



I-84 Danbury Project

Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting No. 5

November 16, 2020







Welcome / Providing Feedback





Presenters (in order)



Yolanda Antoniak CTDOT Project Engineer



Sharat K. Kalluri CDM Smith Project Manager



Jeanine Armstrong Gouin Milone and MacBroom Environmental Documentation



Andy Fesenmeyer CTDOT Project Manager

Moderator



Marcy Miller, AICP (FHI)





Housekeeping Items

- Meeting is live and recorded
- Meeting presentation is posted to the project website at <u>http://www.i84danbury.com/course_cat/public-advisory-committee/</u>
- Participants can video conference in <u>or</u> call in via phone and follow along to presentation posted on web
- Participants should mute themselves when not speaking
- At select times during meeting, moderator will read questions / comments out loud for speaker to answer or will ask interested participants to unmute and provide comments
- Meeting recording will be posted to project website after meeting





































Questions





Agenda

- PAC Recap
- Concept # 1 Lane Add Mainline
- Discussion/Questions
- Concept Evaluation
- Discussion/Questions
- Upcoming Concepts
- Next Steps
- Discussion/Questions





PAC Recap





PAC Membership

AAA	Danbury Public Schools	Putnam County
Boehringer-Ingelheim	Danbury Museum & Historical Society Get Downtown Danbury	Sierra Club
Cartus		Spring Street N
City of Danbury: Business Advocacy, Engineering, Health & Human Services, Library, Planning, Public Works, & Traffic		Sterling Woods
	Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce	Town of Bethel
	Housatonic Area Regional Transit (HART)	Town of Brook
CityCenter Danbury		Town of New F
CTrides	Housatonic Railroad	Town of New N
Connecticut State Police	Juniper Ridge Tax District	Town of Newto
Danbury Airport	League of Women Voters of Northern Fairfield County	Town of Reddir
Danbury Commission for Persons with Disabilities		
	Motor Transport Association of CT (MTAC)	
Danbury Hospital		West Terrace N
Danbury Housing Authority	New York Metropolitan Transportation Council	Western Conne Governments (

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Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG) Western Connecticut State University West Side District

Wooster Cemetery





Draft Purpose Statement:

The purpose of the I-84 Danbury Project is to reduce **<u>congestion</u>** and improve the **<u>mobility</u>** of people and goods in the I-84 corridor in greater Danbury.





How will the Project Purpose be used?







Toolbox for Concept Development Process











Toolbox for Concept Development Process







<u>Concept 1</u> Lane Add - Mainline





Concept Overview: Lane Add - Mainline

Key Design Elements:

- Create lane continuity to provide at least three lanes of travel in each direction
- Eliminate left-hand exit ramps at Interchange 3 and Interchange 7
- Improve horizontal curvature and vertical geometry, where possible
- Maintain current alignment and right-of-way of I-84 to the greatest extent possible

PUTNAM

Peach Lake

Bloomer Rd



Interchange 1 & Interchange 2 Area

- Widening of the mainline to provide a consistent three travel lanes in each direction
- No interchange improvements are proposed





Interchange 3 Area

- Lane continuity between Interchanges 3 and 4 in the eastbound direction
- Left-hand ramps replaced by right-hand ramps at Interchange 3
- Sharp curve on mainline reduced, allowing design speeds to meet design standards
- Addition of a fourth travel lane in each direction east of Interchange 3





Interchange 4 Area

- I-84 westbound on-ramp relocated
- Weaving of traffic on I-84 eastbound is not corrected

26

Lake Ave

Interchange 5 & Interchange 6 Area

- Mainline widened to five travel lanes in each direction between Interchange 6 and Interchange 7
- No interchange improvements are proposed
- · Does not provide access to Danbury Hospital



Interchange 7 Area

- Left-hand ramps replaced by right-hand ramps at Interchange 7
- Provision of three through lanes in each direction on I-84 for lane continuity
- Provision of two lanes on Route 7 southbound at the merge with I-84

White Turkey Rd Ext

EXIT

Interchange 8 Area

- Provision of three through lanes in each direction on I-84 for lane continuity
- Route 7 merges with I-84 eastbound on the right but weave is not corrected
- No interchange improvements are proposed

