



REPORT OF MEETING

Date and Time: Friday, July 21, 2016, 11 am - 1:30 pm

Location: Center for Latino Progress, 97 Park Street, Hartford

Subject: Lesson 1 with Summer Interns of the Center for Latino Progress

1. Attendees

Rich Armstrong, Connecticut Department of Transportation

Marcy Miller, Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. (FHI)

Michael Coulom, FHI

45 summer interns from the Center for Latino Progress (CLP)

2. Purpose / Overview

The meeting was the first of three special sessions with CLP summer interns. The sessions were organized to inform area youth about the project, introduce them to potential career paths, and hear their feedback. This first session was split into two groups, with a total of 45 interns. Almost all interns were Hartford residents, and ranged in age from eighth to tenth grade.

Marcy Miller, of Fitzgerald and Halliday, Inc. (FHI), and Michael Coulom, also of FHI, delivered a presentation to each group. They provided an overview of the project, its history, purpose and needs, various alternatives and their associated costs, and a detailed explanation of the lowered highway alternative. Each group watched the video of the lowered highway alternative.

M. Miller and M. Coulom discussed possible bicycle and pedestrian amenities, including an elevated East Coast Greenway facility, a connected bike network, and increased redundancy in the local road network. They asked the interns to engage in the planning process by thinking about what streets they already like in Hartford, and what design features those streets have. They counted streetlights, stores, benches, and trees among those features. Many students liked Park Street and parts of Broad Street, excluding the portion north of Capitol Avenue.

Several boards were set up around the room for the interns to view in between and after each lesson. The CLP program instructors led the interns through the comment submission process on the project website after the project team left. 14 comments were submitted online.

3. Discussion

There was a question about congestion, traffic diversions, and business sustainment during construction. M. Miller said that because an alternative has not yet been selected, the project team cannot say how long construction will last or what, if any, traffic diversions may be necessary. She said that the project team is working with local businesses to limit construction impacts.

Tony Cherolis, of (CLP), told the interns that they were now the most educated among their peers on the project, and should tell their family and friends about it.