



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546



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### Notice of Public Hearings

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The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) will conduct two (2) in-person and two (2) virtual public hearings on the Service and Fare Equity (SAFE) Analysis of proposed rail and bus service changes, proposed rail fare changes, and the reintroduction of bus fares.

The bipartisan budget adopted earlier this year included a funding increase for CTtransit bus service in Connecticut and a funding reduction for Metro-North Railroad (MNR) and CTtrail Shore Line East (SLE) passenger rail service.

Proposed bus service changes include one proposed new route in the CTtransit Hartford Division, two proposed new routes in the CTtransit New Haven Division and proposed improvements to service frequencies on two CTfastrak routes. Additional changes are being proposed to eight routes in the CTtransit Hartford Division to better align with ridership demand and promote efficiency. The types of proposed service changes on these eight routes include: decreased service frequency, route restructuring, and route elimination with replacement service.

Proposed rail service and fare changes include:

- Decreased Monday through Thursday service on the New Haven Line from 239 trains to 237 trains
- Decreased Friday service on the New Haven Line from 241 trains to 233 trains
- Decreased weekday service on the New Canaan Line from 41 trains to 39 trains
- Decreased weekday service on the Danbury Line from 28 trains to 26 trains
- Decreased weekday service on Shore Line East from 23 trains to 16 trains
- An increase for Metro-North fares in Connecticut, Shore Line East fares, and Hartford Line fares, excluding monthly school passes

At these hearings, CTDOT will provide information and accept public comments on the service and fare proposals and the Service and Fare Equity analysis. The SAFE analysis evaluates the proposed changes to determine if they will cause a disparate impact to minority persons or a disproportionate burden to people with low incomes, as defined by the FTA Title VI circular. **The proposed service and fare changes may be viewed on the Department’s website at [www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges](http://www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges)** and will be available as of Monday, September 18, 2023. The public comment period will run from September 18 to October 6, 2023.

The public hearings will be conducted in person in the City of Hartford and City of New Haven, and virtually via Zoom’s online platform and toll-free conference call feature.

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Monday, October 2, 2023	<b>Kennedy Mitchell Hall of Records</b> 200 Orange Street, New Haven, CT 06510	5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (open house) 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 3, 2023	<b>Capitol Region Council of Governments</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Board Room 241 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106	5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (open house) 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 4, 2023	<b>Virtually via Zoom</b> Webinar ID: 819 3851 5237 Passcode: 026281	11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 4, 2023	<b>Virtually via Zoom</b> Webinar ID: 819 3851 5237 Passcode: 194387	6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For more information on how to attend the public hearings, information on proposed changes, and to access the SAFE analysis visit: [www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges](http://www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges). During open house hours on October 2 and October 3, staff will be available for informal questions and answers. The public hearing will begin after the open house.

To request a copy of the SAFE analysis by mail, please email us at [dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov](mailto:dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov) or by leaving a voicemail at (860)-594-3612. Please allow one week for processing and delivery.

#### **How to participate in the public hearings:**

- Location information and a link to attend the virtual public hearing will be posted on [www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges](http://www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges).
- The meeting facilities are ADA-accessible and are accessible by transit.
- Language assistance may be requested by contacting the CTDOT Language Assistance Call Line at (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least 5 business days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost, and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.

#### **Attending the Zoom Virtual Hearings**

- **Registration is encouraged; however, it is only required for those would wish to provide a comment during the hearing.** To register, please visit [www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges](http://www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges) or call (860)-594-3612 and leave a voicemail with your full name and contact information. Registration will be accepted up to the day of the hearing and will remain open for the duration of the hearing.
- Individuals can listen to the meeting by calling Toll Free **833-548-0282** and entering the Participant Code when prompted at the time of the hearing.
- Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS). Alternatively, Zoom provides closed captioning.

The virtual public hearings will be recorded and published online for later viewing. Recordings of the hearings and formal presentation will be posted to YouTube with closed captioning, including non-English translation options. Links will be provided at [www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges](http://www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges).

#### **How to submit comments:**

- **You may make a comment at any time from September 18<sup>th</sup> to October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, by email, phone, US Mail or the local libraries, using the information below.
- **To make a comment during a public hearing:** Register for the hearing at [www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges](http://www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges) or by calling (860)-594-3612.
- Email: [dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov](mailto:dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov)
- Voicemail: (860) 594-3612
- US Mail: COMMENT ON PROPOSED FARE AND SERVICE CHANGES, Bureau of Public Transportation, P.O. Box 317546, Newington, CT 06131-7546.

A copy of the SAFE analysis will be available at the following public libraries. Written comments will also be accepted at these locations:

- Waterbury's Silas Bronson Library, Main Branch, 267 Grand Street, Waterbury
- New Haven Free Public Library, Ives Main Library, 133 Elm Street, New Haven
- The Public Library of New London, 63 Huntington Street, New London
- Hartford Public Library, Park Street Branch, 603 Park Street, Hartford
- Bridgeport Public Library Main Branch, 925 Broad Street, Bridgeport

For general questions please email us [dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov](mailto:dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov) or call (860)-594-3612.