



# Route 146

## CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN



### Corridor Working Group Meeting #6

Virtual | Microsoft Teams

October 10, 2023 | 2:00pm

# Route 146 Corridor Management Plan (CMP) Corridor Working Group Meeting Agenda

- Welcome
- Future Strategies
  - Overview of Revisions
  - Updated Strategies List
  - Discussion
- Upcoming Public Outreach
  - Public Information Meeting – November 14 at Guilford Community Center





## Future Strategies: Overview

*Strategies for corridor management plan to preserve and protect intrinsic qualities of the corridor while enhancing safety*

- Revised strategies for the group to consider – second round of preliminary strategies
- Conceived as a result of field work, interviews, discussions with CTDOT, professional judgment, and CWG member comments from last meeting

# Future Strategies: Overview of Revisions

- Revised based on CWG member input from last meeting
- Adjustments to strategy names as well as added strategies
- New strategy theme on environmental and historical preservation
- Highlighted changes on following slides



# Future Strategies: Revised List

- Strategy Themes:
  - Flooding & Sea Level Rise Management
  - Bicycle/Pedestrian Access & Safety
  - Speed Management
  - Roadside Safety
  - ~~Railroad Bridges~~
  - Intersection Safety
  - Maintenance Enhancements
  - Environmental and Historical Preservation
- Overarching goal/value of preservation of intrinsic qualities





# Future Strategies – Revisions

## Flooding & Sea Level Rise Management:

- Covers three main issues:
  - Drainage
  - Flooding
  - Sea Level Rise
- Address management of existing flooding issues vs. additional impacts from sea level rise
- Review tolerable flooding occurrences (“nuisance”) vs. intolerable flooding
- Different situations would call for different approaches
  - Identify likely cause(s) of flooding at each location of concern, such as drainage, precipitation, storm surge, high tides; add future sea level rise scenarios
  - Identify site constraints – may be right of way, elevation, land features
    - ROW, elevation, adjacent land features (natural and manmade)
    - Some locations also have different engineering strategies based on constraints



# Future Strategies – Revisions

## Flooding & Sea Level Rise Management (cont'd):

- Potential Strategies for addressing flooding:
  - Review flooding area locations for site-specific context to determine most appropriate flood mitigation improvements; examples include:
    - Raise road sections or bridge over frequent flooding areas
    - Pumping stations
  - Find ways to get around flooding – such as better north/south access to Route 1 (for both evacuation and re-routing)
  - Retreat from road or cut off road to through traffic in certain areas where flooding is continuous problem and expected to become worse
  - Identify issues at water bridges and culverts to understand local flooding and review need for raised bridges, larger culverts, etc.
  - Railroad underpass strategies:
    - Evaluate the current state of the underpasses – how old the bridges are, are they in a state of good repair, when may they be replaced – to determine timeline for potential changes/improvements
    - Work with Amtrak on long-term solution to low clearance/narrow bridges and flood problems



# Future Strategies – Revisions

## Bicycle/Pedestrian Access & Safety:

- Variety of land uses and demand
- Different parts of the road call for different strategies
- Town greens/built up areas will have different needs than low-density areas
  - Identify specific issues and contextual elements at each area of concern
  - Identify constraints such as ROW, slopes, sightlines, environmental assets, historical assets
- CTDOT is required to consider and include bike/pedestrian infrastructure





# Future Strategies – Revisions

## Bicycle/Pedestrian Access & Safety (cont'd):

- Potential Strategies for bicyclists and pedestrians:
  - Improve pavement/shoulder space available to provide space for biking and walking
  - Improve access for bicyclists and pedestrians
  - Review connectivity for walking and biking
  - Slow speed of automobiles (see Speed Management section)
  - Review alternative routes for most constrained segments for bicycle/pedestrian access
  - Evaluate railroad underpasses for bicycle/pedestrian improvements and access



# Future Strategies – Revisions

## Speed Management:

- Office of the State Traffic Administration (OSTA) process for setting speed limits
  - The Local Traffic Authority (LTA) requests revision to speed limit
  - OSTA conducts investigation and makes recommendation
  - LTA agrees or disagrees with recommendation; OSTA produces Traffic Investigation Report (TIR)
- OSTA process being updated to also look at contextual and land use elements for target speed setting
- Traffic calming devices being tested on state roads (such as raised crosswalks)
- Automated speed enforcement – new legislation allows in some instances





# Future Strategies – Revisions

## Speed Management (cont'd):

- Potential Strategies for speed management:
  - Work with Local Traffic Authority (LTA) on speed limit revisions to submit to OSTA
  - Review applicability of automated speed enforcement
  - Review applicability of traffic calming devices for locations of concern
    - Traffic calming devices may include:
    - Raised intersections
    - Raised crosswalks
    - Speed humps
    - Curb Extensions
    - Etc.



# Future Strategies – Revisions

## Roadside Safety:

- Much existing barrier protection does not meet current standards and would not stand up to a crash
- Local weather conditions degrade materials quickly – salty and damp air
- Merritt Parkway rail designed only for that roadway; would not hold up under coastal conditions
  - Local municipality would have to install and maintain at their own expense





# Future Strategies

## Roadside Safety (cont'd):

- Potential Strategy: Review barrier protection options
- Alternative types of guiderail for scenic roads:
  - Box beam
    - Used widely by New York State DOT
    - CTDOT Recent Installations
    - Constrained by site conditions
  - Cable guiderail with steel posts
    - Potential use on Route 146 with available ROW for 12 foot deflection - constraint
    - Expensive to maintain
  - Other Alternatives?



