



**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Division of Highway Design**

MEETING MINUTES

Project No.: 151-331
 Project Name: Reconstruction of Interstate 84/CT Route 8 Interchange (the Project)
 Date of Meeting: September 28, 2022 11:00 AM – 12:02 PM
 Location of Meeting: Zoom Teleconference
 Subject of Meeting: New Mix Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting No. 4B

Attendees:

PAC Members	
Name	Organization
Brian Peterson	Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
Clifford Brammer III	City of Waterbury Planning Department
David Simpson	City of Waterbury Department of Public Works
Jose Duverge	City of Waterbury Department of Public Works
Joseph McGrath	Waterbury Economic Development
Joseph Violette	Waterbury Regional Chamber
Ken Stanco	Office of the Mayor
Kevin Taylor	Waterbury Bridge to Success
Maria Vaccarelli	CTtransit Waterbury
Martin Begnal	Friends of Riverside Cemetery
Robert Nerney	City of Waterbury Planning Department
Stephanie Valickis	Saint Mary's Hospital
Project Team	
Name	Organization
Michael Calabrese	Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT)
Nilesh Patel	CTDOT
Jonathan Dean	CTDOT
Joe Belrose	CTDOT
Scott Roberts	CTDOT
Kevin Fleming	CTDOT
Carlo Leone	CTDOT
Consultant Team	
Jacob Argiro	HNTB
David Schweitzer	HNTB
Susan Yarbrough	HNTB
Naomi Hodges	HNTB

Distribution: All Attendees

1. Meeting Purpose

The New Mix Project Team (Project Team) provided an opportunity for PAC members to ask the Project Team questions regarding the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study's (the Study) Proposed Early Action Projects. The Project Team requested for PAC members to provide input with regard to the Proposed Early Action Projects during the meeting or by emailing after the meeting.

2. New Mix PEL Study Project Advisory Committee Meeting Presentation

A. Project Advisory Committee Meeting No. 4B Summary

- a. Presented the revised PEL Vision Statement and previewed the refinement of the Preliminary Purpose & Need Statement.
- b. The following Proposed Early Action Projects were presented:
 - i. ML5 – I-84 Westbound Auxiliary Lane between the Exit 22 On-Ramp from Union Street to the Exit 21 Off Ramp to Field Street - currently under construction with the Mixmaster Rehabilitation Project (Mainline Improvement)
 - ii. IC5 – Route 8 Northbound Exit 32 Off-Ramp at Northbound Riverside Street – currently under construction with the Mixmaster Rehabilitation Project (Interchange Improvement)
 - iii. LC1 – West Main Street Highland Avenue (Local Intersection)
 - iv. LC4 – Chase Parkway at Highland Avenue/Sunnyside Avenue (Local Intersection)
 - v. IC6 – Watertown Avenue, West Main Street and Robbins Street (Interchange Improvement)
 - vi. ML1 – Elimination of I-84 Eastbound Exit 21 Off-Ramp (Mainline Improvement)
- c. PEL Study Screening Process - Initial Alternatives to be further evaluated in the Level 2 screening which will include evaluation criteria based on many aspects, such as increasing connectivity, compatibility with local, regional and statewide plans, and minimizing impacts to sensitive populations, historic properties, and natural resources.
- d. Nilesh Patel stated that CTDOT is also considering other locations within the Study Area to identify additional other early action projects that could provide

early benefits. Mr. Patel encouraged attendees to reach out to the Project Team if there are any comments or suggestions on a potential location.

e. General questions and discussion.

B. Questions and Comments on the Presentation and New Mix

The following questions and comments were received during the PAC Meeting No. 4B presentation:

- Bob Nerney from the City of Waterbury called attention to the on-ramp to Eastbound I-84 located further west on Chase Parkway. According to Mr. Nerney, left turning vehicles can back up eastbound traffic while waiting for a gap to turn on to the ramp, particularly during school time. Mr. Nerney asked if there was consideration to install an exclusive left turn to allow through-traffic on Chase Parkway to flow. David Schweitzer of HNTB stated that the area has been identified and is being looked at as a possible early action project.
- Mr. Nerney asked about the Proposed Early Action IC-6, specifically whether the proposed intersection(s) would be signalized. Mr. Schweitzer replied that new coordinated signals would be installed as part of the project.
- Brian Peterson from Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church asked how the closure of Exit 21 under Proposed Early Action ML-1 might affect travel times to Home Depot. Mr. Schweitzer replied that the change in travel time is expected to be similar to the Union Station sample presented. Although the travel time on the local roads would be longer, the overall travel time would be reduced due to the improved travel times on Interstate 84 EB. At the end of the meeting, a slide for Year 2031 PM Peak Hour was reviewed to show the proposed travel times to Home Depot for a No-Build scenario versus closing Exit 21.

The Project Team thanked PAC members for their attendance and contributions throughout the meeting. Any comments or questions on the New Mix may be sent to Naomi Hodges at nhodges@hntb.com or through the project website at newmixwaterbury.com.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm.