

Public Workshop

East Hartford

Tuesday, April 11, 2023



CAPITOL REGION
EAST COAST
GREENWAY STUDY

SIMSBURY — BLOOMFIELD — HARTFORD — EAST HARTFORD

Introductions



Caitlin Palmer, AICP
CRCOG
Project Manager



Parker Sorenson, PE
FHI Studio
Consultant Team Project Manager

Agenda



1. What is the East Coast Greenway?
2. Project Overview
3. Routing Concepts
4. Workshop Activities
5. Other Engagement Opportunities



East Coast Greenway



Maine to Florida:

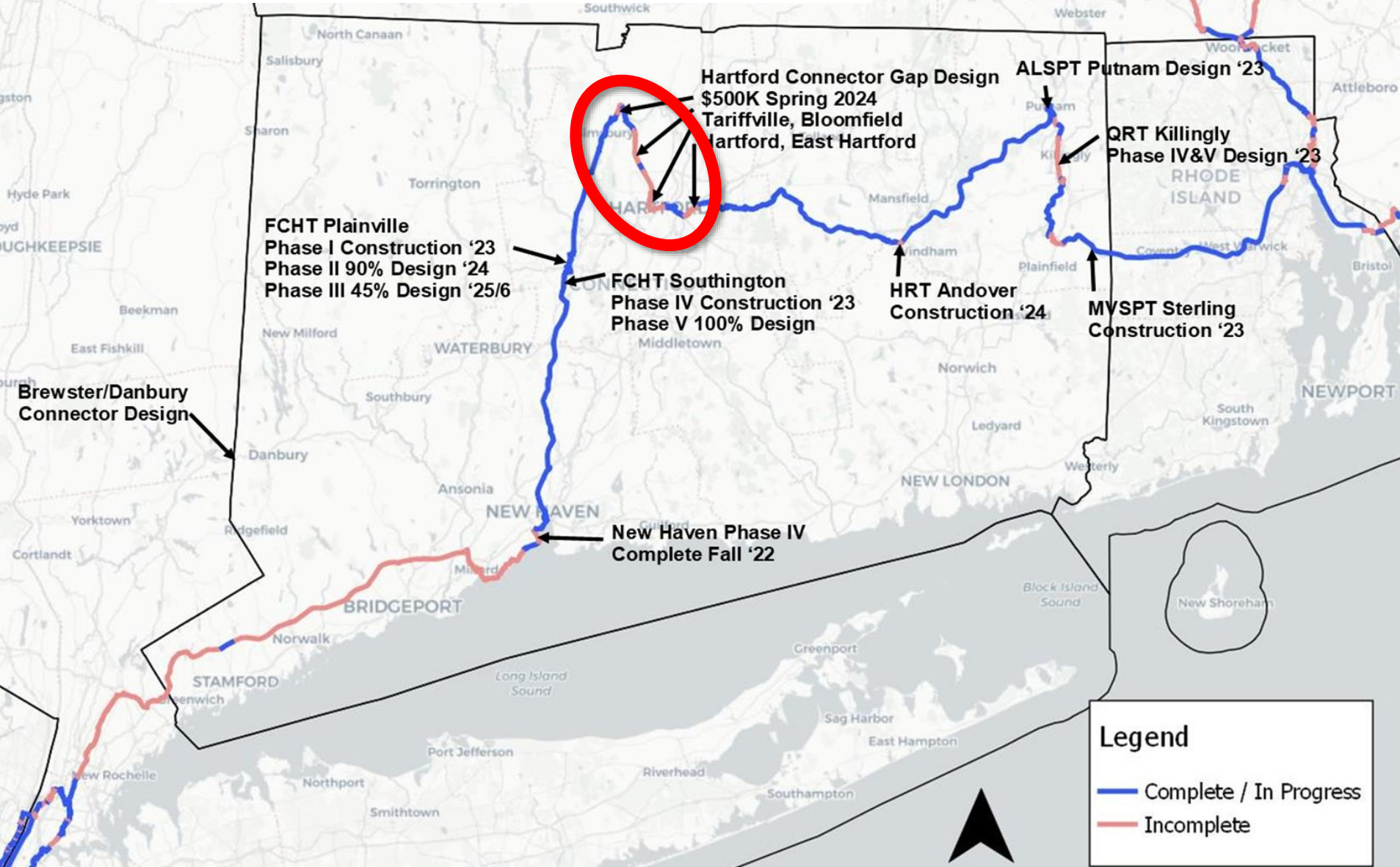


greenway.org

*Approximately 1,000 miles off-road today



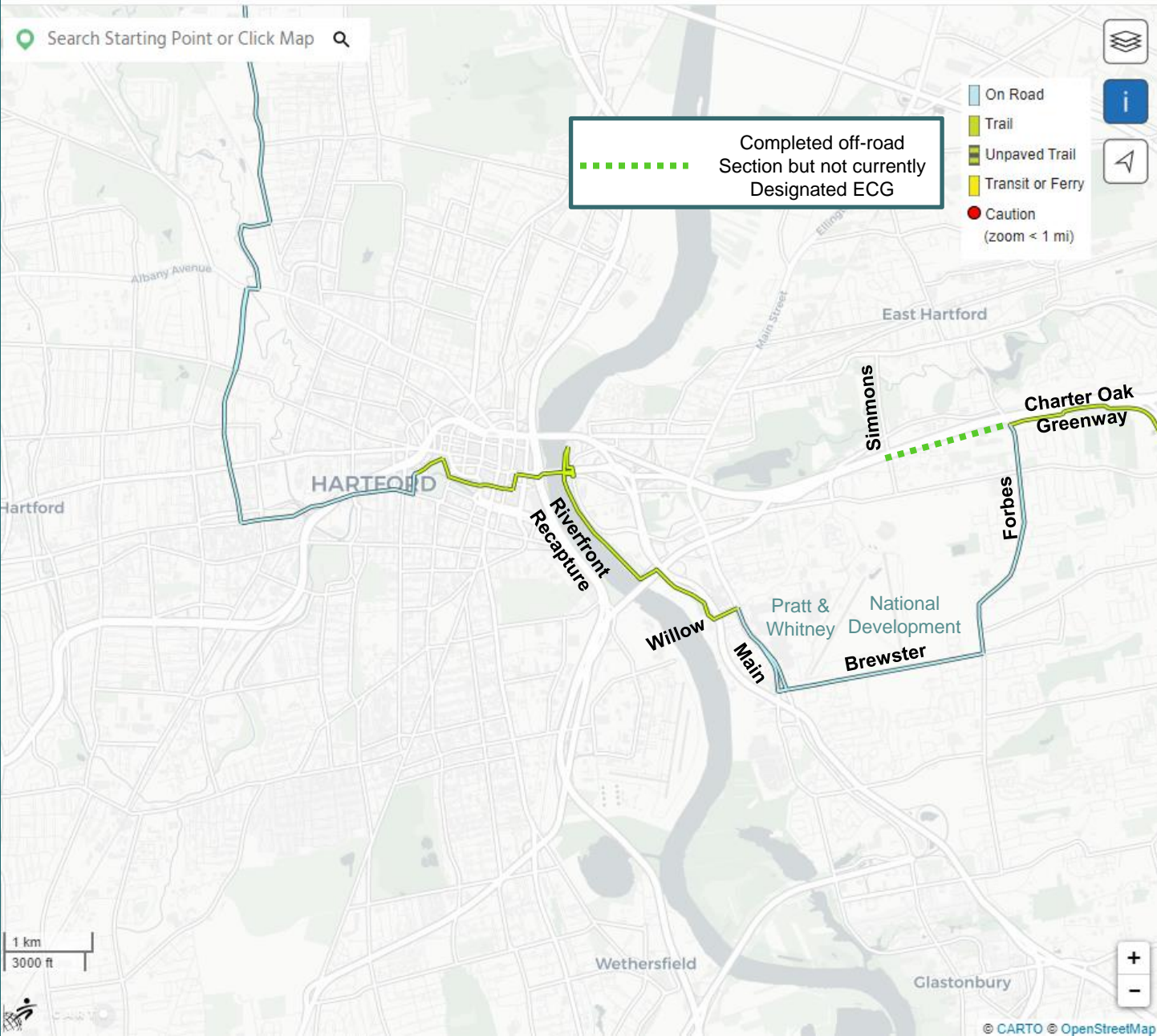
CT Project Review



12-mile study area gap –
Simsbury,
Bloomfield,
Hartford, and
East Hartford

Goal: By 2027 –
63% Completion
Statewide

~150 mi between
New Haven and
RI state line



Opportunities

Health and Wellness



Environmental Justice



Mobility and Connectivity



Economic Benefit





Project Overview



Multi-Agency Effort

Managing Agency



Consultant Team



Partner Agencies &
Organizations

Federal
National Park Service

State
CT DOT
CT DEEP

Municipal
