

To: CRCOG Transportation Committee **From:** Pramod Pandey, Principal Planner II

Copy: CRCOG Policy Board

Rob Aloise, CRCOG Director of Planning

Date: June 16, 2023

Subject: Federal Aid Adjusted Urban Area Boundaries

Based on the 2020 Census, the Urbanized Area boundaries in Connecticut have changed. These are federally designated and cannot be altered. This change, however, provides an opportunity to update the *Federal Aid Urban Area* boundaries. These are extensions of the Census-defined Urbanized Areas to maintain continuity in the functional classification of roadways. The resulting "Urban" and "Rural" portion of functional classification establishes roadway design standards and eligibility for federal funding programs such as the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG, formerly STP-Urban) Program, Transportation Rural Improvement Program (TRIP), and Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTCIP). CTDOT recently provided CRCOG with a first draft of the *Federal-Aid Urban Area* boundaries and is seeking comments and suggestions on the proposed changes.

Shown in the attached map is CTDOT first draft of the 2020 Federal Aid Urban Area boundaries that to a large extent mirror the 2010 Federal Aid Urban Area boundaries. Links to an interactive version of this map, documentation on how to navigate the map, and a schedule of the update process are available via the following links: Interactive Map, Tutorial on Map Navigation, and Update Schedule. One notable change that does not affect project eligibility is the reclassification of much of Connecticut's urbanized areas near the Massachusetts border from the Springfield Urbanized Area to the Hartford Urbanized Area.

Please review the map to understand any proposed changes in your municipality and provide your feedback to me at 860-724-4216 or ppandey@crcog.org by Friday, July 14. Similarly, if you have any questions on any of these processes, feel free to contact me. After the new *Federal Aid Urban Area* boundaries are finalized, there will be an opportunity to review the functional classification of roadways in your municipality.

NOTE:

The attached map and proposed changes are preliminary and for discussion purposes only. Once the Federal Aid Urban Area boundaries and roadway classifications have been approved by CRCOG, CTDOT, and FHWA, maps with the finalized updates will be available for your use and reference.

2020 Federal Aid Adjusted Urban Boundaries Draft

