

CITY OF NEW HAVEN

Transportation Traffic & Parking



2007 Annual Report



John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

Table of Contents

<i>Mission</i>	3
<i>Staff Directory</i>	4
<i>Organization & Work Summary</i>	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Traffic Control▪ Parking Operations▪ Safety Guards▪ Transportation Planning	
<i>Transportation Initiatives</i>	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Traffic Calming / Complete Streets Planning▪ Safety Guards▪ Bike New Haven▪ New Cross Town West Bus Route▪ Union Station Transit Oriented Development▪ Tweed New Haven Regional Airport▪ Port of New Haven	
<i>Department Work Program</i>	12
<i>Performance Indicators</i>	13



New Clinton Avenue Bike Lane

Mission

The City of New Haven's new Transportation, Traffic and Parking Department combines elements of traffic safety / engineering, parking management, community development and urban planning. Our mission is to maintain and improve core functions related to sign and signal systems, school crossing guards and parking management and also to better integrate and enhance the City's transportation assets into an integrated system which supports our quality of life and economic standing.

The region's transportation infrastructure - consisting of highways, railroads, port and public transit systems - is unique for a mid-size city. In a time of rising fuel prices, increasing traffic congestion and global climate change, the depth of the transit and non-motorized system becomes even more vital to our overall environmental performance and economic growth. The new Transportation Department is therefore committed to a bigger and more integrated system that connects housing to jobs and people to their community. The department is organized in four groups: Traffic Control, Parking Operations, Safety Guards and Transportation Planning.



Clinton Avenue School "Walking Bus"

Staff Directory

Administration

Michael Piscitelli, AICP	Director	(203) 946-8067
Susan Gibson	Administrative Assistant II	(203) 946-8078
Loren Jefferson	Administrative Assistant	(203) 946-8068
Ann Acevedo	Safety Guard Supervisor	(203) 946-8075

Traffic Control

Bijan Notghi	Traffic Project Engineer	(203) 946-8069
Bruce Fischer	Traffic Operating Engineer	(203) 946-8073

Signs / Markings Crew (203) 946-8079
William Williamson, Jr.
Kevin Rose
Keith Myrick
Danny Cruz

Signal Crew (203) 946-8080
John Blando
Carlos Jimenez
Carol Shorey

Meter Crew (203) 946-8081
Mark Sobolewski
Michael Goodhue
Laquane Gormany
James L. Moss, Jr.

Parking Management

Stephanie Harris	Word Processing Secretary	(203) 946-8076
Velisha Cloud	Parking Enforcement Supervisor	(203) 946-6777

David White
Maureen Burns
John Rispoli
Tonya Covington
Michael Granucci
Madelyn Cohn
Cheryl Horner
Frank Ruiz
Fayan Robinson-Sims
Joseph Amarone
Mezan King

Organization and Work Summary

Traffic Control

This Traffic Control group is responsible for sign / signal improvement and maintenance programs, pavement markings, regulation of activities within the public right-of-way; bus shelter maintenance / construction; construction staging and new development reviews.

The Traffic Control group also provides staff support to the New Haven Traffic Authority and interacts on a daily basis with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, the State Traffic Commission and the South Central Regional Council of Governments on various partnerships and inter-agency transportation issues.



The Department maintains over 100,000 city traffic signs, including emergency repairs, residential parking zones and traditional street signs.

In 2007, the Traffic Control group worked with members of the Board of Aldermen, interested citizens and other city departments to –

- Complete the Clinton Avenue bike lane.
- Review 15 applications to the State Traffic Commission, including major civic projects supporting the Coliseum temporary parking facility; Route 34 temporary parking lots; the new Park Street commercial building; and the Shartenberg (Becker & Becker project).
- Make 675 separate maintenance inspections / repairs to traffic signals.
- Install flasher light at Quinnipiac Avenue / Clifton Street.
- Assist with the Woodward Avenue, Tour Avenue and Perkins Street traffic calming programs.
- Assist CDOT with the new traffic signals at -
 - (i) Route 34 with Ella Grasso Boulevard;
 - (ii) Woodward Avenue and Main Street;
 - (iii) Woodward Avenue and Townsend Avenue;
 - (iv) Townsend Avenue and Farley Street; and
 - (v) Farley Street and Oakley Street.
- Initiate construction of Phase IV (Beaver Hills / Westville) of the citywide traffic signal upgrade program (23 signals).
- Gain CDOT concept approval for Phase V (Downtown) of the program and construction approval for nine (9) signals related to the Gateway Community College project.
- Complete design of Phase III, Contract II (14 intersections) in East Rock / Cedar Hill.
- Complete design of Phase IV, Contract B (20 intersections) in the Westville neighborhood.
- Assist with traffic control during the two-week filming of the *Indiana Jones* movie in Downtown New Haven.
- Assist with traffic control during the New Haven Labor Day Road Race.
- Initiate design of the Yale Cancer Center signalization project (13 intersections).
- Create permanent counting stations via video detection using the City's website.
- Work with Yale University's Transportation Office to establish "Yale Shuttle Stops" at 28 existing bus stops and 12 new bus stops across the city.
- Install 596 street / pole banners.
- Install 38 new parking meters on Sylvan Avenue.

