

COMMENT/SURVEY SHEET

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT.

If you have any other questions regarding this study, please contact Rod Bascom, Clough, Harbour & Associates LLP at (800) 236-0794, or James Andrini, Connecticut Department of Transportation at (860) 594-2148. Study documents can be viewed in the corridor town halls and libraries, as well as on our website at:



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| Deep coursel! — — — — |
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| Does congestion on I-95 affect you or your business? Do you have comments on the study |
| recommendations or other ideas on how to improve traffic congestion in the corridor? If so, we want to hear from you. |
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| I include a copy of the comments that had hoped to |
| make at the Sept 22 presentation in Waterford. |
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| Please submit your comments here tonight, at our web address below, or fold and tape this survey form and mail it back to the address on the other side. Comments must be received no later than September 30, 2004. |
| THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT. |

http://www.i95southeastct.org

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Old Lyme, CT 06371-1350

UNACCEPTABLE

My comments regarding this study can be summarized by that one word used in a multiplicity of ways.

I believe that we all can agree that the current state of traffic on I-95 is UNACCEPTABLE!

But it is UNACEPTABLE that we will wait until 2012 to begin mainline improvement expenditures.

It is UNACCEPTABLE that the last mainline improvements will still be under construction in 2022.

It is UNACCEPTABLE that the traffic congestion of the proposed six lane highway will be as bad or worse in 2025 as our four lane highway is today.

The basic premise of this \$2 million 2 year study is UNACCEPTABLE!

The authors of this study say, and I quote, "For the purposes of this study LOS D and better are considered acceptable conditions."

The authors are telling us that, and I quote, "As conditions deteriorate to LOS D, the HCM (2000 Highway Capacity Manual) describes conditions with words such as 'unstable flow', 'average travel speeds are noticeably reduced,' 'freedom to maneuver is severely limited,' and 'drastically reduced physical and psychological (driver) comfort."

That's what the authors were aiming for in this study.

It sounds remarkably like the conditions of the four lane highway that we have. Did the authors get that objective as a charge from the public input that it received?

Who in this audience beside the authors of this study believe that LOS D conditions are, and I quote the study, "considered acceptable conditions" for our vital artery from Branford to the Rhode Island border? WHO?

It is UNACCEPTABLE to evaluate in great detail a mainline expansion to six lanes when eight lanes would be required to achieve LOS C conditions or better in 2023.

It is UNACCEPTABLE for the solution to the Baldwin Bridge traffic bottleneck at Exit 70 to be delayed until 2013!

The authors should recognize the need for remediation as the original design error that it is! Two full lanes of traffic on I-95 are merged with two lanes of traffic from SR 9 onto four lanes on the Baldwin Bridge and then merged to two lanes within 300 yards of the eastern end of the bridge. There should be an immediate priority for remediation of this original design error.

This is a public safety issue for Old Lyme as the back-up is relieved by diversion to US 1 and SR 156 which are then bumper to bumper every summer weekend obstructing emergency vehicle serving my town.

Immediate relief could be achieved by building the high priority three lane mainline expansion of I-95 from Exit 70 to Exit 71 as quickly as any existing state or federal funds can be reallocated. Not starting in 2013!

It was UNACCEPTABLE that the tribal plans for the construction of our first casino were begun in the early days of the last decade and nothing was planned to accommodate the traffic on I-95 generated daily by the 100,000 patrons and 25,000 employees of the two casinos.

New Jersey Transit runs 14 daily trains in each direction from Philadelphia to Atlantic City with the casinos providing complimentary bus service from and to the rail station.

It's UNACCEPTABLE that a two million dollar two year study ignored the largest mass of potential patrons for enhanced and seamless rail transportation for the full length of coastal Connecticut.

MetroNorth should have been proposed for extension from New Haven to Stonington with its eastern hub at New London. The obscenely state subsidized Shoreline East train (\$21+/trip) could be exchanged for the \$1.74/trip MetroNorth subsidy!

New York City and shoreline gamblers would find rail transportation preferable to our over-capacity highway in transit time, safety, reliability and comfort. Waiting casinos buses would compete for the comfortable completion of patrons' and employees' trips.

Seamless frequent shoreline trains are our greatest opportunity to unload I-95 as residents could comfortable extend the distance of their commuting and shopping trips; quickly, safely and reliably. It's UNACCEPTABLE that such opportunities have not been advanced by the authors of this study.

Finally,

Instead of limousines, casino high rollers could be transported by Acela Express non-stop from both Boston and New York to and from New London with limonene pick-up and delivery at the New London station.

Even low-rollers might find a one and a half hour trip from those cities worth the Acela Express ticket price. Boston and New York businessmen could rely on an almost three-hour trip between those city centers with such non-stop trains. And many Southeast Connecticut residents could be expected to make day-trips to city center Boston and New York on the gamblers specials. Amtrak Northeast Corridor revenues might even swell enough to reduce our national subsidy.

I ask that the authors of this study incorporate the ACCEPTABLE suggestions of my presentation and I encourage the DOT to begin mumbling to them selves each morning:

SEAMLESS RAIL TRANSPORTATION FOR COASTAL CONNECTICUT Thank you.



COMMENT/SURVEY SHEET

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