

# Capitol Region Council of Governments

241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106

Draft until  
endorsed by  
Committee

## Route 305 Steering Committee Meeting

### Bloomfield Town Hall

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

3:00 PM

Attendee Name	Organization
Michael O'Brien	Windsor Planning & Zoning
Peter Souza	Town of Windsor Town Manager
Eric Barz	Town of Windsor Town Planner
Thom Hooper	Town of Bloomfield Town Planner
Jim Burke	Windsor Economic Development
Jennifer Carrier	CRCOG
Lia Huang	CRCOG
Jeff Parker	CHA

**Meeting Purpose:** Second Steering Committee meeting to discuss long and short term potential improvement options in Windsor and Bloomfield.

### 1. Welcome and Progress Update

Jennifer Carrier led introductions and updated the Committee on progress since the March 7, 2008 Steering Committee meeting. The following summarizes Ms. Carrier's update:

- Regular Advisory Committee meetings were held in both Windsor and Bloomfield
- Meetings held with area stakeholders; ConnDOT Planning, Regulatory, and Rail divisions; and the Rail operator in Bloomfield
- Potential improvement options were developed and discussed for both communities
- The first public meetings were held
- Preparations for the upcoming second public meetings are underway

### 2. Existing Adoption of Minutes (Meeting March 7, 2008)

A motion was made by Mike O'Brien, seconded by Thom Hooper, to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2008 meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. Route 305 Potential Improvement Options, Long and Short Term

Jennifer Carrier first reviewed the Study goals in each community then described each of the safety and geometric improvement options and long term options under consideration. The following summarizes the Committee's discussion:

- The potential geometric improvement options at the East Newberry Road intersection will require the extension of driveways to meet the new road locations; at this time there isn't one preferred option.
- The realignment proposed at Old Iron Ore Road is the first step to prepare this intersection for a signal if needed in the future. Employment changes for area businesses may impact signal warrants in the future.
- The complete Route 305 extension to Route 189 would result in improved service; however the short extension from Peter's Road to Route 189 alone would also improve service and provide a very similar benefit however costing less.
- Jim Burke wanted to ensure that multimodal access was maintained in the study area. Committee members also expressed interest in extending bike access in the regional network. The Committee felt that the public open house would also provide an opportunity to understand the public's needs and desires for alternative modes of transportation in the corridor.
- The traffic model was run for the at-grade rail crossing, but not for the grade-separated rail crossing. The numbers may be slightly different since the potential grade-separated crossing is further north of the at-grade crossing.

- A Committee member asked if the long term traffic demand would require more than two lanes in each direction on Route 305. Jeff Parker confirmed that based on future projections two lanes in each direction, east of Marshall Phelps Road in Windsor, would adequately service the peak hour loading.
- A Committee member asked if there would be any impact to the Windsor/Bloomfield Town line if Route 305 was widened—it was confirmed that the proposed widening will not extend to the town line.
- Since Windsor is considering landscaped medians on Route 305, Jennifer Carrier asked if Bloomfield would want to continue this trend. Thom Hooper expressed that the town has had difficulty regarding maintenance of medians in the past and would prefer not to build new medians in the Town.

#### **4. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

#### **5. Public Comments**

No members from the public were in attendance.

#### **6. Next Steps**

The Windsor Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2009.

The Bloomfield Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2009.

Newsletters were mailed out today, January 21, 2009.

After the public meetings, CRCOG will meet with the Town Councils and Planning and Zoning Commissions to present and discuss the study findings and recommendations.

The Project Team will begin preparing a draft final report, summarizing alternative findings and recommendations.

#### **7. Adjourn**

The meeting concluded at approximately 4:25 PM.