

**Connecticut Department of Transportation
Project No. 102-328
Triangle Street over Metro North Railroad
City of Norwalk
Public Informational Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 13, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
Room 128, Norwalk City Hall**

Present:

Julie Georges, P.E. – Connecticut Department of Transportation
David Cutler, P.E. – Connecticut Department of Transportation
Michelle Lynch, P.E. – Connecticut Department of Transportation
Steven Degen – Connecticut Department of Transportation
Richard Ezyk, P.E. – STV, Inc.
James Sherwonit, P.E. – STV Inc.

Presentation:

A presentation was delivered by Mr. David Cutler from the Department, Mr. Steven Degen from the Office of Rights of Way at the Department and Mr. Richard Ezyk of STV Inc.

Two members from the City of Norwalk Department of Public Works, one individual from the public, STV, Inc. and the Connecticut Department of Transportation personnel attended the meeting. The following items were included in the presentation:

- The project consists of the replacement of the existing Triangle Street Bridge and its approaches with a single span bridge constructed on the same alignment and location of the existing bridge.
- The main reasons for the work are: (1) The superstructure and piers of the bridge are rated “4” (poor condition) in the most recent inspection reports due to isolated areas of exposed, rusted reinforcing steel on the underside of the concrete beams, water leakage between beams and cracking occurring in the pier concrete.
- The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$4,000,000. The estimate includes the bridge replacement cost, roadway approach work, utility relocation, railroad coordination, inspection and contingency costs.
- The proposed start of construction is anticipated to be in the spring of 2011. It is estimated that this project can be completed in one construction season (April 1 to November 30) dependent on receiving funding for construction as well as the receipt of any required property acquisitions and environmental permits.
- There are three notable Department bridge projects scheduled in the near future in Norwalk. They are: Project No. 301-040 Catenary Section C1a (replacement of three railroad bridges, including East Avenue, and all catenary between South Norwalk and Southport); 102-295 (Strawberry Hill

Ave. Bridge over I-95); and 102-278 (I-95, Exit 14). The current schedules for these projects make it advantageous to limit construction of the Triangle Street Bridge to one season.

- The existing and proposed bridges were described as follows: The existing bridge, built in 1966, consists of sixteen concrete beams and has three spans of 31'-67'-31'. The proposed bridge will consist of seven steel beams and an 8-1/2" thick concrete deck and be a single span, 131 feet long. A new parapet and 7' high protective fence will be provided. The proposed roadway (40' curb to curb) and sidewalk (5') widths are the same as the existing bridge. The existing minimum vertical clearance under the bridge measured to the top of the highest rail will be reduced from 26'-6" to 25'-5" but will exceed the statutory minimum requirement of 22'-6". The existing piers will be removed down to ground level. Approach work will be limited to approximately 50 feet beyond the ends of the bridge and approach guiderail will be constructed at each bridge corner.
- Certain construction tasks that involve lifting materials simultaneously over all four tracks of Metro-North Railroad will require overnight and/or weekend work.
- It is proposed to close the bridge to traffic during construction. From the north, traffic will be detoured onto Strawberry Hill Ave., Fitch Street, East Ave., and Winfield Street. From the south, the detour route will be reversed.
- The proposed traffic detour will permit construction to take place in a single stage. The advantages of one stage construction include: construction duration reduced by 50%; construction costs reduced by 30%; eliminates doing the same task at two different time periods; and gets the project completed prior to the start of other planned projects in the region.
- There are no known wetlands or other regulated areas within the project limits and there are no known contaminated and/or hazardous materials within the project limits. Best management practices will be utilized to handle sedimentation control during construction.
- The utilities impacted by the project were described as a 12" diameter water main and electrical conduits servicing light standards on the bridge. Existing utilities will be maintained in place or relocated as necessary during the proposed construction activities. Coordination with the affected utility companies will be performed by STV, Inc. and the Department.
- Impacts to private properties consisting of temporary construction easements are anticipated.

Public Comments and Question:

- Question: Will residents living adjacent to the project be informed prior to the start of overnight and/or weekend construction work? Answer: Once construction begins, the construction inspection personnel will inform the area residents of the work schedule as well as advance notice of forthcoming overnight/weekend work.
- Comment: The City supports single stage construction that would close Triangle Street for the construction duration estimated to take one construction season

(April 1 to November 30) providing the project remains on schedule for construction in year 2011.

- Comment: The City requested that the schedule be monitored and updated as the project progresses. The City reserves the right to change its position on single stage construction if the construction schedule changes or conflicts with any of the other road/bridge projects scheduled in the Norwalk area.
- Comment: The City requested a copy of the presentation for posting on the City's web site. Response: This information was transmitted to the City on 10/15/2009.

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