





#### **Public Information Meeting**

Branford & Guilford | Branford Fire Headquarters | 45 North Main Street, Branford, CT 06405 April 25, 2023 | 6:00pm

# Title VI – Your Civil Rights

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- Voluntary Post-Meeting Survey:
  - https://portal.ct.gov/ctdotsurvey



- Civil Rights information:
  - https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/Business/Office-of-Equity/Title-VI-Page

A recording of this presentation will be posted to YouTube after the event.

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#### **Connecticut Department of Transportation**

#### Title VI Notice to the Public

- The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) operates its programs and services without regard to race, color, and national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any person who believes she or he has been aggrieved by any unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI may file a complaint with the CTDOT.
- For more information on the CTDOT's civil rights program, and the procedures to file a complaint, contact the CTDOT Title VI Coordinator at (860) 594-2169, TRS 711;
   Debra.Goss@ct.gov; or visit our administrative office at 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06131. For more information, visit www.ct.gov/dot
- A complainant may file a complaint directly with the Federal Transit Administration by filing a complaint with the FTA Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Title VI Program Coordinator, East Building, 5th Floor-TCR, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590
- A complainant may file a complaint directly with the Federal Highway Administration by filing a complaint with the FHWA Office of Civil Rights, Attention: Title VI Program Coordinator, 8th Floor E81-105, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590

#### 如需更多信息或免费语言协助,请致电(860)594-2109

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Для получения подробной информации или бесплатных услуг перевода звоните по телефону (860) 594-2109
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अधिक जानकारी या निःशल्क भाषा संबंधी सहायता के लिए क्षपया (860) 594-2109 पर कॉल करें।

추가 정보가 필요하거나 무료 언어 지원이 필요하시면 (860) 594-2109로 전화주십시오

Để có thêm thông tin hoặc hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí, vui lòng gọi (860) 594-2109

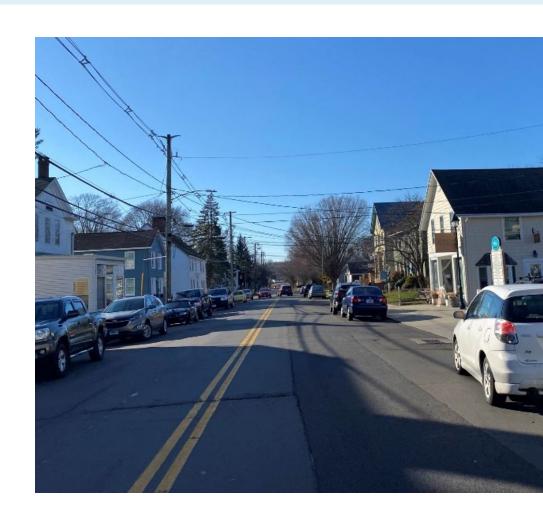


# Route 146 Corridor Management Plan (CMP) **Public Information Meeting Agenda**

- Welcome and Introductions
- Project Overview
- Public Engagement & Schedule
- Route 146 Draft Existing Conditions Update
- Q & A

Meeting is being recorded and livestreamed by Branford Community Television





# **Opening Remarks**





### **Route 146 Corridor Working Group Members**

#### **CTDOT**

- Patrick Zapatka, Project Manager
- Robert Bell, Corridor Working Group Chair, Bureau of Policy & Planning
- David Elder, Bureau of Policy & Planning and State Scenic Road Advisory Committee
- Allan Dodge, CTDOT District 3
- Michael Calabrese, Bureau of Engineering & Construction

#### **Branford**

- John Hoefferle, Town Engineer
- Barbara Ricozzi, Branford Resident
- David Rood, Branford Historical Society
- Harry Smith, Town Planner
- Karyl Lee Hall, Route 146 & Route 77 Scenic Roads Advisory Committee

#### **Guilford**

- Janice Plaziak, Town Engineer
- Bob Yaro, Guilford Resident
- Jaime Stein, Town Planner

