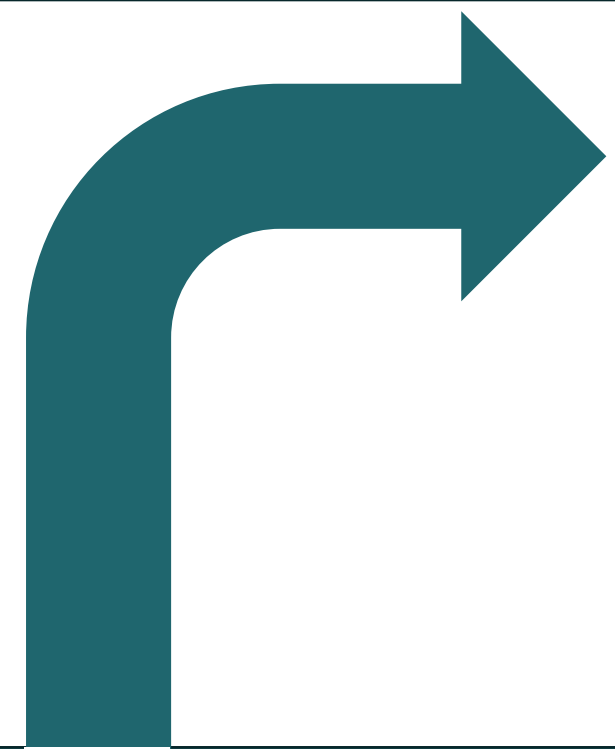


PRIORITY PATHWAYS Bike and Ped Plan



November 18, 2025

Public Meeting #2 – The Midpoint



Our Team



Mike Cipriano, Project
Manager
Heidi Samokar
Anaka Maher
Caitlin Palmer



Shawna Kitzman, Project
Manager
Perri Sheinbaum
Kate Rozen



Kyle Hearing
Charlie Echard

Agenda



- 1 Project Background
- 2 Project Goals
- 3 Schedule
- 4 Public Engagement
- 5 Municipal Engagement
- 6 Existing Conditions
- 7 Network Development
- 8 Next Steps

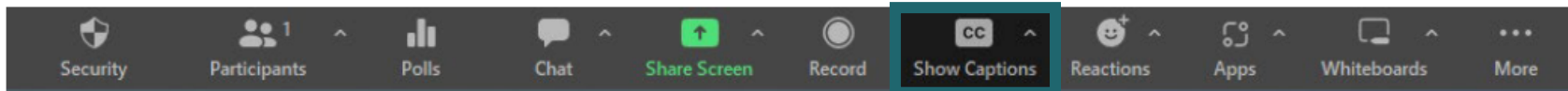
Zoom Meeting Housekeeping

● This meeting is being recorded!

🔇 Please mute yourself

💬 Use the chat to ask questions

- This meeting offers automatic live close captioning
 - You can turn close captioning off and on from your menu bar





Project Background

1. Project Background
2. Project Goals
3. Schedule
4. Public Engagement
5. Municipal Engagement
6. Existing Conditions
7. Network Development
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Project Background

- Develop a prioritization plan for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in the Capitol Region
- Expand the existing network of safe bicycle and pedestrian corridors
- Build on past CRCOG bike and pedestrian projects and policies



Project Background


**CAPITOL REGION
EAST COAST
GREENWAY STUDY**
SIMSBURY — BLOOMFIELD — HARTFORD — EAST HARTFORD

INTRODUCTION

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. The entire route is approximately 35% complete with new sections completed every year.

In Connecticut, the East Coast Greenway consists of a 200-mile route between the Rhode Island state line at Sterling and the New York state line at Greenwich. The East Coast Greenway route includes multi-use walking and biking trails such as the Air Line Trail, the Hop River Trail, and the Farmington Canal Trail.



WHAT IS A GREENWAY?

A greenway is a walking and biking path through open space, separated from roads. At their heart, greenways are safe routes and public spaces for all to enjoy.

- Recreation**
Greenways provide protected routes for walking, running, and biking to support active lifestyles.
- Environment**
Greenways preserve open space which protects wildlife habitat and supports vegetation important for stormwater drainage and air quality.
- Connectivity**
Greenways create links between communities and offer alternative transportation modes. They may increase access to downtown areas, parks, and other destinations.
- Community**
Greenways may be destinations themselves. Amenities along trails may include rest areas, bike racks, or playgrounds depending on the community's desired uses.

