

**Department of Transportation  
Project No. 42-297  
Intersection improvements on Silver Lane at Forbes Street  
East Hartford, CT**

**November 5, 2008, 6:30 PM  
Sunset Ridge School Cafeteria  
450 Forbes Street  
East Hartford, CT**

**Minutes**

**Presentation:**

The Mayor of East Hartford started the meeting by expressing the Town's concurrence that left turn lanes are needed on Silver Lane at Forbes Street. The Mayor then introduced the Connecticut Department of Transportation (Department) for their presentation. The Department explained that this meeting was being held to update the public on the status of the project due to the length of time (5 years) since the original public meeting. It was also noted that the design phase is nearly complete and the Department was soliciting public input prior to advertising the project, scheduled for May 2009. An overview of the final design was given by the Department.

- There were approximately 15 attendees from the general public including the Mayor and State Senator Gary LeBeau.
- Left-turn lanes will be provided on all 4 legs of the intersection.
- Larger corner radii will improve bus maneuverability throughout intersection.
- Sidewalk will be extended on Silver Lane along Depietrio Park to join the sidewalk on Forbes Street at the intersection.
- Construction of the project is expected to begin in spring 2010, and be substantially complete by fall 2010, pending funding availability.

**Public Comments and Questions:**

Questions and comments during and after the meeting included:

- A resident questioned why sidewalks were not being built on the south western portion of Silver Lane.  
The Department explained that the intent was to avoid major impacts to the property located on the southwestern corner of the intersection but the issue will be reviewed further.
- State Senator LeBeau questioned the lack of bike lanes on Silver Lane.  
The Department noted that currently no shoulders exist on Silver Lane immediately east of the intersection and two foot wide shoulders are

proposed, which would be an improvement. Also, a six foot wide shoulder is proposed on Forbes Street, almost to the end of the East Coast Greenway Bike Trail. It was felt that most bicyclists would use the bike trail rather than Silver Lane. However, the possibility of providing wider shoulders will be reviewed.

- A resident asked if the project would improve the ability of busses to exit the Sunset Ridge School parking lot onto Silver Lane.  
The Department explained the congestion at the intersection would improve but not be completely alleviated.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.