



2026 Legislative Session Proposals

Office of Legislative Affairs
Connecticut Department of Transportation
February 3, 2026

2026 Legislative Timeline

Overview on 2026 Legislative Session:

Opening Day: February 4, 2026

Closing Day/Sine Dine: June 6, 2026

Transportation Committee Business (Joint Favorable/JF) Deadline: March 20, 2026

Finance Committee Business (JF) Deadline: April 1, 2026

Appropriations Committee Business (JF) Deadline: April 2, 2026



2026 DOT Legislative Proposals

6 proposed bills from CTDOT for 2026 Session:

1. An Act Concerning “Video Converters” while driving and reckless driving in a work zone.
2. An Act Concerning Zero Emission Buses, EV Parking, EV Chargers, & Facilities
3. An Act Concerning Utility Laterals in a Right of Way
4. An Act Concerning Public Notice for Rail Fare Increases
5. An Act Concerning “Flex Lanes”
6. Statutes to repeal



Video Converters & EV Buses, Parking & Charging

Video Converters:

- Modernizes the 2005 “hands free” cell phone law to include “video converters” which allow someone to play video entertainment through their car’s screens.
- Makes use of prohibited devices (cell phones etc.) in a work zone a per se reckless driving charge
- Bans the sale/transfer of video converters in CT.

Zero Emission Buses, EV Parking & Charging:

- Gives CTDOT flexibility in its efforts to transition public buses to electric by 2030 without cutting existing services, by allowing the purchase of diesel-powered buses:
- Allows for long-distance commuters to park electric and hybrid vehicles in public garages even without utilizing the charger, maximizing our spaces.
- Updates our EV Parking space requirements mandate, with future options to amend, reflecting the reality of the EV car marketplace.



Utility Laterals in ROW & Rail Fare Notices

Utility Laterals:

- As infrastructure in public rights-of-way ages, or encounters catastrophic events, CTDOT wants to ensure an entity who can be held responsible for the costs of maintenance and repair.
- This bill protects the rights, and liabilities of ownership, for homeowners ensuring their ownership and responsibility stops at their property line.

Public Notice for Rail Fare Increases:

Updates how the public is notified about fare increases, by advertising in the areas where changes occur instead of statewide circulation, keeping outreach affordable for taxpayers, while protecting the public's rights to know and meeting federal civil rights requirements.



Flex Lanes & Repealers

Flex Lanes

- Allows CTDOT to use flexible, dynamic part-time lanes on limited-access highways and roadways to alleviate congestion, and for various purposes like dedicated bus lanes and bus rapid transit. (I-84 Danbury Flex lane & MOVE! NEW Haven)
- Allows municipalities to enter into agreements with CTDOT to have lanes for Bus Rapid Transport enforced through the CTDOT system.

Repealers

- Removes a prior memorial road naming at the request of the original delegation.
- Ensures OSTA compliance for an upcoming development in East Hartford, by removing an exemption from OSTA review for the development.



Questions & Contact Information



Questions???



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