

Route 305 Bloomfield Public Information Session Meeting Overview

***Bloomfield Town Hall – Council Chambers
800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT
June 8, 2009; 7:00 PM***

Public Attendees - Residents

Fred Hesketh
Alma P. O’Loughlin
Joe Wactowski
Paul Wilson

Committee Members

Jon Colman – Town Council
Barry Berson – Town Planning and Zoning
Al LeFebvre – Former Council Member
John Sheehan – Town Council

Project Team

Rod Bascom – CHA
Jeff Parker – CHA
Casey Hardin- CHA
Jennifer Carrier - CRCOG
Lia Huang – CRCOG

Others

Melanie Zimyeski – ConnDOT
Katherine Rattan – ConnDOT
Bloomfield Town Council

Meeting Purpose: Third Public Open House to present Route 305 draft recommendations.

Open House

Attendees had the opportunity to review boards summarizing the study findings and recommended alternatives while talking with study team and advisory committee members prior to the study presentation to the Town Council at 7:30PM.

Public Comments

The following summarizes comments heard at the opening of the Town Council meeting.

- A resident expressed concern about a potential backup on Peters Road from railcar activity if an at-grade railroad crossing was implemented. The resident also felt that wetland impacts should be minimized wherever possible and that the capability of extending the existing rail line to Springfield should be preserved.

Town Council Presentation

Jennifer Carrier introduced the Route 305 Corridor study and process to the Bloomfield Town Council.

Rod Bascom summarized the recommended localized improvements and long term alternatives for the study area.

Jennifer Carrier concluded the presentation with next steps of the project: to hold the final public meeting in Windsor, meet once more with stakeholders (including ConnDOT), obtain endorsement of the study from both



Bloomfield and Windsor, obtain CRCOG Policy Board endorsement, and work to secure funding and advance the localized improvements.

The following summarizes comments made by Town Council members and Route 305 Advisory Committee members at the close of the presentation.

- Several Town Council and Advisory Committee members expressed support and enthusiasm for the study process and recommendations.
- One Council member questioned the time frame for implementation of the recommendations. Jennifer Carrier answered that CRCOG will work with both municipalities and champions to move these recommendations forward. The short term improvements may compete for Federal funds and may be implemented in about 5-10 years. The longer-term improvements will still need further discussion and coordination with ConnDOT and the DEP; these improvements will not likely be advanced further for several years.
- Another Councilor noted that emergency response currently has a difficult time traveling cross-town. The Route 305 extension will improve access and response time greatly.
- A Councilmember mentioned that the East Coast Greenway right-of-way runs along the Griffin Rail Line. He felt it would be best not to introduce an at-grade crossing at the intersection of the Route 305 extension.

Town Endorsement

Following the Town Council discussion on the Route 305 recommendations, the Bloomfield Town Council unanimously passed the motion to endorse the Route 305 Corridor Study recommendations.

The Route 305 portion of the Bloomfield Town Council meeting concluded at 8:15 PM.