# Future Strategies

## Railroad Bridges:

- Limited options for addressing low vertical and horizontal clearances in the near term
- Look back to stormwater management strategies to understand how to address this at bridges
- Potential Strategy:
  - Work with Amtrak on long-term improvements to bridge structures





# Future Strategies

## Intersection Safety:

- CTDOT Traffic to be involved
- Identify issues with crossings, sightlines, speed
- Some cross-over with Speed Management
- Potential Strategy:
  - Review intersection sightlines, crossing distances, origins and destinations for people walking and biking at key intersections



# Future Strategies

## Maintenance Enhancements:

- Mowing along the roadway twice a year
- Cannot conduct invasive plant management under their permit for general maintenance
- Larger projects could involve invasive plant management
- Potential Strategies:
  - Establish ROW boundary lines for corridor to determine extent of CTDOT property for maintenance and other potential projects
  - Review potential for maintenance enhancements for mowing, plant management, sweeping shoulders, in conjunction with CTDOT District





# Future Strategies: Discussion

- Other Strategies?
- Questions about the strategies?
- Presentation of strategies to the public?
- Additional discussion/vetting of Strategies



# Upcoming Public Outreach

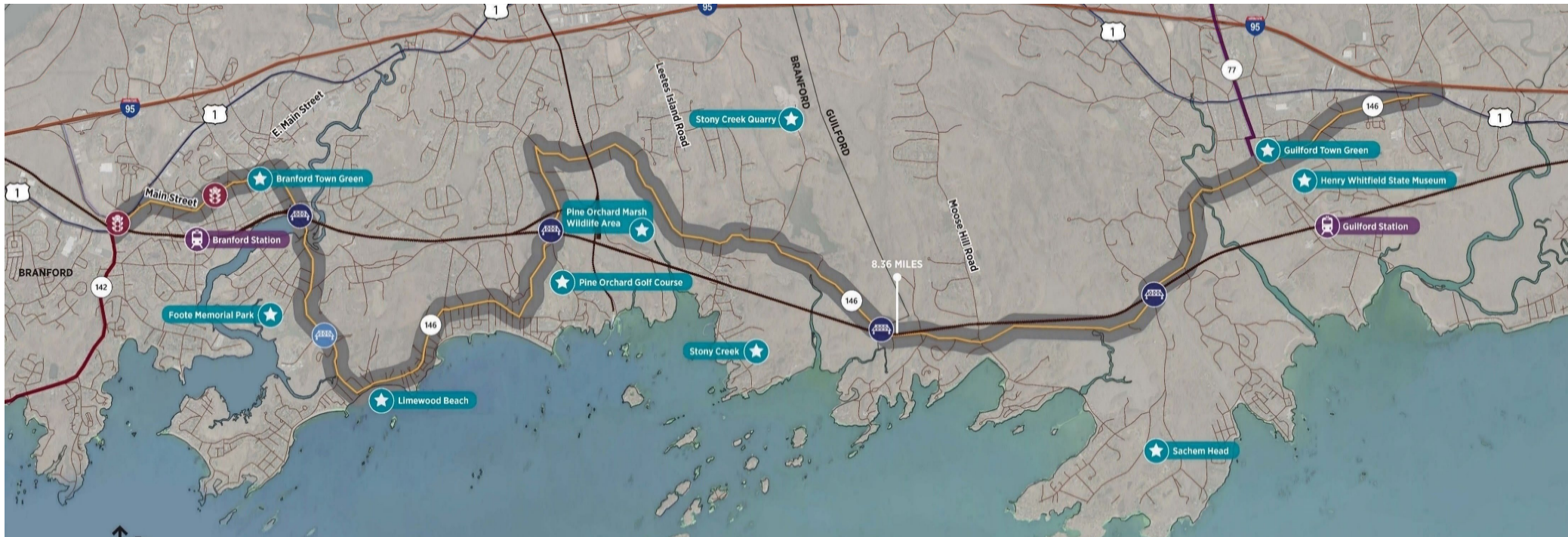
- Second Public Information Meeting:
  - Thursday November 9 or Tuesday November 14
  - Guilford Community Center?
- Fall Public Survey on Strategies
  - Present potential strategies for the Corridor Management Plan
  - Receive feedback on strategies and any additional strategies we may have missed
  - Have open in time for public meeting and through end of the year

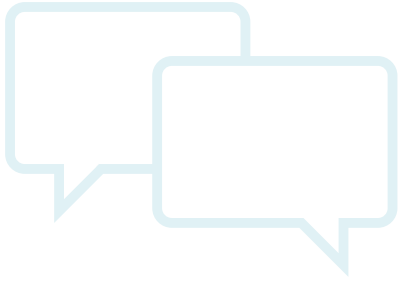




# Route 146 Corridor Management Plan – Next Steps


- **Next Public Information Meeting:** November 2023
- **Public Survey:** Fall 2023 (November-December 2023]
- **Next CWG Meeting:** TBD





# Discussion/Action Items

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