Introducing Connecticut’s Safety Circuit Rider Program

Of the 21,000 miles of roadway in Connecticut, 82% are maintained by local municipal agencies. In 2011, 64% of roadway departure fatal crashes and 38% of roadway departure Type A (incapacitating) injury crashes occurred on local roadways. To make significant progress in reducing the number of crashes, serious injuries, and fatalities in Connecticut, the safety along local roadways needs to improve.

The Connecticut Safety Circuit Rider (SCR) program is designed to provide safety-related information, training, and direct technical assistance to agencies responsible for local roadway safety.

The SCR program will be available, at no cost, to all municipalities in Connecticut. Initiatives will include:

• Coordination of Road Safety Assessments (RSA’s)
• Collection and analysis of traffic volume data
• Identification of low cost safety improvements
• Assistance in the development of Local Road Safety Plans
• Development of a Connecticut Toolbox of Safety Resources
• Development of a series of Roadway Safety Briefs
• Delivery of Local Road Safety Training

A strong partnership between the CT SCR program and the Connecticut Transportation Safety Research Center (CTSRC) will enable local agencies to access accurate information to make informed roadway safety decisions. The SCR will provide assistance to local agencies in understanding the capabilities of the new CT Crash Data Repository.

For more information, contact: Donna Shea - shea@engr.uconn.edu
Dr. Kazem Kazerounian, Dean of the School of Engineering, presenting Mary McCarthy with her award.

Mary McCarthy – Honored with 2013 School of Engineering Outstanding Service Award

All of us at the T2 Center want to extend our heartfelt congratulations to our teammate Mary for winning this prestigious, well deserved award. Mary has been with the T2 Center for 12 years and continues to be known for her professionalism and the high quality of the training programs she develops and delivers to state and local transportation employees. We also want to thank the members of the T2 Center Advisory Committee for taking the time to write such a wonderful letter of support for Mary’s nomination.

Here is an excerpt from the letter of support: “Mary McCarthy has made a tremendous positive difference as the Training Specialist for the Technology Transfer Center. Mary has truly exemplified the Center’s mission in fostering a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound surface transportation system by improving the skills and increasing the knowledge of the transportation workforce in Connecticut. She has created a positive learning environment for all the town public works departments, the local legal traffic authorities and the state’s Department of Transportation.

Congratulations Mary!
12th Annual Technology Transfer Expo

On September 18th, Mother Nature gave us another glorious fall day for the Expo. The event sponsored and coordinated by the Technology Transfer Center (T2 Center) and the Connecticut Highway and Street Supervisors Association (CHSSA), gathered almost 500 participants. Those in attendance shared in the demonstrations, education stations and networking that make this event so popular.

The T2 Center and CHSSA use this opportunity to provide educational outreach to state and local transportation professionals on the latest innovations and regulations affecting the transportation community in Connecticut. Safety is always a theme throughout the event. Several exhibitors shared information on the latest in both operational and roadway safety technology, and municipal transportation professionals participated in the Dr. Jack Stephens Memorial Safety Challenge. The Challenge winners were:

1st Place:  Craig Johnson
Town of Bloomfield

2nd Place:  John Bock
Town of Tolland

3rd Place:  Mark Dondero
Town of Bloomfield

Special thanks go out to all the volunteers and exhibitors who helped make this day such a success. To learn more about the Expo and the other programs of the Connecticut Technology Transfer Center, visit our website: www.t2center.uconn.edu.
The Connecticut Department of Transportation recently released its first-ever report on complete streets.

What Are Complete Streets? Complete Streets are safe, comfortable and convenient transportation systems that serve everyone, regardless of how they choose to travel, whether that is by walking, bicycling, or driving.

Prepared in-house, the Department’s Complete Streets Report, illustrates the agency’s continuing efforts and improvements in this area.

Many transportation agencies across the nation have been motor vehicle centric for decades, so there is quite a bit of area for improvement.

