

DANBURY AND NEW FAIRFIELD

CORRIDOR STUDY



NOTES

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

April 20, 2021

10:00 AM – 11:00 PM

**Attendees: Todd Fontanella, Kristin Hadjstylianos (Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG))
Khris Hall (Town of New Fairfield)
Tom Altermatt, Jennifer Emminger, Abdul Mohamed (City of Danbury)
Marcy Miller, Rory Fitzgerald, and Parker Sorenson, Dan Hageman (Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc.)
Anna Bergeron, Erika Lindeberg, Peter Brazaitis, Fred Kulakowski, Marlon Pena, Edward Sabourin, Santosh Patel (Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT))**

1. Welcome and Overview of Agenda

Marcy Miller welcomed everyone and reviewed the project objectives and deliverables. She went over the meeting agenda which included:

1. Welcome and Speaker Introduction
2. Overview of Study Purpose, Schedule, and Goals
3. Draft Traffic Recommendations
4. Trail Recommendations
5. Next Steps
6. Discussion

2. Presentation

Parker Sorenson presented the Project Team's draft transportation recommendations. These included signal retiming at intersections, dedicated left and right turn lanes at specific intersections, a center two-way left turn lane between Golden Hill Road and Jeanette Street, and pedestrian amenities such as additional sidewalks and crosswalks at locations along the Route 37 corridor.

Rory Fitzgerald provided an overview of three concepts that the Project Team explored. These included a trail within the reservoir property as close to the lake as possible, a sidepath within the Route 37 right-of-way, and a hybrid concept that combined the two previous concepts avoiding wetlands and steep slopes wherever possible. M. Miller concluded the presentation, discussing the next steps for the study.

3. Discussion

The following provides an overview of discussions that took place during the TAC meeting:

- **Khris** Hall said that there is not much parking located at the New Fairfield Town Hall, she recommended suggesting that users of the multi-use trail utilize the parking at the Senior Center.
- Tom Altermatt suggested that the Project Team provide cross section drawings for each of the concepts. He also expressed concerns about having sidewalks on only one side of the roadway as pedestrians would need to cross the road at points.
- Abdul Mohamed said that the City of Danbury has received many complaints regarding road diets and two-way-left-turn lanes, so in general, the City has gotten away from using those. He also said that the City cannot handle more traffic on Golden Hill Road, so any recommendations need to be cognizant of that.
- K. Hall asked what the next steps would be for the multi-use trail concept. M. Miller discussed that this Study is really a starting off point for the multi-use trail, a lot of leg work will need to happen once this Study is complete to move the trail concept forward. There are drinking water and wetland issues related to the trail, as well as cost feasibility.
- Jennifer Emminger said that she does not think the parking lot shown on the southern extend of the multi-use trail needs to be that large. P. Sorenson responded that he showed the parking lot this size just to show the maximum size that could fit in the space, not to recommend it be that large.
- Erika Lindeberg said that concurrent signal phasing is something that could be considered in the Study Area and things like “Your Speed” signs could be incorporated to slow traffic.

4. Next Steps

M. Miller stated that the Project Team will incorporate comments and finalize the Report. The Danbury and New Fairfield Corridor Study is expected to conclude in June 2021.