



# CITY OF STAMFORD

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## Department of Transportation, Traffic & Parking Annual Report - 2018/2019



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## Mission

The City of Stamford's Transportation, Traffic and Parking Department combine's elements of traffic safety and engineering, transportation planning, parking management, community and community engagement to improve the lives of residents and visitors.

Our mission is to enhance and maintain the city's transportation assets and infrastructure with a particular emphasis on safety, mobility, and sustainable practices.

We will consistently strive to improve our core functions related to traffic signals, signs, pavement markings, and on- and off-street parking management into an integrated environment which embraces our values and practices.

The Department works closely with the Connecticut Department of Transportation to ensure that the region's transportation infrastructure, consisting of highways, railroads, port, and all forms of public transportation meet the current and future needs for our residents, businesses, and guests.

The City maintains its competitive advantage as the State's economic engine by offering a transit-rich, sustainable urban setting. Moving forward in a time of incredible innovation that is coupled with increased traffic congestion and global climate change, the depth of transit and its relation to autonomous vehicles will become even more vital in our overall environmental performance and economic growth.

The department remains committed to addressing quality of life issues, ensuring economic growth, and fostering sustainable practices within a network that at its core connects people to their community. The department is organized in four groups: Traffic Control, Transportation Management, Parking Operations, and Transportation Planning.





## Staff Directory

### Administration

Jim Travers	Bureau Chief	(203) 977-4133
Crystal Mitchell	Administrative Assistant	(203) 977-5466

### Traffic Control and Management

Garrett Bolella	Traffic Engineer	(203) 977-1126
Frank Petise	Traffic Engineer	(203) 977-4124
OPEN	Signal Engineer	(203) 977-5675

### Signs / Markings & Meter Crews

#### Signs Crew

Orazio Cirelli.	Signs/ Markings & Meters Supervisor	(203) 977-5968
Agnes Modugno	Office Support Specialist	
Ralph Socci	Sign Maker/ Mechanic	
Santo Didonato	Crew Chief	
Keith Rich	Laborer	
Chris Kocot	Laborer	
Eddie Whitehead	Maintenance Worker	
Chris Baldwin	Laborer	
Francisco DeJesus	Laborer	
Jeffrey Proccacinni	Maintenance Worker	

#### Meter Crew

John Barden	Perm/ Part-time	
James Visser	Meter Tech	
Dan Greco	Meter Tech	
William Navarro	Meter Tech	
Carl Vogt	Maintenance Worker	

#### Signal Crew

Stephen Frycz	Traffic Signal Supervisor	(203) 977-4004
Stephen Fecteau	Traffic Signal Technician II	
Paul Montanaro	Traffic Signal Seasonal	
William Ridgeway	Traffic Signal Technician I	

### Parking Management

Gary Peterson	Violation Enforcement Supervisor	(203) 977-5513
OPEN	Special Officer	(203) 977-4233
David Gladstone	Special Officer	

### Violation Officers

Joseph Baskin	Kevin Castillo	Ryan Devaney
Daniel Dinardo	Vincent Migliano	Joseph Nicolo
Salvatore Viggiano		



## Transportation Bureau Work Summary

During fiscal year 2017/2018 the Transportation Bureau delivered engineering and operations service to the community in many key areas including traffic engineering, transportation planning, traffic operations, parking management, and parking enforcement. This was the third year in which the unified Bureau was under common leadership and staff continues to improve opportunities for collaboration under the new department structure as reflected in the increased productivity highlighted below.

Overall, the Bureau received and responded to over, 2000 service requests from the community in many areas. These service requests entailed traffic concerns, signs/markings requests, signals requests, parking and enforcement request. The bureau placed an emphasis on customer service and received numerous compliments from the public regarding services provided this year.

### Traffic Engineering

Traffic Engineering Division continued with addressing community concerns on traffic safety and efficiency, review of development projects to mitigate current and future traffic problems; management of major transportation improvement projects; and continued pursuit of grant funds from state and federal agencies for enhancement projects.

Staff continued management of existing projects under the following grant programs while pursuing additional projects:

- Local Transportation Capital Improvements Program (LOTICIP);
- Surface Transportation Program (STP);
- Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Program (TIGER III);
- Local Roads Accident Reduction Program (LRARP);
- Community Connectivity Grant Program (CCGP);
- Responsible Growth/Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Program;
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ); and,
- Public Private Partnerships (PPP).