When approached on the subject, Commissioner James Redeker remarked:

We are proud to be part of this evolving movement of transportation system planning, design and engineering initiatives that are in line with the Complete Streets concept will help to break through barriers to non-motorized transportation. I am privileged to have written the report’s introduction. Even more so, I am grateful for the continuing efforts and improvements in this area by our many partners, including dedicated agency employees, who enabled our agency to report on these success stories. This is bigger than just the Department or even the State of Connecticut; it is a national effort worthy of support from all levels of community and government.

The message of this report is positive, hopeful and validating.

The Department is optimistic that the report will invite continued coordination and information sharing amongst stakeholders, including legislators, local/regional leaders and bicycle/pedestrian advocates.

The agency envisions this to be a living document, updated through periodic agency webletter releases.

Such updates might feature “quick-fixes” performed by maintenance staff in the field, design and traffic engineering on new projects, safe routes to school initiatives, transit-related amenities, etc.
West Hartford
DPW’s 2nd Annual Open house

For the second year in a row, the Town hosted an Open House Event in celebration of National Public Works week at our Public Works facility. We were hoping for at least 75 people to tie our last year’s number. Instead we more than doubled our numbers! We had approximately 230 people.

The American Public Work Association theme this year was “Because of Public Works…” in going along with the theme we invited the elementary schools in town to enter our poster contest with the that theme. There were 12 great posters and everyone in our Public Works Department was involved with the voting of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All posters were displayed at our Open House and then displayed in the Town Hall for all to see.

There were approximately 10 volunteers that helped the adults

Please see OPEN HOUSE on page 7

Windsor Locks – Recipient of the “Top Town Hall Building” Award

The Town of Windsor Locks was one of only two Municipalities to receive this prestigious award through the Power of Change organization. The award was given for achievement in energy efficiency. A significant amount of the improvements to the town hall were made using Public Works personnel. Scott Lappen, Public Works Director “feels very fortunate to have such talent amongst my crew”.

Congratulations to the Town of Windsor Locks Public Works Department!

Here is a summary of their project:

CHALLENGE
First built as a school in 1942, the historic brick building sits in downtown Windsor Locks on Main Street and was converted to a town hall more than 40 years ago. The selectmen, assessor, town clerk, tax collector and human services offices moved into the building and soon the need for additional space had town leaders strategizing about bringing the long vacant second floor back into service.

In 2006, under the direction of the Director of Public Works, the Town of Windsor Locks took on the daunting task of refurbishing the 41,000 square foot Town Hall. Although he knew the task would be a difficult one, the Director intended to make the town’s long standing, historic building into an energy-efficient structure, all the while maintaining the building’s original character.

SOLUTION
The multifaceted project illustrates the team’s dedication to responsible renovations. Key aspects of the project included:

Historic Preservation: For years the second floor of the town hall was not being used. To tap the valuable space and maintain the historical character of the building, the team took a top down approach and pointed the chimney once used for the incinerator, replaced the pitch slate roof with a look alike asphalt composition product and installed a rubber membrane product on the flat roof. Snow and ice rails were also replaced to add to the facility’s antique aesthetic.

New Windows: The original double hung wooden windows were replaced with 169 aluminum clad, insulated low E glass
T2 INFO TO GO is a regular feature of the Connecticut Technology Transfer newsletter that highlights selected materials and resources you might like to take away with you. In this issue, we focus on Fleet Management. If you would like any of the materials that are available from the Technology Transfer Center, please contact Stephanie Merrall at (860) 486-6446 or smerrall@engr.uconn.edu.