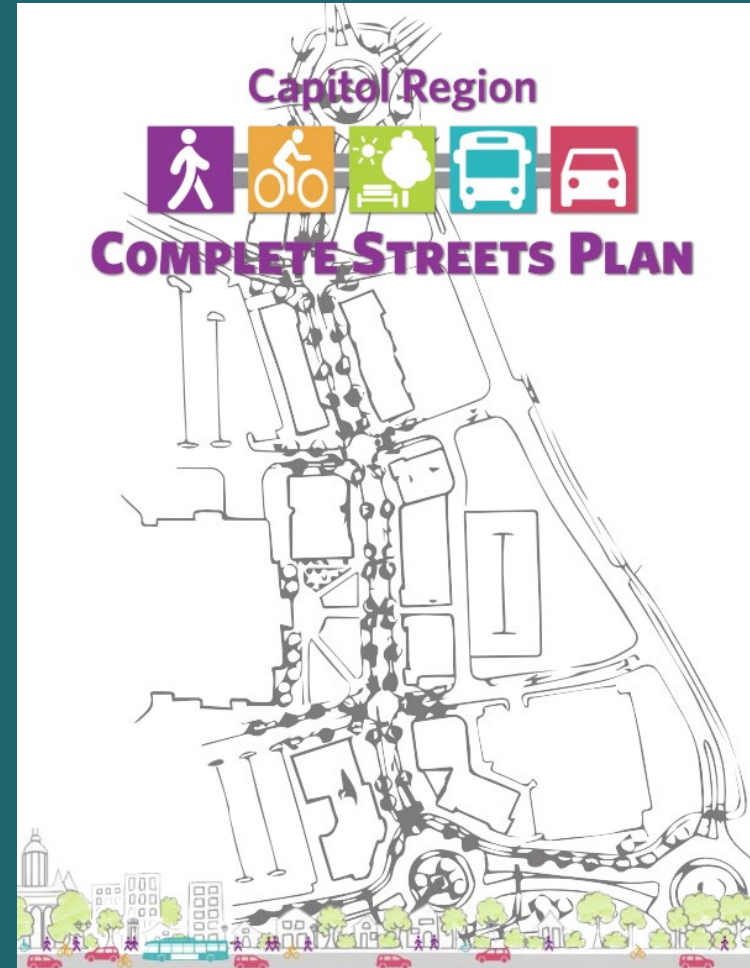
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- WHAT IS A GREENWAY? ①
- ABOUT THE STUDY ②
- UPCOMING EVENTS ②

1

**Capitol Region
COMPLETE STREETS PLAN**



1



Project Goals

1. Project Background
2. **Project Goals**
3. Schedule
4. Public Engagement
5. Municipal Engagement
6. Existing Conditions
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Project Goals



Support active commuting to work, running errands, or daily transportation



Create safe, comfortable networks for enjoyment and recreation



Increase safe options for people without access to their own vehicle and those who choose a car-free or car-light lifestyle

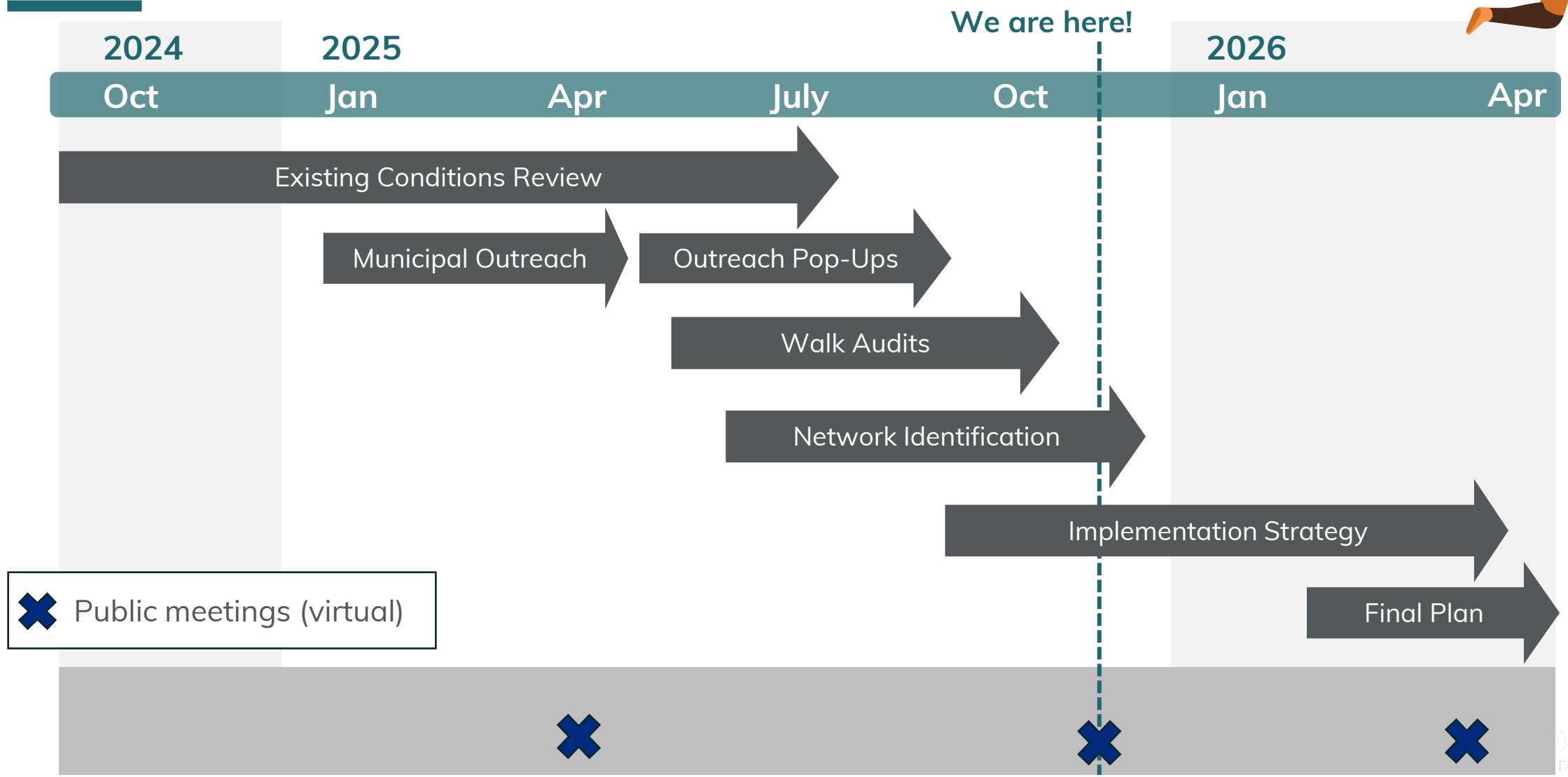


Schedule

1. Project Background
2. Project Goals
3. **Schedule**
4. Public Engagement
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Schedule