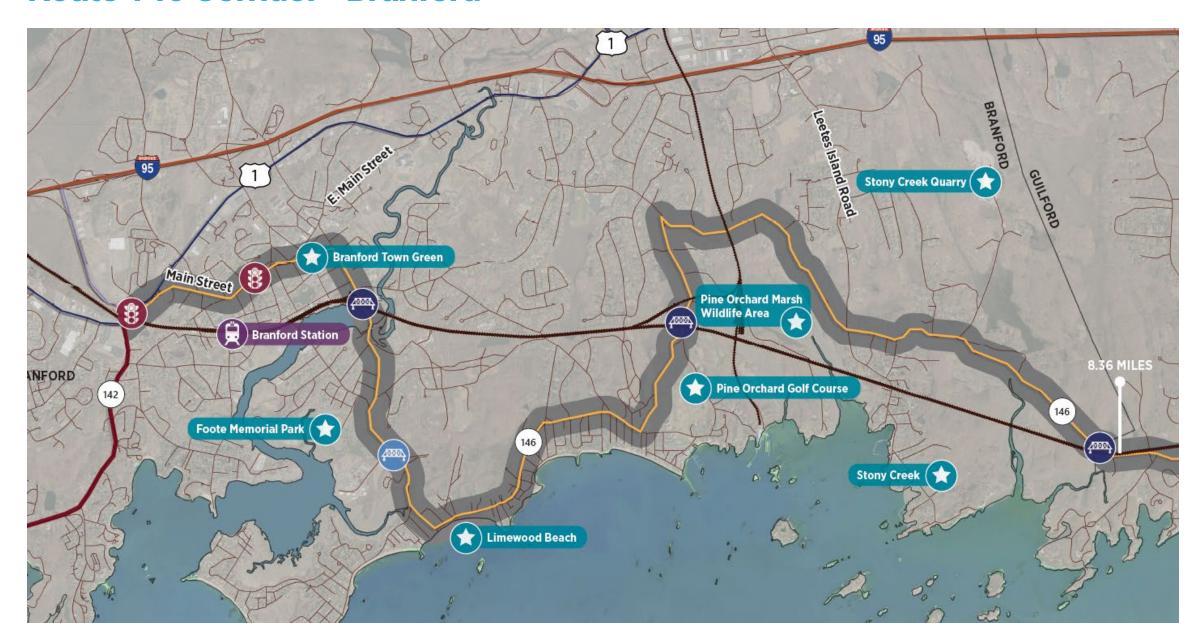
#### **Other Agencies**

- Laura Francis, South Central Regional Council of Governments
- **Bill Sigmund**, CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
- Catherine Labadia, CT State Historic Preservation Office
- Sandy Fry, CT Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board