Town of Simsbury
Town of Bloomfield
City of Hartford
Town of East Hartford

NGO
East Coast Greenway Alliance
Riverfront Recapture
The iQuilt Partnership

About CRCOG

What is CRCOG?

- Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Metro Hartford Region
- 38 municipalities
- Nearly 1,000,000 residents

How is CRCOG involved in transportation planning?

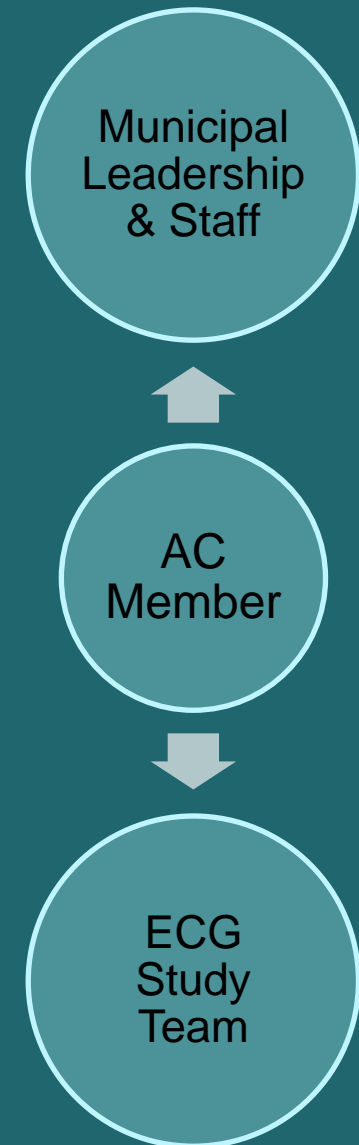
- Transportation considerations in Metropolitan Transportation Plan, including planning for vulnerable users, expanding trail and complete street networks, and encouraging mode shift
- Coordination with CTDOT in support of bicycle and pedestrian improvements
- East Cost Greenway a key priority of the CRCOG MTP



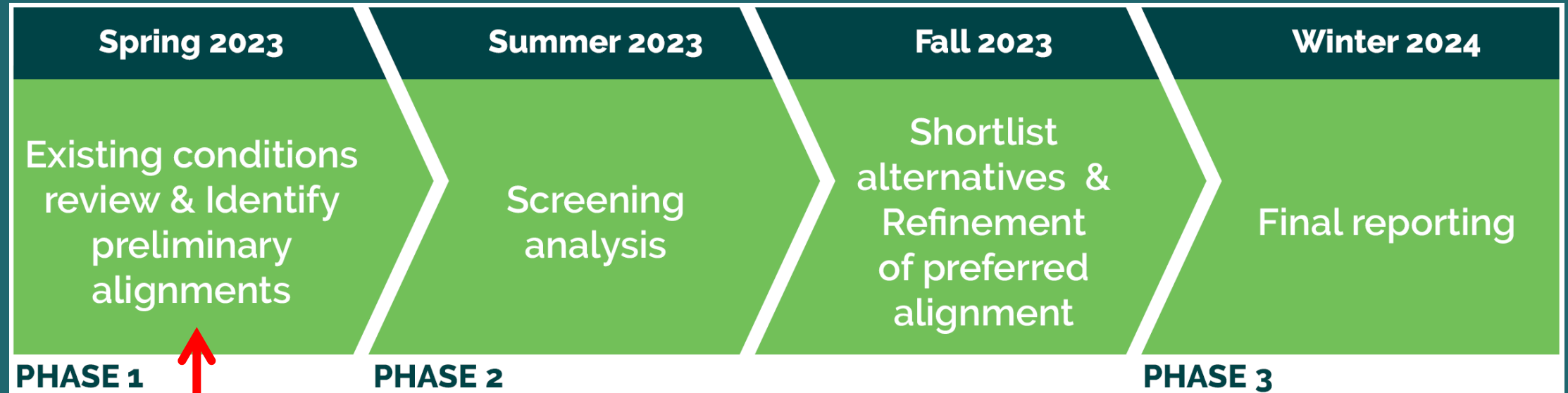


Advisory Committee Role

- East Hartford participants:
 - Eileen Buckheit, Director of Development
 - Doug Wilson, Town Engineer
- Critical link between project team and municipal leadership & staff
 - Note: Final plan will go to Councils for final endorsement
- Bi-Monthly meetings to guide each step of the project