Parking Operations

The department's Parking Operations group is responsible for the management and enhancement of the on-street parking programs, including parking meters, vouchers, smart cards and meter bag system management and design / management of neighborhood residential parking zones. In addition, the division is responsible for the enforcement of on-street parking regulations (parking tags) and the review of contested parking tags. In 2007 the group -

- Established the Tour Avenue Residential Parking Zone,
- Assisted with proposed Greenwood Residential Parking Zone, and
- Issued 165,472 parking tickets.

Safety Guard Division

The City's Safety Crossing Guards provide traffic control assistance at many city schools during the morning and afternoon periods. The division recently assumed additional responsibilities and now may assist with emerging issues related to traffic safety and traffic calming as well as special events as needed. In 2007 the group -

- Increased total number of guards on staff to 50.
- Conducted on-site review and recommendations to improve pedestrian safety at John Daniels School.
- Re-established covered posts at Blake / Jewell, Blake / Osborne and Grand / Ferry.
- Assisted with the Safe Routes to School / Walking Bus program at Clinton Avenue School.

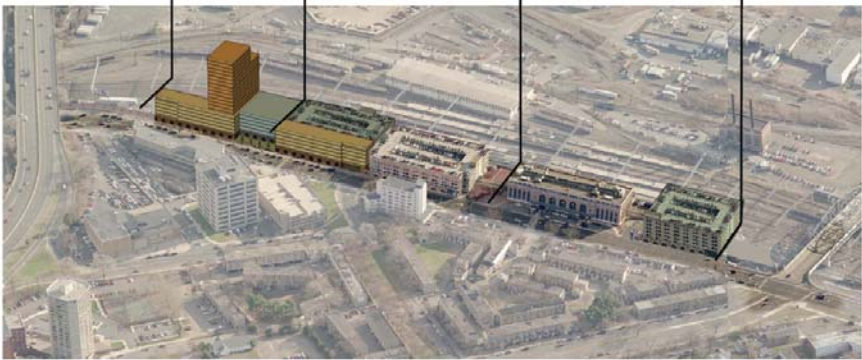






Transportation Planning

The department works closely with the City Plan Department and the Economic Development group on major transportation initiatives including road/highway improvements, airport enhancements, bike / pedestrian initiatives and transit programs. The department provides staff support to the New Haven Port Authority and the director serves in an ex-officio capacity on the New Haven Parking Authority's Board of Directors. In 2007, the department-

- Assisted the SCRCOG to complete a truck movement study.
- Proposed the new Cross Town West Bus Route to CDOT.
- Proposed new Transportation Fund to fund the New Haven Trolley.
- Assisted Economic Development, Engineering and SCRCOG to prepare the Route 34 Corridor Study and related land use plans for Route 34 West, the Medical District, Downtown and Union Station.
- Worked with CDOT and the New Haven Parking Authority to prepare a Transit Oriented Development concept plan for Union Station.
- Assisted the Tweed New Haven Airport Authority on plans for runway safety area improvements, obstruction removal and review of opportunities for a second "fixed based operator" at the airport.

Phase 3:	Phase 2:	Phase 1:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New development garage 500 spaces• New retail 20,000sf• New office 90,000sf• New loft apartments 138 units	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New North Garage 530 spaces• Develop retail frontage at existing garage 14,000sf	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New South Garage 667 spaces• Pedestrian Bridge to Union Station• Multi-modal connections at grade• Expand mixed use development of Union Station 50,000sf



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Proposed Transit Oriented Development at Union Station.

Transportation Initiatives

The department continues to work on a number of multi-year projects intended to improve the transportation system, environmental performance and overall quality of life in New Haven. These projects are cooperative efforts among the many city department / agencies involved in the transportation process as well as the partner agencies, New Haven Parking Authority, Tweed New Haven Airport Authority and Greater New Haven Transit Authority.

Union Station Transit Oriented Development

In response to continuing demand for additional commuter parking at Union Station, the City, New Haven Parking Authority and CDOT initiated a study of transit-oriented development opportunities at Union Station. The study forms the basis of a revised site plan [see image on previous page], which proposes two commuter garages, remerchandising of Union Station and long-term development of new mixed use space at the northerly side of the site, along Union Avenue.

