

Concept 5 Summary: Route 7 Left to Right Hand Ramps - Mainline

DESCRIPTION

Concept 5 seeks to replace left hand ramps with right hand ramps at the I-84 and Route 7 interchanges. This concept endeavors to maintain the current alignment of I-84 and stay within the existing right-of-way to the greatest extent possible. This concept will construct 9 new bridges, replace 2 existing bridges, and remove 5 bridges. Elements of Concept 5 include:

- Removal of existing left-hand ramps to/from Route 7 at Interchange 3 and Interchange 7 and replacement with right hand ramps.
- 9 new bridges, replace 2 existing bridges, and remove 5 bridges.



PROS

- Left-hand ramps are replaced with right-hand ramps.
- Acceleration and deceleration lane lengths are improved at the new right-hand ramp locations.
- Typical construction methods could be used.

CONS

- Peak hour delay is not reduced during the weekday P.M. peak hour period.
- Vehicle queues extend several miles and are not significantly improved on I-84 and Route 7.
- Lacks consistent design speed throughout the I-84 corridor.
- Does not propose improvements at interchanges 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8.
- Interchange 6 remains a partial interchange.
- Weaving of traffic remains unaddressed between Interchanges 3 and 4 and between Interchanges 7 and 8.
- Does not improve access to the Danbury Hospital.

RECOMMENDATION

This concept does not improve congestion or mobility on the highway. It does not address mobility adjacent to the highway. Therefore, it is recommended that this concept be dismissed from further consideration.