

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT Office of the Secretary

6/14/2019

Lyle Wray
Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments
241 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106

JUN 2 ? 2019

Re: 2019 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Capitol Region

Dear Mr. Wray:

Thank you for submitting the 2019 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Capitol Region to the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) for a review of consistency with the State Plan of Conservation and Development (State C&D Plan). I am pleased to inform you that OPM has reviewed the CEDS and hereby issues its approval, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 32-742(c).

Upon approval of this CEDS by both OPM and the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) may initiate the process under CGS Section 32-743(b) to seek designation by the Governor as a Connecticut Economic Development District (CT-EDD), and ultimately designation by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (USEDA) as a federal Economic Development District, presuming USEDA also approved the CEDS.

In conjunction with this CEDS approval, I understand that DECD will take the necessary steps to dissolve the inactive Central Connecticut CT-EDD, since its CEDS previously expired and its boundaries are no longer in compliance with the requirements of CGS Section 32-741. OPM will submit a revised map of CT-EDD boundaries to USEDA, once such boundaries have been formally modified.

While OPM considers this CEDS to be generally consistent with the State C&D Plan, please note that <u>CGS Section 16a-31</u> requires certain proposed projects utilizing state or federal funds to be reviewed by the sponsoring agency for consistency with the written principles and policies of the State C&D Plan. Furthermore, any "growth-related project" must be located in a "priority funding area" classification on the State C&D Plan's Locational Guide Map, or otherwise receive a formal exception through the process outlined in <u>CGS Section 16a-35(d)</u>.

Going forward, please ensure that both OPM and DECD receive a copy of CRCOG's annual report on progress made in implementing the CEDS.

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Pafford at (860) 418-6412. Sincerely,

Melissa McCaw, OPM Secretary

Cc: David Lehman, Commissioner, DECD

Ned Moore, DECD

Tim Malone, Principal Planner, CRCOG