Comprehensive Informational Websites

EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL SERVICES PROGRAM
American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials
http://www.emtsp.org/

EQUIPMENT & FLEET MANAGEMENT
American Public Works Association Resource Center
http://www2.apwa.net/resourcecenter/index.asp?section=equipment&sectionname=equipment+fleet+management

FLEET SERVICES
American Public Works Association Solutions by Topic
http://www.apwa.net/Topics/Fleet-Services

FLEETED
NAFA Fleet Management Association
http://www.fleeted.org/

FLEET MANAGEMENT
Work Safe Center

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS
Interactive Learning Paradigms, Inc.
http://www.ilpi.com/msds/

Publications

ADVANCEMENTS IN FLEET MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGIES
Government Fleet magazine, May 2012

FLEET SAFETY TALKS
ToolBoxTopics.com
http://www.toolboxtopics.com/Fleet/Fleet%20Contents.htm

POLLUTION PREVENTION FOR VEHICLE REPAIR, BODY SHOPS AND DISMANTLERS
PIT STOPS FACT SHEETS
CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

SHOP SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FACILITIES
TransActions, NAOSH Week 2007 Special Edition, American Society of Safety Engineers
http://www.asse.org/newsroom/naosh07/docs/trans_shopsafety.pdf

VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE CHECKLISTS
Caterpillar Safety Services
http://safety.cat.com/Checklists
Town Hall
Continued from page 5

with internal grilles.
Lower Ceiling Height: New suspended ceilings were installed with energy-efficient lighting, while the old sprinklers intended for fire protection were relocated to accommodate the new room configurations, and motion sensor switches were installed for lighting control.
Team Effort: Renovations such as new office space build outs, framing, sheet rock ing and painting have all been completed by Windsor Locks Public Works personnel.

Open House
Continued from page 5

and children in and out of the 12 pieces of equipment displayed in our yard. The volunteers were there to help answer questions and listen to suggestions from the community. At the entrance there was a table for informational handouts, a drawing for a $100 gift certificate for EnviroCycle (recycling center for mulch, compost, etc.) and plastic child sized hard hats. Children everywhere wore the hard hats when climbing in and out of the equipment.
The big draw this year was the paper shredding at our facility and over 2,000 pounds of paper was collected. Numerous families also stopped by to donate food for the Town That Cares program.

RESULTS
The changes implemented to the building by the Town of Windsor Locks have increased the energy efficiency and use of the building.
After successfully creating an insulated, essentially air-tight building, Windsor Locks realized a savings of approximately 6.86 BTUs per square foot over a 12 month period for the entire building. The savings are expected to continue over time.
Renovations such as sheet rocking, trim work and the like were all completed by in-house personnel. This decision not only saved money, it also allowed the crew’s talents to be utilized throughout the transformation process.

Dual Fuel Burners: Back when the building functioned as a school, there were two coal fired boilers, which were later converted to oil-fired units. Both units were removed along with all of the associated asbestos and the old radiators were replaced with seven energy-efficient roof top units and an additional 12 split systems, which can all be controlled by a building management system for the heating and cooling of the building.
A new HVAC system was installed to replaced old converted oil-fired boilers.

RESULTS
The changes implemented to the build-

Congratulations to the 2013 T2 Center Program Graduates

On October 24, 2013, One Hundred and Forty (140) state and local transportation professionals officially completed their T2 educational programs, including the Public Works Academy, Road Master, Road Scholar and Legal Traffic Authority programs. This represented the largest graduating class in the history of the T2 Center.
We are very proud of all who

completed these programs and commend them on their dedication to their professional development.
Thank you to our keynote speakers: Amy Jackson-Grove, Division Administrator of the CT Division of the Federal Highway Administration; James Redeker, Commissioner of the CT Department of Transportation; Alan Green, Director of Public Works, Town of Bethany and Marty Maynard, Risk Manager, Town of Windsor.
Special thanks to Shelly Desjardin, our T2 team member, who led the graduation project team and to all of the members of the T2 staff who gave her such great support.

For a list of this year’s graduates and all of our program alumni, please visit our website at: www.t2center.uconn.edu

ROAD MASTER
ROAD SCHOLAR
LEGAL TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
PUBLIC WORKS ACADEMY
Season’s Greetings

from the Staff at the
Connecticut Technology
Transfer Center