The existing projects include:

- Fiber Optic Trunk Cable Replacement Project (LOTICIP);
- Atlantic Street at Henry Street Intersection Improvements (LOTICIP);
- West Ave / West Main St Intersection Improvements (LOTICIP) – Construction began in November 2018;



- Greenwich/Pulaski round-a-bout (LOTICIP), 100% Design Completed, 74 – 76 Pulaski Building Demolition Complete;
- Oaklawn Avenue between Halpin Avenue and Stanwick Place (STP) – Project is in construction and scheduled to be completed in Spring 2019;



- Summer Street between Hoyt St and Main St pedestrian improvements (LRARP), 60% Design Submission Complete;
- Long Ridge Road Sidewalk Design, 30% Conceptual Design Underway;
- Boxer Square intersection redesign (CCGP), 30% Conceptual Design Underway;
- Springdale Neighborhood Transit Oriented Development Improvements (Responsible Growth TOD);
- CMAQ Project G – Traffic Signal Upgrades at Six Intersections – Out to bid for construction inspection
- Greenwich/Selleck/Southfield intersection realignment (PPP), Completed Summer 2018;





Furthermore, staff has begun to move the unfunded Greenwich Avenue/Davenport Circulator Project forward through partnerships.

A major milestone for the City in FY 16/17 entailed the collection of traffic data at all 207 signalized intersections to start a city-wide traffic signal optimization. For FY 17/18, this data translated into our first corridors that we implemented new signal timings. Several corridors outside the city-center were completed with implementation of the city-center signals expected in the Spring of 2019. Urban Engineers was selected to undertake data collection and calculate the new timings of the traffic synchronization on City's arterial system, while city staff has taken on the responsibility of the actual implementation.

The LOTCIP program provides State funds for capital municipal projects which cover 100 percent of the construction cost. While the LOTCIP solicitation was temporarily put on hold by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) for FY 17/18, the City continued to move forward with the application for the realignment of the Strawberry Hill Avenue at Rock Spring Road Intersection.

In September 2018, the LOTIP program was officially resumed, and the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG) solicited projects for the fiscal years 2018 – 2021. The City submitted proposals for three (3) new project's all of which were approved for funding. The City is currently finalizing the applications for CTDOTs final review:

- \$2,500,000 to Install 360 Degree Video Detection at Critical Collector and Arterial Roads through-out the City;
- \$2,500,000 Intersection Improvement Project at Atlantic Street and Main Street; and,
- \$3,600,000 Intersection Improvement Project at West Main Street and Richmond Hill Avenue.

The Department also continued momentum through the award of a Responsible Growth/TOD Grant and Community Connectivity Grant in the second half of 2018;

- \$2,000,000 for Transportation Improvements around the Springdale Train Station;
- \$500,000 to Redesign Boxer Square Intersection.

Lastly in January 2019, the Department was notified of \$200,000 in planning monies for the design of a one-mile multi-use trail between High Ridge Road and Newfield Avenue.



Through the Planning Board/Zoning Board (and Board of Appeals) review process the Department secured nearly \$4,000,000 in funding through developers for numerous transportation improvement projects through-out the City including but not limited to:

- \$1,200,000 for Intersection Improvements at Atlantic Street and Tresser Boulevard and Atlantic Street at Federal Street;
- \$674,000 for Intersection Improvements at Washington Boulevard at Tresser Boulevard;
- \$500,000 for Traffic Signal Upgrade on Greyrock Place and Stamford Town Center Access Drive;
- \$450,000 for Traffic Signal Upgrade and Pedestrian Mobility Safety Improvements at Bedford Street and North Street;
- \$40,000 for Pedestrian Signal Improvements on High Ridge Road at Terrace Avenue;
- Numerous sidewalk and smaller mobility enhancements.

The Department pursued the following additional funding sources for planning, design and construction funding:

- \$1,000,000 Local Accident Reduction Program (LRARP) for the Intersection of Atlantic Street at Broad Street;
- \$225,000 Capital Grant for Enhanced Mobility on Upper Summer Street,
- \$200,000 BAR Planning Grant for Greenwich Avenue and Davenport Street (Future One-Way Circulator)
- \$100,000 Grant For Pedestrian Signage.

Funding Sources for the following projects for design & construction are being explored:

- South End Street Improvements
- Implementation of High Ridge Road & Long Ridge Road Corridor study Recommendations
- Largo Drive at Hope Street Railroad Crossing & Commuter Parking
- Broad Street at Washington Blvd Intersection Improvements
- Stillwater Ave at West Ave Intersection Improvements
- Broad Street at Atlantic Street- Intersection Improvements
- Glenbrook Neighborhood Transit Oriented Development Study Elements
- Third Street at Morgan Street- Intersection Improvements
- City-wide pedestrian and vehicular wayfinding





The State Department of Transportation has wrapped up Phase I construction of Metro-North Bridge over Atlantic Street Replacement project which entailed relocation of utilities and construction of Atlantic Street ramp fly-over. Phase II of the project which includes replacement of the MNNR Bridge and Atlantic Street railroad underpass improvements have been awarded and began in 2018. This project includes lowering of Atlantic Street and geometric improvements to Atlantic Street between South State and North State Streets. A full closure of Atlantic Street between North State Street and Station Place was put into effect on February 19, 2019 and will last approximately 6 months.

The State is making numerous transportation investment projects involving the modernization of traffic signals in Stamford, which require significant coordination with the Department. The Department has negotiated the following ten traffic signals to be upgraded over the next few years.

1. North State Street at Atlantic Street (MNNR Bridge)
2. North State Street at Canal Street (MNNR Bridge)
3. South State Street at Atlantic Street (MNNR Bridge)
4. South State Street at Interstate 95 Exit Ramp (MNNR Bridge)
5. Atlantic Street at Station Place (Upgrade as part of MNNR Bridge)
6. Courtland Avenue at East Main Street
7. Courtland Avenue at East Main Street
8. East Main Street at Seaside Avenue (Route 1 Bridge Replacement Over 95)
9. East Main Street at Weed Avenue (Noroton River Bridge Replacement)
10. Washington Boulevard at South State Street (Stamford Transit Center Garage)

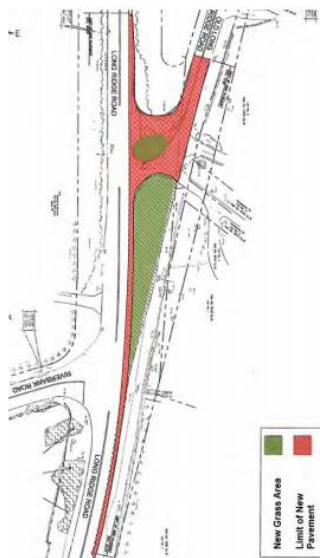
Over the course of the **FY 17/18** the Traffic Engineering Division received 121 Traffic Calming requests through the FixIt Stamford. To date (as of March) in **FY 18/19** we received 107 requests for Traffic Investigations, which include Traffic Calming and put the department on track to surpass last year's requests.

Through these community requests for traffic calming investigations, the department initiated the following projects:

- Installed a speed hump on Turner Road;
- Completed a new pavement marking plan for Hope Street to reduce the frequency and severity of accidents to be implemented as part of the roadway resurfacing project scheduled for Spring/Summer 2019;
- Installed a sidewalk extension on Hope Street in preparation for roadway resurfacing project;



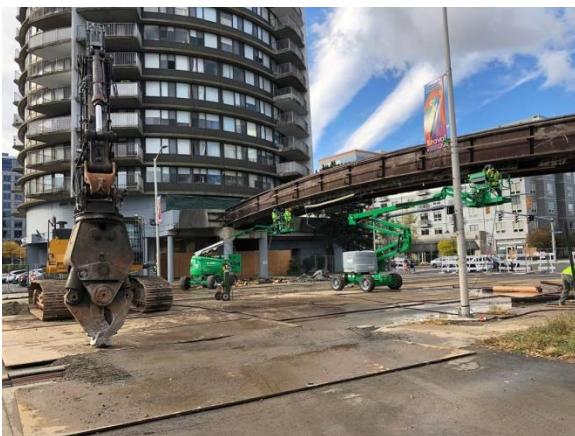
- Design and Constructed sidewalk and roadway improvements on Hamilton Avenue as part of the Fall 2018 roadway resurfacing program;
- Completed New Pavement Marking Plans for West Broad Street, between Washington Boulevard and Stillwater Avenue which incorporate recommendations of the West Side Transportation Study to be implemented Spring/Summer 2019;
- Completed New Pavement Marking Plans for Stillwater Avenue, between Palmer’s Hill Road and Mill River Street which incorporate recommendations of the West Side Transportation Study to be implemented Spring/Summer 2019;
- Intersection improvements for Long Ridge Road and Old Long Ridge Road as recommended in the Long Ridge Road Corridor Study;



- Implemented Residential Parking Programs on Stone Street and Hubbard Heights
- Completed a Road Safety Audit of Route 1 Corridor and implement new pavement markings on Route which increase parking and pedestrian crossings and also simplified lane assignments;
- Continued the deployment of our Speed Trailer at a variety of locations based on resident requests. Speed Trailer findings resulted in the subsequent design of Traffic Calming measures including Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) planned to be installed on the following roadways:
  - Stillwater Avenue at Progress Drive;
  - Cold Spring Road at Windsor Road;
  - Atlantic Street at Bell Street;
  - Blachley Road;
  - Glenbrook Road, between East Main Street and Daskam Place.
- Designed for Halpin Avenue Sidewalk to be constructed Spring/Summer 2019 through a PPP;
- Designed a traffic circle design for Hartswood Road at Meadowbrook to be constructed Spring/Summer 2019;
- Designed a Bulb-out/Curb Extension for the intersection of Lockwood Avenue at Orange Street to be implemented Spring/Summer 2019.

