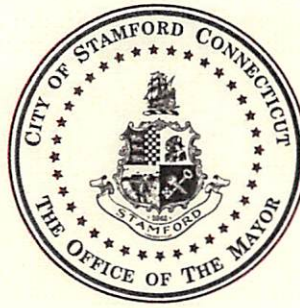



DAVID R. MARTIN
MAYOR
CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT



TEL: 203 977 4150
FAX: 203 977 5845
E-MAIL: DMARTIN@STAMFORDCT.GOV

To: Matt Quinones, President
From: David R. Martin, Mayor 
Date: March 4, 2019
Re: West Main Street Bridge Construction Contract

Last week City Engineer Lou Casolo presented to the Operations Committee the results of the engineering assessment conducted by Wengell, McDonnell & Costello (WMC). The conclusion of the first ninety-day review is that while there are some changes, much of which are necessary to support emergency vehicles, the overall direction of this project is largely as presented to the Board when it approved the agreement with WMC.

Given that the condition of the bridge continues to deteriorate, we are frequently required to close the bridge during and after major weather events, and it is necessary that the design work move forward as expeditiously as possible. If we are to complete the work by the next calendar year, the administration is preparing to proceed with the WMC design work for the reconstruction of the West Main Street Bridge (WMSB).

However, it has been brought to my attention that there are differing views as to the approval process required to proceed. We have consulted with the Law Department and no additional contract approval is required to proceed with the engineering work. That said, to ensure the Administration and the Board work collaboratively to address this critical and time-sensitive bridge project, I would like to ensure your Board is afforded the opportunity to terminate this project in the event this is the will of the Board. Therefore, I will honor a resolution from the Board to cease work on the reconstruction of the West Main Street Bridge at this time, should that be the Board's decision.

Given the serious safety concerns of this bridge, I ask that your Board act as expeditiously as possible. Our most important priority is the safety of West Side residents and the users of Mill River Park as they use the bridge daily. I know you have the same priority. I will await the Board's response.

Thank you.

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