✘ Public meetings (virtual)



Public Engagement

1. Project Background
2. Project Goals
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4. **Public Engagement**
5. Municipal Engagement
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Summer of Pop-Ups

- May 10** Parkville Market, Hartford
- May 27** Bicycles on Main, Wethersfield
- June 8** Trails Day, Vernon & Farmington
- June 24** Juneteenth, Bloomfield
- July 2** Indian Notch Park, Bolton
- July 13** Farmer's Market, Coventry
- July 17** Off Main Experience, Manchester
- August 2** Taste of the Caribbean, Hartford



Pop-Up Summaries



After speaking with 400 individuals at farmer's markets, community events, festivals, and on trails, people enjoy walking and biking in their neighborhood, but would like safer connections to access destinations such as their municipality's downtowns and trailheads.

Pop-Up Summaries

When biking and walking, people are traveling around their neighborhood and along the **greenways and trails**. A few will bike or walk to **visit friends** or to **community events**.



Pop-Up Summaries

Pedestrians and bicyclists are concerned about motorists speeding and distracted or aggressive driving. **Safer crossing locations, and better separation between vehicles and bicycles to encourage people to walk, bike, or roll.**



Pop-Up Summaries

People are primarily biking and walking for exercise and to be outside.





Municipal Engagement

1. Project Background
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- 5. Municipal Engagement**
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Municipal Engagement- Walk Audits



June 3, 2025

Advisory Committee

Walnut St, High St, & Church St In
Hartford



October 7, 2025

Town of Hebron

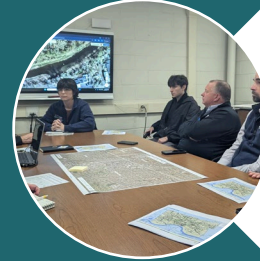
Hebron Town Center



June 24, 2025

Town of Windsor and Business Owners

Day Hill Road



October 14, 2025

City of New Britain and Town of West Hartford

South and Main Street



August 18, 2025

Town of Berlin and Business Owners

Farmington Ave

Walk Audit Key Findings

- Higher speed, multi-lane state roadways act as barriers to safety
- Municipalities want to build continuous, connected, and safe walking and biking routes
- Roadway safety must be tackled through a holistic approach through design of infrastructure and education