The Traffic Engineering Department is ultimately a Safety Department and also responsible for the review of provisions and plans related to the maintenance of protection of traffic for all roadway users (workers, motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, pedestrians with disabilities in roadway work zones). Our Department is tasked with maintaining traffic flow through work zones on a daily basis. 2017 and 2018 milestones include:

- November 9 to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Tresser Boulevard Pedestrian Bridge Demolition
- January 2019 - St. John's Tower Demo





- February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Atlantic Street Bridge Widening Project Roadway Closure



### Transportation Planning

In FY 2018/2019, staff continued major short term and long range transportation planning initiatives. These initiatives included:

- Citywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
  - Finalized the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan through Community and Technical Advisory Committees
  - Completed plans for lane restriping on High Ridge Rd to include bike lanes.
- Bus & Shuttle Study
  - Completed Bus & Shuttle Study late 2018.
    - Began to Implement Recommendations of the Shuttle Study
    - Closed Shuttle Entrance on Washington Boulevard at South State Street, eliminating historical gridlocking at this location during commuter peak hours.
  - In Design of dedicated Shuttle only ingress to Shuttle Station and increased capacity on Guernsey Street for Buses and Shuttles.
- Car Share Pilot
  - The Department, in partnership with Economic Development has been engaging Zip Car to expand service in Stamford
  - As part of the Innovation Grant, a pilot is planned with on-street spaces reserved for car share



- Stamford Street Smart Initiatives –
  - Continue to enhance pedestrian infrastructure at signalized intersections
  - Presence at community events to educate public on Street Safety
    - Including Read Across America, Bike to Work Day, and Walk to Work Day
- Safe Route to Schools –
  - Conducted evaluations for enhancing sidewalks and safety-related improvements to provide safe access to schools. Evaluations were done at two schools and part of our student summer internship program.

## **Parking and Parking Enforcement**

The Division concluded FY 2017/2018 with 70,528 tickets with a value of \$2,619,415.00, and remains largely on track in forecasting 2018/2019.

- 317 scofflaws enforced (mainly due to the License Plate Reader).
- 834 snow emergency routes ticketed.
- 271 Alternate side snow accumulation tows.
- 612 one hundred and twenty hours violations issued.
- 575 citizen service responses.

Parking Enforcement purchased 2 additional License Plate Readers (LPR) in 2018. The LPR's will assist the Department in more efficient enforcement and allow for increased operations in city-wide booting of scofflaws.

In addition to parking enforcement related duties, the officers assisted other Stamford units with work requiring road closures and traffic control, such as leaf pickup, installation and maintenance of traffic signal equipment and sewer cleaning.

The Department manages 4 parking garages with over 2,000 parking spaces. In FY17/18 we implemented parking agreements with UCONN, Indeed and Vela for over 800 monthly parking passes total in our garages.

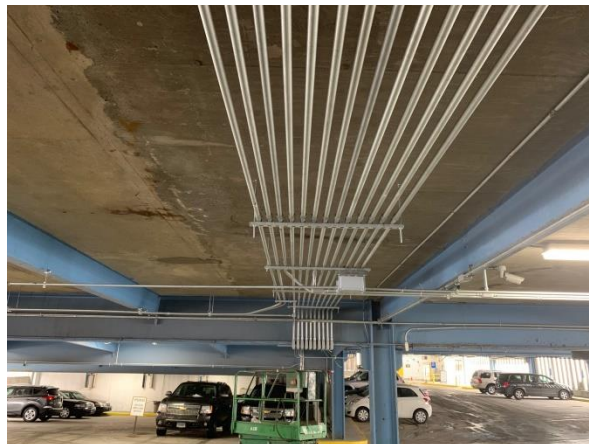
Conditions Assessments were completed for the Bell Street Garage and the Bedford Street Garages. These reports will be the baseline for improvements needed in these facilities. Two of the garage improvements that were ongoing in FY17-18 are:



- Bedford Street Garage – Painting of the interior walls was completed in FY17-18.



