

# Capitol Region Council of Governments

241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106

## **Route 195 Advisory Committee Workshop Fire Training Center – 191 Merrow Road Meeting Overview November 18, 2009, 7:00 PM**

### **Committee Members**

Kevin Bouley, Chair  
Steve Werbner  
Kathy Bach  
Fred Daniels  
Harvey Gilbert

### **Organization**

Tolland Economic Development Commission  
Tolland Town Manager  
Historical Society/Museum Director  
Tolland Town Council  
Tolland Town Council

### **Town Staff**

Dave Smith  
Linda Farmer  
John Littel

Tolland Town Engineer  
Tolland Town Planner  
Tolland Fire Chief

### **Project Team**

David Head  
Tom Maziarz  
Lia Huang  
Steve O'Neill  
John Kennedy  
Jeff Thereault

ConnDOT  
CRCOG  
CRCOG  
VHB  
VHB  
VHB

### **Public Attendees**

Rod Hurtuk  
Marjorie Hurtuk  
Linda Calabrese  
Tom Calabrese  
Jodie Coleman-Marzialo

Tolland Green Historic District Commission  
Resident  
Resident  
Resident  
Resident

**Meeting Purpose:** Discuss traffic calming options in the Tolland Town Green area.

### **1. Welcome**

Kevin Bouley opened the meeting at 7:05 PM by welcoming attendees and leading introductions. Mr. Bouley stated that with limited funds left for the project, a reassessment was needed to ensure key goals were met. Mr. Bouley reviewed past Advisory Committee and public comments throughout the study and felt that it would be best to focus the remainder of the project on Tolland Green with speed reduction and safety as the top priority.

### **2. Progress Report**

Tom Maziarz provided a summary of the project team's efforts over the past few months to focus on Tolland Green. A key turning point was a meeting with the Deputy Commissioner and Chief Engineer at ConnDOT indicating that the Department would be receptive to more aggressive traffic calming measures in this area. A technical team was assembled consisting of ConnDOT representatives, traffic calming expertise, and a fresh perspective. A new workshop-based process

was developed for the remainder of the study promoting the free exchange of ideas. The product of these workshops was a network of traffic calming devices on the road itself rather than along the side of the roadway as previously considered.

### **3. Options for Traffic Calming on Tolland Green**

John Kennedy walked the Committee through each traffic calming suggestion, describing some technical details and other considerations that helped the technical working group develop this preliminary plan.

### **4. Advisory Committee Discussion**

Overall the Committee members were pleased with the new options for traffic calming. A summary of the discussion follows.

- Fred Daniels asked whether there were new traffic calming suggestions on the westbound approach of Route 74 toward the Green (approach from the high school). John Kennedy stated that since the approach is uphill, additional measures are not necessary.
- Mr. Daniels also asked about the road maintenance. Tom Maziarz mentioned that landscaped and well maintained medians would need town participation, even on state roads. An irrigation system is likely needed.
- Fred Daniels liked the suggestions at the north green intersection, but questioned whether the sight lines were acceptable with the crest vertical curve. John Kennedy replied that the preliminary review indicates that adequate stopping sight distances are provided for vehicles travelling at 40 mph.
- Kathy Bach agreed that the preliminary designs for the north green intersection were good and asked whether this concept could be applied to the central green intersection. Ms. Bach felt this might better define the end of Route 195. John Kennedy stated that this option would be reviewed but cautioned that this configuration is more likely to warrant a signal than the suggestion presented today.
- Fred Daniels asked about the roadway cross sections. John Kennedy explained that in order to incorporate the median treatments on Route 74 northwest of the Green, the road would need to be widened an additional 8'. However the proposals immediately adjacent to the Green itself do not appear to need additional widening. Tom Maziarz noted that this preliminary design phase made use of aerial photography and that surveys and a more detailed design will still need to be completed.
- Harvey Gilbert felt that the options reviewed at this workshop were a good compromise for all interested parties.

### **5. Next Steps**

The next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for November 30, 2009. Kevin Bouley wanted to ensure that the Committee members that were unable to make this workshop have a chance to review the options in detail prior to the next Advisory Committee meeting.

### **6. Other Business**

There being no other business to be discussed, the workshop was adjourned at 8:40 PM.