



**To:** Transportation Committee

**Transportation Subcommittee** 

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**Date:** June 6, 2018; REVISED June 15,2018

**Subject:** Performance Measures and Target Setting – Bridge Conditions

# REVISED

#### Revisions to:

- Text in RED
- Figure 3

Per Federal requirements, on May 20, 2018 CTDOT set 2-year and 4-year Transportation Performance Measures targets for ten (10) FHWA performance measures covering 5 general areas, summarized below. CRCOG now has until November 16, 2018 to either adopt/support each CTDOT target, or set our own.

- Bridge Conditions
- Pavement Conditions
- Performance of the National Highway System (NHS)
- Performance of Freight
- CMAQ Program On-Road Mobile Source Emissions

This memorandum presents and reviews the current Bridge Conditions and CTDOT Performance Measure Targets, and offers potential CRCOG Target recommendations for review and discussion at the upcoming June Subcommittee meeting.

## FHWA Bridge Conditions Performance Measure

The two FHWA Bridge Condition performance measures include:

- Percentage of NHS Bridges classified as in Good condition (by deck area)
- Percentage of NHS Bridges classified as in Poor condition (by deck area)

To understand these measures, it is important to have the following background:

- Federal guidance focuses the bridge performance measures on the National Highway System (NHS) which consists of a network of strategic highways, including interstates and other roads that serve major airports, rail or truck terminals, and other strategic transport facilities. The specific NHS roadways within our region are illustrated in Figure 1.
- Per federal guidelines, structures with lengths exceeding 20 feet (sum of its spans) are considered bridges.
   CTDOT regularly inspects all Connecticut bridges (regardless of ownership), and assigns each a condition rating (Good, Fair, Poor) also perfederal guidelines.
- CTDOT uses dTIMs, developed by Deighton Associates, as their asset management system. The program
  encompasses strategic planning components with maintenance, operations and capital investment
  decision-making aspects.
- CTDOT's Bridge Management System starts with the current status of the bridge, accounts for programmed
  work and adjusts for predicted decay. Major bridges are analyzed individually by engineers and
  spreadsheets and all other structures are analyzed by dTIMS. Bridge inputs to dTIMS include current bridge
  condition data, deterioration curves, scheduled projects, treatments and costs, budgets, time spans,
  inflation and discount rates.

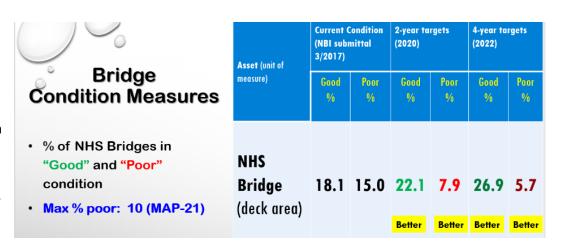
Andover/Avon/Berlin/Bloomfield/Bolton/Canton/Columbia/Coventry/East Granby/East Hartford/East Windsor/Ellington/Enfield/Farmington Glastonbury/Granby/Hartford/Hebron/Manchester/Marlborough/Mansfield/NewBritain/Newington/Plainville/RockyHill/Simsbury/Somers South Windsor/Southington/Stafford/Suffield/Tolland/Vernon/West Hartford/Wethersfield/Willington/Windsor/Windsor/Cocks

# **Current NHS Bridge Conditions**

The below graphics represent NHS bridge conditions within our region, compared to other regions.

	NHS-NBI Bridges (Deck Area - ft²)	Locally Owned NHS-NBI Bridges	FAST Act National Performance Management Measures	
МРО			% Good (by deck area)	% Poor or % Structurally Deficient (by deck area)
1 - South Western	2,183,450	0	3.3%	19.1%
2 - Housatonic Valley	920,157	2	22.0%	7.4%
3 - Northwest Hills (RPO)	273,510	0	22.7%	10.0%
5 - Central Naugatuck Valley	1,917,348	1	9.7%	34.2%
7 - Greater Bridgeport Valley	3,765,462	0	24.8%	6.3%
8 - South Central Region	4,014,609	4	42.8%	6.0%
10 - Capitol Region	8,567,699	5	13.6%	15.7%
11 - Lower CT River Valley	1,418,300	2	11.0%	16.2%
13 - Southeastern CT	2,832,830	0	7.4%	23.0%
15 - Northeastern CT (RPO)	377,273	0	15.3%	12.6%
TOTAL	26,270,638	14	18.1%	14.9%

