All Aboard! New Hartford Line Stations in Wallingford and Meriden Open to the Public

On Monday, November 6, 2017 Governor Dannel P. Malloy joined Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Commissioner James P. Redeker, alongside numerous state and local officials, to celebrate the grand opening of the first newly constructed CTrail Hartford Line train station, located in Wallingford at 343 North Cherry Street.

The former station, located adjacent to the railroad green at 37 Hall Avenue, will no longer operate as a train station but will remain a hub for town life, anchoring the downtown community. The existing station building houses several organizations, including the Wallingford Adult Education Center and the New Haven Society of Model Engineers Railroad Club.

Upon opening, the new station immediately began providing service to existing Amtrak trains and soon will begin serving trains on the CTrail Hartford Line service, which is scheduled to launch in May 2018.

"We are getting closer each day to launching a commuter rail line between New Haven, Hartford, and our friends in Springfield, and today’s opening of the new station in Wallingford marks a major milestone in the evolution of the much-needed service,” Governor Malloy said. “Creation of the Hartford Line will provide those working, living, and traveling along this corridor with fast, safe, and reliable rail transportation – providing greater attraction for businesses, stimulating job creation, and improving our overall quality of life.”

In addition to the recent opening of Wallingford Station, on Sunday, November 19, 2017, the new high-level platforms and overhead pedestrian bridge were put into service at the new CTrail Hartford Line Meriden Station, located at 60 State Street.

“Amtrak trains are now pulling up to the new platforms and the pedestrian bridge is open to customers,” said John Bernick, CTDOT Assistant Rail Administrator.
轨道建设更新

轨道建设接近完成沿轨道线！到目前为止，26英里中的27英里轨道已在诺思汉和温莎之间的北汉诺tif铁路线安装。双轨在新汉诺tif和伯灵之间运行，火车在两条轨道上运行。继续双轨至哈特福德，预计在2018年早期完成和投入服务。此外，从北汉诺tif到哈特福德的轨道支撑结构的建设，包括新的路基、桥梁和涵洞，已经完成。这些改进是为通过扩展、重新安装或替换结构以增加轨道宽度而安装的。为了支持双轨的线。

剩余的轨道工作在温莎是计划在1月开始，包括轨道重新铺设，以及轨道信号系统的安装。这项工作将完成到温莎在2018年春天。

所有铁路交叉口改良在汉姆登，诺思汉，沃灵福德，默里登，伯灵，威斯康星，温莎，温莎洛克，和斯普林菲尔德。诺思汉，纽威奇，西威斯康星，和恩菲尔德都在目前被设计。

对于更多的新站信息，请访问nhhsrail.com。
HartfordLine.com Website Launched!

In preparation for the May 2018 launch of new passenger rail service, the Hartford Line website made its debut in January at HartfordLine.com. The new website provides future Hartford Line riders a glimpse of what to expect upon service launch.

This initial Hartford Line website offers quick and easy access to essential information such as schedules, fares, news, and events. It will offer more comprehensive information and be fully functional when the new rail service launches.

The website features a Trip Planner tool that allows users to review schedules and plan travel. At this time, the Trip Planner serves as a tool for demonstration purposes, and users will not be able to make reservations or purchase tickets until the Hartford Line service launches in May.

The initial website operates on a variety of devices including mobile phones and tablets. It features Hartford Line news and a Frequently Asked Questions section that covers topics ranging from connecting service options, senior discounts, and other service-related questions.

Over the next several months, the Hartford Line website will be enhanced with additional information and features, including detailed information on connections to other local transit options; interactive, 360-degree views of the train stations that will serve the line; and milestone events.

Additionally, users can request a CTDOT presentation about the upcoming Hartford Line rail service for their neighborhood group, workplace, or school and or submit questions at HartfordLine.com.

CTDOT Ramps up Operation Lifesaver in Connecticut!

