





# The Norwalk Hour

## CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

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### PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### Notice of Permit Application

Town: City of Norwalk

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Transportation (the "applicant") of 2800 Berlin Turnpike Newington, CT 06131 has submitted to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection an application under Connecticut General Statutes Section 22a-32 for a permit to conduct regulated activities in tidal wetlands and Section 22a-361 to conduct work in tidal coastal or navigable waters of the State; and 33 U.S.C. Section 1341 (401 Water Quality Certification) to conduct an activity which may result in a discharge to certain waters of the State.

Specifically, the applicant proposes to replace the New Haven Line Railroad Bridge (Walk Bridge, Bridge No. 04288F) crossing the Norwalk River in Norwalk, Connecticut. The project consists of the removal of the existing bridge, including the superstructure, substructure elements (abutments and piers), timber pier protection system, and deactivated electrical and railroad submarine cables; and construction of the replacement bridge. The four-span replacement bridge includes two side-by-side, 240-foot vertical lift spans across the Norwalk River, each with independently operated mechanical and electrical equipment. The pair of 240-foot vertical lift spans provides 170 feet horizontal navigational clearance between fenders, 60.73 feet vertical clearance above mean high water (MHW) when the span is fully raised, and 25.73 feet vertical clearance above MHW when the span is closed. There are two western approach spans and one eastern approach span. The approach spans are side-by-side, two-track structures; the north structure carries Tracks 1 and 3 and the south structure carries Tracks 2 and 4. Each structure is comprised of a precast concrete composite ballasted deck supported on four simply-supported built-up welded plate girders. The lift spans are 40-foot deep through trusses, each with a double-intersection Warren truss configuration without verticals. Each lift span is an open-deck two-track structure made up of trusses with floor beams supporting track stringers. Tower structures at the end of the lift spans support the lifting mechanisms and counterweights for both lift spans. Short deck-girder spans through the towers at each end provide continuity from the approach spans to the movable spans.

The proposed activity will affect the Norwalk River; intertidal flats and vegetated tidal wetlands along the east and west sides of the Norwalk River, both north and south of the bridge; and the 100-year floodplain. The project will result in 8,600 square feet (sf) (0.20 acre) of permanent impacts to tidal wetlands. Compensation for permanent impacts to the vegetated tidal wetlands and intertidal mudflats will be largely in the form of mitigating tidal wetland areas within the intertidal zone, with some enhancement areas located landward of the high tide line. The loss of vegetated tidal wetlands and intertidal mudflats will be mitigated through treatment and removal of invasive common reed (*Phragmites australis*) in existing tidal wetlands, restoration of degraded vegetated tidal wetlands dominated by *Phragmites*, and restoration of a low-functioning intertidal flat previously impacted by riprap placement. The proposed mitigation areas cover a total of 61,990 square feet (1.42 acres), which is sufficient to compensate for the 34,400 square feet (0.79 acre) of required mitigation. These areas include 43,200 square feet (0.99 acre) that will be restored within existing tidal wetland boundaries which contain salt marsh vegetation, stands of *Phragmites*, and riprap with scattered patches of smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*). In addition, 18,790 square feet (0.43 acre) will be newly created or restored tidal wetlands outside of existing tidal wetland boundaries. The mitigation plan also will include listed species enhancements and improvements to the overall water quality of the Norwalk River. The proposed mitigation areas exist along the Norwalk River, proximal to, but outside of the project's immediate vicinity. Selection and development of the wetland mitigation sites were conducted in close conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP); additionally, local stakeholder representatives from the City and the Maritime Aquarium were also given opportunities to review the mitigation plans. The project also includes new developments to improve coastal navigation and water-dependent uses, consisting of a new bulkhead at the Marine Staging Yard (68-90 North Water Street), which will support navigational operations for future water-dependent uses; new docking facilities for existing Maritime Aquarium and Sheffield Island Ferry vessels; and a new permanent public fishing pier with small boat short-term docking waterfront of 4 North Water Street.

Interested persons may obtain copies of the application in electronic (CD) format from Ms. Kimberly Lesay, Transportation Assistant Planning Director, Connecticut Department of Transportation, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, Connecticut 06131 Telephone (860) 594-2931.

