

**Department of Transportation  
Project No. 096-193  
Replacement of Bridge No. 00507 Route 816 (Glen Road) over Housatonic River  
Towns of Newtown/Southbury  
Public Information Meeting**

**June 9, 2011, 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, Newtown Municipal Center  
Newtown, CT**

**Minutes**

**Present:**

Jim Cavanaugh – Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT)  
Dave Cutler – CTDOT (Design)  
Dan Foley – CTDOT (Construction)  
Scott Hill – CTDOT (Design)  
Steve Deegan – CTDOT (Rights of Way)  
John Eberle - Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec), Project Manager  
Andrew Lessard - Stantec, Project Engineer

**Presentation:**

Mr. Cutler provided a brief introduction to the project including administrative aspects as well as overview of the project need:

Purpose of Meeting

- To inform public of the proposed project and allow interested parties to view proposed plans and ask questions regarding the project.

Project Goals

- Rehabilitate Bridge 00507
- Minimize disturbance and improve safety for traveling public
- Complete project in timely manner with effective use of funding
- Consider historic nature of bridge

Reasons for Project

- Bridge is Structurally Deficient due to deterioration of the superstructure, which has resulted in an inspection rating of “poor”

Mr. Lessard provided an overview of the proposed construction and technical details of the project:

Existing Bridge

- Constructed c. 1936
- Carries two lanes of Route 816 (Glen Road) over Housatonic River
- Average Daily Traffic = 3,000 (2009)
- 300' span length
- 36' overall width

- 29' curb to curb width
- Steel truss with concrete deck and floorbeam and stringer floor system
- Reinforced concrete abutments
- Listed on CT Historic Bridge Inventory, eligible for National Register of Historic Places

#### Proposed Rehabilitation

- Strengthen truss members
- Repair/replace deficient floor system steel
- Rehabilitate concrete deck and overlay
- Blast clean and paint superstructure steel
- Roadway reconstruction limited to bridge approaches

#### Maintenance and Protection of Traffic

- Close road to traffic during structure repairs
- Alternating one-way traffic during cleaning and painting operations

#### Environmental Impacts

- No direct impacts to watercourse or wetlands
- No threatened or endangered species identified
- No known contaminated or hazardous materials within project limits
- Painting operations to be fully contained to collect debris

#### Utility Impacts

- No known subsurface utilities
- Overhead wires to north of bridge
- Conduit bank attached to south face of bridge

#### Rights of Way

- No permanent property impacts anticipated
- Mr. Deegan gave a brief overview of ROW process, if required at a later time

#### Project Cost

- Estimated Project Cost is \$6 million
- Bridge anticipated to be replaced using 80% Federal and 20% State funds

#### Project Schedule

- Construction anticipated in Spring of 2014 and will last one full construction season for the structure rehabilitation, and a portion of one season for painting operations
- Schedule is predicated upon availability of funding, obtaining necessary permits, and receipt of necessary property impacts

#### Public Comments/Questions

Approximately four (4) members of the general public attended the meeting. The following were comments/questions raised by the public.

- A person who commuted to work on bicycle over the bridge asked what, if any provisions could be made to allow this bridge or some other crossing to be utilized during construction, specifically for cyclists. He noted on weekends there were a significant number of cyclists who utilize this bridge. He felt it would be a hardship to them for the time the bridge is out of commission. He stated that the detour for cyclists would be much greater than the detour identified for vehicles (on the order of 20 plus miles).

Response: It was explained that CDOT and the Consultant would review if there were any other options in the area available. It would not be feasible to allow cyclists on the bridge during construction while it is closed to thru traffic.

Subsequent to meeting, a field review indicated possible pedestrian/bicycle access along the south side of the Rochambeau Bridge (I-84).

- Two residents indicated a preference to repaint the bridge to its original silver color.

Response: It was noted that the Towns could provide input for consideration by the Department relating to the color of the bridge. The Department does not know of a reason why silver could not be considered for the topcoat color of the bridge.

#### **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM.