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## OFFICE OF OPERATIONS TRANSPORTATION, TRAFFIC & PARKING

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## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO:

30<sup>TH</sup> BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

FROM:

James Travers

Frank Francis com **Transportation Bureau Chief** 

Garrett Bolella, P.E., PTOE.

Traffic Engineer

DATE:

June 10, 2019

RE:

Land Swap Agreement For The Exchange of Real Property By and Between the

City of Stamford and O&G Industries

The Transportation, Traffic and Parking (TTP) Department is pleased to report that we have finalized plans for the Greenwich/Pulaski Roundabout (commenced in 2009) and are awaiting final project authorization by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT). As the plans are substantially complete, our Department is now able to finalize land agreements necessary to proceed with construction of the project. TTP is requesting that the 30<sup>th</sup> Board of Representatives take immediate action on the proposed Land Swap Agreement for the Exchange of Real Property By and Between the City of Stamford and O&G Industries so that we may maintain the momentum of this project and deliver it in a timely fashion. The Land Swap is critical to construct both intersection improvements at Greenwich Avenue and Pulaski Street (referred to as "Greenwich/Pulaski Roundabout") and improvements to Davenport Street (referred to as "The Waterside Circulator").

These projects are a culmination of over a decade of planning, building on the 2006 Conceptual Plan for the Greenwich Avenue/Davenport Street Corridors which paired Greenwich Avenue and Davenport Street as one-way circulator roadways. The reconfiguration of these two (2) roads is necessary to improve congestion, safety and circulation at and between the Greenwich/Pulaski Roundabout and the Greenwich Avenue/Southfield Avenue/Selleck Street Intersection Improvement Project (a public-private partnership which was completed in 2018 bringing incremental improvements to the neighborhood). However completing the Greenwich/Pulaski Roundabout and Waterside Circulator are now necessary to provide a long-term and cost effective solution to the persistent congestion within the neighborhood. Timely, finalization of the Land Swap Agreement and Property Exchange are necessary to obtain a Project Authorization Letter (to execute an agreement with the CTDOT, advance the project to advertising and ultimately begin construction on the project) and receive \$2,400,000 in State Grant funding.

The Greenwich/Pulaski Roundabout and Waterside Circulator Projects are a culmination of numerous public hearings/community meetings and significant public and stakeholder input. The final public hearing was held at the Stamford Government Center Cafeteria on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at which time it was determined the entire Waterside Circulator project was necessary to complement the Greenwich/Pulaski Roundabout. The most recent community meeting was hosted by the local Waterside Coalition on Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 P.M., at the Salvation Army on Selleck Street, with attendance from both district representatives and countless residents and businesses in the Waterside Community. At this meeting the Transportation, Traffic and Parking Department presented the plans for the now complete Greenwich Avenue/Southfield Avenue/Selleck Street Intersection in addition to the Greenwich/Pulaski Roundabout and Waterside Circulator. The plans were received with unanimous support.

We now request that 30<sup>th</sup> Board of Representatives take immediate action on the proposed Land Swap Agreement to allow for improvements to Davenport Street and construction of the Greenwich Avenue Roundabout as early as summer 2019. The Greenwich/Pulaski Roundabout and Waterside Circulator projects are anticipated to take 24 months to complete construction which includes any potential winter shutdowns due to inclement weather. We thank you for your continued support of these projects and our department in bringing permanent relief to the Waterside neighborhood and improving livability and quality of life along this vibrant corridor.