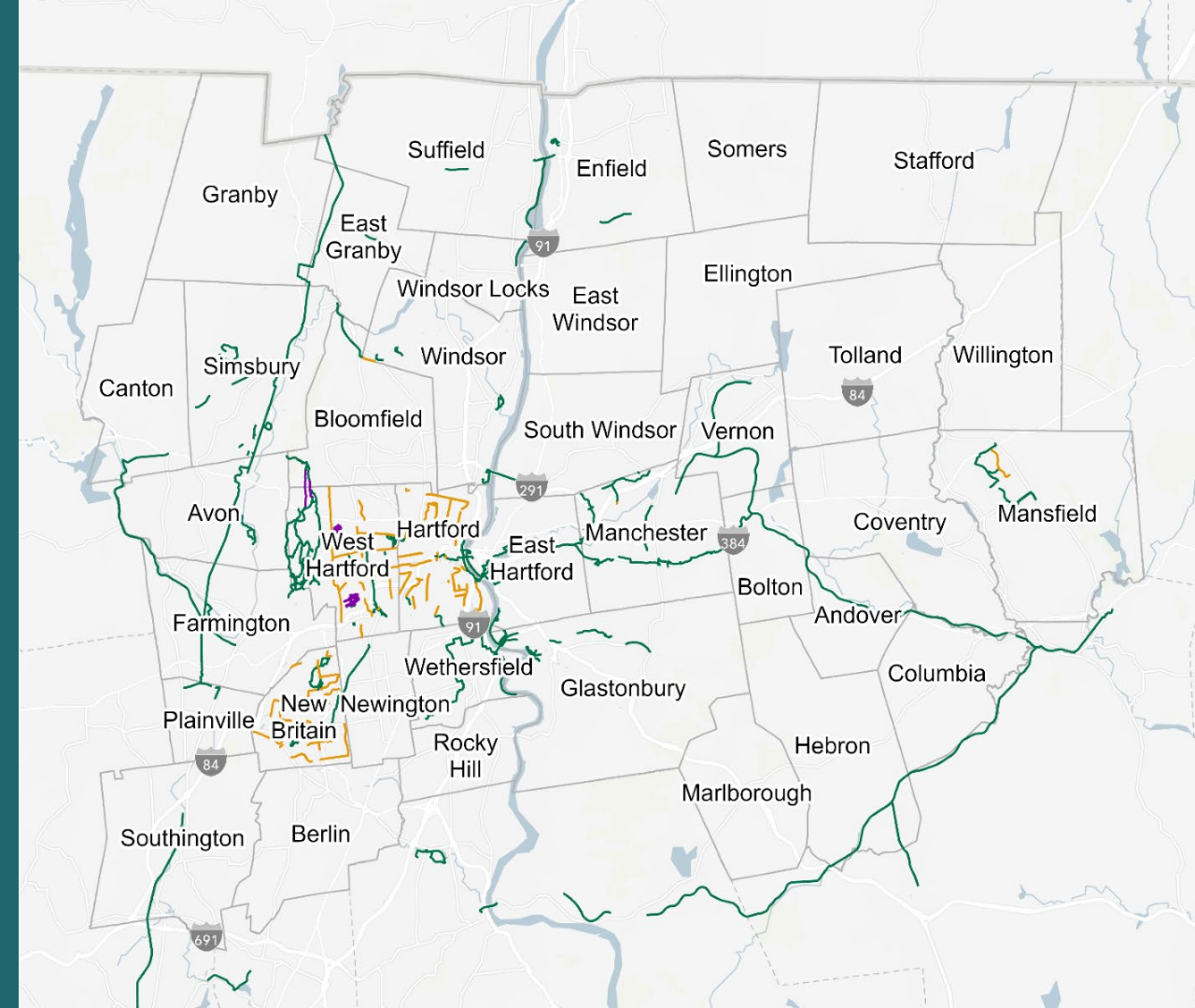
Existing Conditions

1. Project Background
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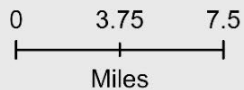
Existing Active Transportation

- Regional multi-use trails
 - Farmington River and Farmington Canal Heritage Trails
 - Air Line State Park Trail
 - Hop River State Park Trail
 - Charter Oak Greenway
- And more...!



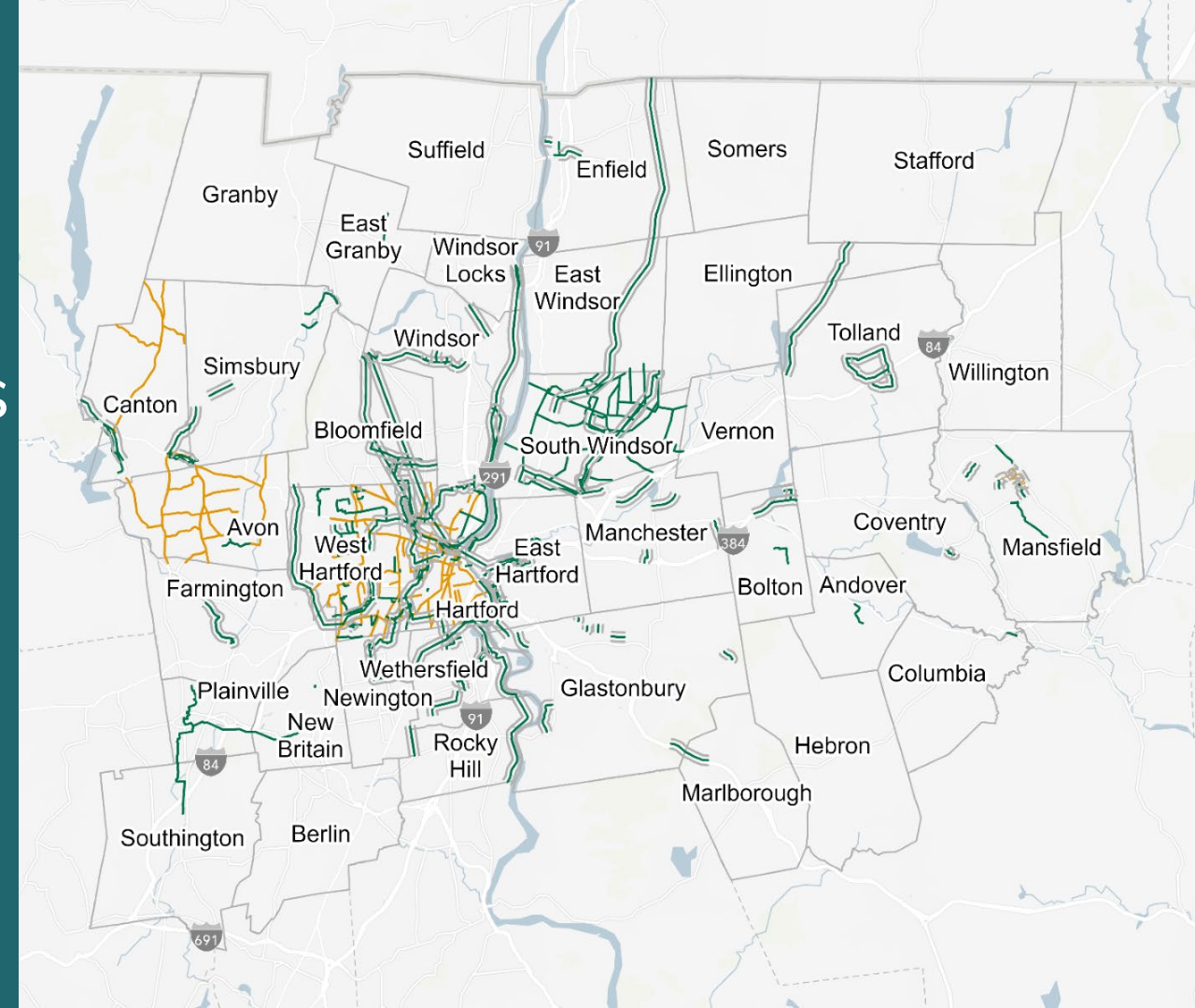
Existing Active Transportation Infrastructure

