

To: CRCOG Policy Board
From: Jennifer Carrier, CRCOG Transportation Director
Date: June 8, 2018
Subject: **BUILD Project Resolution**

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) has announced that \$1.5 billion will be available for transportation projects across the country under the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant program. Grants can be used to fund capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure projects that will have a significant impact on a metropolitan area or region.

CRCOG is working with the municipalities of New Britain and Plainville on an application for a “Gap Closure Implementation” project. This project, which was the subject of a recent CRCOG study, will complete the region’s last gap in the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail (in Plainville), which is also part of the East Coast Greenway, and provide a connection between this trail and the **CTfastrak** multi-use trail in New Britain. This will provide an important east-west connection, turning what was previously a recreational trail into a viable option for commuting to work. The project includes:

- Building a multi-use trail in Plainville, from the current terminus of Farmington’s portion of the trail at Northwest Drive, to Town Line Road where it will meet Southington’s portion of the trail, which is currently in design,
- Building a primarily off-road trail from the center of Plainville to the **CTfastrak** station in Downtown New Britain, where the **CTfastrak** trail begins.

USDOT guidelines require that projects be included in the region’s Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) before funds can be obligated. If the project is not included in these plans prior to the application being submitted, the relevant planning agency must certify that steps are being taken to do so. The resolution being presented to you today certifies that CRCOG is taking steps to add the Capitol Region Opportunity Corridor project to the LRTP and TIP at least six months prior to the obligation date for BUILD funding.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION FOR ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING
CERTIFICATIONS FOR THE BETTER UTILIZING INVESTMENTS TO LEVERAGE
DEVELOPMENT (BUILD) GRANT**

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation has announced that \$1.5 billion will be available for transportation projects across the country under the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant program (hereinafter referred to as ‘BUILD FY 2018’); and

WHEREAS, securing limited discretionary funding for projects within the Capitol Region is an interest of the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and we are working to advance multi-use trail projects, particularly those that complete gaps in the East Coast Greenway; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG will be working with the City of New Britain and the Town of Plainville to prepare a BUILD FY 2018 application for a ‘Gap Closure Implementation’ project (herein referred to as “the Project”) to close the final gap in the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail (part of the East Coast Greenway) and build a connection to the CT*fastrak* multi-use trail in New Britain; and

WHEREAS, Federal regulations require that projects submitted for BUILD funding be included in the region’s Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) prior to September, 2020; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, that the Agency’s Executive Director Lyle D. Wray, is authorized to act on behalf of the Capitol Region Council of Governments in negotiating, executing, and amending all appropriate and necessary contractual instruments associated with BUILD 2018;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Capitol Region Council of Governments authorizes staff to prepare the necessary amendments to add submitted BUILD projects to the TIP and LRTP, and commits that these amendments will be adopted prior to March 31, 2020.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Capitol Region Council of Governments certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Capitol Region Council of Governments Policy Board on June 18, 2018.

BY: _____

Lori L. Spielman, Secretary

DATE: _____