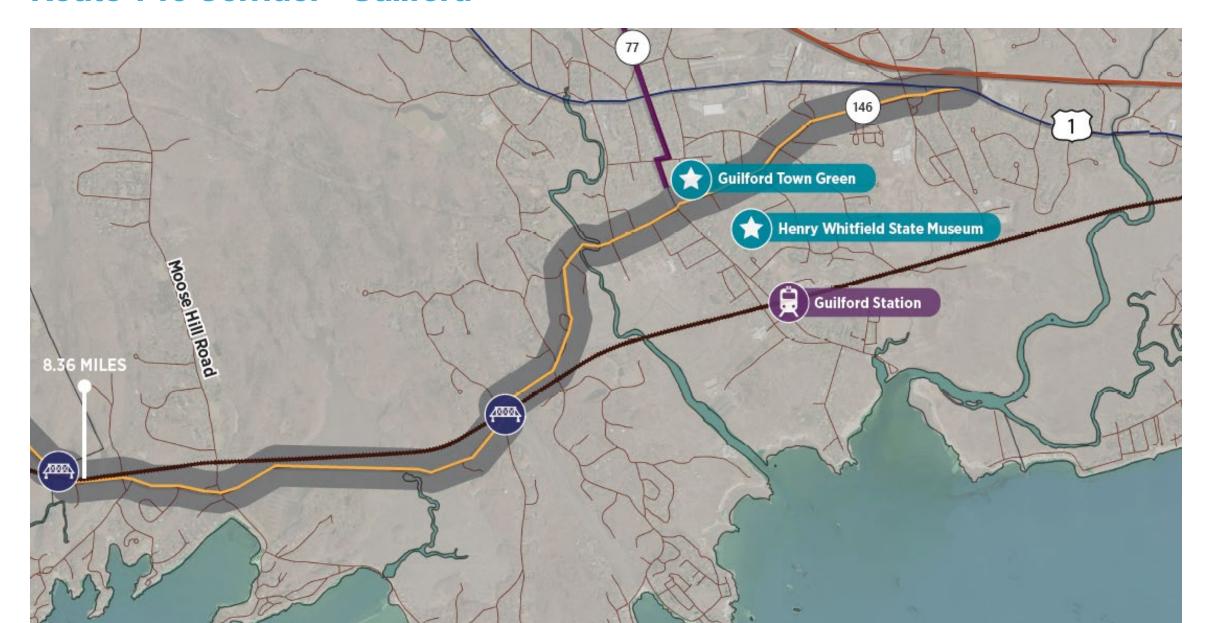
#### **Consultants to CTDOT**

Joseph Balskus, VHB & Daniel Amstutz, VHB

#### Route 146 Corridor—Branford



#### **Route 146 Corridor—Guilford**



#### **Route 146 Corridor Overview**

- Designated State Scenic Roadway for nearly All 13 miles, serving several National Register Historic Districts
- Unique and historic road connecting Branford and Guilford to coast of Long Island Sound; historic homes, wildlife habitats, tidal marshes, and scenic views
- Varying land uses—residential mostly in coastal section, with a rural character of roadway and undulating curves throughout
- Nominal 24' wide, with limited shoulders in sections
- State-Designated Bike Route (western section only)
- Parallels/Crosses Amtrak High Speed Railroad and Private Rail
  - 4 Railroad Under/Overpasses and 2 At-Grade Crossings
- Recurring flooding issues along several sections of roadway



### Route 146 Corridor Management Plan Background

#### What is a Corridor Management Plan?

- Different from a Corridor Study
- Big picture planning-level document
- Land and community the road travels through
- Extensive community engagement
- Focuses on protecting the unique qualities historic and environmental that make the corridor special
- Helps guide possible future transportation improvements including for safety, maintenance, and climate resilience (sea level rise, flooding)





### Corridor Management Plan Example – Route 169

#### Original 1985, Updated 2016

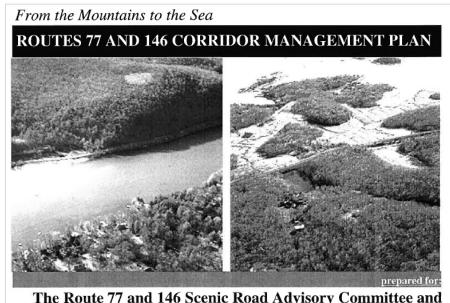
- Goal 1: Communicate and plan on the local, regional, and State levels, ensure that the vision is realized
- Goal 2: Guide the future and planned growth of towns along the byway corridor
- Goal 3: Collaborate with CTDOT, utility companies, public works departments, and landowners to achieve contextsensitive

 Goal 4: Position Route 169 as an economic driver by unifying area businesses and attractions

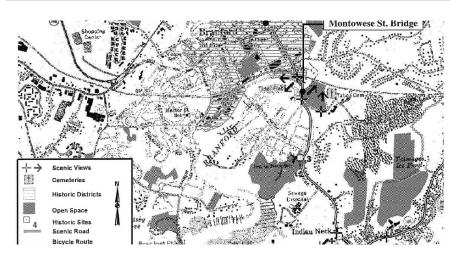




# Route 146 Corridor Management Plan Background



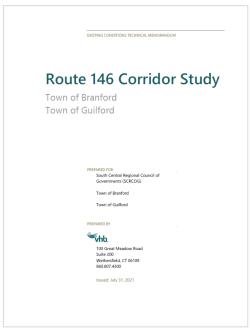
The Route 77 and 146 Scenic Road Advisory Committee and The Connecticut Department of Transportation