- Bike Lane
- Multi-Use Trail
- Walking Trail



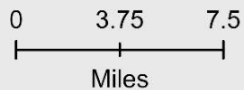
Planned and Proposed Active Transportation

- Build upon existing networks
- Connect communities to destinations and employment centers
- Create new local trails



Planned and Proposed Infrastructure

- Bike Lane (Planned)
- - - Bike Lane (Proposed)
- Multi-Use Path (Planned)
- - - Multi-Use Path (Proposed)



Network Gaps

Gaps identified based on:



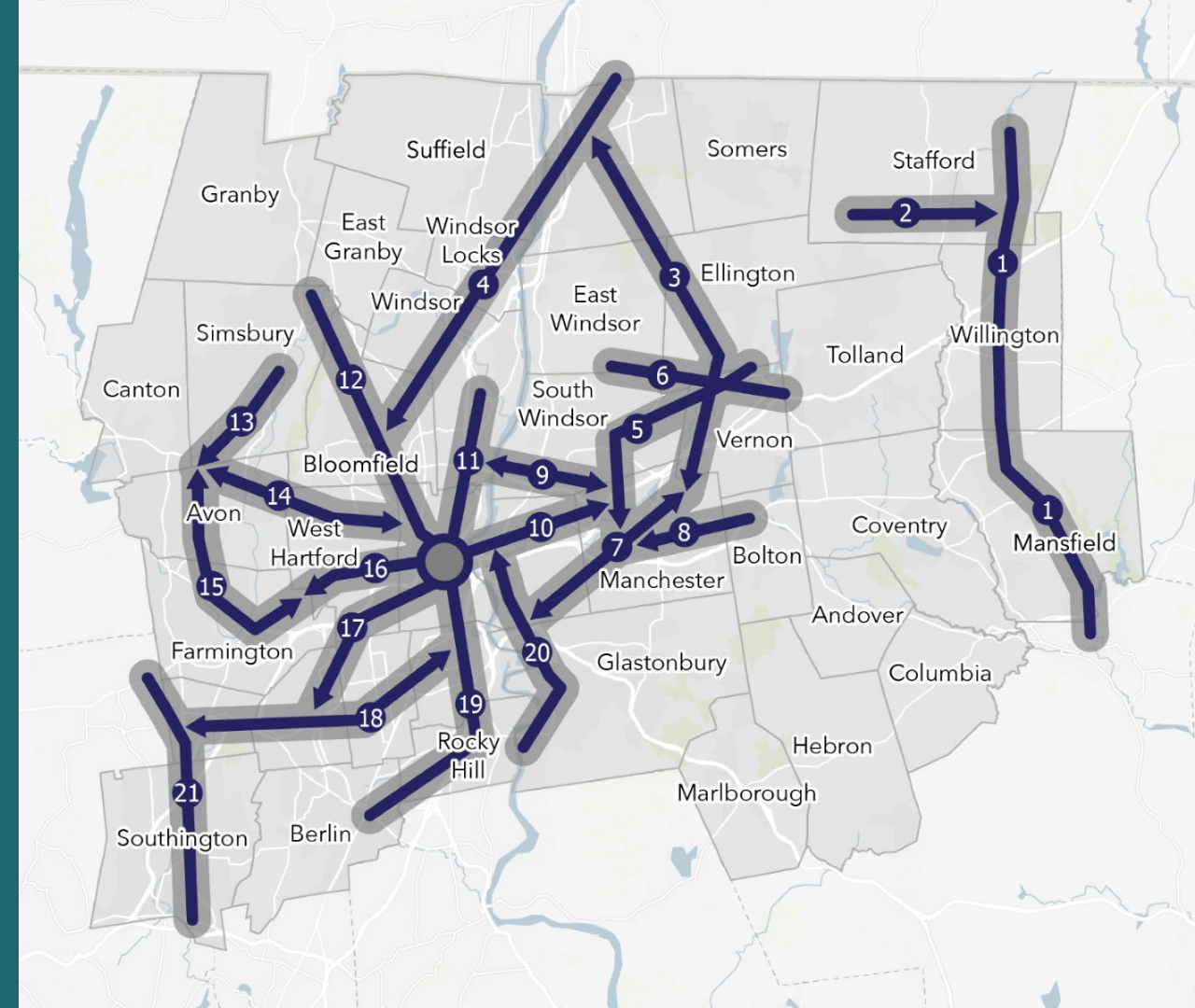
Socio-demographic analyses



Demand determined by a need for low-stress infrastructure and concentration of higher residents and jobs

