

Multi-Modal Transportation Study for the Mystic Seaport Area

Towns of Stonington and Groton,
Connecticut
CTDOT Project No. 137-151



in association with Milone & MacBroom, Inc.; TranSystems, Wendel
Duchscherer Architects & Engineers, PC; Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc.

Project Team

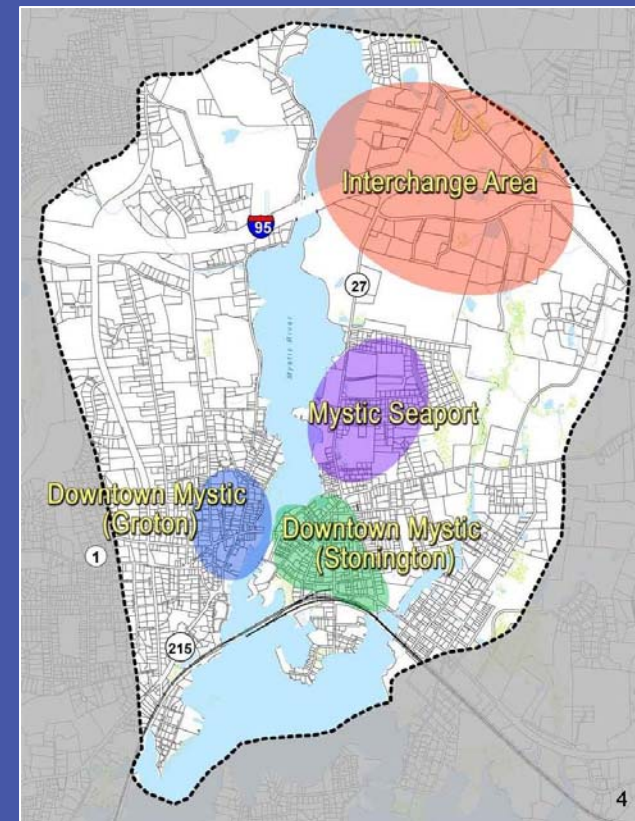
- **URS Corporation AES** – Design & Transportation
- **Milone & MacBroom** – Streetscape, Pedestrian & Bicycle Access
- **Wendel Duchscherer** – Intermodal Center
- **Transystems** – Transit Administration, Operations & Circulation
- **Fitzgerald & Halliday** – Public Involvement



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Background

- Major transportation issues facing the Mystic Area
- The Towns of Groton & Stonington have taken steps to address these issues
- SCCOG Intermodal Connections Study Southeast



Mystic Multi-Modal Transportation Study Towns of Stonington & Groton, CT

February
2008



Purpose of the 2008 Study

- Identify and analyze traffic patterns into and around Historic Mystic.
- Analyze on-street and off-street parking space utilization at tourist attractions, hotels and in Downtown Mystic.
- Analyze and discuss past and current mass transit and non-vehicular transportation options within Mystic.
- Identify peak hours of parking utilization, peak traffic volumes and times, and vehicular flows between different areas within Mystic.
- Based upon quantitative and qualitative analysis, identify specific deficiencies in the Mystic transportation system.
- Recommend specific actions to limit or eliminate identified deficiencies.



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Recommended Transportation Improvement Options from 2008 Study are the Focus of this Project

- Reinstating the Mystic Shuttle Bus Services
- Creating a Transit Center near the I-95 Interchange
- Expanding the Mystic Seaport Water Shuttle Service
- Improving Directional Signage throughout the Mystic Region
- Enhancing pedestrian & non-vehicular transit linkages
- Improving the Route 1/Route 27 Intersection
- Improving sidewalk maintenance & accessibility



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The URS Team has been Charged with These Key Objectives

- Evaluate options from the 2008 study
- Determine what can be accomplished
 - * Financial Feasibility
 - * Cost Effectiveness
 - * Operational Constraints
- Consider other effective solutions that will not involve extensive investigation or additional study funding.



