

**WATER BUREAU
PUBLIC HEARING**

555 Main Street, Hartford

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 and Monday, March 16, 2026

Present: Commissioner Dominic Pane (1)**Also****Present:** John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Christopher Levesque, Chief Operating Officer
Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering
David Banker, Assistant Manager of Engineering Services
Jessica Coelho, Senior Project Manager
Annie Dengler, Project Engineer 1
Victoria Escoriza, Assistant Administrative Officer and Special Assistant
Kevin Sullivan, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)**CALL TO ORDER**

The public hearing was called to order by Water Bureau Chairman Dominic Pane at 5:30 PM

Commissioner Pane stated that mailings for tonight's public hearing were delayed by the US Postal Service, most likely due to the recent snow storms, and there will be a second public hearing regarding Chapel Road, South Windsor scheduled on Monday, March 16th at 5:30 PM. Certified mail letters for the March 16th public hearing were mailed out property owners today, and flyers will be delivered in the neighborhood as well.

The public hearing notice will be posted in the Hartford Courant tomorrow, March 5th as well as March 11th, and is also available on our website www.themdc.org

Commissioner Pane read the following into the record: "This is a public hearing to consider the proposal to construct a public water main in portions of Chapel Road, South Windsor. This public hearing is part of the legal procedure that The Metropolitan District is required to follow regarding the installation of water mains, as mandated by Special Act 511 of the Connecticut General Assembly of 1929. The plan for this project has been undertaken in response to a petition for a public water main received from two property owners. A final decision on this project has yet to be made. That decision will take into account what is said at this hearing, along with other information, including any information that the Town provides regarding the need for this project from the standpoint of public health.

Victoria Escoriza read the following statement:

"The following hearing notice was published in the Hartford Courant on February 20, 2026 and February 27, 2026"

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LAYOUT AND ASSESSMENT FOR PUBLIC WATER
MAIN INSTALLATION FOR CHAPEL ROAD SOUTH WINDSOR
THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

555 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut
February 20, 2026

The Metropolitan District will hold a public hearing in the Board Room, 555 Main Street, Hartford, on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 5:30 P.M. for the purpose of notification of the construction of a public water main in a portion of Chapel Road, South Windsor.

Members of the public that would like to participate remotely may call into the public hearing at 415-655-0001, Access Code 2305 270 6766# or via WebEx Link available on the District's website.

All interested parties, both in favor or against said water main, may appear to be heard.

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk"

Commissioner Pane introduced District staff in attendance and stated the rules and procedures for the public hearing.

Senior Project Manager Jessica Coelho and Project Engineer Annie Dengler provided an overview of the Chapel Road, South Windsor project and property assessments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doug Gougino of 55 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in favor of the project.

Vincent Brown of 70 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in favor of the project.

Robert Lavoie of 81 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Paolo Cianci of 112 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Joyce Jurgelas of 115 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Marc Jarvis of 160 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Victoria Escoriza read the following public comment into the record, submitted by Sally Sanborn of 44 Chapel Road, South Windsor:

"To whom it may concern,

I am sending this email as I am unable to attend the meeting on March 4, 2026 and to advise you that I am opposing the water main being installed on Chapel Rd in South Windsor CT.

I recently had to install a brand new well which cost me \$15,000, I am and 85 year old woman on a fixed income & do not want the water main being installed.

Thank you,
Sally Sanborn

Victoria Escoriza read the following letter from the South Windsor Director of Health into the record:



August 4, 2025

Annie Dengler, E.I.T.
The Metropolitan District
555 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06103

RE: Chapel Road, South Windsor- Request for Public Water Extension

Dear Ms. Dengler,

Our Health Department is in receipt of a letter from your office, dated July 1, 2025, in response to two resident requests for the extension of public water to serve 55 and 71 Chapel Road in South Windsor.

After reviewing the request, the South Windsor Health Department has no known public health concerns in this residential area that would hinder this proposal from going forward or that would warrant additional consideration at this time. There are no reported issues related to the existing well water quality or potability in the area of the proposed extension.

Should any new information arise or if you require further input as the project progresses, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,



Trishanna S. Branford, MPH
Director of Health

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:22pm, the public hearing was adjourned until Monday, March 16, 2026 at 5:30 PM

RECONVENED

The public hearing was reconvened by Commissioner Dominic Pane at 5:30 PM

Present: Commissioners Dominic Pane and Christopher Tierrini (2)

Also

Present: Commissioner Alberto Cortes (Remote Attendance)
Citizen Member Awet Tsegai
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Christopher Levesque, Chief Operating Officer (Remote Attendance)
Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering
David Banker, Assistant Manager of Engineering Services (Remote Attendance)
Jessica Coelho, Senior Project Manager
Annie Dengler, Project Engineer 1
Victoria Escoriza, Assistant Administrative Officer and Special Assistant
Kevin Sullivan, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Matthew McAuliffe, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)

Commissioner Pane stated that certified mail letters with notice of the March 4th public hearing were mailed out on February 18, 2026, and a notice was published in the Hartford Courant on February 20, 2026 and February 27, 2026. He stated that certified mail letters with notice of the March 16th public hearing were mailed out on March 4th 2026. A notice was also published in the Hartford Courant on March 5, 2026 and March 11, 2026. He also stated that flyers were delivered to the area on March 6, 2026.

