

# I-84 Danbury Project



#### **October 2017 Newsletter**

I84Danbury.com



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## CTDOT Launches I-84 Danbury Project

Safety, accessibility,

and reliability are at

the top of CTDOT's

priority list for I-84.

The I-84 Danbury Project is a State initiative to improve safety, increase capacity, and improve overall operations and accessibility between Exits 3 and 8.

The Project is part of the Governor's Let's GO CT! \$100 billion, 30-year transportation investment plan to advance economic

growth and livability in Connecticut. Under the direction of the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) and with input from the public, the project is studying opportunities to improve mobility on I-84 through Danbury.

I-84 is Danbury's economic lifeline,

serving the city, state and Northeast region. Built in 1971, I-84 now services up to 120,000 vehicles per day, significantly more than the highway was designed to support, and requires modernization to meet

today's travel demand.

Safety, accessibility, and reliability are at the top of CTDOT's priority list for I-84. CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

#### GET INVOLVED



## How Can You Participate?

Public input is essential to identifying a plan that meets both local and regional needs this project is guided by a robust public involvement program to inform, involve, and engage stakeholders, especially those who live and work in greater Danbury. CTDOT needs your help to prepare a plan for a safer, more efficient and reliable highway, and a highway that provides better connections to key destinations in Danbury.

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# Thank you for participating in the Project Survey!

The Project Team received 178 responses on the I-84 Danbury Project's first survey. Stay tuned for a summary of the first survey and for more survey questions in the months ahead.

#### What's Inside

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First Public Open House a Success! You Can Schedule a Pop Up!





I-84 DANBURY PROJECT - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 Awkward lane merges and exit ramps, lane drops, and other problematic conditions currently create sudden slow-downs and unpredictable stoppages, often resulting in preventable accidents. The goal of this project is to address these issues.

The project will identify ways to improve access to key destinations like Danbury Hospital, downtown Danbury, Danbury Train Station and Danbury's major employers, and create efficient connections to other modes of transportation in the Danbury area.

As Connecticut's western gateway, I-84 is vital to the economy of the entire state of Connecticut, and greater New England.

PARTICIPATE - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Opportunities for public participation will be included in every step of the study.

Right now, the project team is conducting public meetings and workshops, and just concluded a survey on the project website to collect input. Your input will assist in identifying and assessing various alternatives.

Environmental studies will also be



conducted soon. Studies will include assessments of the potential benefits and impacts of alternatives on residents, businesses, travelers, and the built and natural environment.

Finally, a preferred alternative will be identified and the project team will begin preliminary engineering.

There are lots of ways to participate:

- <u>Visit project website</u> (i84danbury. com) for updates on project progress
- Sign up for email notifications
- <u>Attend</u> an upcoming workshop to help define and shape alternatives
- Share your comments
- Check out the I-84 Project on
  <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>



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# First Public Open House a Success!

The Project Team successfully launched public outreach for the I-84 Danbury Project during an Open House held on June 13, 2017, at Western Connecticut State University. The eighthour event gave Danbury residents and other members of the public a chance to view interactive drone footage of the corridor as well as introductory videos presented in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. Stations with informative maps and fact sheets about the project area, its environment, community connectivity, traffic, and commuting allowed attendees to ask questions directly to the project team. Attendees also provided their comments on cards, Post-it® Notes, directly on maps, and through a survey. The Project Team will use the comments received as the project planning progresses.

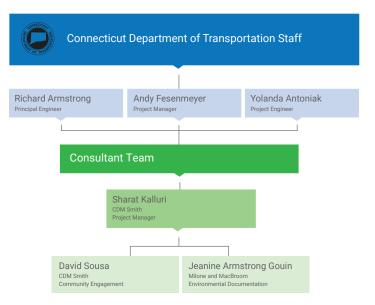
Miss the meeting? Your comments are always welcome. Share your thoughts and ideas on the <u>project website</u>, and subscribe for email updates to be the first to know about project news, updates, and meetings.

### You Can Schedule a Pop Up!

Does your neighborhood, church group, or community organization have a gathering coming up? We can bring project information to you! Our Pop-Up events are designed to make the project accessible to a wide, diverse audience—<u>contact us</u> to schedule one for your group.



### Meet the Project Team



Connecticut Department of Transportation 2800 Berlin Turnpike P.O. Box 317546 Newington, CT 06131

## **Get Involved!**

- 🞯 Attend a meeting
- 🞯 Like us on Facebook: I-84 Danbury Project
- Follow us on Twitter: @I84Danbury
- Visit I84Danbury.com and sign up for project updates