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Task 1: Project Initiation/Kick-Off Meeting/Develop Goals & Objectives/Schedule

- Task 1.1: Project Management Team Meetings (15)
- Task 1.2: Advisory Committee Meetings, (6), Stakeholder Meetings (5) and Public Meetings (3)



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Task 2: Public Involvement Process

- Task 2.1: Public and Stakeholder Outreach Plan
- Task 2.2: Advisory Committee
- Task 2.3: Additional Stakeholder Outreach Meetings
- Task 2.4: Public Meetings
- Task 2.5: Newsletter/Fact Sheet
- Task 2.6: Website
- Task 2.7: Advisory Committee and Stakeholder Contact List
- Task 2.8: Public Relations



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Task 3: Data Collection

- Task 3.1: Review of Prior Studies/Plans/Data and Concurrent Efforts
- Task 3.2: Research Current Projects
- Task 3.3: Review Data on Comparable Trolley Bus and SEAT Bus Services
- Task 3.4: Parking, Traffic, Visitation Counts, Accident Data
- Task 3.5: GIS Base Mapping



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Task 4: Existing Conditions Assessment

- Task 4.1: Existing Traffic Operations
- Task 4.2: Accident Analysis
- Task 4.3: Assess Existing Roadway and Intersection Geometry
- Task 4.4: Parking Analysis
- Task 4.5: Alternative Modes of Transportation
- Task 4.6: Existing Signage and Wayfinding



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Task 5: Future Transportation Conditions Assessment

- Task 5.1: Transportation System Growth
- Task 5.2: Regional Bus Transit System
- Task 5.3: Assessment of Future Land Use on Transportation System
- Task 5.4: Future traffic Projections
- Task 5.5: No-Build Roadway Analysis



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Task 6: Alternatives Analysis / Strategy Development

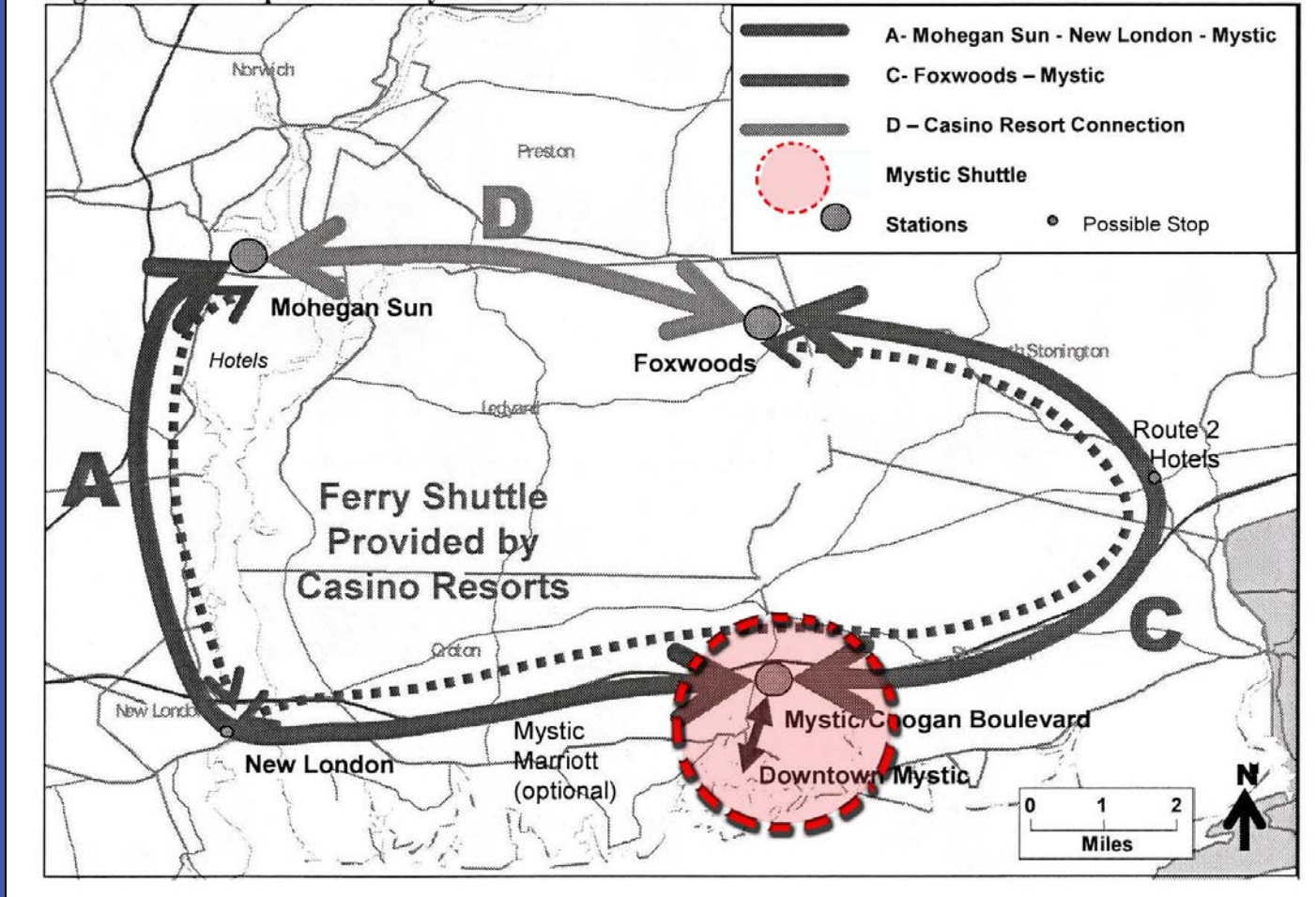
- Task 6.1: Transportation Center – Site Alternatives Analysis
- Task 6.2: Transportation Center – Conceptual Plan and Layout
- Task 6.3: Wayfinding and Trailblazing
- Task 6.4: Mystic Trolley Service and Water Taxi Service
- Task 6.5: Streetscape, Pedestrian, and Bicycle Access Improvements
- Task 6.6: Roadway Improvements



