

Connecticut Department of Transportation

State Project No. 0102-0366 Replacement of Bridge No. 04152 West Cedar Street # 2 over Five Mile River City of Norwalk

Wednesday, October 14, 2020
Virtual Public Information Meeting

Minutes of Public Informational Meeting

Present:

Anthony Carr – City of Norwalk
Vanessa Valadares – City of Norwalk
Paul Sotnik – City of Norwalk
Monique Cipriano – City of Norwalk
Dominque Johnson – City of Norwalk
Tom Livingston – City of Norwalk
Lisa Shanahan – City of Norwalk
Edward Gentile – City of Darien
Steven Drechsler – Alfred Benesch & Company
Mark Habek – Alfred Benesch & Company
Ricky Mears – Alfred Benesch & Company
James R. Barrows – Connecticut Department of Transportation
Dennis McDonald – Connecticut Department of Transportation
Michael Brady – Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C.
Thomas Mangan Jr. – Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C.
Approximately (10) public attendees

Presentation: A presentation, prepared for the public describing the project, its background, scope, impacts on traffic, rights-of-way, cost and schedule was delivered by Mr. Anthony Carr and Ms. Vanessa Valadares from the City of Norwalk, and Ricky Mears from Alfred Benesch & Company.

Public Questions and Comments:

1. Question: The existing bridge is narrower than the adjacent roadway and naturally reduces the speed of traffic, what impact will the new bridge have on this?

Answer: The proposed bridge is designed for 25 mph. Traffic calming measures will be taken into consideration.

2. Question: The proposed detour passes through Darien, is the City of Darien aware of this?

Answer: Edward Gentile, the Director of Public Works from the City of Darien is on the virtual meeting and is aware of the detour.

3. Question: What affect will larger lane widths have on the speed of vehicles on West Cedar Street?

Answer: The proposed bridge is being widened to match the approach roadways away from the bridge. We understand the concern of speeding vehicles. Traffic calming measures will be taken into consideration.

4. Question: Cars park along West Cedar Street and the narrow bridge allows for that to occur? Has consideration been given to providing additional on-street parking?

Answer: Additional on-street parking is not part of the scope of this project.

5. Question: Making a left turn onto Route 1 from West Norwalk Road is currently difficult, the detour will increase volume at this intersection.

Answer: Traffic counts taken at these locations are currently being evaluated. A temporary traffic signal will be installed at this intersection during the detour, if justified by the traffic counts.

6. Question: Has the Norwalk Land Trust Property been contacted and what mitigation if any is required?

Answer: The proposed design and construction plan aim to minimize impacts to the Land Trust. Permanent impacts are related to replacing an existing drainage system that requires updating as part of this project. Coordination with the Land Trust will occur during the final design phase of this project.

7. Question: Will the bridge be designed or posted to reduce heavy truck traffic.

Answer: From a safety perspective, the bridge will be designed to carry all loads required by the CTDOT. Currently, there is not a plan to post the bridge to reduce truck traffic.

8. Question: West Norwalk Association expressed that there are ongoing traffic issues in West Norwalk and he has concerns with the potential impacts on other streets surrounding the bridge while the detour is in place.

Answer: The City will share plans for the traffic detour with the West Norwalk Association when developed.

It was noted after the meeting that questions can be sent to Paul Sotnik from the City of Norwalk. The questions will remain open for one week and answers will be provided shortly thereafter and posted to the City of Norwalk's website.

Adjournment:

The project was generally well received by those in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Meeting Minutes Prepared By:



Ricky Mears, P.E. Alfred Benesch