

Public Outreach Summary

The Route 3 Corridor Study has been conducted with input from a Technical Review Steering Committee, municipal staff, Connecticut Department of Transportation officials, stakeholders, and the community. A series of public informational meetings were held to share information with and receive comments and suggestions from the public. Stakeholder meetings were also held. This summary describes the community involvement process, reporting on activities and comments received.



Technical Review Steering Committee

A Technical Review Steering Committee (TR/SC) was established during the initiation of the study. The TR/SC had regular meetings to guide the study and comment on proposed concepts and ideas and attended the Public Meetings over the course of the study.

The following table identifies the TR/SC members and the dates of the TR/SC meetings. Specific meeting minutes are on record at CRCOG’s offices.

TR/SC Committee Members	
<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency/Representing</u>
Jim Sollmi	Town Engineer, Rocky Hill
Kim Ricci	Town Planner, Rocky Hill
Ray Carpentino	Economic Development Director, Rocky Hill
Larrye deBear	Councilman/Economic Development Subcommittee Chair
Frank Szeps	Councilman/ Economic Development Subcommittee Member
Henry Vasel	Planning & Zoning Committee, Rocky Hill
David Head	Transportation Supervising Planner, Connecticut Department of Transportation
Anna Bergeron	Transportation Planner, Connecticut Department of Transportation

TR/SC Meeting Dates
November 10, 2010 1:00 PM
January 19, 2011 11:30 AM
February 23, 2011 11:30 AM
May 11, 2011 11:30 AM
June 14, 2011 11:30 AM
November 9, 2011 11:30 AM
January 10, 2012 11:30 AM
September 12, 2012 11:30 AM
October 31, 2012 11:30 AM

Public Information Meetings

Four Public Information Meetings were held throughout the study process. Reports of each meeting, presentation materials, and links to each meeting Audio and Video Recordings were available on the project website.

Rocky Hill's Economic Development Subcommittee (of the Town Council) hosted each of the Public Meetings. The first meeting focused on study process and soliciting input on existing transportation conditions. The next focused on the results of the existing conditions analyses, projected study area development and associated traffic growth, and future no-build transportation conditions. The third meeting presented potential recommendations and concept plans designed to address the identified issues and deficiencies. The final meeting focused on the draft recommended set of improvements including their costs, benefits, and prioritization. Public input was solicited at each of the meetings to verify findings, and vet recommended ideas, concepts, and strategies.

Comments from these public meetings that relate to the Corridor Study are summarized as follows:

December 8, 2010 - Rocky Hill Town Hall, Rocky Hill, CT (46 people signed in)

Key concerns raised by the public at this meeting involved current traffic operations and issues, specifically at the I-91 interchange and along segments of Route 3 including the Route 160/Route 3 intersections. There was concern regarding increased development and its negative effects on traffic operations and residential areas. There was desire to better accommodate bicycles and pedestrians, and to mitigate the effects of truck traffic in the study area.



June 21, 2011 - Rocky Hill Town Hall, Rocky Hill, CT (16 people signed in)

A key concern raised by the public at this meeting was related to development in Cromwell's northern tier. The remaining questions mainly concerned clarification on the standard transportation study methodologies.

February 14, 2012 - Rocky Hill Town Hall, Rocky Hill, CT (18 people signed in)

Attendees were primarily concerned with traffic operations and safety entering Route 3 from side-streets and businesses, the potential negative effects on business associated with any diversion of traffic from Route 3 to a recommended new parallel roadway, operations at the Route 3/New Britain Avenue intersection, and future prioritization of projects. The study team heard accolades regarding the described bicycle and pedestrian improvement recommendations.



November 13, 2012 - Rocky Hill Town Hall, Rocky Hill, CT (11 people signed in)

This meeting provided an overview of the draft study recommendations. The key concerns raised by the public included desired revisions to project prioritization (making some additional projects immediate priorities), the level coordination with other imminent developments, and truck traffic mitigation.

Stakeholder Meetings

Town of Cromwell – As part of the project’s data acquisition phase, a meeting was held on January 4, 2011 with the Town of Cromwell’s Planning Department to gather information regarding development plans along Cromwell’s northern tier, near the Rocky Hill Town Line.

Connecticut Department of Transportation – A meeting was held on January 26, 2011 to review Route 3 Study travel demand model projection methodology, land use inputs, and study economic development/land use analysis tasks. Inquiries and clarifications regarding methodologies acceptable to all parties were sought.

CTTransit – A meeting was held with CTTransit staff on January 11, 2011 to present the identified study area transit deficiencies and needs, and gather information regarding the agency’s stance on any proposals for improvements and/or funding capabilities.

Rocky Hill Economic Development Commission – A meeting was held with the commission on May 10, 2011 to present the project findings to date and solicit questions and comments. The meeting was open to the public.

Chamber of Commerce - Meetings were held with the Rocky Hill Chamber of Commerce on January 12, 2012 and November 8, 2012 to present the project findings to date and solicit questions and comments.

Other Outreach Initiatives

- All project information was available on the CRCOG website including meeting announcements, meeting minutes, newsletters, presentations, and reports.
- Appearances on “The Mayor’s Report” Public Access Television Show to present the study findings/progress and take questions and answers on December 16, 2010 and March 15, 2012
- ConnDOT – In lieu of a meeting to review conceptual improvement alternatives, ConnDOT’s Project Liaison requested the receipt of concept designs for alternatives and traffic analyses. The liaison distributed the materials to various ConnDOT units to for review and comment.
- Public Survey – A public survey was conducted to determine the community’s perception of the project area’s transportation deficiencies and needs, and the desired improvements. The survey was made available electronically (on-line) or could be completed via hardcopies made available at Rocky Hill’s Library and Town Hall. Results were compiled, tabulated, and provided in the Appendix of the study’s Existing Condition Technical Memorandum.
- All DRAFT major study documents were distributed to TR/SC and Town Council, and posted on the study website for public comment.

- Flyers for all Public Meetings were prepared and posted in the Town Hall and on the Route 3 website. The flyers were also distributed by the Town to other locations such as libraries, area businesses, and other interested parties.
- Study updates were prepared prior to each of the four Public Meetings explaining the study, summarizing the latest developments and announcing upcoming meetings. The study updates were posted on the study website and handed out at Public Meetings.
- Public Meeting announcements were posted by the Town in local newspapers. Representatives from the press were at each public meeting and resulted in articles that have been published in local newspapers.
- Comment sheets and study mailing list sign-up sheets were available at all Open House meetings to solicit comments and ideas.
- A mailing list was compiled of interested parties at public meetings and through the study website. Individuals on the mailing lists were sent e-mails informing them of the study's major public outreach events.
- Letters of invitation to the fourth Public Meetings were hard-mailed to landowners along Route 3 along with study update materials.
- Presentations to the Rocky Hill Town Council were made on February 6, 2012 and December 3, 2012. The meetings were open to the public.
- Presentations to CRCOG's Transportation Committee were made on May 21, 2012 and December 10, 2012.
- Numerous emails and phone calls to respond to resident questions and concerns.

