

ARRA Highlights:

Highway/ Bridge

The Department has received bids on 18 bridge and/or highway projects ranging from bridge replacements to pavement preservation scattered all around the State. Many of the bigger projects are multi-year projects that are well underway and will generate and sustain jobs over the course of several construction seasons. Some of the most notable include: the Rehabilitation of Route 5 bridge over I-91 in Enfield, the replacement of the Bridge deck joints on the Baldwin Bridge on I-95 in Old Saybrook, a Route 89 bridge Replacement project in Ashford and the route 15 resurfacing, safety and bridge repair project in Fairfield and Trumbull. In addition, work has begun on three resurfacing projects located on I-91, Route 8, and Route 2. These paving projects will cover approximately 30 total miles and are scheduled to be completed this construction season. Numerous other projects are just kicking off and we will see much more activity in the 2010 construction season. Included in this group are: the Amtrak over Route 1 bridge replacement/road widening in Branford and various statewide projects that will replace overhead sign supports and traffic signals.

Enhancements

Six enhancement projects will be advertised early in 2010. The Mystic Streetscape improvement project is well under way and the Sue Grossman Stillwater Greenway project in Torrington is quickly wrapping up and will be completed this year.

Municipal/Regional

The Department is actively engaged with many municipalities to complete and advertise approximately 85 projects. 27 of these projects have been advertised or will be advertised by the end of the calendar year and an additional 57 will be advertised in the first two months of 2010. These projects include: pavement preservation, full depth road reconstruction, and full bridge replacements. Projects nearing completion include: Old Main Street reconstruction in Rocky Hill and the resurfacing of a Town Park & Ride lot in New Fairfield.

Bus and Rail Transit Projects

The Department has completed the request for proposals process and is preparing purchase orders to buy 132 new replacement transit buses. The order will include the purchase of 37 hybrid diesel-electric buses using a combination of ARRA and TIGGER funding. The Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority has begun their engine replacement project and the Norwalk Transit District broke ground on Monday, October 26 for their downtown pulse point construction project. Design work has begun for new vehicle storage accommodations for the Windham Transit District and a TIGGER grant is funding the design, purchase, and installation of one or more stationary fuel cell power plants in state-owned transit facilities.

Four commuter rail infrastructure and facilities projects are currently underway. The Danbury Branch Signalization/Centralized Traffic Control Project has begun with the purchase of ground materials, signal equipment, and cable. Also, construction on a project to expand commuter rail parking in Branford on the Shoreline East line has begun. Work will continue on these two projects through 2010 and into 2011. The project to upgrade various aspects of the new Haven Line stations will enter the construction phase in early 2010. Work includes platforms, canopy repair/painting, railings, and stair repairs. The major maintenance facility in the New Haven Rail Yard, the Component Changeout Shop, has been bid and will begin construction in early 2010. This facility will be the main service area for the new fleet of M8s.