Bike New Haven

The department's new mission reflects a deeper commitment to cycling in New Haven both to improve the safety of cyclists and also to promote cycling for commuting and vehicle miles traveled reductions. In 2007, the department is pleased to report the completion of the Clinton Avenue Bike Lane, runs between Lombard Street and Middletown Avenue. In addition, the department prepared new stickers to alert motorists to "share the road".

Complete Streets

Aggressive driving in New Haven remains a priority concern among residents and many alderpersons. To address this problem, the City formulated a traffic calming work group to review traffic calming requests and to create a system intended to (1) lower speed and (2) reduce safety at certain intersections and along key streets in the City. In 2007, the Engineering Department led this effort which resulted in the following activities:

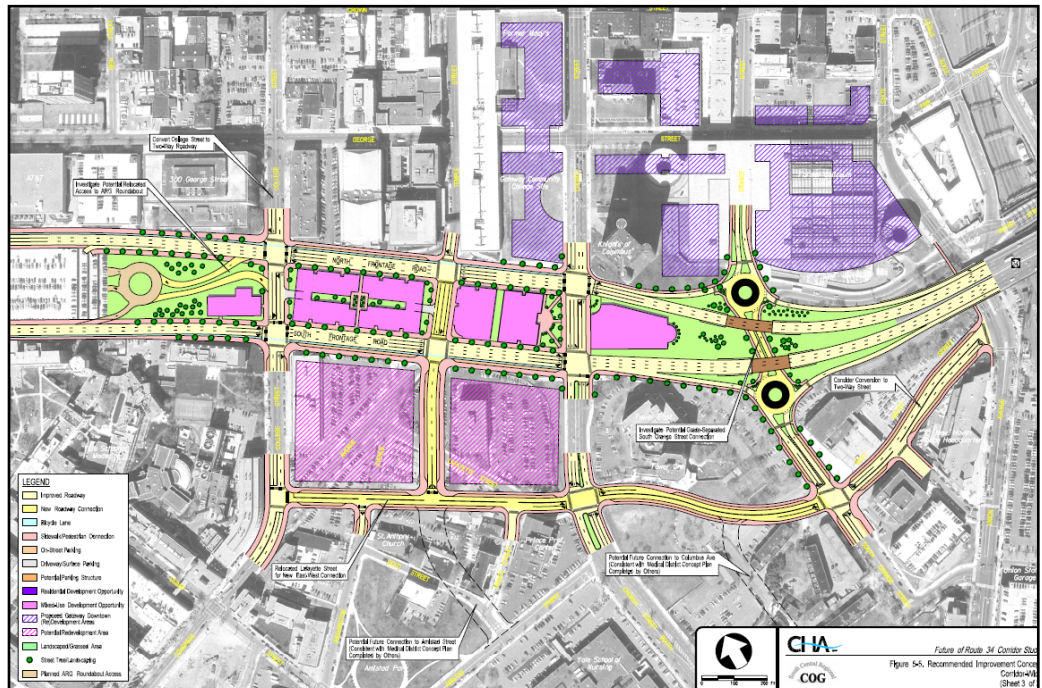
- Completion of the Woodward Avenue traffic calming system.
- Installation of temporary speed humps on Tour Ave. and Perkins St.
- Review and analysis of Stevenson Road, Vista Terrace and
- Modifications to the intersection at Cedar Street / Spring Street.
- Approval of a new pedestrian signal at Norton Street / Derby Avenue.
- Installation of traffic calming devices and a new signal at Boulevard/Route 34.

Route 34 / Downtown Crossing

The department, together with the Office of the Mayor, Economic Development and City Plan, are working to implement a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reconnect neighborhoods and provide new economic development opportunities through conversion of Route 34 to a community-scale urban boulevard. To accomplish this goal, the City has introduced a comprehensive program of land use, transportation and environmental enhancements designed to encourage a more sustainable and transit oriented land use pattern.

As part of the reconstruction, over 13 acres of land will be made available for new development which will merge the medical district, Union Station and Downtown into a more seamless neighborhood. In turn, the entire area will become more transit and pedestrian oriented as the automotive-related impediments are removed.

The City recently was awarded a \$5 million federal transportation grant to refine the concept plan, initiate design and environmental review of this signature project.



“Downtown Crossing” concept for reconstruction of Route 34 as an urban boulevard.

