Monday August 7th

Connecticut Department of Transportation
Newington, CT 06111

7:30 - 8:15  Continental breakfast & networking in lobby

Meet designers from Department of Transportations around the country who have come to Connecticut to learn about the unique opportunities and challenges associated with transportation projects.

Educational Sessions in Conference Rooms A & B

8:15 – 8:30  Welcome from Delois Barnes; ConnDOT Landscape Designer 3

For nearly 25 years Delois has been ‘Greening’ the roadsides of Connecticut as part of Transportation improvement projects.

She will then introduce:

James P. Redeker
Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Transportation

Keith Robinson
Principal Landscape Architect California Dept. of Transportation

TRB (AFB40) Chairperson – Committee on Landscape & Environmental Design
The Context Sensitive Re-Design of the I-84 Viaduct through Hartford, CT

8:35 – 9:15

Richard B. Armstrong – Principal Engineer, ConnDOT

Rich is overseeing this $5 billion effort to reconstruct a 2-mile segment of I-84 in downtown Hartford. He will provide an overview and discuss the public consensus building process and extensive community outreach.

David Spillane – President & Principal – Planning & Urban Design, Goody Clancy, Boston, MA.

David will discuss the urban design challenges in the I-84 corridor and how the project will better integrate the interstate into the urban fabric.

Q & A

The Queen of Parkways – Connecticut’s Merritt; Then & Now

9:20 – 9:45

Video Montage & Documentary

Enjoy a whirlwind virtual tour of this National treasure, without the traffic! This video will describe the Parkway’s storied history, famous bridges & landscape, illuminate modern challenges, and introduce members of the Panel Discussion.

9:45 – 10:00

BREAK / Networking – ConnDOT Lobby

Two decades of balancing historic integrity with speed and climate change
10:00 - 10:35  **Michael Calabrese** – Transportation Supervising Engineer, Highway Design, CT Dept. of Transportation.

Mike has been a key player in the implementation of 30 miles of Merritt Parkway Safety Improvement projects, proudly carrying on the tradition of in house design.

10:35 - 10:50  **Delois Barnes** – Transportation Landscape Designer 3, Highway Design, CT Dept. of Transportation.

Delois has been overseeing the restoration of the original planting design which healed the scars of construction through contrasting open and forested spaces, while addressing the concerns of adjacent residents.

10:55 - 11:45  **Panel Discussion with audience Q & A**

Managing the Merritt has always included a variety of perspectives:

- **Vince McDermott** – Principal, Milone & McBroom, Cheshire, CT
  In addition to developing the Merritt Parkway Landscape Master Plan in the 1990’s, Vince has been a leader in the design of Connecticut’s multi-use trail system.

- **Jill Smyth** – Executive Director, Merritt Parkway Conservancy
  In addition to representing stakeholders concerned with landscape preservation and community character, Jill has been an invaluable part of the team charged with restoring the 69 historic bridges.

- **Bruce Villwock, Arborist** – CTDOT Maintenance & Operations (Retired)
  For many years, Bruce was charged with vegetation management, including the removal of hazard and fallen trees, mowing, snow removal and protecting public safety along the Merritt Parkway.

- **Michael Calabrese** (Above)

- **Delois Barnes** (Above)
11:50 -12:50 BUFFET LUNCH – ConnDOT Cafeteria & Courtyard

Browse “Table Top Displays” showcasing efforts to improve pollinator habitat by:

- ConnDOT Maintenance & Office of Environmental Planning
- CT Agricultural Experiment Station (the Nation’s oldest)
- CT Dept. of Energy and Environment Protection
- The University of Connecticut
- Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

Protecting & Connecting

1:00-1:30 An Ecological approach to designing coastal infrastructure

**Terry Doss** – Ecologist, Biohabitats Incorporated, New York, NY

Terry is working with the City of New Haven and other urban coastal areas to assist these communities into enhancing the resiliency and safety of their shoreline after flooding and structural damage by recent storms and in the face of sea level rise while also potentially improving local ecology in this urban setting.

**Q & A**
Greening the East Coast from Canada to Key West


This civil engineer grew his firm in a multi-disciplinary direction, with a focus on community & environmental design. He now dedicates his efforts to the “East Coast Greenway Alliance”, whose focus includes return-on-investment generated through sales tax from businesses located near the trails.

Q & A

BREAK / Networking, ConnDOT Lobby

An overview of Connecticut’s ‘Bus Rapid Transit’ (BRT) system

Maureen Lawrence – Transportation Supervising Planner, DOT Transit & Ridesharing

Since 1998 Maureen has been involved in the design, development, Implementation and now continues to work on the operational planning for CTfastrak.
3:00-3:30  The Landscape Architect’s approach to transportation design

William C. Richter, AIA, ASLA - Richter & Cegan, Avon, Ct.

Taking on the role of site designers across four communities, this firm has connected residential neighborhoods to the BRT system with new public spaces, providing accessible circulation and comfortable settings, making it easy and pleasant to ride the bus.

Q&A

End of Allied Professional Program

See the “Committee on Landscape and Environmental Design (AFB40) Mid-Year Meeting” Registration link at https://transportationfoundation.org/events/
Richard B. Armstrong Principal Engineer, CT Department of Transportation

Rich has 33 years of project development and project management experience in transportation engineering. He is a Principal Engineer in CTDOT’s Highway Design division. Some of his recent project lead experience includes CT/\textit{fastrak}, the I-84 Hartford Project, the I-84 Danbury Project, and the Merritt Parkway/Route 7 Interchange Project in Norwalk. Rich has considerable experience in context sensitive solutions and has led many public involvement efforts. He is a graduate of the University of Hartford with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering.