Currently, 15.0% of NHS Bridges statewide (by deck area) are categorized in Poor condition, with bridges within CRCOG experiencing a similar percentage of 15.7%. A map showing the region's NHS Bridges currently in Poor condition appears in Figure 2.



CTDOT's statewide bridge performance targets are summarized above.

#### Staff Review of CTDOT NHS Bridge Condition Targets

Federal regulations require that State DOT's maintain bridges so the percentage of bridge deck area classified as poor does not exceed 10%. If, for 3 consecutive years, this condition is not met, States are required to obligate and set aside National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds for eligible bridge projects on the NHS.

To determine the future 2-year and 4-year statewide targets, CTDOT relied on projections from its bridge asset management program, and utilized an assumption that, 2017 funding levels would be maintained. Under this scenario, CTDOT sees the condition of NHS Bridges improving, with both the percentage of bridges in Good condition increasing, and the percentage of bridges in Poor condition decreasing. The anticipated percent of NHS Bridges in Poor condition, is anticipated to decreases to 7.9% and 5.7% in 2 and 4 years, respectively.

# Non-NHS Bridge Conditions

As previously noted, the FHWA bridge performance measures only apply to bridges located on the NHS. However, there are almost as many bridges within the region that are not located on the NHS (516 vs. 528). Currently, 39 of the region's Non-NHS bridges (representing 7.6% of Non-NHS bridge deck area) are in Poor condition. All regional non-NHS bridges are mapped in Figure 3.

An item worth noting, we understand there are 5 locally owned bridges on the NHS. These bridges are generally summarized below:

Condition	Town	Facility Carried	Features Intersected	
Poor	West Hartford	North Main St.	West Branch Trout Brook	
Good	West Hartford	Farmington Ave.	Trout Brook	
Fair	Hartford	I-84 AMTRAK CTFA	North Branch of Park River	
Fair	Hartford	I-84 RAMPS and Locals Streets	Park River Conduit	
Fair	Hartford	SR 598 + Local Streets	Park River Conduit	

As we consider bridge conditions and investments, we may want to consider prioritizing improvements to these 5 bridges, when conditions merit, given they are locally owned and appear to be regionally significant. CRCOG will further discuss these structures with the towns of West Hartford and Hartford.

### **Current TIP Bridge Funding**

CRCOG reviewed the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the TIP Bridge Report (April 2018) to assess financials associated with bridge improvements within the Capital Region. In general, we found that approximately \$793 million is programmed in the TIP for bridge projects (including inspection, design, repair and construction) between FFY2018 and 2021.

