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## Chapter 7

# Summary of Transportation Issues

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Based on a review of the previous studies in Chapter 1 and initial discussions with ConnDOT, a number of key transportation issues have been identified that will have a potential impact on the study. Following the kick-off meeting with the study advisory committee, the initial public meeting, and additional meetings with key stakeholders, these issues may be modified based on their input, and/or additional issues may be added.

- The benefits and costs of each alternative (electrification, infrastructure, and service improvements) must be evaluated to determine the most cost effective strategy for increasing the utility of the Danbury Branch.
- A potential benefit of improving service on the Danbury Branch, that must be addressed in the evaluation of alternatives, is the reduction in automobile congestion in the Route 7 and other adjacent north/south corridors.
- Improvements to the Danbury Branch must also consider competition from the neighboring Harlem Line, which provides faster running times into Grand Central and more frequent service.
- The evaluation of improvements on the branch should also identify areas of concern or where potential environmental impacts that could result from the construction and operation of improvements to the Branch.