Project Schedule



We Are Here

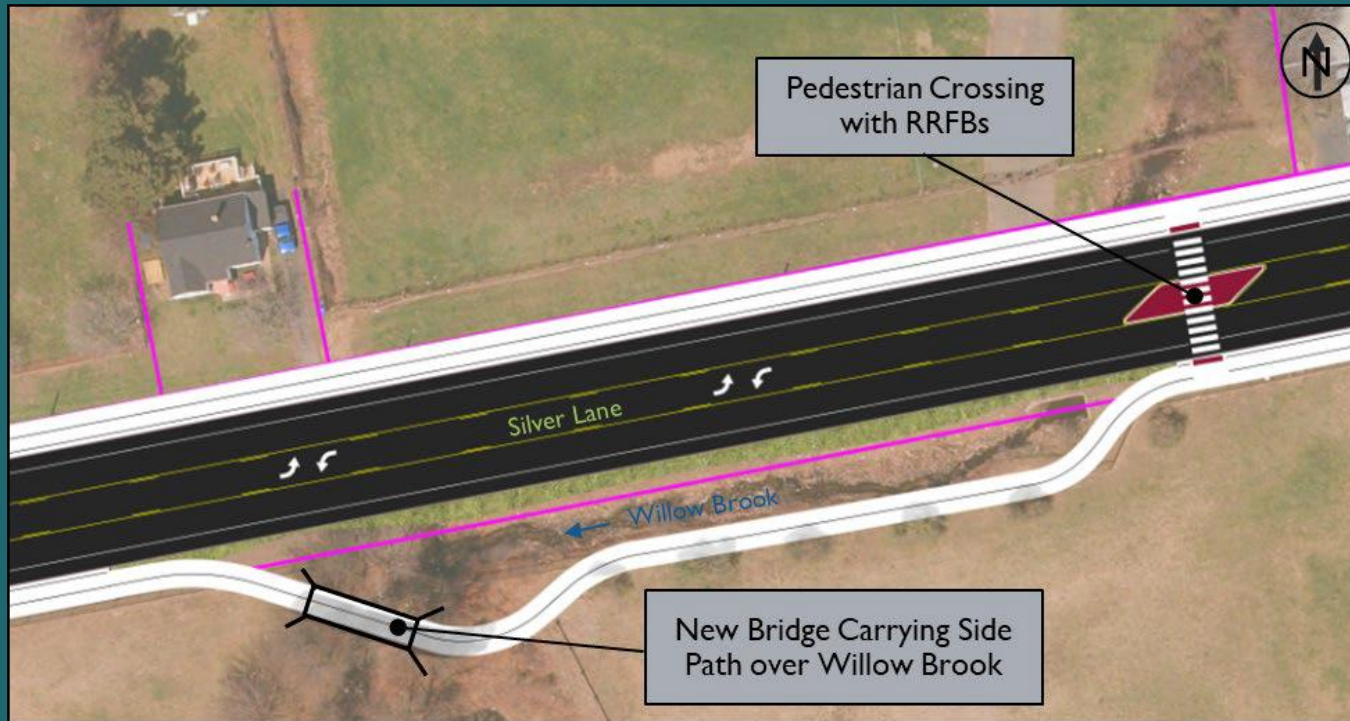
Routing Concepts





Incorporating Prior Efforts

Silver Lane Study



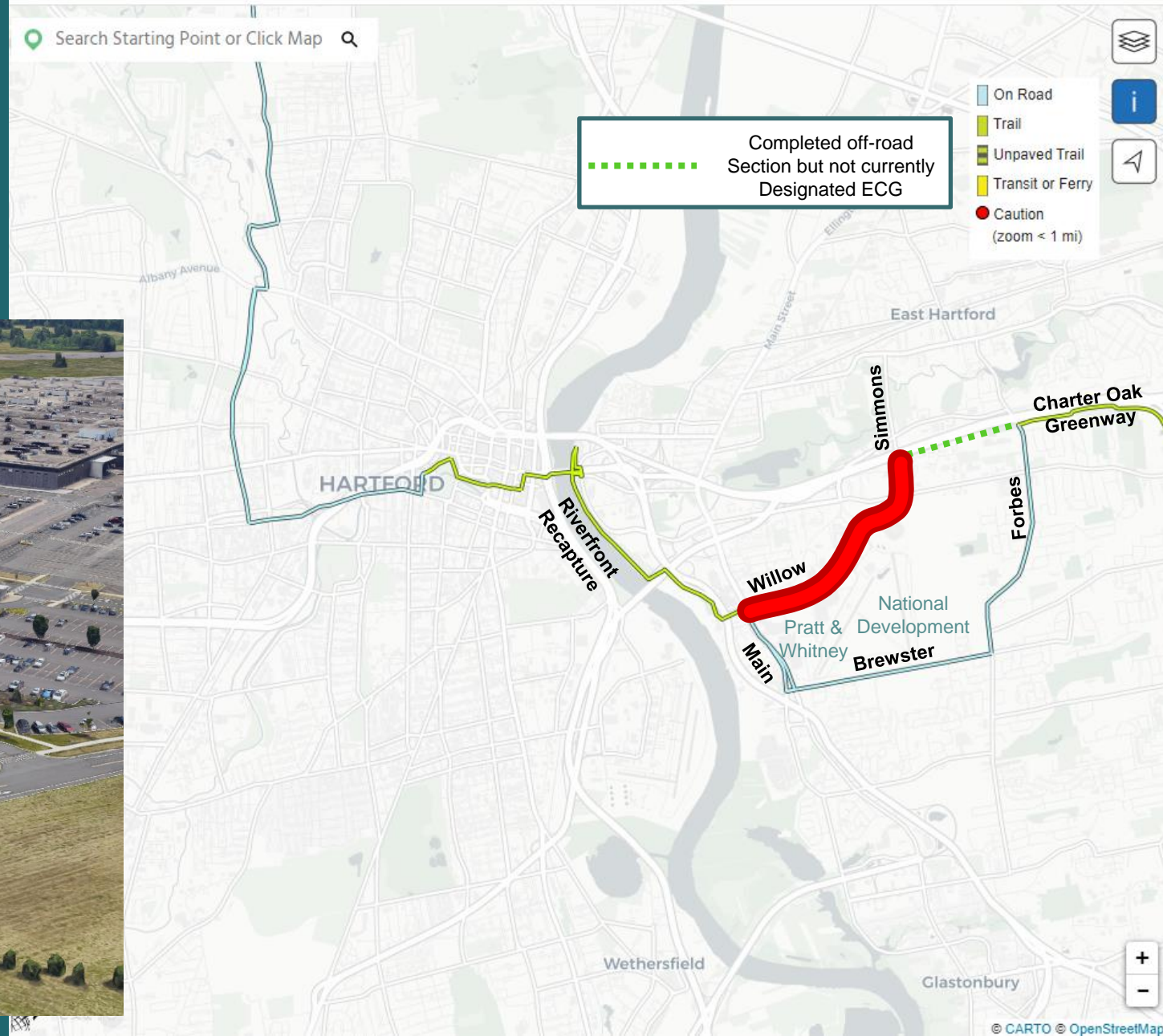
Rentschler Field Logistics Center

National Development

