



Monday, April 13, 2020 4:08 PM

Subject: Commissioner's Weekly Coronavirus Update – April 13, 2020



Dear Colleagues,

I hope everyone who celebrates Passover and Easter were able to find some time to safely enjoy the holidays last week. While everyone continues to adjust to new ways of living and working during this public health emergency, I want to continue to express my gratitude to the CTDOT family.

During these tough times, the people of this state continue to depend on us to keep Connecticut's economy moving. Whether you're advancing a construction project or supporting the safe transport of people and goods throughout our state, or you're supporting the people who do this work—every contribution of this team matters.

**I know how hard you are working.** I want to hear more about the stories and our employees going above and beyond to keep Connecticut up and running during this time. **I am asking you to [email me](#), [tell me about someone that deserves recognition](#) or [about the work you are doing during this crisis](#)**

[that should be on our radar. Send pictures!](#) (see some above) I want to share these stories and pictures with the team!

In the meantime, I want to extend a special thanks and recognition to the **IT team**. You have been called upon to do the impossible – to deploy technology and remote access to hundreds of employees to stay connected and working during this crisis. You continue to deliver and we all extend our sincerest gratitude to you all and your efforts.

More information to come, but don't forget about the COVID information hub we set up for **DOT employees** on our website: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/StaffCOVID/Info>. The Staff COVID webpage is intended to serve as a one-stop shop for all information related to DOT COVID announcements, including messages from me and Human Resources, and other state COVID resources.

Be assured, safety continues to be our number one priority as we move forward together through this crisis.

Sincerely,

Joe Giulietti

Commissioner

### **DOT Developments**

**Helping the front lines.** CTDOT continues to support the front lines in the state's emergency response, including our staff's work to prepare space for both a COVID-19 testing site and decontamination area in New Haven, make way for a National Guard field hospital in Sharon, and assist the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner by setting up a 2,000 gallon temporary fuel tank in Farmington.

**Keeping safe by keeping it clean.** Last Thursday, we started a professional preventative cleaning of all maintenance, specialty and repair garages to supplement routine disinfecting and sanitizing of high touch and common areas at our facilities.

**Q Bridge Lit Red for CT's Health Care Workers.** Last week, the team help light up the Q Bridge red in New Haven to honor the health care heroes during the COVID public health emergency. Read the [press release](#).

**Food Truck Initiative.** On Friday, we announced a new initiative to allow food trucks at select rest areas to help feed commercial truckers and other essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Read the [press release](#).

### **DOT in the News**

[Q Bridge to Be Lit in Red to Honor Health Care Workers](#) – NBC30 [April 6, 2020]

Starting tonight, the Pearl Harbor Memorial Bridge in New Haven – or the Q Bridge – will be lit in red to honor Connecticut's health care workers who are working day and night to treat people during the COVID-19 pandemic....“I am pleased that we are able to honor these brave men and women in this special way,” [Transportation Commissioner Joseph J. Giulietti](#) said in a statement. “The Pearl Harbor

Memorial Bridge is one of the gems of Connecticut's highway system – a signature structure on our coastline – traveled by more than 130,000 vehicles on a typical day.” (Similar stories covered by the [New Haven Register](#))

[Food Trucks Allowed to Serve at Highway Rest Areas During COVID-19 Pandemic – NBC30](#) [April 10, 2020]

The state of Connecticut is allowing food trucks to set up at some rest areas on highways in the state to feed truck drivers and other essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic...The [Connecticut Department of Transportation](#) will open four rest area locations for food truck operations -- the rest area on Interstate 84 in Danbury, on Interstate 91 in Middletown and Wallingford and on Interstate 95 in North Stonington. (Similar stories covered by the [Patch](#))