David Spillane, AICP, RIBA – Goody Clancy

David Spillane is President of Goody Clancy, a Boston-based architecture, planning and preservation firm, where he leads the firm’s Planning and Urban Design group. His work has been recognized through national awards from the American Institute of Architects, the American Planning Association, the Congress for the New Urbanism, and the Waterfront Center. In 2013, Goody Clancy was recognized by the American Planning Association with its National Planning Excellence Award for a Firm, its highest award for a planning practice. Since 2006, he has been involved in planning for the future of I-84 in downtown Hartford.

Michael Calabrese P.E. – Transportation Supervising Engineer

Mr. Michael Calabrese is a graduate from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering, and has been in the Highway Design Unit of the Connecticut Department of Transportation for 21 years. He is a project manager who is responsible for the design of Connecticut state roadway projects. He has overseen the design of six safety improvement projects on the Merritt Parkway totaling 32 (of 37.5) miles. Mr. Calabrese has been a member of the Merritt Parkway Advisory Committee since 2007 and currently serves as the Highway Design Technical Advisor to the Committee.

Delois Barnes – Transportation Landscape Designer 3

Delois has more than 24 years of experience in Transportation Landscape Designer at the Connecticut Department of Transportation. She has a BLA from Louisiana State University and a MS from Central State University. She is responsible for a wide variety of transportation enhancement and improvement projects ranging from urban streetscapes, wetland and stream mitigation, to highway buffer plantings and reforestation. She oversees the design development and communication of community and aesthetic enhancements associated with transportation improvement projects.
Jill Smyth – Executive Director Merritt Parkway Conservancy

Jill Smyth has been involved with the Merritt Parkway Conservancy since 2002 and currently serves as Executive Director. She is co-author of The Merritt Parkway: The Road That Shaped A Region, a member of the Merritt Parkway Advisory Committee, Director of Historic Neighborhood Preservation in Stamford, and a master gardener.

Bruce Villwock - Arborist

Bruce Villwock recently retired from the Connecticut Department of Transportation where he had been employed as a Transportation Landscape Designer III for more than 20 years providing the Bureau of Highway Operations technical support for vegetation control operations along 11,400 shoulder miles of State roads and highways. Bruce has currently served as the Tree Warden for the Town of Middlefield for 11 years. He also served as Deputy Tree Warden for 11 years prior to becoming Tree Warden. Bruce holds an Associate’s Degree in Forestry from Paul Smith’s College, is a Connecticut Licensed Arborist, Advanced Certified Tree Warden and is Certified as a “Right of Way” Supervisory Pesticide Applicator. He serves on the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, State Vegetation Management Task Force, a Board Member of the Tree Wardens Association of Connecticut, a member and former Board Member of the CT Tree Protective Association and also conducts classes on “Roadside Management of Invasive Plants” for the University of Connecticut Transportation Technology Center. Previously Bruce served on the State Scenic Road Advisory Committee and the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group Steering Committee. Bruce is active in the Town of Middlefield serving as a volunteer firefighter for 46 years and a Boy Scout leader for more than 26 years.

Vincent McDermott, FASLA, AICP - Milone & MacBroom

Vincent McDermott, FASLA, AICP has over 40 years of experience with planning, engineering, and land development firms, as well as with governmental and academic institutions. As Senior Vice President of Milone & MacBroom’s Landscape Architecture and Planning Department, he is responsible for technical oversight on such projects as streetscape improvements, land use planning, parks and recreational facilities, bikeways and greenways, community and master planning, and site development for commercial and residential facilities. He is routinely involved in community development and public outreach programs. Vince has contributed to the recognition and advancement of landscape architecture through his extensive service on the Connecticut Board of Landscape Architects and his leadership and involvement as President of the Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Board. He was elected a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1997.
William O’Neill – East Coast Greenway

William D. O’Neill – Partner, Fuss & O’Neill, P.E., L.S. (Retired); B.S. Civil/Environmental Engineering, UMass; Commissioned Officer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Certified Navy Diver; MBA, UConn; Town Engineer, South Windsor; Director of Public Works/Town Engineer, Manchester; Adjunct Professor, Civil/Environmental Engineering, URI (Retired); Trustee, East Coast Greenway Alliance (Retired); Past Chairman, CT Greenways Council; Member, Rails to Trails Conservancy; Chairman, CT Committee East Coast Greenway Alliance (Retired).

Terry Doss – Senior Ecologist Hudson River Bioregion Team Leader

Terry Doss is a restoration ecologist that has been working to help restore natural areas in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions for over 30 years, with a concentration on coastal and wetland habitats. Over her career, Terry has focused on ecological restoration designs that improve ecological connectivity and enhance resiliency, with an emphasis on restoring ecological functions that work with rather than against the dynamic, energetic systems that characterize natural environments. Terry is actively engaged with a number of organizations, including the NY/NJ Baykeeper and the Society of Ecological Restoration.

Maureen S. Lawrence - Connecticut Department of Transportation

Maureen has over 20 years of service with the Connecticut Department of Transportation in both the Office of Rail and Transit and Ridesharing. Since 2000, she has been involved in the design, development and implementation of CTfastrak. She also has been involved in a number of transit planning projects around the state including two projects looking to expand the use of the bus rapid transit concept.

William C. Richter - Richter & Cegan Inc.

William Richter is a registered Architect and principal of Richter & Cegan with over 45 years of experience in architecture, urban design, planning and site design. Bill brings to the firm a unique blend of competencies along with a multi-faceted view of project planning, design and development. He specializes in urban design and larger more challenging planning and design projects with a focus on community development, place-making and development of public space. A recipient of international, national and local awards in planning and design, Bill has been involved in many outstanding streetscape and transportation projects.