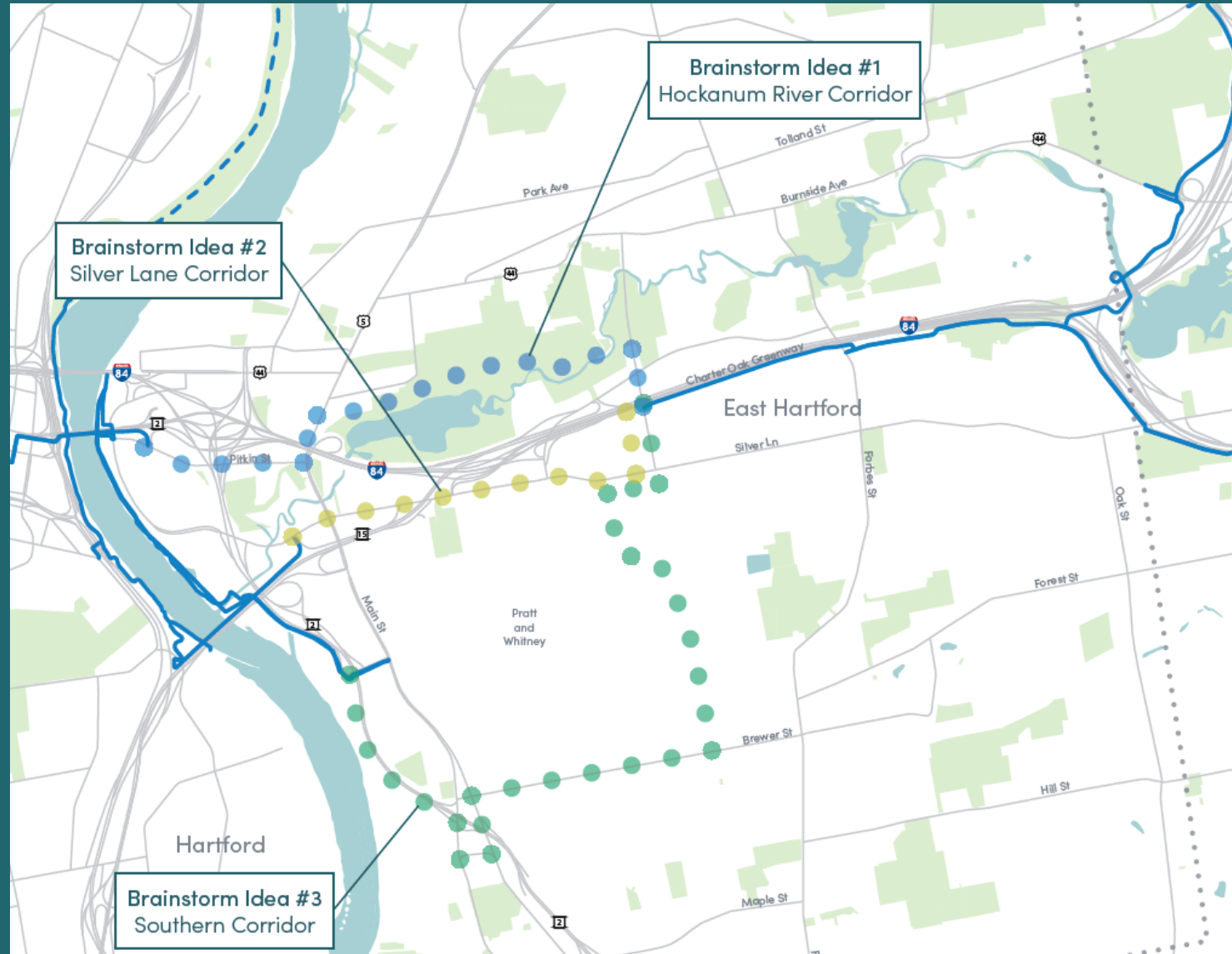


Rentschler Field Logistics Center

Security restrictions on the Pratt & Whitney campus for Department of Defense (DoD) work **do not allow** for a trail to be constructed via privately-owned Willow Street within P&W campus