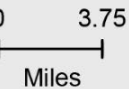


Connections to local and regional destinations



Identified Gaps

- Downtown Hartford
- 1 Stafford-Mansfield
- 2 Stafford
- 3 Enfield-Vernon-Manchester
- 4 Bloomfield-Windsor-Enfield
- 5 Vernon-South Windsor-Manchester
- 6 East Windsor-Vernon
- 7 Manchester-East Hartford
- 8 Manchester-Bolton
- 9 South Windsor
- 10 Hartford-East Hartford-Manchester
- 11 Windsor-Hartford
- 12 Bloomfield-Hartford
- 13 Simsbury-Avon
- 14 Avon-Hartford
- 15 Avon-Farmington
- 16 West Hartford-Hartford
- 17 New Britain-Hartford
- 18 Plainville-Wethersfield
- 19 Berlin-Wethersfield-Hartford
- 20 East Hartford-Glastonbury
- 21 Plainville-Southington





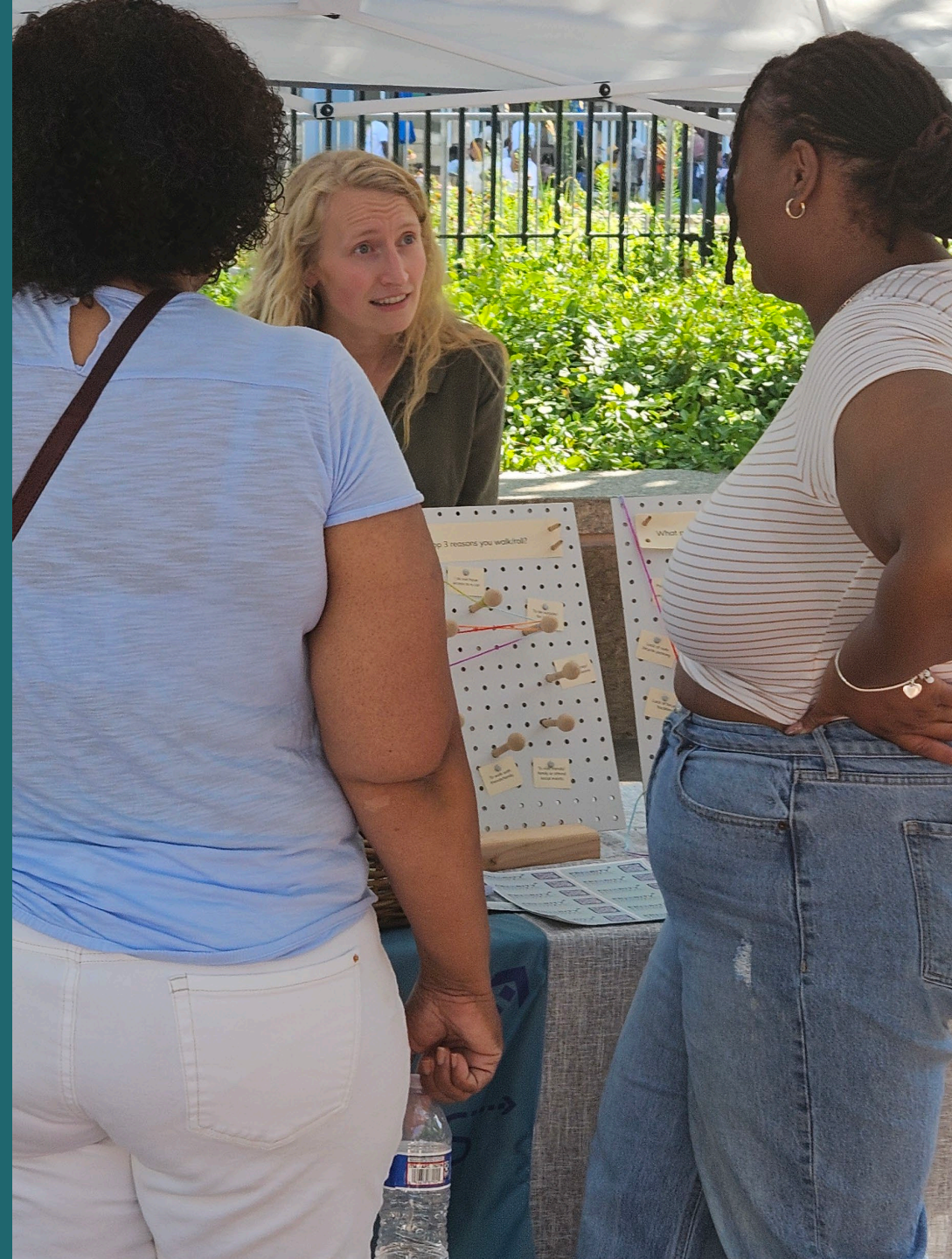
Network Development

1. Project Background
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7. **Network Development**
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Goals of Draft Network

- Promote a **regional** network appropriate for people of all ages and abilities
- Align planning with a shared vision
 - Target investments in active transportation



