

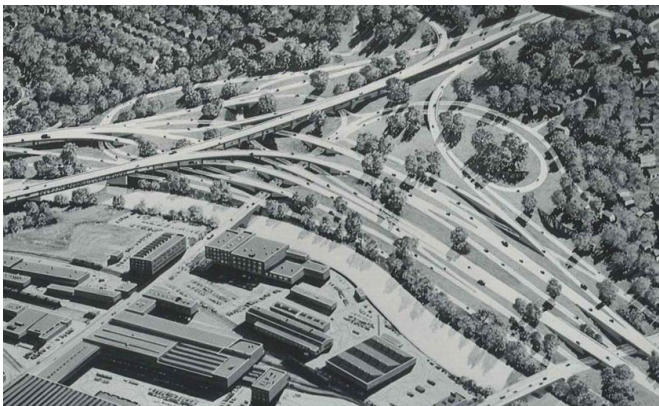


About the New Mix Program

What is the Mixmaster?

The Mixmaster is the commonly used name for the interchange where Interstate 84 (East and West) and Route 8 (North and South) meet in Waterbury.

The Mixmaster was planned and designed in the late 1940s through the 1950s, constructed in the 1960s, and opened for public use in 1968.



Rendering circa 1960

Several of the interchange's bridges were built 'stacked' above one another. Building up with stacked bridges allowed the footprint of the interchange to take up less land in Waterbury while also addressing the design challenges presented by the area's steep slopes and the need to span across the Naugatuck River.

The design of the Mixmaster was innovative for its time and the interchange remains the only stacked section of two-way highway in Connecticut.

What is the New Mix?

The New Mix is an ongoing CTDOT program that will plan for and implement a series of projects to address the long-term needs of the Mixmaster interchange.

Does this mean that the Mixmaster will be replaced?

CTDOT, with public stakeholder input, will weigh both rehabilitation and replacement options in order to determine the best course of action for the future of the interchange.

How many cars travel on the Mixmaster?

The Mixmaster was designed to accommodate approximately 100,000 motor vehicle trips per day (predicted 1975 traffic volume). Currently, about 190,000 motor vehicle trips occur along the interchange each day. By 2045, this number is expected to approach 225,000 motor vehicle trips per day!

What is the lifespan of the Mixmaster?

When first opened for public use in 1968, the then-new Mixmaster had a lifespan of approximately 50-60 years, which has been extended through multiple, major rehabilitations.

What construction has recently been occurring on the Mixmaster?

Most recently, CTDOT began an intensive rehabilitation project on the interchange called the Mixmaster Rehab Project. Initiated in 2018 and scheduled for completion in June 2023, the Mixmaster Rehab Project is expected to extend the life of the Mixmaster for up to 25 years. Learn more about the Mixmaster Rehab Project at <https://mixmaster-rehab.com>.

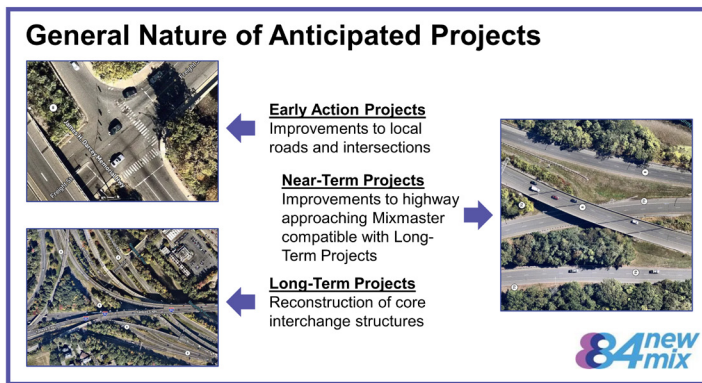


Prior to the rehab project, CTDOT engaged in a widening project to ease congestion on I-84. The I-84 Widening Project was completed in 2018 and has resulted in reduced congestion east of the Mixmaster. Learn more about the I-84 Widening Project at <http://widening.i-84waterbury.com>.

When is construction on the New Mix planned to begin?

The New Mix program will likely take a phased approach with breakout projects occurring over several years. This is intended to complement and advance the overall New Mix program through incremental improvements.

The potential phasing of breakout projects is described below, along with anticipated construction dates for each.



Early Action Projects

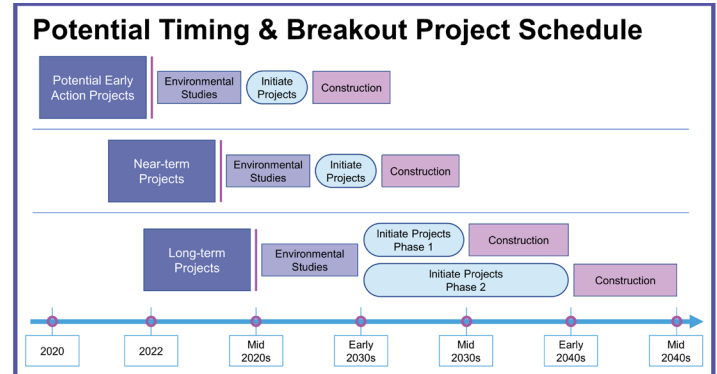
Early Action Projects will generally focus on local road and intersection improvements with the intended goal of improving the function of the overall local road network without intensive construction or construction impacts. By improving the functioning of the local road network, Early Action Projects are also intended to improve the flow of traffic in the area. As Early Action Projects are smaller in scope, they may occur relatively soon, as early as the mid-2020s.

Near-term Projects

Near-term Projects will generally occur on the outer portions of the interchange and could include improvements to entrances, exits, and lane configurations that improve the function of the existing interchange approaches but are also aligned with the goals of the future improvements to the core of the interchange. Near-term Projects will also facilitate traffic handling during the eventual core interchange reconstruction. Some, but not all, Near-term Projects will require more extensive construction and may result in impacts to drivers. Near-term Projects may begin construction in the early 2030s, before the core of the interchange is reconstructed.

Long-term Projects

Long-term Projects include significant construction work that will be required to reconstruct the core of the interchange. Long-term Projects could include replacement or reconstruction of decks, the stacked bridges, and other elements of the interchange and connections between Interstate 84 and Route 8. Construction of Long-term Projects is anticipated to begin in the vicinity of the mid-2030s to the early 2040s.



Stay involved!

There are many ways in which individuals can learn about, ask questions, stay up to date and provide input about the New Mix program.

Sign up for email updates at <https://bit.ly/NewMixNews> to receive the latest New Mix program news, notice of upcoming public meetings and more.

Additionally, you may leave comments or ask questions through the New Mix website anytime by visiting <https://bit.ly/NewMixComments>. You can also follow us on Twitter at @NewMixWaterbury, on Facebook at facebook.com/NewMixWaterbury, and on Instagram at instagram.com/NewMixWaterbury/.

