



Connecticut Department of Transportation
 2800 Berlin Turnpike P.O. Box 317546
 Newington, CT 06111



280 Trumbull St. 14th Floor
 Hartford, CT 06103

REPORT OF MEETING

PROJECT NO.: 170-3440

PROJECT NAME: Buckland/Spencer Park and Ride Amenities Design

Project TOWN/CITY: Manchester

LOCATION OF MEETING: Microsoft Teams Live Meeting DATE OF

MEETING: Thursday, November 18, 2022

SUBJECT OF MEETING: VPIM meeting summary & Live Q&A

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisa Rivers	CTDOT	Lisa.Rivers@ct.gov
Maureen Lawrence	CTDOT	Maureen.Lawrence@ct.gov
Eric Dorsey	CTDOT	Eric.dorsey@ct.gov
Brian McLaughlin	CTtransit	BMcLaughlin@cttransit.com
Anthony Bonagura, ASLA	STV	Michael.Kowalczyk@stvinc.com
Michael Kowalczyk, PE	STV	Anthony.Bonagura@stvinc.com
Laurence Cafaro	VN Engineers	LCafaro@vnengineers.com
7 Public YouTube Attendees		
8 Public Teams Attendees		



Public Informational Meeting Format:

The project team delivered a recorded presentation to the public and stakeholders of the Town of Manchester on November 18, 2022, at 6:00 pm. Attendees had the option of attending the meeting via YouTube or Microsoft Teams live stream, or by calling in and listening by phone.

Following the presentation, a live question and answer session was held. Members of the public and stakeholders submitted questions via email, phone, and through the Teams Q&A window. The project team and Department addressed all comments and questions verbally or via Teams Q&A.

It was noted and reiterated throughout the live Q&A session that Project information and plans can be found on the Project website, and that questions can be sent by calling the phone number or email address below. Attendees were also encouraged to fill out a survey. Attendees were notified that comments are open for a two-week period until December 2, 2022. A recording of this meeting will be available on the website within five (5) days of this event.

YouTube Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFMu20y6tWY
Project Webpage: https://portal.ct.gov/DOTManchester170-3440
Email: DOTProject170-3440@ct.gov
Phone: (860) 944-1111
Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PQH7WTC

Questions and Answers Session:

The following are the questions and comments submitted by the public and stakeholders, along with their respective responses, organized into subject matter categories for ease of review.

PUBLISHED

- **Voicemail comment regarding safe bike and pedestrian access feeding into these lots**
 - Existing 8' wide asphalt sidewalks are located along Buckland Street and Pleasant Valley Road and these will be linked to the new bus stop in the Buckland Street P&R lot with new 8' wide ADA accessible concrete sidewalks along all 3-entrances. Marked accessible pedestrian routes through the parking lot will be provided though the lot. Also provided are new bike racks located adjacent to the bus stop at the Pleasant Valley Road entrance.

Unfortunately, this project does not extend beyond the park-and-ride property, so we did not improve bicycle routes leading to the park-and-ride. However, I believe there is a "2017 Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan" that address this statewide.
 - **Follow up information:** At the Spencer Street P&R lot, existing sidewalks are provided along Spencer Street, linking to neighboring residences, businesses, and the regional trail network. Several new sidewalks will be built from the P&R to the street to improve bike and pedestrian access, and bike racks will be provided at the westbound bus stop. As at Buckland Street, offsite improvements are beyond the scope of this project.



- **Email: Will electric vehicle charging stations will be provided at each lot?**
 - The project will install charging stations for four vehicles at both Buckland Street and Spencer Street.
 - Additional suggestions provided in the email regarding electric vehicle charging will be considered by the project team.
- **Question: Will customers pay for electric vehicle charging?**
 - This is CTDOT's first project installing charging stations at Park-and-Ride facilities, so fee policy is still being developed.
 - Fees, if any, would be based the current conditions in the electric charging market.
- **Question: How long will construction take? Will both sites be worked on concurrently or consecutively?**
 - Construction is anticipated to begin the Spring 2023 and end in Fall 2023
 - Anticipated that work on both sites will be concurrent.
- **Question: How will bus stop construction impact traffic along Spencer Street?**
 - Project team is aware of existing congestion during peak commuting periods, particularly in the PM, and project is phased to avoiding making traffic worse
 - Construction will be limited to the shoulder, and two lanes on Spencer will be maintained at all times during peak commuting hours
- **Question: Will temporary bus stops be provided on Spencer Street during construction?**
 - No temporary bus stops will be provided, but detours to nearby alternative stops will be provided
 - Service to the existing park-and-ride lot will continue until the the new bus stops are completed
 - The bus stops on Spencer Street will be closed one at a time, and customers using the closed stop will be directed to the nearest bus stop approximately one block east
 - Westbound customers will be directed to the Woodcraft Store bus stop
 - Eastbound customers will be directed to the Shop Rite Plaza bus stop
- **Question: What is the project cost?**
 - Buckland Street P&R Improvements will cost approximately \$2.4 Million
 - Spencer Street P&R Improvements will cost approximately \$1.5 Million
 - Both projects will be funded with 80% Federal and 20% State
- **Question: Does the Town of Manchester support this project?**
 - Yes, the town has worked with the project team since the beginning of the project, and is overall supportive of the upgraded transit amenities



- **Question: What is a vegetated swale?**
 - Vegetated swales are ground depressions or channels that contain flood-tolerant, erosion-resistant plantings. Such swales slow or retain stormwater runoff from nearby impervious surfaces, such as park-and-ride pavement, and promote infiltration into the ground. They also help filter sediments and some pollutants from stormwater, improving downstream water quality.

- **Question: What kind of information will be provided on the tablet e-readers provided on the bus platforms?**
 - Tablets will provide real-time information for bus arrivals at each station.
 - Tablets will have an easy-to-read “e-paper” surface that won’t glare in sunlight, and will have a solar-powered overhead light for night viewing.