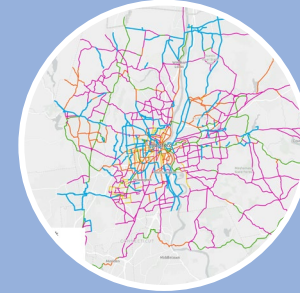
Draft Network Public Engagement



Advisory
Committee



Municipalities

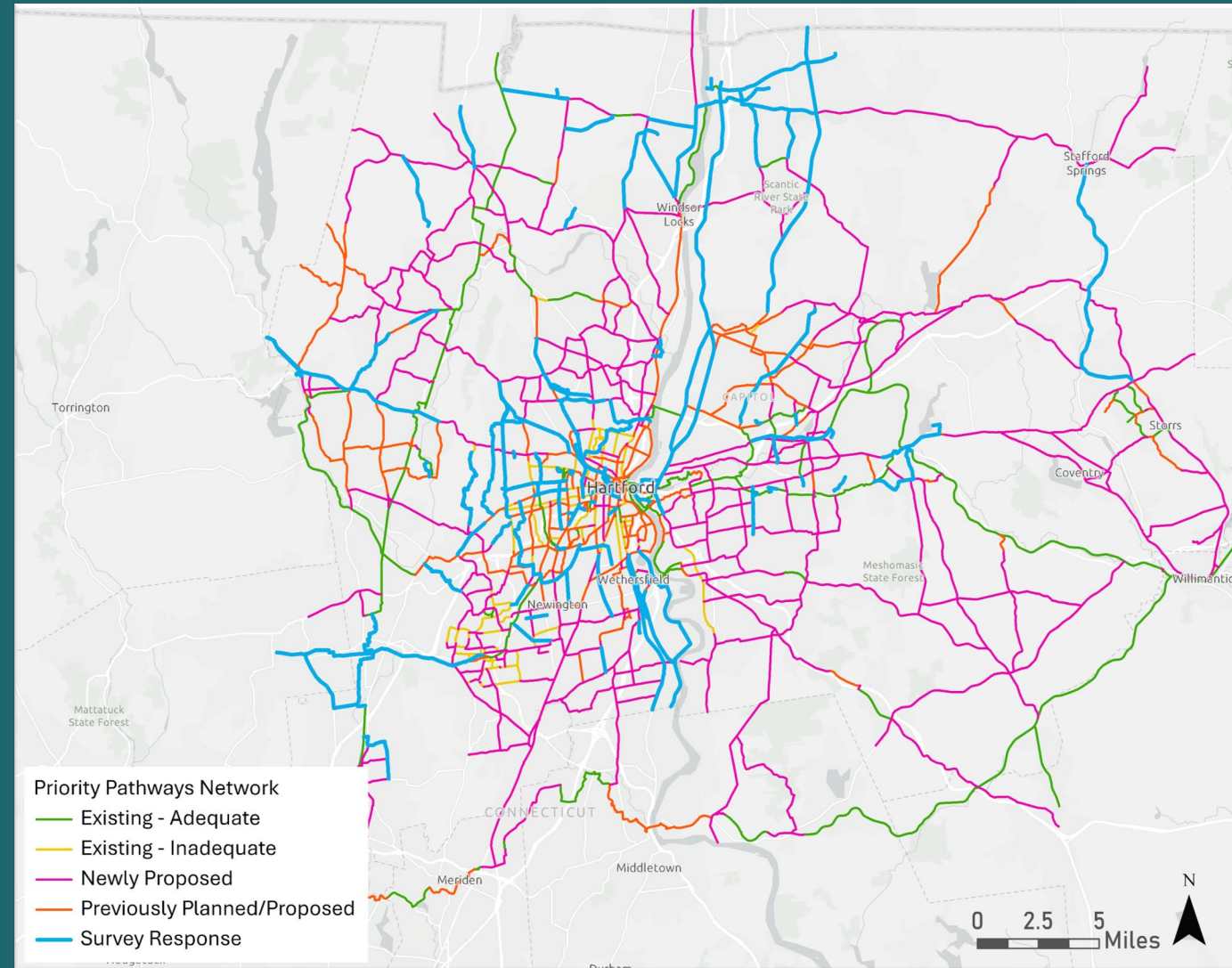


The Public



Draft Network Feedback Themes

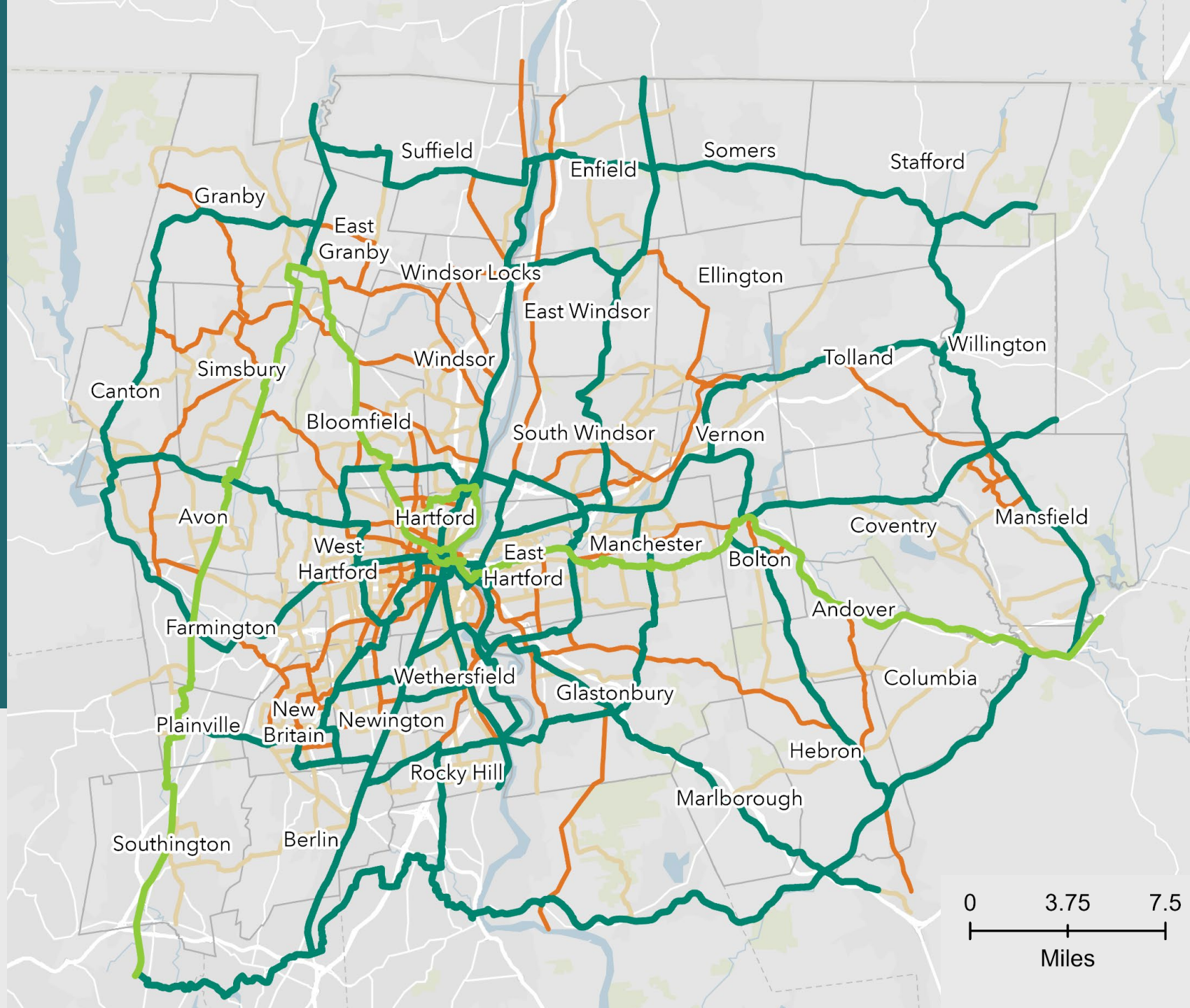
1. New alignments
2. Support for recommendations
3. Alternative alignments
4. More connections
5. Concern for existing conditions
6. Feasibility concerns



Final Draft Network

Priority Pathways

-  Regional Pathways
