road East. It was one of your representatives at the informational meeting on July 14 who suggested I include Larry Roberts, Director of Public Works in Westport, in my correspondence. We understand from your literature that in some cases adjusting the timing of new signals may be considered. Regent's Park is a gated community of 81 townhouses located on Post Road East between Maple Ave and Turkey Hill Road. It has always been challenging to turn left as we exit the complex - as we have no traffic signal nor stop sign. As soon as traffic clears in one direction, traffic begins coming from the opposite direction. But now, with the increase of apartment buildings up and down the Post Road, the traffic has increased substantially - and along our particular corridor it is at times nearly impossible, and occasionally dangerous, to turn across traffic. There was an accident involving one of our residents just a few months ago. In addition, we know that Sprouts supermarket made a pre-application for the property next door to Regent's Park ... and a sports facility is making a pre-application across the street ... increasing traffic even further. <u>We respectfully request that CTDOT give serious consideration to coordinating the timing of the new Maple/Post Road signal to match that of the Turkey Hill/Post Road signal.</u> It's a simple and elegant way to solve the very real problem we face - and others like Harvest Commons and 1480 Post face - along this section of road. Thank you for your time and for your continued dedication to keeping roads safe for Connecticut residents. Sincerely, India van Voorhees President Regent's Park Condo Association India, Thank you for including me in your correspondence with CT DOT, I applaud their efforts to upgrade the signals. As the program progresses, I will advocate for your request to modify the signal timing at these intersections. Feel free to reach out if you have additional input or seek an update on the progress of this program. Best, Larry
Response:	Hello, Thank you all for your input.

	Your request has been sent to CTDOT's Highway Operations Unit for review. Thank you for taking the time to express your concern,
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