CTDOT is gearing up its Operation Lifesaver (OL) outreach campaign to increase rail safety awareness for Connecticut’s pedestrians, drivers, bicyclists, and rail passengers in advance of the launch of the Hartford Line.

OL is a national public safety education and awareness organization dedicated to reducing collisions, fatalities, and injuries at highway-rail crossings and trespassing on or near railroad tracks.

Since OL’s founding, train collisions with pedestrians and motorists have declined by 83% in the United States, from over 12,000 in 1972 to 2,087 in 2013. The efforts of Operation Lifesaver have been a major contributor to this decline.

The Connecticut Operation Lifesaver campaign focuses on targeted outreach to populations across Connecticut, specifically to schools and children. “Safety is always our first priority at the Connecticut Department of Transportation,” said CTDOT Commissioner James P. Redeker.

“Our goal is to reach all who may encounter rail tracks—children, pedestrians, drivers, transit users, bicyclists — and make them aware of the best practices for safety,” said Deputy CTDOT Commissioner Anna Barry.

Free rail safety presentations are available for any group, business, or organization, including schools, parent-teacher organizations, youth groups, truck and bus companies, civic clubs, utility companies, and public safety professionals.


For more information or to request a presentation, please contact Kevin Burns with the Connecticut Department of Transportation at Kevin.Burns@ct.gov or at (203) 497-3381.

Hartford Line Gains Positive Momentum in the News

As we rapidly approach service launch, the CTrail Hartford Line has been prominently featured in news outlets across the state. Several news outlets have featured the Hartford Line over the past few months, including the Hartford Courant, Meriden Record-Journal, CT Post, the Hartford Business Journal, and others. Many of these articles focus on the economic benefits of the new service to towns along the Hartford Line.

On November 6, 2017, the Hartford Courant published a featured article, “Communities On The Line: Town Centers With Hartford Rail Stops Are Being Reinvigorated”, which stated that “Tired, struggling towns like Wallingford, Meriden and Berlin are poised to reinvigorate their often forgotten centers as walkable, vibrant Main Streets, capturing the best of both worlds: small-town New England living and easy access to the big city.” Economic development in towns along the Hartford Line is gaining prominence as TOD efforts ramp up in communities across the state.

Keep an eye out in your favorite publication – many news outlets are increasing their coverage of significant CTrail Hartford Line milestones, such as the opening of new stations, fare and schedule publication, and service launch.
Website Photo Gallery

To showcase construction progress, photos are posted regularly in the Media Gallery on the Program’s website. Photos range from station construction, to railroad crossing improvements, to track construction. Visit www.nhhsrail.com/gallery to view the latest photos.

Platforms at Berlin Station nearing completion.

Passengers utilizing the newly completed platform in Meriden.

Did You Know?

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) efforts are being expanded across the state, maybe even in your community! TOD is relatively high density, pedestrian oriented, mixed-use development located within a short walk of transit stations. TOD aims to reduce reliance on cars, promote walkability, enhance economic development opportunities, and increase land value. Core components of TOD include the creation of an active and well-defined center, innovative parking strategies, as well as compact and well-designed pedestrian oriented environments.

Many municipalities along the Hartford Line, including Meriden, North Haven, Wallingford, Berlin, West Hartford, Windsor, Windsor Locks, and Enfield, continue to explore opportunities for TOD within their communities. To learn more, check out the TOD Factsheet on the Program website!

GET INVOLVED & STAY INFORMED

NHHS Contact List

Over 4,000 residents, businesses, local groups and public agencies have already subscribed to the NHHS contact list! Subscribing to the contact list on the www.NHHSrail.com website takes only a few minutes and ensures that you will receive:

- E-alerts with Program updates, including station construction
- Construction impacts
- Future issues of the Program newsletter
- Notices of upcoming public meetings

Subscribe>

Questions & Comments

The Program website (www.nhhsrail.com) provides an easy way to ask questions or provide comments to the Program team and receive a response via email.

www.twitter.com/NHHSrail
www.facebook.com/NHHSrail