Commissioner Pane read the following into the record: "This is a public hearing to consider the proposal to construct a public water main in portions of Chapel Road, South Windsor. This Public Hearing is part of the legal procedure that The Metropolitan District is required to follow regarding the installation of water mains, as mandated by Special Act 511 of the Connecticut General Assembly of 1929. The plan for this project has been undertaken in response to a petition for a public water main received from two property owners. A final decision on this project has yet to be made. That decision will take into account what is said at this hearing, along with other information, including any information that the Town provides regarding the need for this project from the standpoint of public health.

Victoria Escoriza read the following statement:

The following hearing notice was published in the Hartford Courant on March 5, 2026 and March 11, 2026:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LAYOUT AND ASSESSMENT FOR PUBLIC WATER
MAIN INSTALLATION FOR CHAPEL ROAD SOUTH WINDSOR

THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
555 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut

March 5, 2026

The Metropolitan District will hold a public hearing in the Board Room, 555 Main Street, Hartford, on Monday, March 16, 2026, at 5:30 P.M. for the purpose of notification of the construction of a public water main in a portion of Chapel Road, South Windsor.

Members of the public that would like to participate remotely may call into the public hearing at 415-655-0001, Access Code 2314 841 3954# or via WebEx Link available on the District's website.

All interested parties, both in favor or against said water main, may appear to be heard.

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

All staff in attendance introduced themselves.

Commissioner Pane stated the rules and procedures for the public hearing.

Senior Project Manager Jessica Coelho and Project Engineer Annie Dengler provided an overview of the Chapel Road, South Windsor project and property assessments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doug Gougino of 55 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in favor of the project.

Vincent Brown of 70 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in favor of the project.

Robert Lavoie of 81 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Marc Jarvis of 160 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Roderick Dube of 80 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Paolo Cianci of 112 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Jon Valles of 22 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke on behalf of Virginia Valles and Gina Valles, in opposition of the project.

Joseph Kerr of 178 Chapel Road, South Windsor spoke in opposition of the project.

Victoria Escoriza read the names and address for the following individuals that submitted written public comment. The written comments are as follows:

Nadine Loveland of 80 Chapel Road, South Windsor in opposition to the project:

“Hi, my name is Nadine Loveland and I live at 80 Chapel Rd. South Windsor along with Rod Dube. We would like it to be known that we oppose the installation of a water main line on our street. This would cause us a great hardship. Please consider not installing the water line.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Nadine Loveland”

Emily Parrish-Mulliken and Cullen Mulliken of 140 Chapel Road, South Windsor in opposition to the project:

“Hi, We are the homeowners of 140 Chapel Rd, South Windsor, CT 06074. We are emailing to state that we are opposed to the water main installation. Thank you for your time.

Best,
Emily Parrish-Mulliken
Cullen Mulliken”

Ann Pellegatto of 128 Chapel Road, South Windsor in opposition to the project:

“Property lot 21-15 Chapel Road South Windsor. Vote No I am not in favor to put in water line.

Ann Pellegatto 128 Chapel Road.”

Amy Rittlinger of 35 Chapel Road, South Windsor in opposition to the project.

“Hello, I Amy Rittlinger oppose, the plan for a water Main. Please mark me down as NOT in favor.

Thank you,
Amy Rittlinger”

Vincent Brown of 70 Chapel Road, South Windsor in favor to the project:

“Dear Attorney Mirtle,

70 Chapel Rd. South Windsor procured a well water test dated November 21, 2025. The property was built in 1961. It was not a period of heavy rain runoff. Tests at different times of year could provide different results.

Test results:

PH 5.83 is acidic and can corrode plumbing, fittings and appliances. I am not aware of any homes that have done additional tests for lead or copper... as recommended for acidic well water. All I have spoken to have visual signs of what could be copper in water as evident by blue green stains in sink basins. Nitrate Nitrogen tested at 8.80 mg/L which is close to the maximum contamination level of 10 mg/L. All homes are in close proximity to agriculture and possible run off. This area also has a high concentration of private septic systems that also pose risk of nitrogen contamination. Iron and Manganese tested at 0.34 mg/L and 0.07 mg/L respectively which is above the staining level creating a reddish brown, sometimes slimy stain from water as it sits.

Additionally, this section of Chapel Rd. is approximately 2,600 ft long with the nearest hydrants located at the intersection of Chapel Rd. and Route 5 or Chapel Rd. and Main St. Any and all consideration to approve a water main would be greatly appreciated.

Regards,
Vincent Brown”

The following written public comment was submitted after the public hearing:

Jon Valles, on behalf of Virginia Valles and Gina Valles, of 22 Chapel Road, South Windsor in opposition of the project:

“I attended the meeting by phone and weblink. Speaking on behalf of my mother and wife who are the property owners, we are opposed to the project. I voiced this over the phone and I’m sending an email also. Thank you.

Jon Valles”

Commissioner Pane reminded property owners in attendance to register their opinions with the District Clerk if they have not spoken at the Public Hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:14 pm, the public hearing was adjourned.

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

Date of Approval

**Video of the full March 4, 2026 & March 16, 2026 Water Bureau public hearing is available at <https://www.youtube.com/@MetropolitanDistrictCommission> **