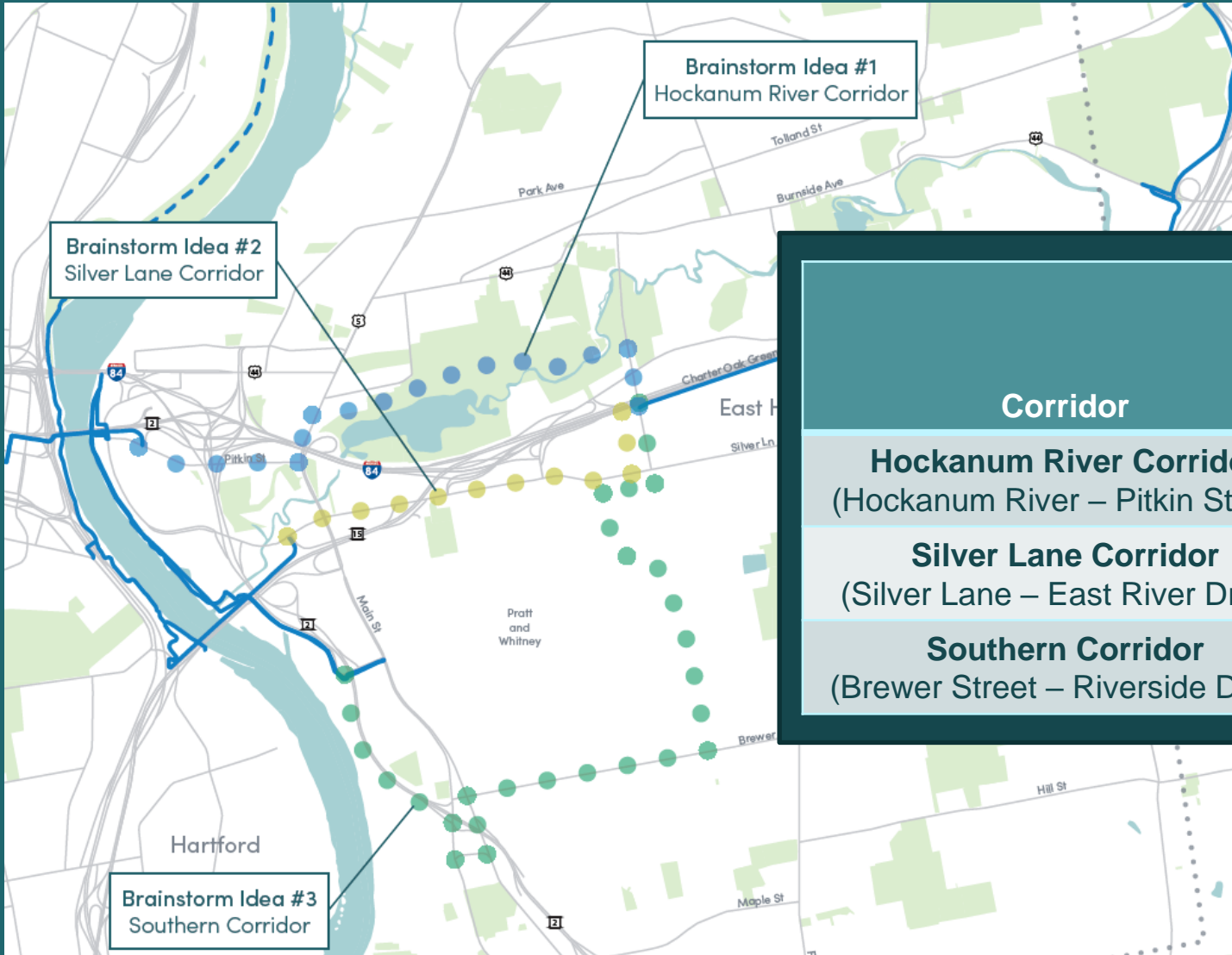


Routing Ideas



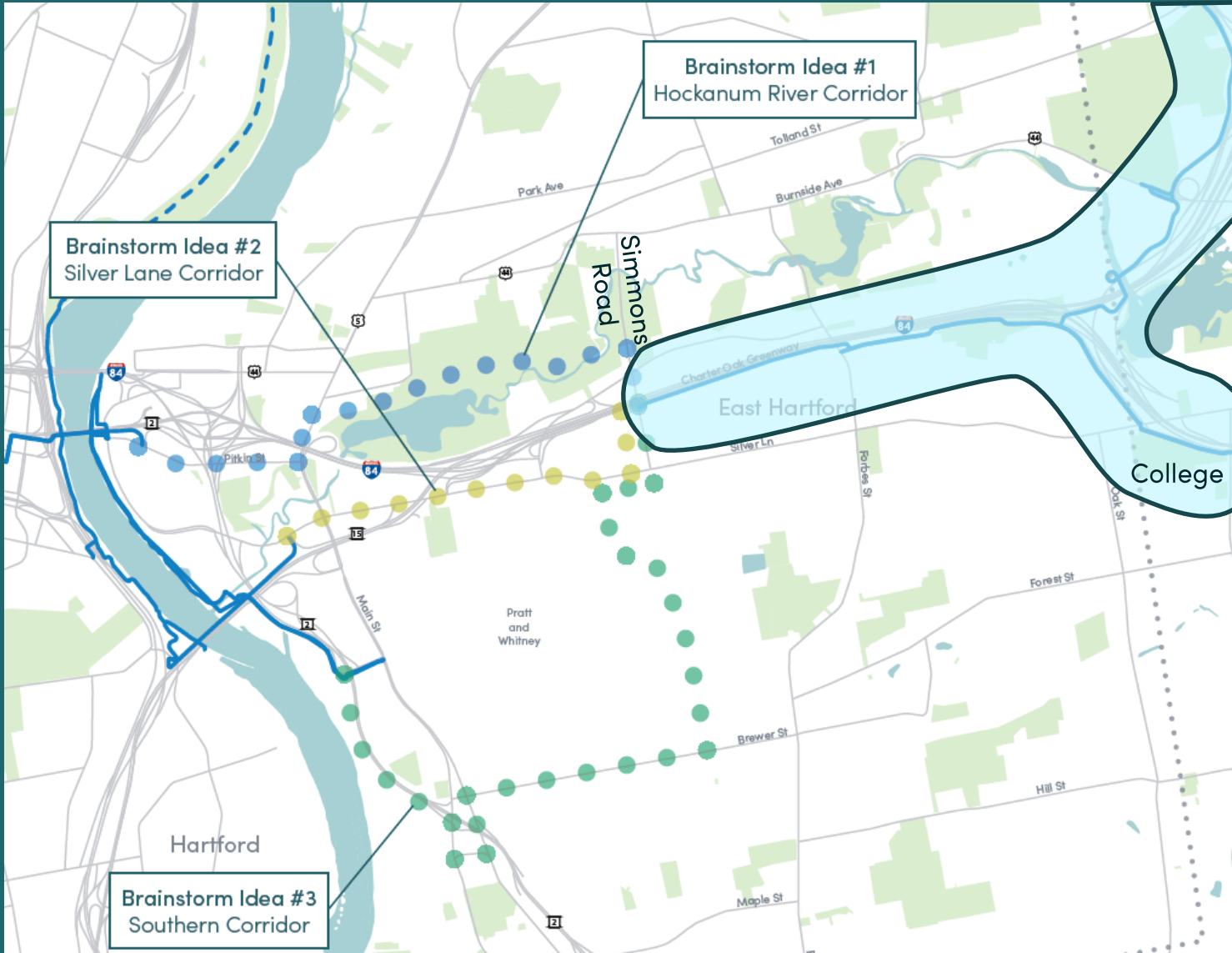


Routing Ideas



Corridor	Population within ½ mile	Employment within ½ mile	Distance (Charter Oak Greenway <-> Founders Bridge)
Hockanum River Corridor (Hockanum River – Pitkin Street)	<u>11,100</u>	10,500	<u>3.5 miles</u>
Silver Lane Corridor (Silver Lane – East River Drive)	8,600	7,400	<u>3.6 miles</u>
Southern Corridor (Brewer Street – Riverside Drive)	<u>11,400</u>	<u>18,700</u>	6.0 miles

Connectivity?



Is a direct connection between **Hartford & Manchester** important?