#### History of Corridor Management in the Corridor

- Original 1996 Corridor Management Plan for Route 146 & 77
  - Vision focused on Preservation
    - Landscapes, open spaces
    - Reduce impact of development
    - Lower traffic speeds
    - Improve bike/pedestrian access

# Route 146 Corridor Management Plan Background





#### How did we get to this CMP?

- Recent Corridor Study
  - Purpose: Evaluate existing conditions for roadway, amenities and land use, evaluate impacts of roadway flooding and sea level rise, traffic calming, future development, traffic volumes, historic and scenic impacts, evacuation routes and possible alternate scenarios.
  - Existing Conditions Report produced in 2021
  - A more comprehensive review of the corridor was requested due to its many historical, cultural and environmental resources
  - SCRCOG and state officials agreed to develop new Corridor Management Plan

# **Route 146 Corridor Management Plan**

#### Federal Highway Administration 14 Elements of a CMP



- 1. Corridor Mapping
- 2. Assessment of intrinsic qualities and context of the areas along the corridor
- 3. Strategy for maintaining and enhancing the scenic highway qualities
- 4. Stakeholders involved with implementing the CMP
- 5. Strategy for enhancing existing development and accommodating new development
- 6. Ongoing public involvement in the implementation of the CMP
- 7. Corridor Safety Analysis

- 8. Accommodating commercial traffic while ensuring safety of other users
- 9. Minimize intrusions to scenic highway aesthetics
- 10. Roadside features compliance with state and federal requirements on outdoor advertising
- 11. Roadway signing review and signage plan
- 12. Marketing of the Byway
- 13. Context sensitive design standards for roadway modifications
- 14. Scenic Byway interpretation

# Route 146 Corridor Management Plan Project Goals

- Increased safety
- Involve the community
- Protect natural and cultural/historic resources
- ന്റ് ക് Improve bike and pedestrian access
  - Elimate and sea level preparedness
  - Preserve intrinsic qualities
  - Maintain infrastructure
  - **Establish working group**
  - Balance needs and requirements





# **Route 146 Corridor Management Plan Outline**

- Existing Conditions Update
- Context Sensitive Design (Conceptual)
- Coastal Flooding and Resiliency Assessment
- Future Strategies
- Community Involvement Throughout



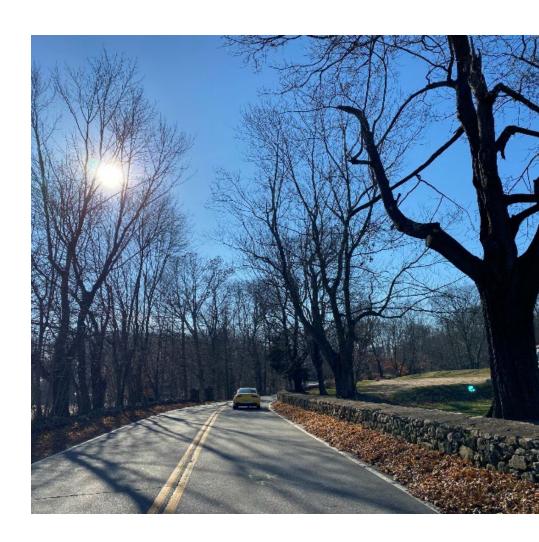
### **Route 146 Corridor Management Plan Outline**

- Community Involvement
  - Study website (<a href="https://route146cmp.com/">https://route146cmp.com/</a>)
  - Public Survey
  - Public Information Meetings
  - Municipal Coordination meetings with Branford and Guilford
  - Stakeholder Focus Group meetings
  - Corridor Field Walks
  - Corridor Working Group (CWG)



# **Route 146 Corridor Working Group Purpose**

- Guide the CMP process
- Guide development of CMP Framework
- Evaluate context-sensitive approaches
- Feedback on deliverables and project approach
- Identify possible stakeholders for focus groups
- Participate in Corridor Field Walks
- Promote public engagement opportunities



