Route 7/15 Norwalk Project
Fall 2016 Overview
Route 7/15 Norwalk

Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Background
- Project Purpose
- Project Tasks
- Project Schedule
- Public Outreach
- Next Steps
Project Team

- CTDOT - Lead state agency
- Stantec - Lead consultant, engineering, traffic analysis and environmental documentation
- Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. - community engagement
- BL Companies - environmental resources, engineering
- AHS - cultural resources
- VN Engineers - data collection, traffic
Project History

• Early 2000’s- CTDOT conducted NEPA/CEPA process and developed preferred alternative
• 2005- Construction began- Limited construction
• 2006- Decision on lawsuit
  • Required re-evaluation of impact assessment
  • Governor Rell and CTDOT committed to full re-evaluation of alternatives
• 2008-09- CTDOT convened stakeholder group resulting in the development of 21c alternative
• 2009- Lack of funding cancelled project construction
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Project Purpose and Goals

• Complete connections between Route 7 and Merritt Parkway
• Reduce congestion on Main Avenue
• Improve safety
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Work Efforts

• Existing Conditions
• Environmental Documentation
• Development of Alternatives
• Identification of Preferred Alternative
• Public Outreach
Existing Conditions

• Vehicular Movements- incomplete interchange/missing connections
• Safety/Crashes
• Historic Context
• Multimodal
  • Bicycle and pedestrian
  • Transit
• Natural resources
  • Norwalk River and wetlands
  • Critical habitats and threatened species
Environmental Documentation

Intent to document potential impacts and guide alternative development process

- Federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA)
- Section 106 Coordination- focus on historic resources
Development of Alternatives

- Assess current conditions
- Prior work effort - “21c” alternative
- New ideas and options
- Do Nothing/No-Build
Identification of Preferred Alternative

- Based on achieving purpose and need
- Evaluation screening matrix (for example):
  - Cost
  - Engineering feasibility
  - Traffic operations
  - Environmental impacts
  - Community input
  - Etc……
- Recommendation for final design after approval in NEPA/CEPA process
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Preliminary Schedule

2016
- Summer
  - Outreach with key stakeholders
- Fall
  - Begin identification of design alternatives
  - Data collection
  - Begin Environmental studies

2017
- Public information meetings
- Develop preliminary alternatives
- Identify preferred alternative
- Preliminary design process

2018
- Conclude Environmental Documentation
- Initiate final design process

2021
- Start Construction
Planned Outreach

- Advisory Committee
- Public Open Houses and Meetings
- Stakeholder Meetings
- Pop-up Events
- Website
- Newsletters
- Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)
- News Articles
Stay Connected

- Sign up for contact list
- Visit website
- Connect with project on social media
- Attend meetings

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Contact Information

- CTDOT
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- Stantec
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- Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc.
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