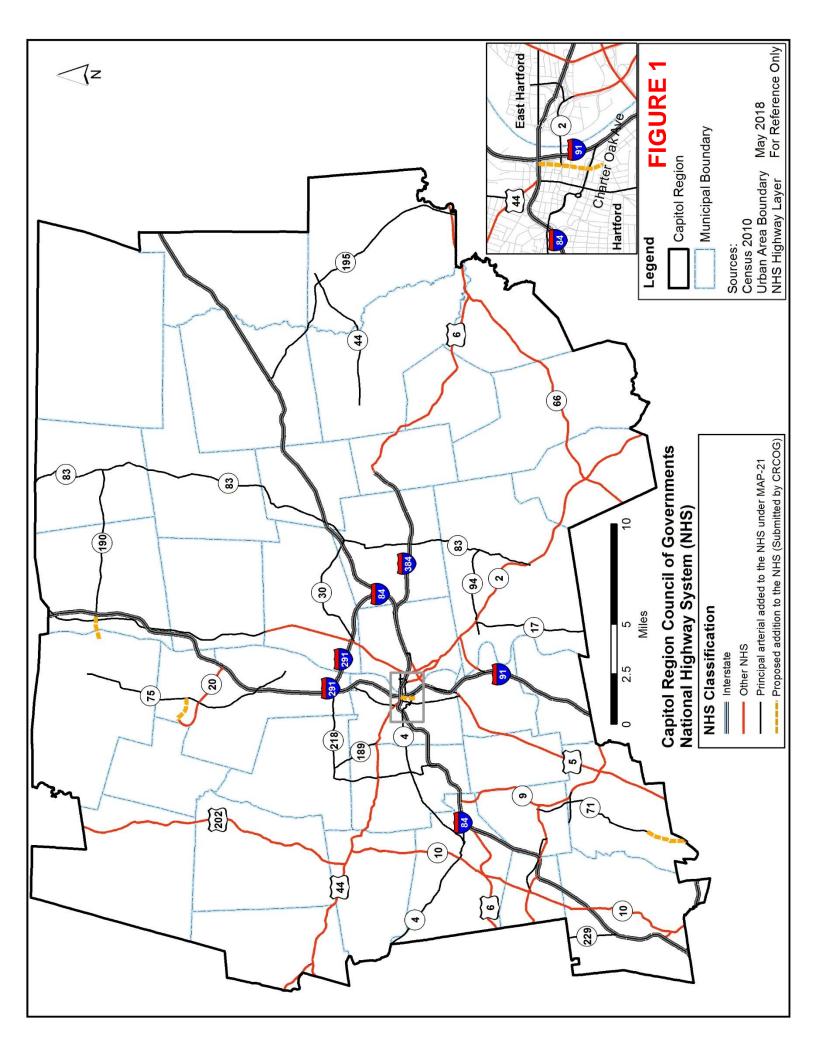
#### **Staff Recommendations**

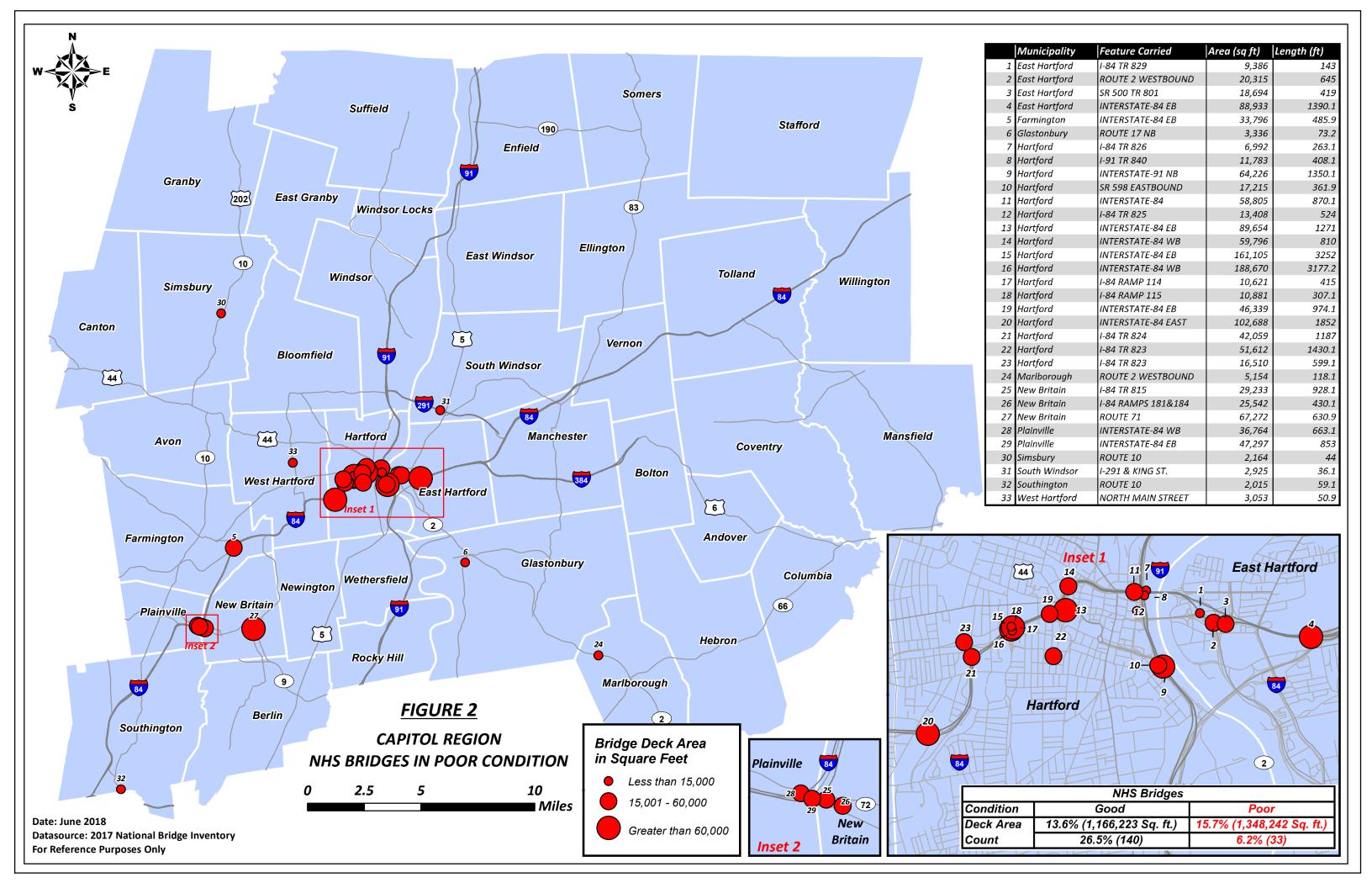
The CTDOT 2020 and 2022 targets work to address the Poor condition of bridges on the NHS and meet federal guidelines. CRCOG feels developing our own regional targets for NHS roads is outside of what we can reasonably do given limited access to DOT's asset management system and regional data. CRCOG recommends supporting DOT's 2 and 4-year targets for the NHS bridge conditions.

