

May 29, 2018

Commissioner James Redeker
Department of Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131-7546

Subject: Pyrrhotite in Bridges and Other CTDOT Structures – Request for Testing or Preservation of Concrete in Potentially Affected Areas

Dear Commissioner Redeker:

As you are aware, Central and Eastern Connecticut face a large issue related to crumbling concrete foundations. Recently, community members of the Ad-Hoc Working Committee on Crumbling Foundations have indicated that some commercial or municipal buildings may be affected by this issue. The committee also has a concern that Central and Eastern Connecticut's roadway infrastructure, especially bridges, may be affected.

Based on this concern, the Ad-Hoc Working Committee requests that CTDOT test for pyrrhotite in the following circumstances in the affected areas (See the red or deepest orange areas in the attached map):

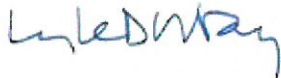
- When a bridge built after 1983 appears to have unusual concrete cracking / discoloration
- When a bridge or structure built after 1983 undergoes significant structural work to the sub or superstructure

We believe there is a state interest in understanding whether bridges and other structures are affected by this problem. If they are affected by pyrrhotite and crumbling concrete, the state can take appropriate steps to stay ahead of potential problems and the possibility that the life cycles of bridges and structures may be shorter than expected. At a minimum, we request that CTDOT set aside and catalog concrete from potentially affected bridges and structures in the affected area for later testing.

The Ad-Hoc Committee understands that Bridge 00847, Potter School Road over I-84 is being replaced in the upcoming weeks / months. We believe this bridge could be affected by the pyrrhotite issue but a core test of the concrete could verify this information and would be helpful to CTDOT and the involved municipalities.

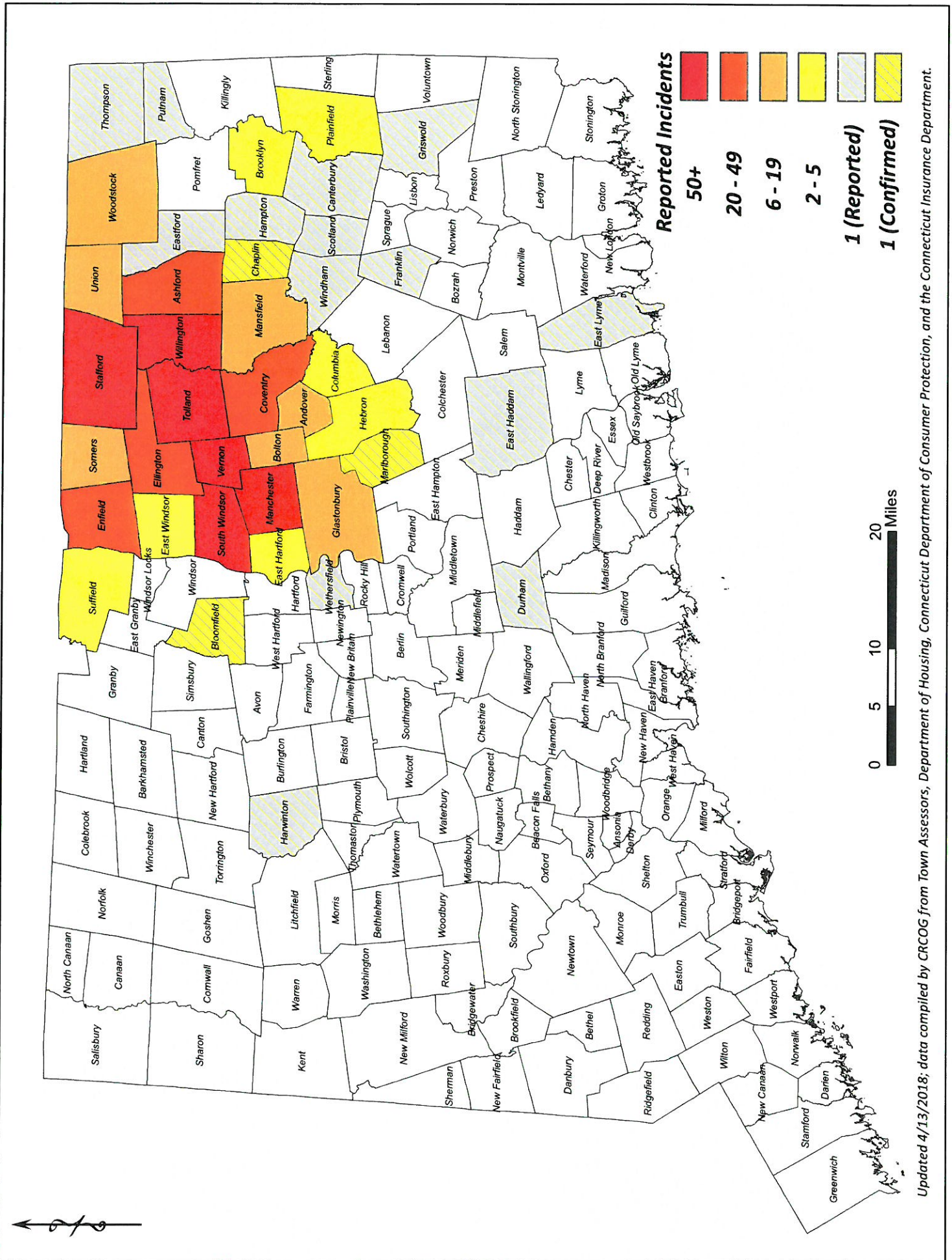
CRCOG is happy to extend any assistance that we may offer or share with you any information we may have. Please feel free to contact me or Pauline Yoder, our staff person who has been most involved in the crumbling concrete issue.

Sincerely,



Lyle Wray, Executive Director

cc: Mark D. Rolfe, P.E., Bureau Chief, Engineering & Construction



Updated 4/13/2018; data compiled by CRCOG from Town Assessors, Department of Housing, Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection, and the Connecticut Insurance Department.