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Proposed Regional Bus Transit System Links to Transit Center

Figure 6.9-1: Proposed Pilot System Routes



Intermodal Transit Center

- Programming
- Passenger
- Transit Activities
- Site Selection
- Bus Layout Design - Herring Bone, Pull Thru, Saw-Tooth, Free Zone



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Intermodal Transit Center Site Selection Process

- Efficient transit operations
- Vehicle access
- Pedestrian access
- Viable infrastructure
- Environmental issues
- Compatibility with strategic plans
- Intermodal connectivity
- “Construction ready” costs
- Enhances economic development
- Enhances image of transportation



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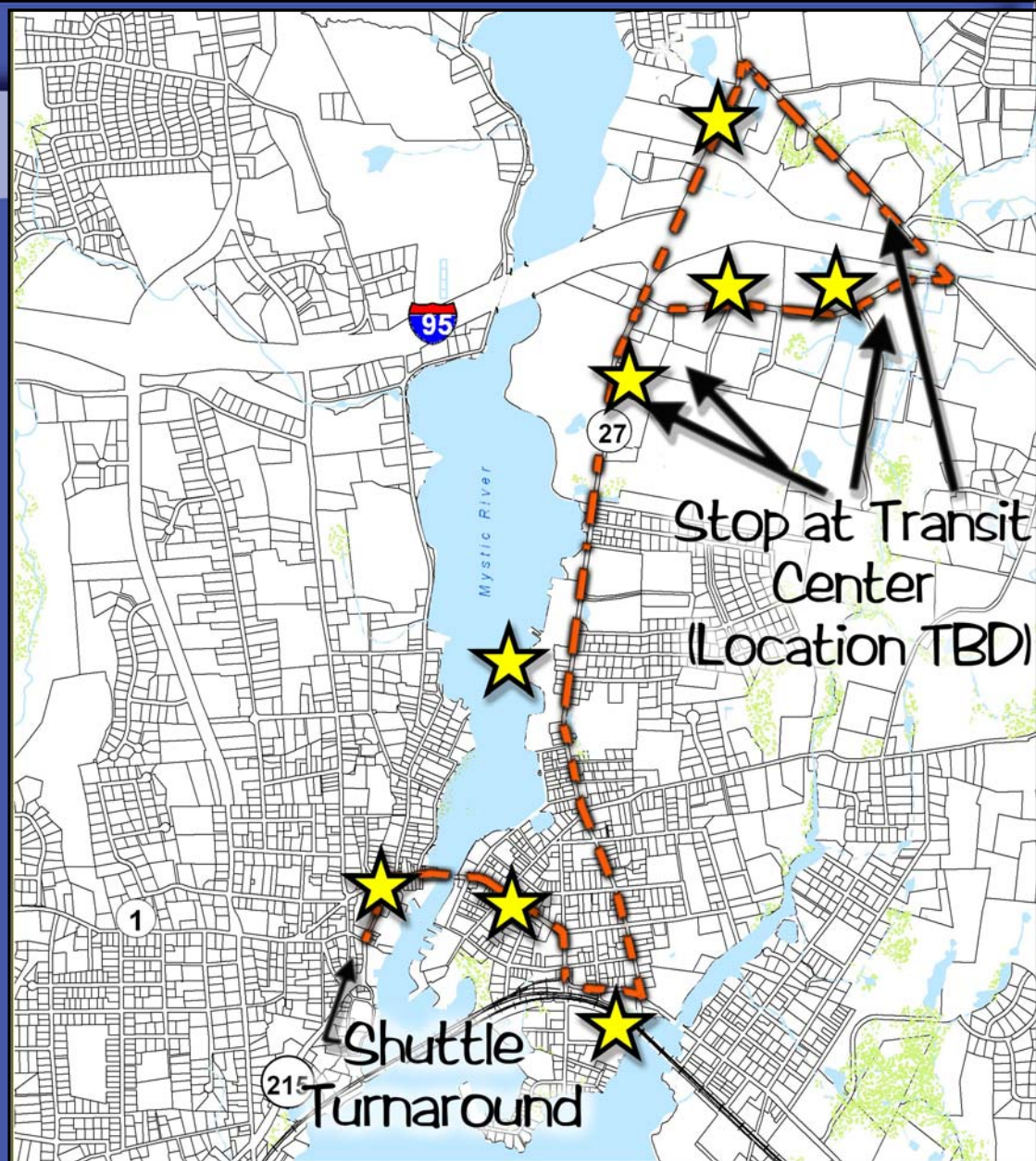
Reinstitute Mystic Shuttle Bus Service