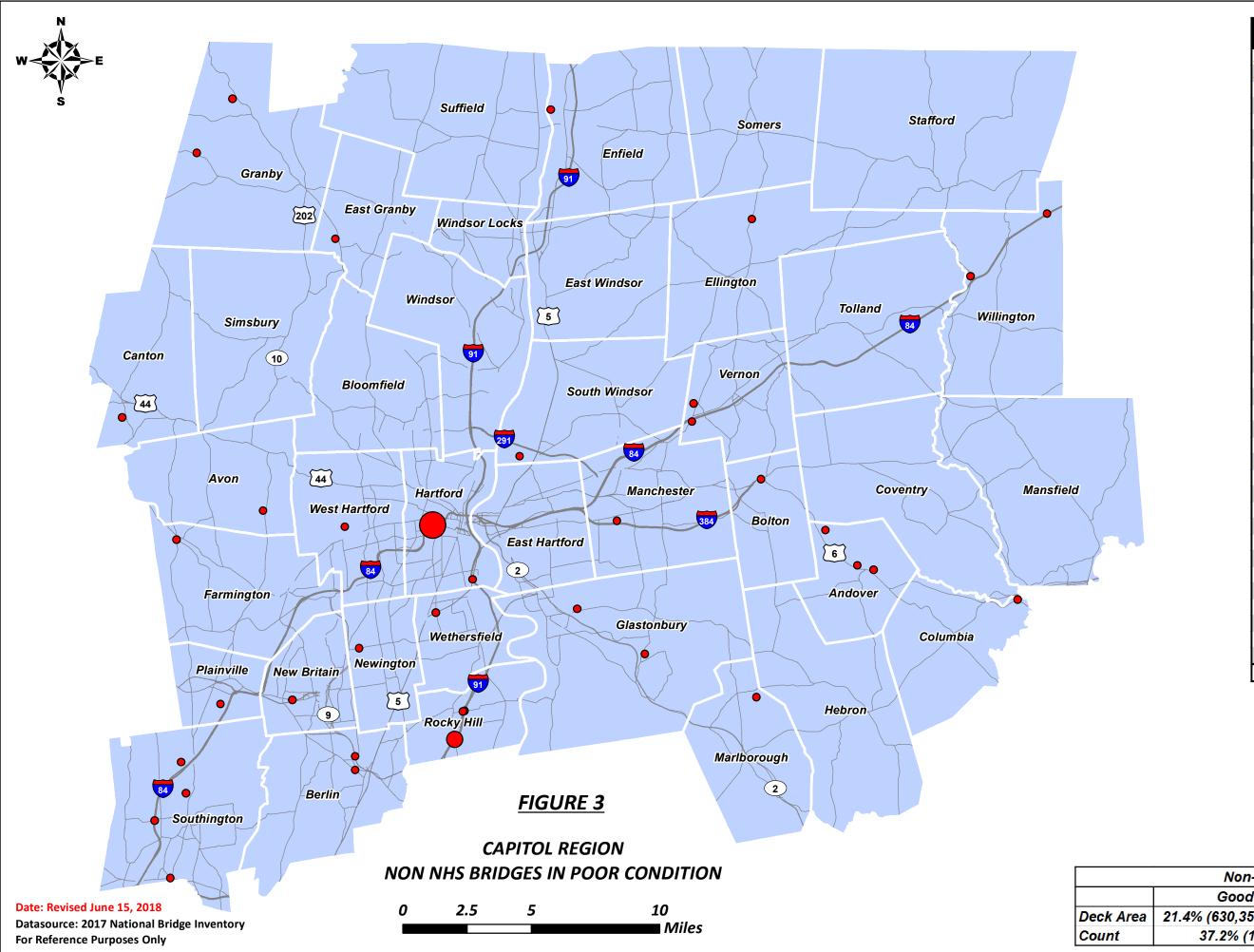
However, CRCOG staff feels that we should also aim to improve the non-NHS bridges in our region, with the goal of not exceeding a maximum of 10% in poor condition in 2020 and 2022. We suggest that this goal would be an administrative one and something to monitor and work with CTDOT and municipalities on to ensure projects not on the NHS are being addressed. Many of these non-NHS bridges are municipally owned and therefore of prime importance to us.

CRCOG staff also recommends that we work on the following initiatives:

- Monitor the 5 locally owned bridges on the NHS (identified above) and ensure improvements are prioritized for structures in 'Poor' conditions
- Coordinate with CTDOT to understand the dTIMS asset management system and assess regional use
- Incorporate the Non-NHS Bridges in poor condition data and map into CRCOG's Long Range Transportation Plan
- Update bridge condition mapping on a year basis to monitor progress and bridge conditions
- Coordinate with CTDOT as it relates to bridge investments within our region
- Ensure improvements to Interstate 84 in Hartford advance, especially reconstruction of the Interstate 84 Viaduct project
- Monitor bridge performance best practices in other states and Regional Planning Organizations







Non NHS Bridges in Municipality **Poor Condition** Andover Avon Berlin Bloomfield **Bolton** Canton Columbia Coventry East Granby East Hartford East Windsor Ellington Enfield **Farmington** Glastonbury Granby Hartford Hebron Manchester Mansfield Marlborough New Britain Newington Plainville Rocky Hill Simsbury Somers South Windsor Southington Stafford Suffield **Tolland** Vernon West Hartford Wethersfield Willington Windsor Windsor Locks **CRCOG Total** 39

# Bridge Deck Area in Square Feet

• Less than 15,000

15,001- 60,000

Greater than 60,000

Non-NHS Bridges					
	Good Poor				
Deck Area	21.4% (630,359 Sq. ft.)	6.8% (198,925 Sq. ft.)			
Count	37.2% (192)	7.6% (39)			