

REPORT OF MEETING

PROJECT: I-84 Danbury Project
State Project No. 34-349 – Exit 3 through 8, Danbury, CT

LOCATION OF MEETING: Western Connecticut State University
Student Center Room 201
Danbury, CT

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, June 13, 2017, 12:00 – 8:00 PM

SUBJECT OF MEETING: Public Open House No. 1

1. MEETING ADVERTISING:

The Project Team advertised the first Public Open House in the following ways:

- Press Release sent via the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Communications Office and posted on CTDOT's website.
- Custom flyer in 3 languages (English, Spanish, and Portuguese) hand-delivered to and displayed at local and regional institutions such as city and town halls, community centers, public libraries, community organizations, faith-based organizations, and schools. The flyer posting sites were principally located within Environmental Justice communities within 2-1/2 miles of the project area and other sites within a quarter mile of the corridor, as well as municipal/civic venues in Danbury and each of the six towns surrounding Danbury.
- Email blast to the project contact mailing list advertising the Open House and directing stakeholders to the project website for additional information.
- Coordinating additional email blasts to the public utilizing email distribution lists of the City of Danbury and adjacent municipalities.
- Coordinating the posting of the event flyer and details to websites and online event calendars of area municipalities and Western CT Council of Governments.
- Posting the event details to social media (Facebook and Twitter) prior to the event.
- Approximately two dozen event wayfinding signs and banners were posted on the campus of Western Connecticut State University and within the Student Union to direct attendees to parking for the event and to the meeting room.
- Personal calls from the Project Team to chief elected officials of area municipalities and State legislators.
- English, Spanish, and Portuguese newspaper display ads that were published twice in each of the following publications prior to the event, once a week or two before the event, and again a few days before the event.

- The Tribuna Newspaper
 - English
 - Spanish
 - Portuguese
- The News-Times

2. MEETING SCHEDULE AND ATTENDENCE

The Public Open House took place on Tuesday, June 13, from 12:00 P.M. to 8:00 PM. The event included various videos, exhibits, stations, boards, and fact sheets through which members of the public could obtain project information, ask questions, and provide comment directly to Project Team members. Approximately 43 members of the public attended the Public Open House.

3. PROJECT OVERVIEW VIDEO

Two looping, project overview videos were made available in the venue room for Open House attendees to view at their leisure. Project overview videos were presented in the following formats:

- English narration (Portuguese subtitles)
- Spanish narration

4. INFORMATIONAL BOARDS

Several informational boards were placed in the venue room and at various topical stations. They included:

General

- Project Area Map
- Project Approach (Schedule)
- Nearby CTDOT Projects Map
- Western Connecticut Region Map (Interactive map exercise – find where you live and work)
- Interactive aerial drone digital display of the corridor that allowed attendees to “fly” the corridor and stop action to post comments on the smart screen.

Traffic and Commuting

- Traffic Congestion on I-84 (Traffic Volumes and Travel Times)
- Crashes on I-84 (Crash History)
- Functional Street Classifications Map
- Traffic Distribution on I-84 (Traffic Patterns, Morning Peak Traffic, Evening Peak Traffic)

Community Connectivity

- Complete Streets
- Modal Connectivity
- Street Connectivity
- Street and Sidewalk Network Map
- Danbury – 1953 Map

The Environment

- Project Area Map
- Air Quality
- Natural Environment
- Noise

5. COMMENT BOARDS

30x40” “comment boards” were provided at each of the three topical stations, and attendees were encouraged to write their comments or observations about I-84 and its environs on post-it notes that were applied to the Comment Boards or, if referring to specific location, onto a large map of the corridor that was also provided at each station.

6. COMMENT CARDS

Attendees were provided comment cards at the registration table that allowed attendees to write down their questions or comments on the project and drop into a comment box, or mail in to a CTDOT address at a later date.

7. PROJECT NOTIFICATION LIST

At the registration table, attendees were afforded the option of providing their name, address, phone and email which will enroll them into a stakeholder list that receives notifications of future meeting or of the availability of new information on the project website.

8. FACT SHEETS

Four (4) Fact Sheets were created in concert with the above topical stations and were available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese versions. A large print, 16-point font version of each Fact Sheet was made available for requests by persons requiring greater visual accessibility.

9. PROJECT LAUNCH SURVEY

A public survey was made available to meeting attendees to share how they perceive and travel in and along the project area. The survey was made available in English and Spanish. Digital online versions of the survey will soon be made available in the project website in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.