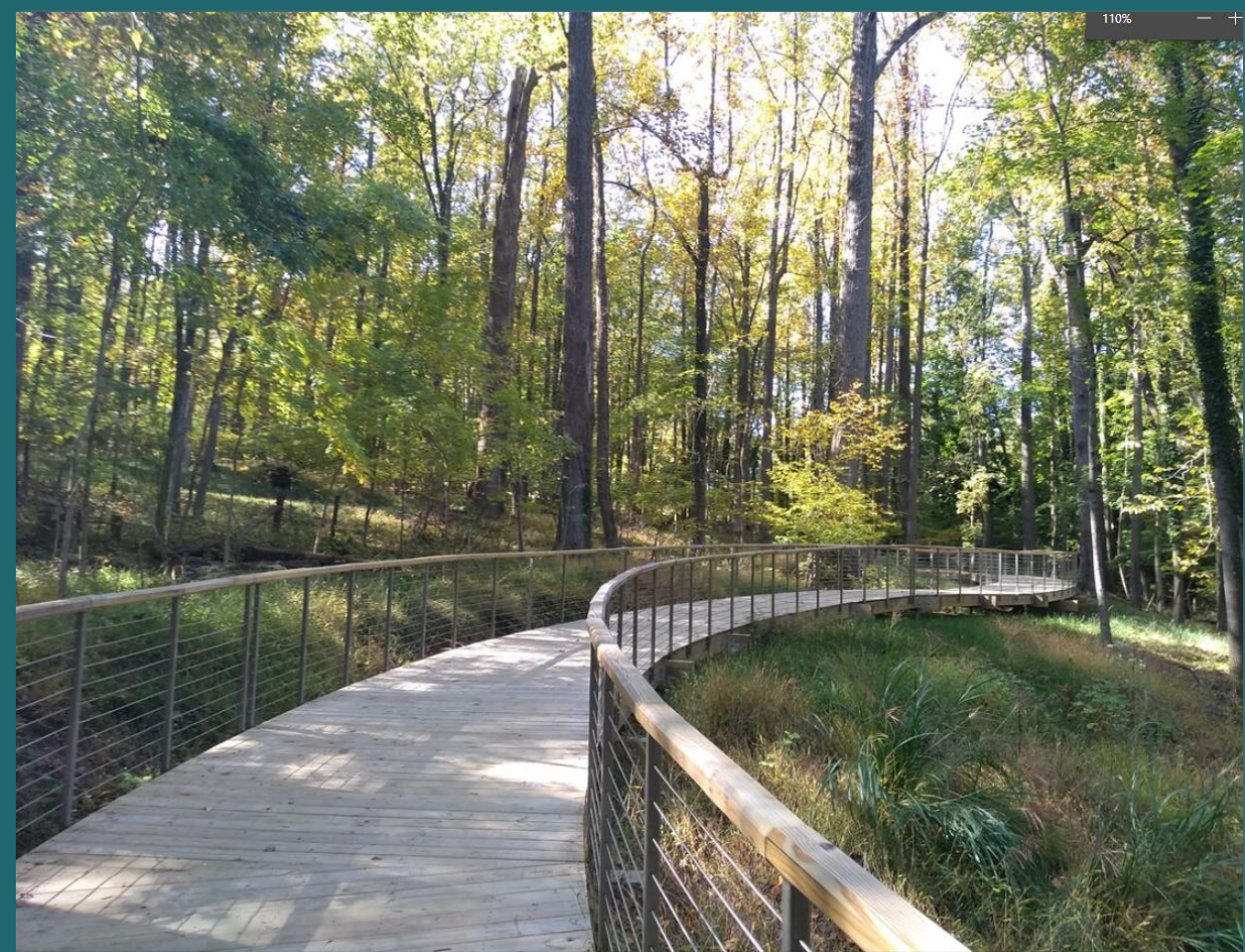
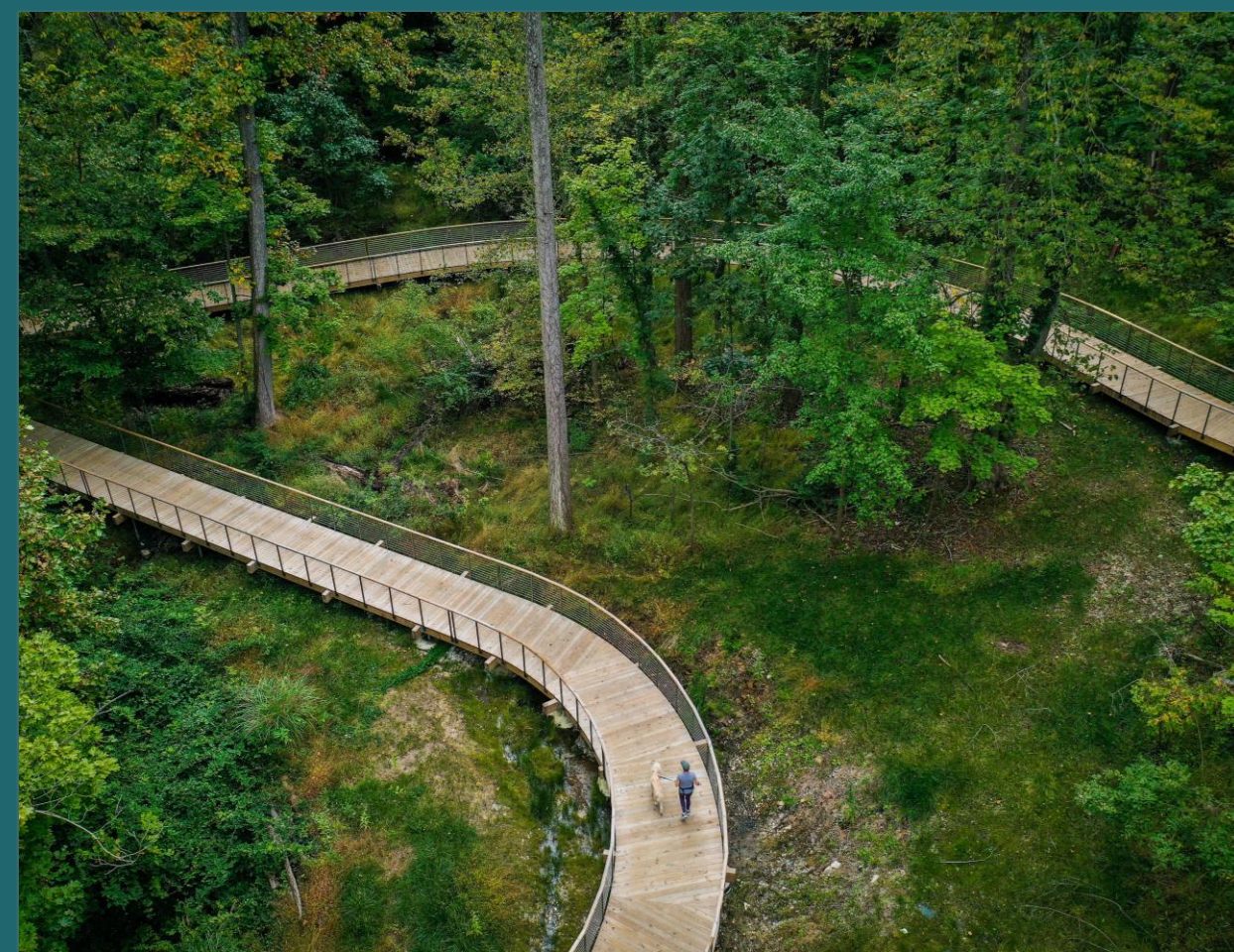
Within next 5-miles east of Simmons road:

