

February 21, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: FY2023 RAISE Planning Grant  
Silas Deane Highway in Wethersfield and Rocky Hill, Connecticut**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

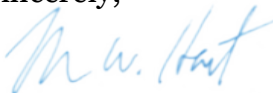
The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is pleased to support the towns of Wethersfield and Rocky Hill's joint application for FY2023 RAISE planning grant funding to conduct a corridor study of the Silas Deane Highway (CT Route 99). The RAISE Grant Program is intended to help communities fund transportation projects that have significant local or regional impact and will improve safety and equity. This grant would enable the Towns of Wethersfield and Rocky Hill to work closely together to identify the most appropriate and effective improvements to reconnect the communities surrounding the Silas Deane Highway while revitalizing the quality of life and economic opportunity in the area in a sustainable manner.

Enhancing the appeal of the Silas Deane Highway is a long-standing critical concern for both communities. This grant would fund planning activities including a full multimodal traffic corridor study, a comprehensive public engagement and input process, and a concept design for improvements along the Silas Deane Highway. This initiative would produce plans to develop the Silas Deane Highway into a safe and efficient corridor for all modes of travel.

The Silas Deane Highway corridor study has the potential to address critical needs in this important regional corridor. CRCOG looks forward to continuing our partnership with the towns of Wethersfield and Rocky Hill to cooperatively advance this study and ensure its placement in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and CRCOG's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

CRCOG strongly supports this application, and we urge you to give it strong consideration for funding. Please feel free to contact me with any questions concerning this letter of support.

Sincerely,



Matthew W. Hart  
Executive Director

cc: Town Manager F. Presley, Wethersfield  
Town Manager R. Carpentino, Rocky Hill  
CRCOG Policy Board & Transportation Committee  
R. Aloise, Director of Transportation Planning  
C. Radzins, Deputy Director of Transportation Planning