

To: CRCOG Transportation Committee
CRCOG Policy Board

From: Cara Radzins, Principal Transit Planner

C: Rob Aloise, Director of Transportation Planning
Pramod Pandey, Principal Planner

Date: April 12, 2019

Subject: Eastern Gateways Study Strategy and Implementation Plan – Endorsement

CRCOG recently completed the Eastern Gateways Study. The purpose of this effort was to develop an implementation plan to address current and future intermodal travel and community quality of life issues along the sections of Route 195 and Route 44 that lead to and from the UConn Storrs campus through the towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield, and Tolland. An emphasis of the study was on enhancing safety, capacity, accessibility, and multimodal options while encouraging smart growth planning, livable communities, economic sustainability, and complete streets.

As part of a 40-day public comment period, the DRAFT Strategy and Implementation Plan for the Eastern Gateways Study was presented to the Transportation Committee in December 2018. The DRAFT Strategy and Implementation Plan was also made available on the Study website, at local libraries, and via direct correspondence to Study stakeholders and interested parties. A list of comments received, responses to said comments, and actions taken as a result can be found in the Appendix of the Strategy and Implementation Plan. Files are available for review and download on the Study website at: <http://www.cteasterngateways.com/project-documents>.

Following the public comment period, the DRAFT Strategy and Implementation Plan was endorsed by the Town Council or Board of Selectmen of the four participating municipalities: Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield, and Tolland. CRCOG Staff will be seeking endorsement of the DRAFT Strategy and Implementation Plan for the Eastern Gateways Study by the Transportation Committee and the Policy Board at their meetings on April 22 and 24, respectively. Once endorsed, the Study documents will be considered final, and the recommendations therein can be incorporated into future updates of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and other CRCOG planning documents.

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION
FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE EASTERN GATEWAYS STUDY
STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments, in cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield, and Tolland, undertook an effort to develop a multimodal transportation Strategy and Implementation Plan to address current and future travel and community quality of life issues along the sections of Route 195 and Route 44 that lead to and from the UConn Storrs campus; and

WHEREAS, the study process included a variety of opportunities for public and stakeholder involvement and input via a study website, public meetings, outreach events, study presentations, and a public comment period on the DRAFT Strategy and Implementation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the study investigated potential impacts on Title VI and Limited English Proficiency populations; and

WHEREAS, regional and local stakeholders, including UConn, the Tolland Country Chamber of Commerce, the Windham Region Transit District, and municipal representatives, were engaged throughout the study process; and

WHEREAS, the study team identified several opportunities for roadway, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian improvements within the Route 44 and Route 195 corridors; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council or Board of Selectmen of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield, and Tolland has each reviewed and accepted the recommendations of this study; and

WHEREAS, the CRCOG Transportation Committee has reviewed the study, has found its recommendations to be reasonable, and has endorsed the effort;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Capitol Region Council of Governments does hereby endorse the recommendations of the Eastern Gateways Study, as described in the DRAFT Strategy and Implementation Plan. Furthermore, study documents may be marked FINAL and dated April 2019, and study recommendations may henceforth be incorporated into CRCOG planning documents.

CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting held on April 24, 2019.

BY: _____
Lori L. Spielman, Secretary

DATE: _____