Population: 18,800

Employment: 6,500

Manchester Community College: 6,000 students

Other ECG Examples



Jones Falls Trail - Maryland

Other ECG Examples



Bolton, CT



Raised Cycletrack in Washington, DC

Other ECG Examples



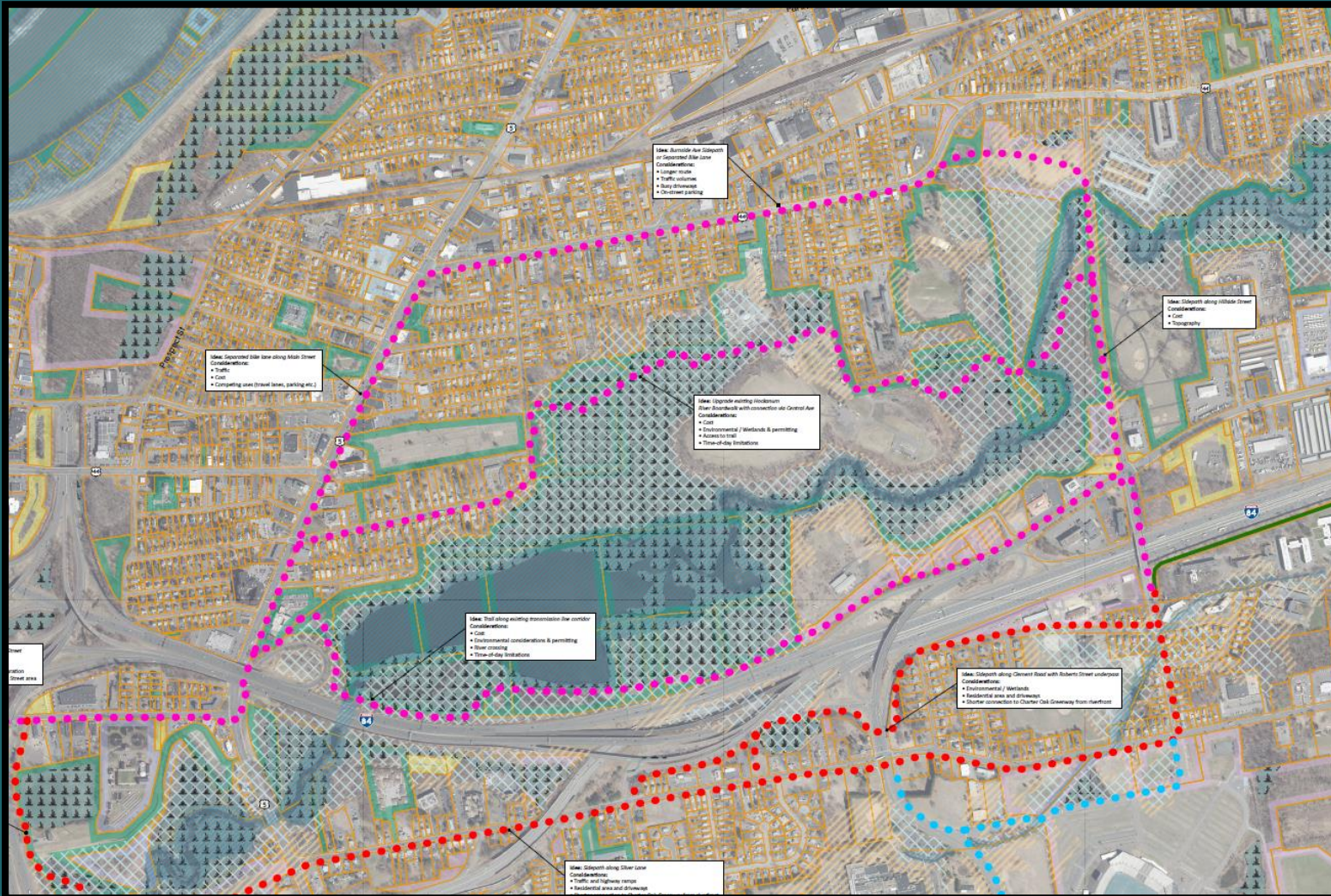
Photo: Jason Phillips / AllTrails

Route 44 underpass – Avon, CT



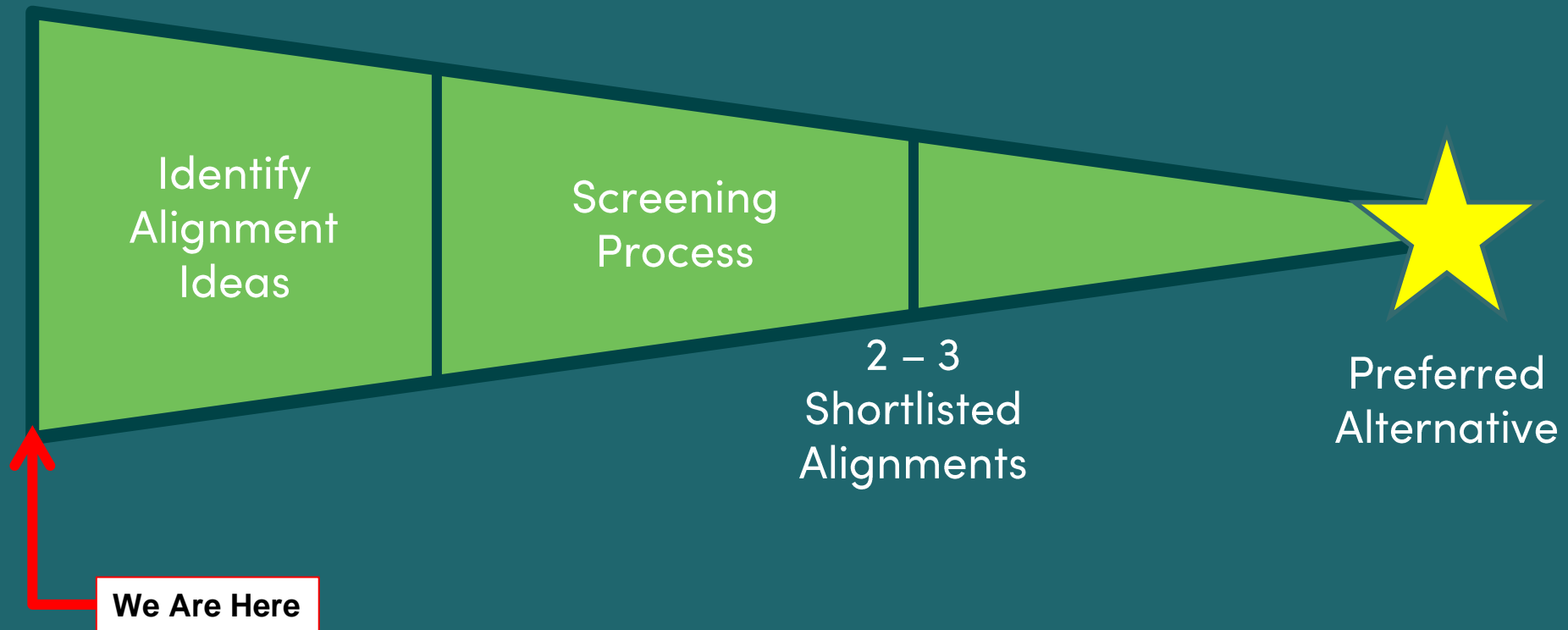
I-384 Exit Overpass, Bolton, CT

Routing Ideas



Additional details of these ideas are presented at the tables and online following this workshop!

Next Steps





Next Steps

Screening Process –
What do we prioritize in selecting a route?



