

**Department of Transportation
Project No. 151-302
Route 801 over Beaver Brook
City of Waterbury
Public Information Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 22, 2009, 7:00p.m.
Room 116 of the Chase Municipal Building**

Minutes

Present:

Bartholomew Sweeney, P.E.- Connecticut Department of Transportation
Derrick Ireland- Connecticut Department of Transportation
Daniel Foley, P.E.- Connecticut Department of Transportation
William R. Stark- Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C.
Rebecca Ruitto- Close Jensen and Miller, P.C.

Presentation:

A presentation was delivered by Mr. Bartholomew Sweeney from the Department, Mr. Derrick Ireland from the Office of Rights of Way at the Department and Mr. William R. Stark of Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C.

State Representative Selim G. Noujaim, the Director of Public Works, members of the Board of Public Works, four individuals from the public, Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C. and the Connecticut Department of Transportation personnel attended the meeting. The following items were included in the presentation:

- The project consists of replacing the existing ten foot clear span structure with a 10'x5' precast concrete box culvert constructed on the same alignment and location as the existing bridge.
- The main reasons for the work are: (1) the bridge is structurally deficient, (2) the bridge width is substandard and (3) the substructure has minor voids, mortar loss and the southwest wingwall has a tree growing through it.
- A detour for the project will be necessary for the placement of the concrete box culvert. The detour will be limited to two weekend closures. The signed detour will divert traffic onto I-84 to avoid the site. Local residents may utilize other local roads to circumvent the closure. Prior to and subsequent to the detour being in place traffic will be allowed through the site utilizing one lane in each direction with alternating one way traffic controlled by uniformed flaggers or town police officers as required during off-peak hours.
- The proposed sequence of construction operations was described. Work will be done in preparation for the detour by shifting the two lanes of traffic within the site and utilizing alternating one way traffic operations as needed during off peak times. During the first weekend detour it was

- explained that three quarters of the box culvert will be constructed. Then the site will be reopened to allow traffic to flow through the site, while work is being done to prepare for the second weekend detour. During the second weekend detour the last portion of the box culvert will be installed. After the box culvert is complete, additional work will then be completed by once again shifting the two lanes of traffic within the site and utilizing alternating one way traffic operations as necessary.
- The necessary relocations of the public utilities associated with the project were described and it was indicated that the Department will meet with the effected utility companies to discuss the project in greater detail.
 - Impacts to private property are anticipated and consist of temporary easements associated with construction access.
 - The proposed start of construction is anticipated to be in the Spring of 2012 with construction completion in the Fall of 2012 assuming funding is available and environmental permits are obtained.
 - The anticipated cost of the project is \$1,000,000 and funding will be 80% Federal funds and 20% State funds. No City of Waterbury funding will be required.

Public Comments and Questions:

- Question: State Representative Noujaim voiced concern over the traffic problems that would result if the bridge replacement project was detouring traffic onto I-84 during the proposed re-construction of this portion of I-84. Answer: It was explained that since this detour is only during two weekends and both projects will be under the administration of the same District it is therefore possible to ensure that there will be no I-84 re-construction activity taking place which will affect traffic movement during these two weekends. It was also noted that if necessary this project could be deferred until any I-84 reconstruction was completed.
- Question: Residents expressed concern about the ability for emergency vehicles to get through the detour route if there was an accident on I-84. Answer: It was explained that advanced coordination and notification between the municipality, State, and all emergency services will occur. It was stated that in the past during such a short detour period emergency vehicles have been stationed at either side of the detour as deemed necessary. It was also explained that once Route 801 (East Main Street) is closed for the detour on Friday night it would be impossible to open it back up to traffic before the early morning hours on the following Monday.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.