- Bell Street Garage Electrical Renovation – Project valued at \$750,000 and began in July 2018. The project includes the replacement of the garage generator as well as the entire electrical system in the garage which was well past its useful life.



From December 2018 through February 2019 the Department installed 22 new multi-space parking meters and 300 single space parking meters.

The multi-space meters were installed in 4 parking garages and 4 surface lots including the Glenbrook and Springdale Train Station Lots. In the process of replacing the meters we converted all of the garages and lots from “pay by space” number to “pay by plate” license plate number. This will allow the City to enforce using License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology. It will also help convert to digital permitting by license plate in the near future.



The single space meters were installed in in the Downtown area, the new meters are digital smart meters that accept credit cards in addition to coins, this leads to a customer friendly experience.







The City contracted with Paylock and launched a self-releasing smartboot program in February 2019. In the first 3 weeks of the program Parking Enforcement placed 100 boots on vehicles owing \$65,000. The program has been a great success in a short period of time in comparison to our towing program which towed 272 vehicles owing \$160,000 over the course of an entire year.




## **Traffic Operations Work Summary**

Traffic Operations Division, which includes Traffic Signal Unit, Signs/Marking Unit, and Parking Meter Maintenance Unit; achieved and surpassed the established milestones.

### **1. Traffic Signal Maintenance**

- Routine maintenance of 207 signalized intersections.
- Responded to 1112 service calls during business hours and 213 after business hours.
- Signal equipment damaged by motor vehicle crashes at 36 locations
- LED Lamp Replacement at 190 locations.
- Conflict Monitor Reset at 141 locations
- Conflict Monitor Replacement at 9 locations
- Scheduled New Controller Replacements at 5 intersections.
- NO TURN ON RED Illuminated Sign Installation at 4 locations.
- RRFB Crosswalks installed at 4 locations.
- Wireless POD detection systems installed at 10 intersections.
- Gridsmart Video detection system installed at 5 intersections.



2. Traffic Signs & Markings FY 17/18 (Unless Otherwise Noted)

- Responded to 504 Service Requests.
- Fabricated 943 Traffic Related Signs.
- Installed & repaired 314 Traffic Related Signs.
- Fabricated a total of 2,154 Decals/Permits (Residential Parking Permits, etc.).
- Posted 2,538 Emergency No Parking Signs.
- Trimmed Brush and Foliage at 86 Locations to Improve Sightlines.
- Routine Maintenance Refreshed 70.4 Miles of Traffic Paint (including longlines [center, lane and edgelines] lane extension lines at intersections, crosswalks, lane marking symbols and parking stalls).
- Restriped 40 Miles of Roadway with Thermoplastic Paint in Fall 2018, (Restriping another 40+ Miles of Roadway in Spring 2019.).
- Maintained Seven (7) City Lots.
- Participated in 35 Special Events (including the set-up and removal of all barricades and channelization devices).
- Installed 190 Banners Downtown and Located 38 Pieces of Art in Public Places.
- Responded to 24 Emergency Call-outs (Traffic Signal/Stop Sign Down, Pole Down, etc.).
- Responded to 19 Snow Events/Emergencies.
- Processed 17 Handicap Applications for On-Street Parking.
- Issued 19 Citations for Ordinance Violations.
- Re-Signed the Bedford Street, Bell Street, Summer Street and West Park Place Garages.

3. Meter Maintenance

- Repaired 2617 meters
- Conducted 8,880 routine meter collection
- Conducted 1865 routine collection at multi-space pay stations



## Recognitions

Watch For Me CT, reported that for the first time in years that Connecticut's fastest growing municipality, fell out of the Top Five Cities/Towns with Pedestrian Fatalities in Connecticut.

The Stamford Advocate recently published an article that found a 55% reduction in crashes on higher volume roadways.

The Department reported a 52% reduction in the number of accidents and a 77% reduction in angled collisions after implementation of improvements at the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Tresser Boulevard after implementation of safety improvements at this location. 2018 also marked the lowest accident rate in recent years with zero injuries reported.

On Summer Street, between Long Ridge Road/High Ridge Road and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street the Department reported a 48% reduction in accidents, 76% reduction in accidents with injuries and a 44% reduction in sideswipe collisions after the roadway resurfacing and restriping program. 2018 marked the lowest accident rate per this section of Summer Street in recent years.

The City of Stamford hosted the New England Parking Council (NEPC) Municipal Forum for the first time in February 2019.

A total of \$44,000,000 was either requested and/or secured through grants in the previous year and private developer contributions. If the Department were to continue on this trajectory, based on this years Capital Budget request of \$3,390,000 every \$1.00 invested by the City into the Department would potentially be matched by an additional \$13.00.