

## REPORT OF MEETING

**State Project Nos.:** 135-301  
**Project Title:** Metro-North Railroad Bridge Replacement Feasibility Study  
**Towns:** Stamford, CT  
**Date & Time of Meeting:** March 8, 2012, 7:00 P.M.  
**Location of Meeting:** City of Stamford Senior Center  
888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT  
**Subject of Meeting:** Public Information Meeting for Three Bridge Replacements  
(Atlantic, Elm and East Main Streets)

### Attendance:

Name		Email
Mayor Michael Pavia	City of Stamford	
Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations	City of Stamford	
Louis Casolo, P.E., City Engineer	City of Stamford	
Mani S. Poola	City of Stamford	<a href="mailto:MPoola@ci.stamford.ct.us">MPoola@ci.stamford.ct.us</a>
Ann Brown	City of Stamford	<a href="mailto:ABrown2@ci.stamford.ct.us">ABrown2@ci.stamford.ct.us</a>
Scott A. Hill, P.E.	CTDOT	<a href="mailto:Scott.Hill@ct.gov">Scott.Hill@ct.gov</a>
Robert Brown	CTDOT	<a href="mailto:Robert.Brown@ct.gov">Robert.Brown@ct.gov</a>
Timothy Fields	CTDOT	<a href="mailto:Timfields@ct.gov">Timfields@ct.gov</a>
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Robert Ike	CTDOT - ROW	<a href="mailto:Robert.Ike@ct.gov">Robert.Ike@ct.gov</a>
Brett Stark, Liaison Engineer	CME Associates	<a href="mailto:Brett.stark@ct.gov">Brett.stark@ct.gov</a>
Dave Willard	MNR	<a href="mailto:Willard@mnr.org">Willard@mnr.org</a>
Ron Sacchi	URS	<a href="mailto:Ron.Sacchi@urs.com">Ron.Sacchi@urs.com</a>
Stephen Mitchell	URS	<a href="mailto:Stephen.Mitchell@urs.com">Stephen.Mitchell@urs.com</a>
Timothy Young	URS	<a href="mailto:Tim.Young@urs.com">Tim.Young@urs.com</a>

See attached Sign-In Sheet for additional attendees not listed above.

### Purpose of Meeting:

The Public Information Meeting was held to present the project to the City residents and to solicit any comments related to the project.

### Discussions and Determinations:

Lou Casolo opened the meeting with a brief overview of the project and it's current status before introducing Mayor Pavia and turning the presentation over to the Mayor.

Mayor Pavia then made a brief statement including confirming the City's support for this project.

Lou Casolo then described the meeting process, and that comments would be welcome after a brief presentation of the project by CTDOT.

Tim Fields began the presentation of the project highlighting that the main purpose of the project is improved access improvements within the City. It was also noted that the original study presented two-span replacement bridges, however after receiving comments from the public related to the temporary impacts to traffic during construction, three-span replacement bridge alternatives for Atlantic and Elm Streets were added which would improve temporary traffic conditions during construction. He then turned the presentation over to Ron Sacchi.

Ron Sacchi then completed the presentation of the project describing that the current plan is to replace three bridges, at Atlantic, Elm and East Main Streets, under Phase I. Greenwich Avenue and Canal Streets would be replaced under Phase II.

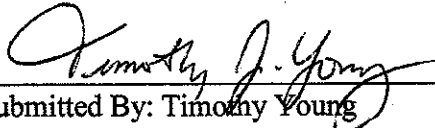
Steve Degen addressed the public and described the CTDOT's Office of Rights of Way process for contacting impacted property owners and the process for acquiring property rights if required. He also noted that the project is currently at a Preliminary Feasibility Engineering Phase and the impacts indicated tonight were subject to change as the design is progressed through Final Design.

Tim Fields then opened the meeting up to public comment. Comments received included:

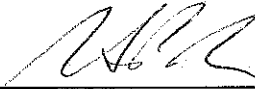
1. Mary Uva, 1<sup>st</sup> District Representative of the Board of Representative, asked for clarification on the relocation of I-95 NB Exit 8 off ramp. She asked if cars attempting to reach southbound Canal Street would have sufficient opportunity to cross traffic eastbound on State Street South. She also noted that sidewalks that were to be constructed under the Stamford Urban Transitway may have changed during construction. She asked that sidewalks be workable in this projects design and stay so in construction. CTDOT noted that we are still in the Preliminary Feasibility Engineering Phase, and another information meeting will be held with additional information related to the sidewalks for review and discussion after the design has been further advanced.
2. Carol Ann McClean asked how traffic going to the train station to drop off and pick up riders will be impacted by the lane closures noted in the presentation. CTDOT noted that this will be reviewed and a resolution proposed during the Preliminary Design.
3. James Grunberger, East Side Partnership, discussed the following:
  - a. East Side Partnerships has concern for the area surrounding the East Main Street Bridge. They are working to develop the neighborhood and would like to review the bridge project to see how it will complement the neighborhood plan.
  - b. They are concerned over any loss of on-street metered parking spaces and the impact that would have on businesses.
  - c. Asked that best practices for urban design be considered, including sidewalk and crosswalk layouts.
  - d. Asked about the schedule of the project.
  - e. He noted a previous study including a recommendation to close North State Street.

