

October 31, 2025

Commissioner Katie Dykes  
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Re: Letter of Support – Town of Windsor OSWA Application for 965 & 999 Stone Road**

Dear Commissioner Dykes and Members of the Selection Committee,

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is pleased to express its strong support for the Town of Windsor’s application to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA) Grant Program for the purchase of 965 and 999 Stone Road, totaling approximately 79 acres.

The Stone Road parcels are an important open space priority within the Farmington River watershed draining into West Brook, a tributary of the Farmington River. Protecting these lands will advance regional efforts to preserve critical watershed areas, protect prime agricultural soils, and maintain climate-resilient landscapes that buffer downstream communities from flooding and stormwater impacts.

This project directly supports CRCOG’s Regional Plan of Conservation and Development, which identifies watershed protection, improving and protecting water quality, farmland preservation, and greenway connectivity as key strategies for sustainable regional growth. The proposed acquisition complements recent open space initiatives across the region and strengthens the Lower Farmington River Greenway corridor, a significant ecological and recreational asset for multiple municipalities. As detailed in CRCOG’s Land Use Policy Map, acquiring these properties would support our goal of directing development to appropriate areas, as it identifies this area as better suited for conservation.

CRCOG commends the Town of Windsor’s leadership in open space conservation and urges DEEP’s favorable consideration of this application. The protection of 965 and 999 Stone Road will yield lasting environmental, recreational, and community benefits for both Windsor and the broader Capitol Region.

Sincerely,

  
Matthew W. Hart  
Executive Director