

**Route 10 Steering Committee Meeting**  
***Simsbury Town Hall, Main Meeting Room***  
Minutes of **December 7, 2010**, 1:00 PM

<b>ATTENDEES:</b>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Company*</u>
	John Hampton	Deputy First Selectman – SC
	Rick Wagner	Representing local business in corridor – SC
	Kirsten Griebel	Representing Corridor Neighborhoods – SC
	Mike Fish	Representing Corridor Neighborhoods – SC
	Nord Christensen	Representing local business in corridor – SC
	Ed Pabich	Secretary Zoning Commission – SC
	Alan Needham	Planning Commission Rep. – SC
	Gerry Post	Board of Selectman – SC
	Mark Deming	Chairman Economic Dev. Commission – SC
	Charles Stephenson	For Emil Dahlquist, Design Review Board - SC
	Emily Moos	CRCOG – PT
	Jennifer Carrier	CRCOG – PT
	Mary Glassman	First Selectwoman – PT
	Hiram Peck	Town - PT
	Tom Cooke	Town – PT
	Chris Ferrero	F&O – PT
	Ted DeSantos	F&O – PT
	G. Wade Walker	F&O – PT
	Lee Einsweiler	Code Studio – PT
	Allan Hodges	PB – PT
	Jim Gallagher	Zoning Commission Chair
	Sue Bednarczyk	Resident

\* SC = Steering Committee  
PT = Project Team

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Introduction & Overview:

First Selectman Mary Glassman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the kick-off of the RT 10 Corridor Study.

Emily Moos led introductions of the project team and Steering Committee and discussed the overview of the corridor study:

- This study is a multi-modal planning process used to prepare a master plan for a transportation corridor. This project will look at roadway geometrics and operations as well as transit, pedestrians, bicyclists, the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, and land use as it relates to traffic generation.
- The corridor master plan will provide guidelines for all parties (Towns, State, developers, and property owners) to refer to in accommodating growth.

Goals:

This particular study will proactively seek to:



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- Preserve and enhance the community character
- Enable economic development.
- Establish a 20 year vision for transportation infrastructure

Scope of Services:

- Analyze the existing conditions to better understand safety issues and develop appropriate recommendations.
- Conduct preliminary planning to predict future conditions. Study issues and opportunities along the corridor by talking with steering committee.
- Over the course of the study, we'll be using future visions for growth and land use in the corridor in combination with the traffic analysis model to determine what future traffic volumes along the corridor may be out to 2030 based upon different alternatives.
- Identify and evaluate possible alternatives and test those alternatives to understand what impact they will have on traffic and transportation in the corridor.
- Conduct a charrette to get town-wide input and accomplish these things. Building on the success of the previous Town Center Charrette – which focused on one section of the corridor – we will have a charrette that helps us to understand the 7-mile corridor as a whole and what the public sees for the future of the roadway and its surrounding land area.
- A final plan of recommendations will reflect input from the Steering Committee, stakeholders, and ConnDOT; comments from the public; and endorsement from the Board of Selectmen. The plan will include conceptual planning recommendations with solid engineering principles behind them.

Schedule/Process:

- Selection process and scope and fee negotiations with Fuss & O'Neill are completed.
- Also completed are the scope & fee negotiations and contracts with the DOT, Town and Consultant.
- The project has an aggressive study schedule. Looking to complete the transportation study in early summer 2011 which is approximately a 10 month schedule. CRCOG feels confident that this is an attainable goal due to the success of the recent Town Center Charrette.
- A RT 10 Corridor Study charrette is set to be included as the main public outreach component to this study.
- CRCOG will email the RT 10 webpage link to Hiram Peck – the study webpage is another key component to the public outreach process in this study. Hiram will create a link on the town's web site.
- The Steering Committee selected Hiram Peck as the Steering Committee Liaison to the Project Team.



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Existing Conditions Summary:

The Fuss & O'Neill team distributed map handouts indicating the current conditions on the RT 10 Corridor. Wade Walker of Fuss & O'Neill presented a more detailed version of the project schedule and preliminary existing conditions findings. Lee Einsweiler of Code Studio reviewed the Charrette process and some of the findings of the Town Center Charrette. The team led a discussion and mapping exercise with the Steering Committee of corridor issues and opportunities.

Information distributed and discussed covered:

- The existing conditions for the entire study area
- North & South Gateways
- Town Center & Weatogue
- Current Traffic Count Data

Issues and Opportunities:

- The corridor plan will drive the Capital Improvement Plan and projects for the Town.
- Alan Needham and his Rotary Service Club and his parish are interested in participating in the Charrette.
- ConnDOT needs to be in the room; already considering some of the striping recommendations from the Town Center charrette in the upcoming repaving project.
- The Town has funding for use in conjunction with the ConnDOT paving project in spring 2011 (crosswalks, bumpouts, etc.).
- Four lane section, what if ConnDOT opposes?
- Alan Needham posed the question – can we set development by transportation infrastructure?
- Will the 2030 traffic volumes include development from other towns?
- Are there sustainability coordinators for the major employers we can contact?

Mapping exercise with steering committee – (captured on maps):

- Potential development opportunities exist at the Hartford.
- Parallel road systems provide the requisite additional capacity without the undesirable widening of Route 10.
- Opportunities to extend Iron Horse to the south.
- Opportunities on private land for a parallel road.
- Simsbury is a designated bike friendly community.

Wrap up and Next Steps:

The project team wrapped up the meeting and reviewed next steps.

- The week of February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 was discussed as a charrette date. There was some discussion regarding starting on a Saturday like the Town Center Charrette; Due the fact that ConnDOT staff are not available on Saturdays and the recognition that ConnDOT



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is an integral team member, it was determined that no Saturday meetings should be held.

- The Town indicated they reserved the library and adjacent room for the four day charrette, February 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- Steering Committee future meetings to be set in the evening not on Monday or Tuesday.
- Conference call may be held with the Steering Committee before February 7<sup>th</sup> start of the Charrette in addition to a formal Steering Committee meeting at the beginning of the Charrette week.