Off-Road



Connectivity



Environment



Traffic Safety



Equity



Cost



Personal Security



Right-of-Way



Economic
Opportunity



Funding

- CTDOT has been committed to the closure of East Coast Greenway gaps
- We have seen this commitment extended to funding. For example, no local funds were utilized for the \$30 Million gap closure project in Plainville and New Britain (10.2 miles completing ECG and connecting to CTfastrak trail)

Workshop Activities



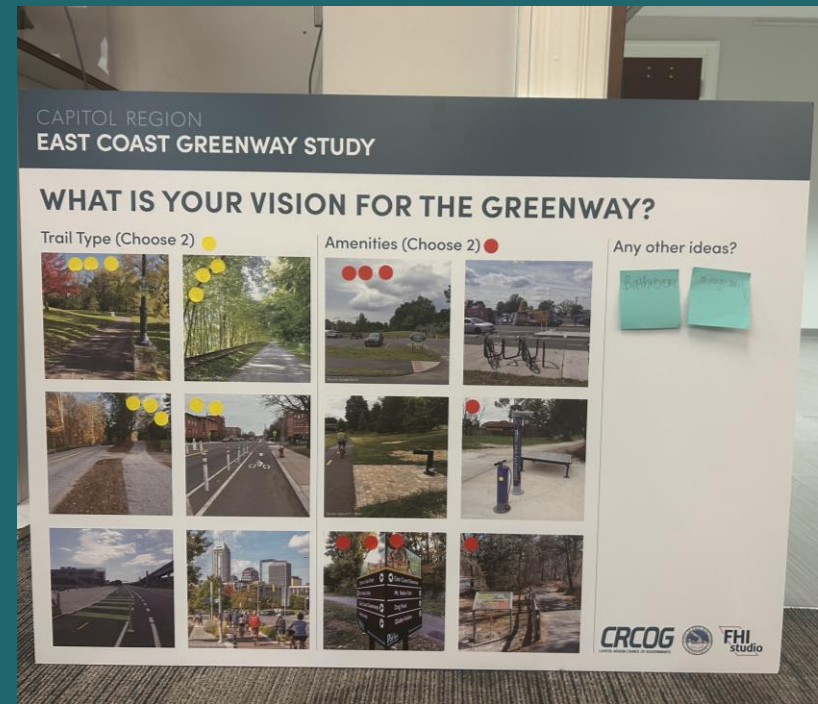


Workshop Activities

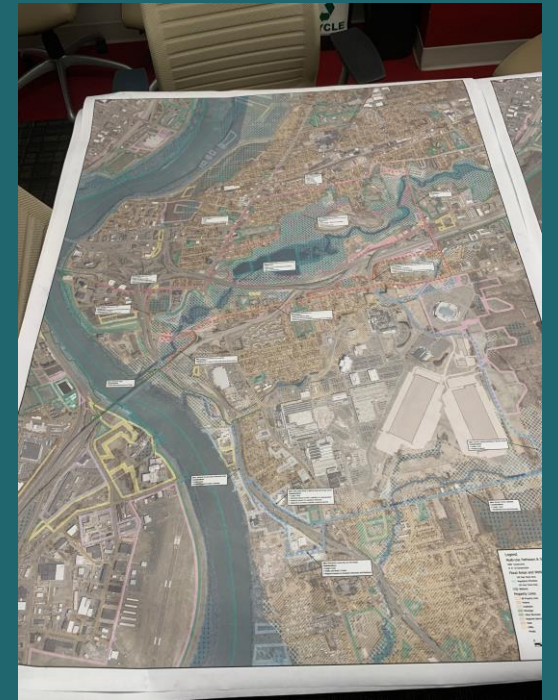
We want to hear from YOU!

- Discuss with project team at the boards and tables
- Submit your thoughts and comments
- All ideas are worth discussion!

Trail VISIONING



Trail ROUTING





Other Engagement Opportunities



Online Engagement



CRCOG ABOUT · SERVICES · GOVERNANCE / COMMITTEES · GENERAL PUBLIC · NEWS & EVENTS ·

Capitol Region East Coast Greenway (ECG) Study



ABOUT THE STUDY

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) has initiated a study to identify the preferred alignment of the East Coast Greenway through the last remaining 12-mile gap in the Capitol Region in Simsbury, Bloomfield, Hartford, and East Hartford. The East Coast Greenway is an off-road walking and biking route stretching 3,000 miles from Maine to Florida. In Connecticut, the East Coast Greenway consists of a 200-mile route between the Rhode Island state line at Sterling, Connecticut and the New York state line at Greenwich. In Connecticut, the completed portions of the East Coast Greenway utilize a series of trails including the Air Line Trail, the Hop River Trail, and the Farmington Canal Trail.



crcog.org/capitol-region-ecg-study

Online Engagement



Map Satellite

Windsor Locks East Win

WEST SIMSBURY Simsbury WEATOGUE Avon Bloomfield Windsor South Windsor

West Hartford Farmington Wethersfield Newington

CLAY ARSENAL ASTLEIGH HILL Hartford SOUTH GREEN BARRY SQUARE

GLASTONBURY CENTER

Keyboard shortcuts Map data ©2023 Google Terms of Use Report a map error

Add a pin or line All pins & lines

CAPITOL REGION
EAST COAST GREENWAY STUDY
Simsbury • Bloomfield • Wethersfield • East Hartford

Please utilize this mapping tool to provide comment for 1) potential trail locations, and 2) key destinations or barriers which should be considered during this project. Please use the comment box directed to provide more information on each feature identified such as potential improvement to be made, planning history of a particular alignment or other relevant information.

Add Pin Add Line

Address Search
Search...

Legend

- Study Area
- Other Towns of Interest
- User Content
 - User Pins (4)
 - User Lines (1)
- East Coast Greenway Alignment
 - On-Road Routing
 - Trail
 - Trail, Unpaved
 - Transit or Ferry
- Multi-Use Pathways & Sidepaths
 - Constructed

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

Want to stay involved and find out about the latest opportunity to participate? Join our interested parties list, by filling out this **FORM**.

CRCOG is interested in your thoughts about the remaining gaps. Please submit comments using the interactive map, link below:

[INTERACTIVE MAP](#)

crcog.org/capitol-region-ecg-study



Other Workshops

Hartford

Tuesday, April 18th, 2023. 4 – 7 pm

Keney Park Pond House

323 Edgewood Street, Hartford

Bloomfield

Wednesday, April 26th, 2023. 4 – 7 pm

Alvin and Beatrice Wood Human Services Center

330 Park Avenue, Bloomfield



Future Engagement

Summer 2023

- Community Pop-up Events
- 1-on-1 Stakeholder Meetings
- Online Engagement via Website
- Email and Newsletters

What?

- Screening evaluation of all options considered
- Visualizations and additional detail of Top 2 - 3 Alignments
- In-person site visits with stakeholders on Top 2 - 3 Alignments

Winter 2023-2024

- Final Public Meetings
- Town Council Meetings / Approval

What?

- Review of project process
- Summary of report recommendations

Thank You!

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CRCOG

