

Connecticut Department of Transportation
State Project No. 0083-0267
Federal-Aid Project No. 0001(353)
Rehabilitation of Bridge No. 00327, U.S. Route 1 over Housatonic River
City of Milford and Town of Stratford

Minutes of Joint Public Informational Meeting

Location: Birdseye Center Cafeteria, 468 Birdseye Street, Stratford
October 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Department of Transportation (CTDOT):

Timothy Fields – Consultant Bridge Design
Sowatei Lomotey – Consultant Bridge Design
Meziane Meziani – Consultant Bridge Design
Mathew Bishop – District 3 Construction

Close, Jensen and Miller, P.C. (CJM):

Thomas M. Ryan
John H. Miller, II
William Stark

No town officials attended the meeting.

Public attendees: 3 Adults (See attached sign-in sheet)

Presentation:

Department of Transportation (Department) Project Manager Mr. Sowatei Lomotey began the presentation at 7:10 p.m., Mr. Lomotey thanked the town officials for facilitating the scheduling of a joint meeting. A general description of the site and the project was provided with illustrative PowerPoint slides. Mr. Lomotey then thanked members of the public in attendance, solicited for public input for what needs to be done, and encouraged all questions and comments. Mr. Lomotey introduced Department and CJM staff members.

Mr. Thomas Ryan continued the PowerPoint presentation with a more in-depth engineering perspective of the bridge including its history, spans, length, width, lanes, construction types, and the electrical and mechanical operations of the movable bascule span. The previous bridge rehabilitation projects and the current structural conditions ratings were explained. A member of the public requested a clarification regarding the

poor condition rating of the bridge. Mr. Ryan replied the poor condition rating is not an indication the bridge is failing, the bridge is in poor condition and this bridge rehabilitation project is necessary at this time to avert a more serious deterioration.

The presentation continued with a description of the deck replacement type on the bascule span, staged traffic maintenance and protection plans, impacts to pedestrian and marine traffic and the estimated construction cost, schedule and duration. Mr. Ryan noted the varied and multiple local commercial and residential communities at both approaches and the sensitivity of the surrounding areas to adjacent work at the Interchange 33 project on I-95 in Stratford currently in construction. Members of the public commented that if both projects were impacting vehicular traffic at the same time, the area would be chaotic and would resemble one huge construction site. Mr. Ryan emphasized that coordination would take place to assure that this would not happen and noted that substructure work on the Devon bridge could take place in the first season of the bridge rehabilitation without impacting the topside traffic, commercial and residential communities.

Mr. Ryan listed the different environmental permits required and noted that no private property impact is anticipated.

Mr. Ryan then presented the cost of the project with 80% Federal funds and 20% State funds. Lastly Mr. Ryan presented the current schedule showing the anticipated start and completion of construction.

The following were key points of the presentations

- Project information, purpose and goal of the meeting
- Existing condition, deterioration and reasons for rehabilitation
- Recommended rehabilitations
- Anticipated construction stages and durations
- Detour routes and durations
- Project costs and funding
- Schedule

Public Comments and Questions:

There was a question from the public inquiring if the bascule span grid deck could be an “open” grid. The Department and CJM replied that the proposed grid deck required a fill to mitigate issues with an open grid and roadway drainage over the waterway and the structural performance and maintenance requirements of the grid deck system.

There were questions from the public involving the full roadway and pedestrian closures. CJM explained these closures are necessary due to span work that requires the bascule span to be open in order to perform the work. This work can be accomplished in multiple short term closures. It's estimated that roughly two closure

periods of approximately two days each will be necessary and this work will be scheduled in the latter stages of the project to avoid impacting traffic at the same time as the Interchange 33 project.

There were questions regarding the need for a more reliable bridge and a marina owner at the northwest corner of the site indicated the bridge had been stuck on multiple occasions. CJM did not know of recent “stuck” occurrences and will research this further with bridge maintenance. CJM noted that the rehabilitation project includes new drives, motors and SCR boards to assure a more reliable bridge operation and because availability of parts for these elements has been problematic in a relatively short time frame of 20 years.

There were questions regarding underwater concrete conditions in the substructure, construction means and methods in the water, staging areas, construction access, and the bridge illumination system. CJM noted that the underwater concrete work is not proposed as the deterioration is minimal and doesn't compromise the integrity of the bridge. Flexi floats will be tied together and used as needed outside the coast guard channel, staging and access is anticipate from the Stratford land side via an easement at the Riverview parcel at the southwest corner of the bridge. A photometric analysis of the bridge lighting will be performed to determine the feasibility of installing a new lighting system. The navigation lighting will be replaced with LED fixtures.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., and it was well received.

Attachment

SUBMITTED BY: _____
John H. Miller II (CJM)

REVIEWED BY: _____
Meziane Meziani (CTDOT)

APPROVED BY: _____
Sowatei K. Lomotey (CTDOT)



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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

Phone:

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING ATTENDANCE SIGN IN SHEET

State Project No. 83-267

Project Title Rehabilitation of Bridge No. 00327-45. RT. 1 Over Housatonic River

Towns Milford and Stratford

DATE October 17, 2019 TIME 7:00 P.M.

Please Note: No attendee is required to register or sign in unless they are speaking, however, we are asking attendees on a strictly voluntary basis to provide their contact information in order to collect information and demographic data to help determine the effectiveness of the Department's outreach efforts.

NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL
1. <u>Don Clevenger</u>	<u>806 Housatonic Ave Ext Stratford CT 06615</u>	<u>clenenger@sbcglobal.net</u>
2. <u>David Crosby</u>	<u>734 Ferry blvd</u>	<u>Ferryblvd@sunoco@snet.net</u>
3. <u>Scott Mitchell</u>	<u>955 Ferry BLVD ^{Town} Boardwalk</u>	<u>marina@ct.com</u>
4. <u>Matt Bishop</u>	<u>D3-140 Pond Lily Ave New Haven</u>	<u>Matthew.Bishop@ct.gov</u>
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		