

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board

From: Pramod Pandey, Principal Planner II

CC: Matt Hart, Executive Director; Rob Aloise, Director of Planning

Meeting Date: March 22, 2023

Subject: Resolution: Canton Route 44 Corridor Study

Background: Route 44 is a major east-west arterial that carries heavy passenger and freight traffic through the Capitol Region. The Town of Canton contains a portion of the route and has experienced multiple traffic incidents that included non-motorized users due to road geometry, traffic, and development along the corridor. The Farmington Canal Heritage Trail also traverses the area, and crossing Route 44 has become a safety issue for trail users. The Town, therefore, requested CRCOG to initiate a study to investigate and develop a recommendation plan to address the ongoing traffic and safety concerns. This study was selected through a competitive solicitation process.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG: The primary purpose of this study is to investigate and evaluate current transportation infrastructure deficiencies and develop detailed recommendations for improvements in the corridor, as well as a management plan for development in the study corridor, which will help the Town manage future growth and traffic challenges facing the community.

Financial/Operational Impact: The total estimated cost of the study is \$180,000, of which \$144,000 (80%) will be funded by federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds. The Town of Canton and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) will each provide a match of \$18,000 (10%). CRCOG staff will manage and administer the study in coordination with the Town of Canton and CTDOT.

Project Schedule: The study will start upon execution of an agreement with the selected consultant and is expected to be completed within 18 months.

Recommendation: CRCOG Staff recommends approval. The Transportation Committee will provide a recommendation at their meeting on March 20, 2023.

Attachments:

- Authorizing Resolution for Execution of an Agreement for the Route 44 Corridor Study, Canton

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

FOR EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR THE ROUTE 44 CORRIDOR STUDY, CANTON

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Hartford metropolitan area, is required by federal regulations to conduct a continuing and comprehensive transportation planning program; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration provide funds for CRCOG to conduct such a program; and

WHEREAS, the federal funds are made available through the Connecticut Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Canton requested CRCOG to conduct a study along a portion of Route 44, and this study was selected through a competitive solicitation process; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG has identified the *Route 44 Corridor Study, Canton* within its Unified Planning Work Program for FY2022-2023 and will include it in the Unified Planning Work Program for FY2024-2025; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Canton and the Connecticut Department of Transportation will provide matching funds for CRCOG to conduct the Study; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG is currently conducting a qualifications-based selection process to select the most qualified consulting firm to assist CRCOG in the development of the *Route 44 Corridor Study, Canton*;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, that CRCOG's Executive Director, or the individual authorized to act in that capacity, is authorized to act on behalf of the Capitol Region Council of Governments in negotiating, executing, and amending all appropriate and necessary contractual instruments with the selected consulting firm for the purpose of developing the *Route 44 Corridor Study, Canton*.

CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting held on March 22, 2023.

BY: _____ DATE: _____
Jason Bowsza, Secretary