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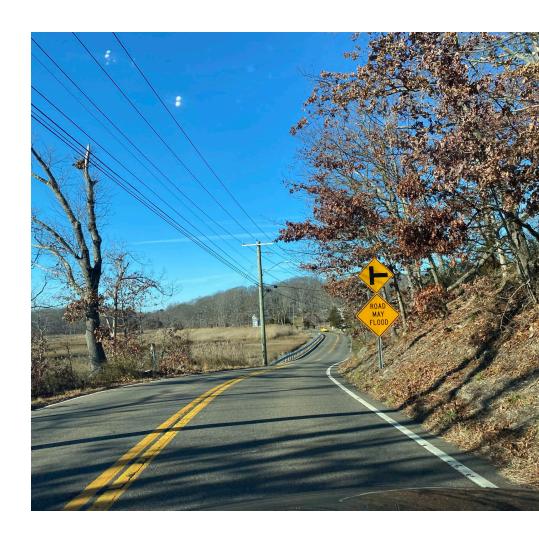
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# Route 146 CMP — Existing Conditions Update

- Elements
  - Field Data & Roadside Development
  - Safety Data
  - Historic and Cultural Resources
  - Land Use
  - Inland/Coastal Wetlands & Flooding Risk
  - Scenic Highway Aesthetics, State and Federal Scenic Highway Programs
  - Traffic Volumes, Speeds, and Vehicle Classification



# Route 146 CMP — Existing Conditions Update



# Field Data & Roadside Development Update

- Under Construction
  - Sybil Creek Bridge Replacement
  - Parkside Village
  - New Housing Developments







### Field Data & Roadside Development Update

- Recently Completed
  - Limewood Ave Sea Wall & Sidewalks
  - Branford Road Safety Audit
  - Sidewalks on Route 1 near Route 146 (Branford)
  - New sidewalks on Boston St (Guilford)







# **Safety Data Update**

Table 1: Overall Route 146 Collision Types

Type of Collision	2017	2018	2019	Total Collisions	Percent	2020	2021	2022	Total Collisions	Percent
Rear End	22	17	13	52	24.90%	17	9	13	39	20.90%
Angle	18	18	17	53	25.40%	15	15	20	50	26.70%
Fixed Object	8	5	10	23	11.10%	13	15	7	35	18.70%
Sideswipe	8	5	8	21	10.00%	8	10	11	29	15.50%
Animal	2	4	3	9	4.30%	3	2	0	5	2.70%
Bicycle	1	3	1	5	2.40%	2	1	1	4	2.10%
Pedestrian	1	1	1	3	1.40%	1	1	0	2	1.10%
Other	17	15	11	43	20.50%	10	6	7	23	12.30%
Total	77	68	64	209	100%	69	59	59	187	100%

Source: UConn Connecticut Crash Data Repository

# **Safety Data Update**

Table 2: Overall Route 146 Collision Severity

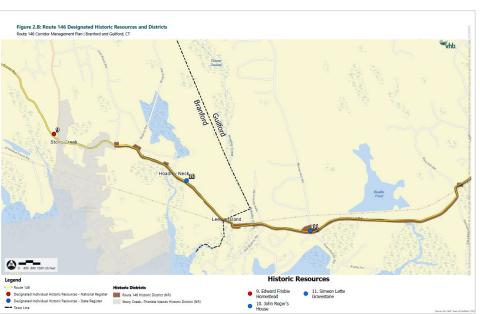
Type of Collision	2017	2018	2019	Total Collisions	Percent	2020	2021	2022	Total Collisions	Percent
Property Damage Only	56	56	55	167	79.9%	55	47	46	148	79.2%
Injury	20	12	9	41	19.6%	14	12	11	38	20.3%
Fatal	1	0	0	1	0.5%	0	0	1	1	0.5%
Total	77	68	64	209	100%	69	59	59	187	100%