EXIT 8





Discussion/Questions





Concept Evaluation





Evaluating the Concept

- > Traffic operations
- Effects to mainline I-84
- > Key constructability elements
- > Environmental resource analysis
- Construction cost estimate



Weekday A.M. Peak





2040 No Build



2040 Lane Add - Mainline





Travel Times and Delay (Weekday A.M. Peak)

I-84 (going west)

- What it should take 5 minutes
- What it takes today 10 minutes
- What it will take in 2040 30 minutes
- What it will take with Lane Add option 6 minutes

Route 7 (going south)

- What it should take 5 minutes
- What it takes today 15 minutes
- What it will take in 2040 45 minutes
- What it will take with Lane Add option 5 minutes





Weekday P.M. Peak







2040 No Build

2040 Lane Add - Mainline





Travel Times and Delay (Weekday P.M. Peak)

I-84 (going east)

- What it should take 6 minutes
- What it takes today 12 minutes
- What it will take in 2040 56 minutes
- What it will take with Lane Add option 6 minutes

Route 7 (going north)

- What it should take 6 minutes
- What it takes today 11 minutes
- What it will take in 2040– 61 minutes
- What it will take with Lane Add option 6 minutes







Effects to Mainline I-84

- Horizontal curves improved at Interchanges 3 and 7 to design standards
- Left-hand ramps changed to right-hand ramps
- Acceleration and deceleration lanes lengthened to design standards
- Weaving of traffic remains between Interchanges 3/4 and 7/8





Key Constructability Elements

Typical construction methods could be used

Temporary travel lanes

Multiple stages of construction





PROS

+ Lane continuity is maintained

- + Left-hand ramps are replaced with right-hand ramps
- + Peak hour delay is reduced
- + Highway geometry is improved
- + Footprint is largely within existing right-of-way
- + Typical construction methods could be used





CONS

- Lacks improvements at Interchanges 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8
- Lacks consistent design speed

I-84 Danbury

Project

- Does not improve access to the hospital
- Weaving of traffic remains between Interchange 3/4 and 7/8





EXIT







Construction Cost Estimate

Cost Range	Rating
Less than \$0.5 billion	\$
\$0.5 billion to \$1 billion	\$\$
\$1 billion to \$3 billion	\$\$\$
\$3 billion to \$5 billion	\$\$\$\$
Greater than \$5 billion	\$\$\$\$

*Note: The construction cost estimate is inflated to mid-point of construction not including right-of-way and engineering costs.





Discussion/Questions





Environmental Resource Analysis

Resources Evaluated:

- Sensitive Receptors
- Land Use and Community Impacts
- Cultural Resource Impacts
- Physical Impacts
- Wetland, Watercourse, and Floodplain Impacts
- Biological Resource Impacts







Environmental Resource Analysis: PROS

+ Footprint is largely within existing right-of-way

- + The size of the impact area is modest and largely occurs within previously disturbed areas
- + No impacts to known historic resources
- + No impacts to known 4(f) properties





Environmental Resource Analysis: CONS

- Near natural gas transmission pipeline between Interchanges 6 and 7
- The highway will be slightly closer to certain residential properties as compared to existing conditions
- Modest increases in noise levels could occur at some properties
- Water resource impacts at stream crossings associated with bridge modifications and replacements







The purpose of the I-84 Danbury Project is to reduce **<u>congestion</u>** and improve the **<u>mobility</u>** of people and goods in the I-84 corridor in greater Danbury.





Initial Assessment:

- Reduces congestion
- Improves mobility on the highway
- Could be constructed with the use of typical methods
- Anticipated impacts are minor, with numerous mitigation alternatives available to offset impacts
- Low probability of causing significant or irreparable harm to the natural or human environment
- Does not address local connectivity
- Does not address other modes of travel adjacent to the highway





Recommendation:

This concept should be considered in combination with one or more other concepts that address mobility adjacent to the highway.





Discussion/Questions





Upcoming Concepts

Interchanges 3 and 4 Segar Street Ramp - Eastbound

















Next Steps





Refine Concept 1

- Develop new concepts
- Next PAC Meeting Winter/Spring 2021





Project Contacts:

Andy Fesenmeyer, P.E. Project Manager, Consultant Design Andy.Fesenmeyer@ct.gov

Yolanda Antoniak, P.E. Project Engineer, Consultant Design <u>Yolanda.Antoniak@ct.gov</u>





Thank You!