

I-95 New Haven Harbor Crossing Corridor Improvement Program



CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) is improving traffic operations along Interstate 95 in Greater New Haven. ConnDOT's I-95 New Haven Harbor Crossing (NHHC) Corridor Improvement Program is a multi-modal transportation improvement program that features public transit enhancements and roadway improvements along 7.2 miles (11.5 km) of I-95, between Exit 46 (Sargent Drive) in New Haven and Exit 54 (Cedar Street) in Branford.

With improvements scheduled to take place over a ten-year period, minimize construction-related traffic congestion is an important part of the I-95 NHHC Corridor Improvement Program. ConnDOT is implementing a **Construction Traffic Management Plan**. Key components of the Plan are described below.



- *Shore Line East Station Improvements.* To make riding Shore Line East safer and more convenient for commuters, new rail stations are being built in Branford, Guilford, Madison, Clinton and Westbrook. All stations will meet ADA standards. *A rendering of the proposed Guilford station is featured at left.*
- *Incident Management System.* Traffic and incidents will be monitored through an expanded Incident Management System (IMS). The IMS is comprised of numerous cameras linked to a State Police/ConnDOT operations center in Bridgeport. From the operations center, monitoring staff can quickly communicate with emergency or towing vehicles to aid motorists in need. Camera locations will be extended 4 miles along I-91 to Exit 8

(Route 80) and 14 miles along I-95 from Exit 56 to the Clinton/Westbrook town line. The existing Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) and electronic Variable Message Signing (VMS) systems will be upgraded along the corridor (see *Commuter Information* on reverse side for more details).

- *Adjacent Projects.* Program work will be coordinated closely with work on other key roadways, such as Route 1 (Branford) and Route 80 (North Branford) and the frontage roads (East Haven). Every effort will be made to ensure that construction on these important arterials will not conflict with on-going work along the I-95 corridor.
- *Maintain Lane Configurations.* During construction, the number of lanes available on I-95 will not be reduced. No ramp or lane closures are planned for peak hours, which are defined as morning and evening commute times and Friday through Sunday on summer and holiday weekends. Lane closures, when required, will be confined to evening hours; in the event a daytime closure is unavoidable, advance notice will be provided to the public through various media outlets.



- *Sequencing of Construction.* A coordinated Maintenance and Protection of Traffic (MPT) Plan has been developed for the Program. To the extent possible, work zone lengths will be minimized by coordinating construction work along the corridor. For example, construction of Contracts D (Branford) and C1 (East Haven) will be substantially completed prior to initiating construction on the new Pearl Harbor Memorial Bridge.
- *Commuter Information.* On the road “real-time” information will be provided through:
 - Traffic Cameras are positioned at various locations along the I-95 corridor and are accessible through the Program web site: www.i95newhaven.com. Images are updated every two to five minutes;
 - An up-to-date Interactive map of the Program area is available, located at www.i95newhaven.com. The map is regularly updated as lane closures, detours, and other construction activities occur; and
 - Enhancement of highway advisory radio (HAR) and electronic variable message signing (VMS). ConnDOT currently operates seven (7) low frequency HAR stations around the state, which can be found on the AM band of standard car radios. The nearest existing HAR to this improvement program, operating at 530 on the AM dial, is located in West Haven with a range of approximately 3 miles. As part of this project, ConnDOT is planning to install additional stations on I-95 near the Branford/Guilford town line and on I-91 in North Haven. These new stations are anticipated to be operational by 2005.



- *Motorist Aid.* Throughout the corridor there will be an increased presence of CHAMP (Connecticut Highway Assistance Motorist Patrol) and State Police. Also important, on-site towing service will be provided as part of each construction contract. Timely removal of disabled vehicles will assist traffic flow through the construction zones.
- *Diversionary Routes.* Area-wide diversionary routes are established by the ConnDOT Operations Unit. In the event of a serious incident, messages are broadcast over the VMS and local and state personnel are notified to assist in the diversion of traffic.
- *Public Awareness.* A media campaign is in place to inform the traveling public of construction activities. Information about road closures, detours, construction planning and alternate travel options is available through the Program toll-free hotline, the Program web site, and Program brochures, distributed to over 150 locations throughout Greater New Haven. Presentations to area civic organizations are broadcast on cable access channels and are available upon request.
- *On-going evaluation.* The impact of construction on traffic conditions will be monitored continually so that mid-course corrections can be made.

Up-to-date Program Information

For the latest on the Program’s progress and traffic information, visit the I-95 Corridor Improvement Program web site at www.i95newhaven.com or call the Program construction hotline toll-free at 1-866-277-9595. For information on commuting alternatives, visit www.rideworks.com or call 1-800-ALL-RIDE.