Cross Town West Bus Route

The department has led an effort to introduce the City's first new major bus route connecting City Point with Dixwell Avenue in Hamden. This route was first proposed in a study of bus routes statewide in 2000 but has not been implemented. If approved and initiated the new Cross Town West will have an immediate impact on service delivery as connections to existing routes can be achieved without a Downtown transfer.

Transportation & New Haven Trolley Fund

The department proposed new legislation to fund the New Haven Trolley with a Transportation Fund. Revenues from the Transportation Fund would come in the form of a license fee increase to private parking facilities in New Haven. The license fee would be used to increase inspections and promote sustainable transportation solutions in addition to funding the trolley service.

Comprehensive Signal Upgrade Program

The department continues to upgrade its traffic signals through the implementation of a five-phase capital investment program. This program is largely funded by the State of Connecticut and includes full reconstruction of signals in Westville, Beaver Hills, Edgewood, Downtown, East Rock, Fair Haven, Mill River and other neighborhoods. In 2008, significant design effort will be placed on three main projects: [1] Yale New Haven Hospital / Cancer Center (13 signalized intersections); [2] Gateway Community College (9 intersections); and [Phase III, Westville / Edgewood, 14 signals]. Depending on state financing availability, construction is anticipated for signal work in the East Rock/Cedar Hill neighborhood as well.

Tweed New Haven Regional Airport

Tweed is one of only two commercial airports in Connecticut; however, service delivery is currently reduced following the discontinuation of Delta service to Cincinnati and the failed PanAm Connection service. To reestablish high quality commercial service and increase overall enplanements, the department is working with the Tweed Airport Authority and the airport's management company, Avports, to improve the field infrastructure, better the customer experience and market the facility as an economic development asset to the region. In addition, the department is assisting in efforts to mitigate the impact of the airport on surrounding homes through a variety of good-neighbor initiatives.

New Haven Port Authority

The department continues to provide staff support to the New Haven Port Authority, which serves to enhance the economic competitiveness of the greater New Haven region and all of Connecticut through waterborne transportation. In 2007, The City of New Haven and the New Haven Port Authority have engaged PB Americas to prepare a strategic and land use plan, designed in part to recommend an optimum, sound and efficient land use for the port district. PB met with the Port Authority, city officials, terminal operators, property owners and neighborhood residents to understand existing conditions and prepare short- and long-term recommendations to optimize economic development and land use opportunities at New Haven. These 30 recommendations form the basis of economic development programs for the port and related industries.



Port land use plan & Harborside Trail “site walk”.

Department Work Program

In 2008, the department continues to work on the above-mentioned transportation initiatives and state-of-good repair sign, pavement marking and signal projects. In addition, the projects below are department priorities for 2008:

Bike New Haven

- Install one new bike lane.
- Gain Yale University approval on Science Hill bike lane.
- Install 15 new bike racks.
- Purchase two bikes for department use.
- Prepare a bike/ped gap analysis of Downtown New Haven.
- Label meters for free bike parking.

Department Investments

- Complete front office renovation.
- Purchase new maintenance utility truck.
- Upgrade department radio system.
- Complete launch of new "Cityworks" work order tracking system.

Safety Guard Program

- Provide safety guard assistance at 10 locations.

Newsracks

- Gain aldermanic approval of a newrack ordinance.
- Partner with TGSSD to install a pilot news kiosk.

Transit

- Install two new bus shelters.
- Gain CDOT approval of new Cross Town West bus service.
- Prepare recommendation report for the future of the New Haven Trolley.

Meter Program Enhancements

- Install new meters at Union Station
- Re-launch smart card program
- Add new payment options

Complete Streets

- Prepare comprehensive traffic calming plan for north part of Fair Haven.
- Develop recommendations to mitigate traffic impact of Tweed Airport.
- Improve wayfinding to Tweed and Union Station.
- Make recommendations concerning Hill arterials.
- Initiate concept design of Crescent / Munson intersection.
- Initiate full design of West Park Avenue / Elm Street.

Indicators

System Facts	2007
Parking Tickets Issued *	165,472
Number of City Owned Traffic Signals	300
Maintenance Inspections & Repairs	675
Number of State-Owned Traffic Signals	30
Total Number of Bike Racks	15
Miles of Bike Lanes	3
New in 2007	20
Total Number of Bus Shelters	104

* FY 06-07, includes NHPD and other ticket writers

Financial Indicators	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Department Revenues			
General Revenue	1,355,029	32,307	13,779
Meter Bag Revenue	237,945	686,659	912,477
Coins	602,306	1,481,035	2,148,640
Smart Cards	0	8,899	117,450
Vouchers	171,411	299,935	351,491
Towing Program Revenue	n / a	n / a	140,505
Total	2,366,691	2,508,835	3,543,837