Source: UConn Connecticut Crash Data Repository

### **Historic/Cultural Resources Update**

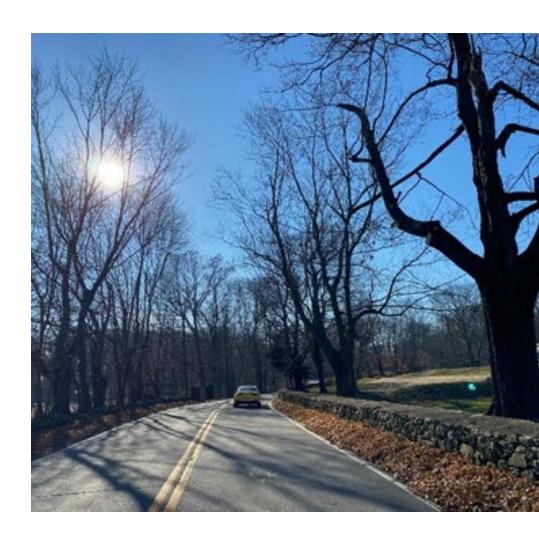
- Revisions to maps and list of designated historic/cultural resources
- New State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) mapping effort of resources
- Resources removed and added based on new information
  - Resources in a historic district without individual designation not mapped individually
  - Not proximate to Route 146—removed
  - Match SHPO's mapped data





# Land Use, Wetlands, Scenic Byway Program Update

- Land Use
  - Guilford is currently updating its zoning & subdivision regulations
- Inland/Coastal Wetlands
  - No changes to wetlands mapping in Guilford
  - Some edits and updates to mapping in Branford
- National Scenic Byway Program
  - New federal funding in last two years



# Traffic Volumes, Speeds, & Classification Update

- Volumes
  - February 2023 counts 35% lower on average than July 2019 counts
    - Seasonal variation
  - Comparable CTDOT data 2020 counts may have COVID-19 effects
- Speeds
  - Only two with excessive speeding (>=10 mph over limit)
    - South of Sybil Creek Place and east of Pine Tree Drive (Branford)
  - Previous studies in 2020/2021 showed majority of locations along the corridor with excessive speeds
- Vehicle Types (Classification)
- Additional data collection planned for summer



### Route 146 Corridor Management Plan — Schedule

#### Winter/Spring 2023

Update Existing Conditions, Data Collection, Community Outreach

#### • Summer 2023

Develop draft Context-Sensitive Design Approaches, Updated Flood Risk

#### • Fall 2023

Additional Community Outreach, Future Strategies Development

#### Winter/Spring 2024

Finalize Corridor Management Plan

### Route 146 Corridor Management Plan — **Next Steps**

- Finalize Existing Conditions Report Update
- Corridor Field Walk: May 2023 (Corridor Working Group)
- Stakeholder Representative Interviews: April-June 2023
- Next Public Information Meeting & Survey: September-October 2023
- Corridor Working Group Meetings: Ongoing



### Route 146 Corridor Management Plan — **Next Steps**

#### Stakeholder Groups

- Town Police & Fire Chiefs
- Active Transportation Groups
- Economic Development Commissions & Chamber of Commerce
- Emergency Management Organizations & Hazard Mitigation Commissions
- Environmental Groups Land Trusts, Conservation Commissions, Wetlands Commissions
- Historic District Commission/Societies
- Environmental Justice Communities



### Route 146 Corridor Management Plan Feedback - TODAY

- Study website (<a href="https://route146cmp.com/">https://route146cmp.com/</a>)
  - Google/Bing Route 146CMP
- Project Email <u>DOT.Route146@ct.gov</u>
- Written Comment Forms

#### Public Input Format TODAY

- Come to Podium, Name, Affiliation (if any) and question/comment
- Be Sure to speak to microphone for recording purposes
- Virtual Use Project Email Address Questions will be read tonight





# Route 146 Corridor Management Plan Adjournment

Study website

https://route146cmp.com/

Project Email

DOT.Route146@ct.gov

Written Comment Forms



Thank you Branford Community TV for recording and broadcasting this meeting!