CTDOT responded that the Department and the designer will be working closely with the City on the development of the highway plans and would schedule another project public information meeting after advancing the design plans to the preliminary 30% design level. At this level of design, questions regarding street parking and sidewalk design will be better addressed. CTDOT also responded in regard to the project schedule, that while not fully determined, the design phase is anticipated to be 1-1/2 to 2 years and the construction phase to be 3-1/2 to 4 years.


4. A member of the public asked a question related to the timing of this project compared to the Request For Proposals recently issued for rehabilitating a portion of the train station parking garage. If there is only one active entrance to the garage during reconstruction, what will be the impact from temporary traffic measures during bridge construction on Atlantic Street? CTDOT noted that coordination between the two projects will be made.
5. A member of the public asked if a truss bridge was considered to reduce the structure depth and required roadway lowerings? URS responded that a truss was studied and found not feasible due to the staged railroad construction and track layout.
6. A member of the public asked if funding was available for this project. CTDOT responded that funding is available for the project in the amount of \$8.8 million in Federal earmarks and \$10 million in State bonding. In addition, CTDOT noted that additional State bonding in the amount of \$90 million is anticipated. CTDOT also described the FHWA requirement that a Financial Management Plan be created prior to authorization to proceed into final design.
7. A member of the public asked if the construction schedule was known for building all three bridges concurrently. CTDOT responded that the current schedule is possibly in the range of 3 ½ to 4 years.
8. Mary Uva, 1<sup>st</sup> District Representative indicated that replacing three bridges at once for that duration would be disruptive and disastrous to the neighborhood. She has serious concerns with the traffic impacts to residents and businesses in the areas south of the bridges.
9. Carol Ann McClean asked when the traffic data used for the studies and temporary traffic design was collected. CTDOT indicated that the traffic data was current.
10. A member of the public asked if all bridges would have pumping stations to handle the stormwater drainage after the roads are lowered. CTDOT noted that Atlantic and Elm Streets would, based on the preliminary engineering studies, but East Main Street would not. The same member of the public noted that East Main Street currently floods under the bridge during rainstorms. CTDOT indicated that the drainage would be further studied during the final design with this concern noted in particular.
11. A member of the public asked if a representative of MNR could explain the work and duration of the current lane closures on Elm Street. MNR indicated that they did not have complete information on this work but would contact the CTDOT Office of Rails who oversees this work and provide additional information.
12. The City of Stamford concluded the meeting by noting that comments could be submitted either with the comments forms available at this meeting, or by contacting the Engineering Department directly. The comment period for this Public Information Meeting will run through the end of March.

  
Submitted By: Timothy Young

3/28/2012  
Date:

  
Reviewed By: Robert Brown

3/29/2012  
Date:

  
Reviewed By: Timothy Fields

3/29/2012  
Date:

**CITY OF STAMFORD**

3/8/2012

OFFICE OF OPERATIONS  
ENGINEERING BUREAU

SOUTH STAMFORD ACCESSIBILITY AND METRO-NORTH BRIDGES  
REPLACEMENT - FEASIBILITY STUDY

888 Washington Blvd. Stamford, CT 06901

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Sign-In Sheet

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2 DAVID CAMPANA		DCAMPANA@HALSTEAD.COM	
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4 Thomas Fissen		Thomas@stamfordpartnership.com	203-325-4461
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7 CAROL ANN MCCLEAN		MCCLEANSTAMFORD@AOL.COM	
8 James Grunberger		JamesGrunberger@stamford.com	203-5591113
9 Ray Muzzio		R.MAZZIO@PREMIUMHEAD.COM	327-0500
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11 Emie Orgera	COS Dir of Oper.	sandyg@stamford-consult.com	
12 Sandy Grady	DSSD	REHARS.HILLHARDNER@CBS.COM	203-749-7906
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15 Virgil de la Cruz		PATRICKJANESWHITE@GMAIL.COM	203-323-4568
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20 ANN BROWN	COS		

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1	Robert W. Ikle	SOL DOT	Robert.Ikle@CT.gov	860 594-2464
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10	Con Bu...	EAST SIDE PARTNERS	Charles.Ped@eastside.com	1-203-219-3264
11	Robert B...	CT DOT	robert.brown@ct.gov	860-594-3227
12	Tim Young	URS	tim.young@URS.com	860-529-8882
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4	EDUARD GONZALEZ	70 MOUNTAIN ROAD		203 358-8341
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