-  Community Connections
-  Local Circulators
-  East Coast Greenway





Next Steps

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Next Steps

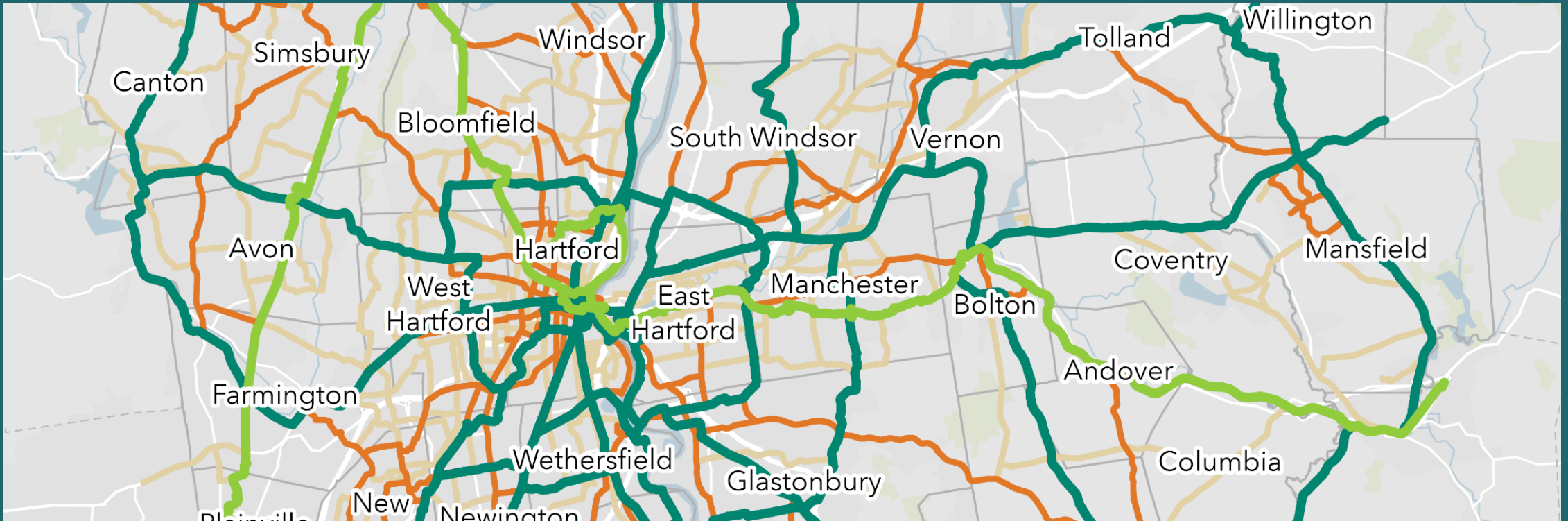
- Finalize Recommended Priority Network
- Develop Implementation Plan for Priority Network and Policy Strategies
- Draft Final Plan
- Final Public Meeting #3 in early 2026
- Finalize Plan
- Implement!



Discussion



Thank You



Contact:

Mike Cipriano at mcipriano@crcogct.gov