

**Governor's Commission on the Reorganization of the Department of
Transportation**

September 6, 2007 – 2 p.m.

**Pitney Bowes World Headquarters
Stamford, CT**

Minutes

Present: Michael J. Critelli, David Egan, Ralph J. Carpenter, James Paggioli, Meredith Reuben, Anthony V. Milano, William B. Sawch, Phillip Smith

Absent: Robert Genuario, Anne Gnazzo, Kevin Kelleher, Larry McHugh, Gina McCarthy, and James Paggioli.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Critelli called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Critelli called for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of July 17, 2007. Mr. Milano made a motion (2nd: Egan). Voice vote—motion approved.

III. Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Critelli welcomed the meeting to Stamford and reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Chairman Critelli addressed the issue of the short notice of the meeting and noted that a second public hearing will be scheduled within Fairfield County at a future date and time.

Commissioner Carpenter noted his enthusiasm in the Commission's activities and eventual recommendations.

IV. Presentations

Peter Richter provided an overview of the resources, operations, structure and strategic objectives of the Bureau of Public Transportation.

Following Mr. Richter's presentation board members discussed issues pertaining to rail station parking operations and expansion, the relationship between ConnDOT and the MTA, capital improvements projects relative to the state's freight rail lines and the relationship between the Bureau of Public Transportation and the other bureaus within the ConnDOT.

Michael Lonergan provided an overview of the operations, divisions, accomplishments, challenges and concerns of the Bureau of Engineering and Highways.

Following Mr. Lonergan's presentation board members discussed best practices of highway operations in other states, staffing issues related to the bureau, the state's bridge inspection program, preventive maintenance issues and the use of federal funding to address these issues.

V. Public Hearing and Comments

The following members of the public offered comments to the Commission:

- Representative Toni Boucher-spoke to several transportation problems and issues, particularly those related to the Danbury branch line, Route 7, the Metro-North contract, and the contracting process used by ConnDOT.
- Representative Carlo Leone-noted the need to improve ConnDOT's communication and dissemination of information to the public.
- Representative Gerald Fox-asked the commission to address rail station parking issues and improve the delivery of mass transit options.
- Len Schulman-outlined two fundamental beliefs: (1) the *need and opportunity* to reexamine how it funds and develops its transportation systems to achieve five overall objectives and (2) the state's current approach to funding its transportation systems and to delivering transportation services to accomplish the state's critical transportation needs.
- Peter Malkin-spoke to issues concerning the activities of the Merritt Parkway Conservancy, specifically in relation to issues and the process relative to the preservation of the historic aspects of the parkway.
- James Cameron-addressed concerns and challenges related to ConnDOT's oversight of commuter rail in Connecticut.
- Jack Condlin-spoke to the process and deliberations of the commission.
- Travis Woodward and Denise Eaton-addressed issues of oversight of transportation projects by ConnDOT staff.

Chairman Cretelli noted that due to time constraints that several members who have signed up to speak, and had agreed to hold their comments, would be given priority at the next public hearing in Fairfield County.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.