



## **STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546 NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546

## Notice of Public Hearings

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) will conduct virtual public hearings on rail service and fare changes that were previously made in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the proposed elimination of the Mail & Ride fare media. The hearings will also cover proposed service changes to CT*transit* bus service and minor fare changes on two CT*transit* Express bus routes.

Service changes to the New Haven Line, New Canaan Line, Danbury Line, Waterbury Line, Shore Line East, and Hartford Line were previously implemented on an emergency basis. No further reductions in rail service are expected. Proposed bus changes include service changes to CT*transit* Express bus service to/from Hartford and CT*transit* New Haven local service; and minor fare changes for Hartford Express routes 950 and 912.

At these hearings, CTDOT will provide information and accept public comments on the service and fare proposals and the Service and Fare Equity (SAFE) analysis. The SAFE analysis evaluates the proposed changes to determine if they will cause a disparate impact to minority persons or a disproportionate burden to people with low incomes, as defined by the FTA Title VI circular. **The proposed service and fare changes may be viewed on the Department's website at** www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges and will be available as of Thursday, April 29, 2021. The public comment period will run from April 29 to May 28, 2021.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the hearings will be conducted virtually via Zoom's online platform and toll-free conference call feature. The public hearings will also be live streamed via Microsoft Teams Live Event and YouTube. All public hearings will be recorded and published online for later viewing.

DATE	TIME
Tuesday, May 18, 2021	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 19, 2021	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 20, 2021	12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 25, 2021	12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

For more information on how to attend the public hearings, information on the proposed changes, and to access the SAFE analysis please visit:<u>www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges</u>.

To request a copy of the SAFE analysis by mail, please email us at <u>dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov</u> or by leaving a voicemail at (860) 597-8226. Please allow one week for processing and delivery. If your organization

would like to request a virtual presentation of the SAFE analysis, please email or call using the contact information listed above. The CTDOT will make every effort to accommodate your request.

## How to participate in the virtual public hearings:

- Registration is encouraged; however, it is only required for those would wish to provide a comment during the hearing. To register, please visit <a href="http://www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges">www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges</a> or call (860) 597-8226 and leave a voicemail with your full name and contact information. Registration will be accepted up to the day of the hearing and will remain open for the duration of the hearing.
- A link to attend the public hearings and public information sessions will be posted on <a href="https://www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges">www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges</a>.
- Individuals can listen to the meeting by calling Toll Free **833-548-0282** and entering the Participant Code for the select date when prompted at the time of the hearing.

DATE	Participant Code
Tuesday, May 18, 2021	868 0548 0237
Wednesday, May 19, 2021	825 8388 4604
Thursday, May 20, 2021	828 3539 6183
Tuesday, May 25, 2021	889 8536 0541

Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS).
Zoom provides closed captioning. Also, the live meetings will be shown simultaneously on Microsoft Teams Live Event, which offers non-English translation options. Language assistance may be requested by contacting the CTDOT's Language Assistance Call Line (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least 5 business days prior to the hearing. Language assistance is made available at no cost and efforts will be made to respond to requests for assistance.

Recordings of the hearings and formal presentation will be posted to YouTube with closed captioning, including non-English translation options. Links will be provided at <u>www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges</u>.

## How to submit comments:

- You may make a comment at any time from April 29th to May 28th, 2021 by email, phone, US Mail or the local libraries, using the information below.
- To make a comment during a public hearing: Register for the hearing at <u>www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges</u> or by calling 860-597-8226.
- Email: <u>dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov</u>
- Voicemail: (860) 597-8226
- US Mail: COMMENT ON PROPOSED FARE AND SERVICE CHANGES, Bureau of Public Transportation, P.O. Box 317546, Newington, CT 06131-7546.

A copy of the SAFE analysis will be available at the following public libraries. Written comments will also be accepted at these locations:

- Waterbury's Silas Bronson Library, Main Branch, 267 Grand Street, Waterbury
- New Haven Free Public Library, Ives Main Library, 133 Elm Street, New Haven
- The Public Library of New London, 63 Huntington Street, New London
- Hartford Public Library, Downtown Branch, 500 Main Street, Hartford
- Stamford's Ferguson Library, Main Library, Dimattia Building, One Public Library Plaza, Stamford

For general questions please email us <u>dot.proposedtransitchanges@ct.gov</u> or call (860) 597-8226.



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