



NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

SUBJECT: Danbury Branch Electrification Feasibility Study

You are invited to attend the following Public Information Meetings to Discuss Alternatives for Improving Rail Service on the New Haven Line's Danbury Branch.

DATES, TIMES, AND PLACES:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2005

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

★ **Wilton Town Hall Annex Building**
Conference Room "A"
238 Danbury Road, Wilton CT 06897

Snow Date:

Tues., December 6, 2005

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Conference Room "B"
Town Hall Main Building

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2005

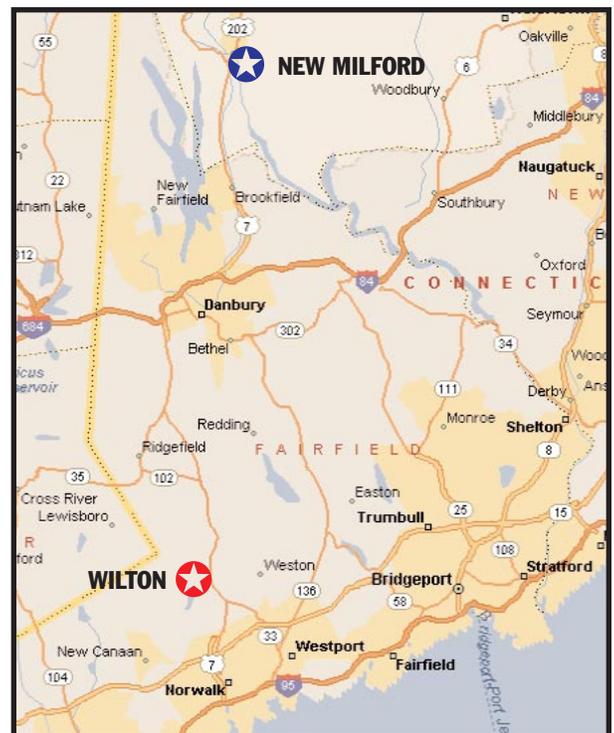
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

★ **New Milford Railroad Station**
11 Railroad Street
New Milford, CT 06776

Snow Date:

Wed., December 7, 2005

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.



Each meeting will run from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Information will be on display to provide an overview of the study. At 7:30 p.m. a presentation of the study will be given. Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) and study team representatives will be on hand to take your comments and answer your questions.

INFORMATION:

Persons unable to attend may provide comments to ConnDOT through Washington Group by mail: 30 Christian Lane, Newington, CT 06111, by fax: (860) 667-7002, or by e-mail: steve.gazillo@wgint.com through December 22, 2005. For more information, please call Steve Gazillo, Project Manager of Washington Group, at (860) 667-7622. Persons requiring assistive facilities should call by November 28th. You may also access information about the project from the study website at: <http://www.danburybranchstudy.com>.



The preferred alternatives for improvements to the Danbury Branch are the following:

ALTERNATIVE A—No Build: This assumes no major new investments in the Danbury Branch Corridor other than what has already been approved or required for regular maintenance. This alternative has no capital cost associated with it.

ALTERNATIVE B—Transportation System Management (TSM): This option includes everything that can be done without new construction or new vehicle procurement and includes service improvements such as new outbound service, express service and skip-stop service. No capital cost.

ALTERNATIVE C—Build Alternative, South Norwalk to Danbury Improvements: These improvements would occur between South Norwalk and Danbury, and include addition of passing sidings, revised track alignment and electrification. Work may occur in a phased-in approach. Anticipated ridership growth is 5% increase over the current year and the estimated capital cost is \$181 to \$203 million.

ALTERNATIVE D—Extension of Service to New Milford: This option would extend passenger service to New Milford, using a revised track alignment presented to improve the maximum speed along the 14.3-mile route from 30 mph to 50 mph. Ridership could potentially increase by 47% by 2020. The estimated capital cost is \$30 to \$36 million, plus \$11 million for equipment per new train set.

ALTERNATIVE E—Transportation Strategy Board, Partial Electrification from South Norwalk to Route 15: This option would partially electrify the branch from South Norwalk to an area in the vicinity of the Merritt Parkway (Route 15), with feeder bus/rail service to complement the new service. This alternative was requested by the State of Connecticut's Transportation Strategy Board. Potential ridership gains would be determined through Phase II analysis, and capital costs will be estimated in Phase II of the study.

THE NEXT STEPS

Following review and comment by the public, the final list of Preferred Alternatives will be developed and a final scope of work for Phase II of the study will be prepared based on these preferred alternatives. The Phase II study will focus on operations planning, development of refined capital and operating cost estimates and of potential implementation plans for the preferred alternatives, with the objective to identify a single, locally preferred action for funding consideration.

For further information and details on the study, please visit the project website at: <http://www.danburybranchstudy.com>.



KEY:	
	Danbury Branch
	New Milford Extension