- Service Evaluation & Design
 - Past shuttle operations
 - New Mystic Trolley
- Possible Funding Sources
 - Fares
 - Negotiated contribution from attractions/hotels
 - District fees
 - State funding; Federal Discretionary Grant
 - Advertising revenue
- Organization Options
 - Governance
 - Management
 - Daily Operations



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The Proposed Shuttle Bus Route & Stops from the 2008 Study



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Proposed
Shuttle Bus
Stops & Route



Shuttle Stops

Task 7: Concept Refinement & Evaluation

- Task 7.1: Zoning Regulations
- Task 7.2: Transportation Center – Concept Refinement
- Task 7.3: Wayfinding and Trailblazing – Concept Refinement
- Task 7.4: Streetscape, Pedestrian, Bicycle and Roadway Improvement
- Task 7.5: Parking Redistribution Analysis



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Task 8: Trolley Bus System Governance & Financing

- **Overall Task Deliverable:** Technical memorandum detailing the recommendations for governance and financing of the trolley bus service.



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Task 9: Final Improvement Recommendations Plan

- Task 9.1: Plans and Recommendations – Set of multi-modal transportation plans for the various roadway, streetscape, pedestrian and bicycle improvements.
- Task 9.2: Trolley System – An RFP outlining requirements for the trolley bus system and prototype design for a trolley shelter.
- Task 9.3: Transportation Center - The preferred concept design for the center will be developed and refined .
- Task 9.4: Funding – Review and recommend appropriate sources of funding.



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Task 10: Technical Memoranda & Deliverables

- The URS Team will work with the Project Management Team to determine the optimum delivery and sequencing of these reports.
- As a final deliverable the URS Team will consolidate the various Technical Memoranda and maps developed in each of the various tasks into a final report in a three ring binder.



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Advisory Committee Schedule

- Kick-Off Meeting – December 2009
- Meeting #2 – Trolley Bus RFP – February 2010
- Meeting #3 – Transportation Center – March 2010
- Meeting #4 – Alternatives Analysis – June 2010
- Meeting #5 – Concept Refinement and Evaluation – August 2010
- Meeting #6 – Joint Advisory Committee and public meeting – January 2010



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Public Meetings

- March 2010
- September 1010
- January 2011



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