



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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March 9, 2018

Mr. Don Bergmann
32 Sherwood Drive
Westport, Connecticut 06880

Dear Mr. Bergmann:

Subject: I-95 Bridge over Saugatuck River
Westport

The Department of Transportation (Department) has received your correspondence to the Office of Policy and Management regarding drainage from the bridge carrying I-95 over the Saugatuck River for response and appreciates your concerns. The appropriation that you refer to in your correspondence concerns possible funding for the development of the Department's program to comply with the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Department of Transportation Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4 General Permit)* which should be issued shortly with an effective date of July 1, 2019.

As discussed in a previous response to you on this matter, dated May 19, 2017, the Department is in the process of developing a program to comply with the *MS4 General Permit*. The Department will be responsible for developing a priority list of discharges to assess, based upon Urbanized Area, Impervious Cover, and Discharges to Impaired Waters, with the highest priority being applied to those discharges that meet all of these criteria.

The Saugatuck River at the subject bridge location lies within an urbanized area and has an impervious cover of greater than eleven percent (11%); however, the waterbody segment in the vicinity of the I-95 bridge has not been listed as impaired by the DEEP. Based upon these facts, the bridge and associated discharges would not be one of the Department's high priorities for further assessment and action at this time. The Department will first address those areas that meet all three criteria as it develops a Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) for the approximately 3,700 miles of State-maintained roadways and nearly 4,000 State bridges.

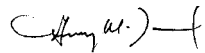
Department Project No. 102-295 entails disturbance of soil for reconstruction of the center median and right shoulders along I-95 from Exit 16 to Exit 17 and will require registration under the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities ("Construction General Permit"). This permit includes requirements to implement a Stormwater Pollution Control Plan to prevent the movement of sediments off construction sites into nearby water bodies and to address the impacts of stormwater discharges from a project after construction is complete. Stormwater options for the corridor continue to be investigated and refined as design continues for this project. The proposed work on I-95 over the Saugatuck River represents a minor portion of the overall project.

The scope of work for the I-95 bridge over the Saugatuck River will be limited primarily to bridge deck expansion joint replacement and partial milling and replacement of the bituminous concrete wearing surface to match the work that is occurring on I-95. This work is being combined with a larger roadway improvement project in order to provide the traveling public operational and cost efficiencies in the maintenance and protection of traffic along I-95 during construction activities. The Department has reviewed the feasibility of drainage improvements on the Saugatuck River Bridge and has determined they are not practicable within the context of the very limited scope of bridge repair. No repairs to other portions of the structure or drainage system are required at this time.

In the vicinity of the structure carrying I-95 over the Saugatuck River, the western shoreline is characterized by a municipal parking lot and retail development along Route 136, while the eastern bank is currently occupied by a paved boat launch, parking area, and Saxon Lane. This existing development precludes stormwater infiltration practices which are prescribed by the Department's *MS4 General Permit*. Regulated FEMA floodplain and seasonal fluctuations of groundwater would also have to be considered and further preclude such stormwater treatment options. As with all projects, the Department will document that it provided treatment to the maximum extent practicable, as defined in the Federal Clean Water Act.

The Department thanks you for your interest. If you have any addition questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Andy Fesenmeyer at (860) 594-3228 or via email to Andy.Fesenmeyer@ct.gov.

Very truly yours,



Gregory M. Dorosh, P.E.
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Gregory M. Dorosh, P.E.
Manager of Highway Design
Bureau of Engineering and Construction

cc: Benjamin Barnes, Office of Policy and Management
Rindy Higgins, Chairperson, Westport Shellfish Commission
Geoffrey Steadman, Norwalk Harbor Commission