Interested persons may view the application on the Walk Bridge Program website at [www.walkbridgect.com](http://www.walkbridgect.com). Additionally, interested persons may view the application and/or obtain copies of the application in paper or CD format at the Walk Bridge Program Welcome Center, 24 Marshall Street, South Norwalk, Connecticut (corner of North Water Street and Marshall Street in the first floor of the Lock Building). The Walk Bridge Welcome Center hours of operation are: Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; and Thursday 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. Please call in advance to schedule a review of the application, telephone 1-833-GO2-WALK (462-9255).

The application is available for inspection at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Land and Water Resources Division, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127, telephone (860) 424-3034 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call in advance to schedule review of the application.





# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546  
Phone: (860) 594-2931



August 28, 2019

Subject: State Project No. 301-176, Walk Bridge Replacement Project  
Metro-North Railroad Bridge (Bridge No. 04288R) over the Norwalk River  
City of Norwalk  
Notice of Permit Application

To Whom It May Concern:

The State of Connecticut Department of Transportation (the Department) is applying for a Structures, Dredging and Fill, and Tidal Wetlands Permit and Section 401 Water Quality Certification pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 22a-32 and 22a-361, and 33 U.S.C. Section 1341 from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

The project proposes to replace Bridge No. 04288R which carries the New Haven Line over the Norwalk River in the City of Norwalk. The project consists of the removal of the existing bridge, including the superstructure, substructure elements (abutments and piers), timber pier protection system, deactivated electrical and railroad submarine cables and construction of the replacement bridge. The proposed project will affect the Norwalk River; intertidal flats and vegetated tidal wetlands along the east and west sides of the Norwalk River, both north and south of the bridge; and the 100-year floodplain.

In accordance with Section 22a-6g of the Connecticut General Statutes, as revised, the Department hereby gives notice of the filing with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for regulated activities to be conducted in conjunction with the subject project. A copy of said Notice is attached. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Andrew H. Davis, Transportation Supervising Planner of my staff, at 860-594-2157.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kimberly C. Lesay".

Kimberly C. Lesay  
Transportation Assistant Planning Director  
Office of Environmental Planning  
Bureau of Policy and Planning

Enclosure



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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546  
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August 28, 2019

John Romano, Chairman  
City of Norwalk Harbor Management Commission  
125 East Avenue  
P.O. Box 5125  
Norwalk, CT 06856-5125

Subject: State Project No. 301-176, Walk Bridge Replacement Project  
Metro-North Railroad Bridge (Bridge No. 04288R) over the Norwalk River  
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Dear Chairman Romano:

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August 28, 2019

Peter Johnson, Chairman  
City of Norwalk Shellfish Commission  
125 East Avenue  
P.O. Box 5125  
Norwalk, CT 06856-5125

Subject: State Project No. 301-176, Walk Bridge Replacement Project  
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2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546  
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August 28, 2019

The Honorable Harry Rilling  
Mayor, City of Norwalk  
125 East Avenue  
P.O. Box 5125  
Norwalk, CT 06856-5125

Subject: State Project No. 301-176, Walk Bridge Replacement Project  
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Transportation Assistant Planning Director  
Office of Environmental Planning  
Bureau of Policy and Planning

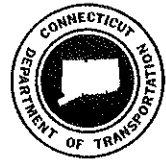
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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546  
Phone: (860) 594-2931



September 3, 2019

John Verel, Chairman  
City of Norwalk Conservation Commission  
125 East Avenue  
P.O. Box 5125  
Norwalk, CT 06856-5125

Subject: State Project No. 301-176, Walk Bridge Replacement Project  
Metro-North Railroad Bridge (Bridge No. 04288R) over the Norwalk River  
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Permit Application

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Per the requirements of this permit application, please find attached a copy of the Structures, Dredging and Fill, and Tidal Wetlands Permit and Section 401 Water Quality Certification application for your use. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Andrew H. Davis, Transportation Supervising Planner of my staff, at 860-594-2157.

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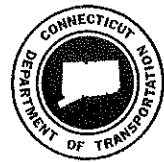
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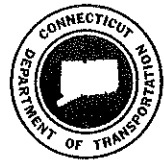
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