

January 8, 2026

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Re: Letter of Support for North Hartford Partnership – Swift Factory Microgrid Planning Project**

Dear Review Committee,

The Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is pleased to support the North Hartford Partnership's (NHP) application to the DEEP Climate Resilience Fund – Advancement Category for engineering and analysis of a renewable microgrid and Community Resilience Hub at the historic Swift Factory in Hartford's North End.

This project directly advances the goals of CRCOG's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan by strengthening the resilience of a critical community facility. The proposed microgrid will help mitigate risks associated with extreme heat events by ensuring reliable power during outages, while also reducing vulnerabilities to flooding and other climate-related hazards that are increasing in frequency and severity due to climate change. Additionally, the project will result in vulnerability informed infrastructure solutions, strengthen resilience outcomes for frontline communities, and generate scalable approaches that can be applied to municipal and regional climate adaptation planning efforts.

CRCOG recognizes the need for regional coordination and is pleased to support this application.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart  
Executive Director

CC: The Honorable Arunan Arulampalam, City of Hartford  
CRCOG Policy Board

January 07, 2026

**BTSCRIP Review Committee**

Transportation Research Board  
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine  
500 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

**Re: Letter of Support for “Effects of Automated Speed Enforcement on Crashes Involving Pedestrians and Bicyclists”**

Dear Review Committee,

The Connecticut Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is proud to support the University of Connecticut's Transportation Research Institute (CTI), and their efforts in the BTSCRIP BTS-47 research project, “Effects of Automated Speed Enforcement on Crashes Involving Pedestrians and Bicyclists”.

This project, led by Dr. Niloufar Shirani at the Connecticut Transportation Institute (CTI) aims to evaluate the efficacy of automated speed enforcement (ASE) on reducing actual crash rates, as well as the impact ASE has had on non-motorists' perception of crash risk in areas where this equipment has been placed. The intended outcome for this project is to improve the understanding of vulnerable road users and ways to mitigate crash risk in two states (Connecticut and New York) and to provide practitioners with tools for implementing ASE programs in their jurisdictions. As an organization, this project strongly represents our values here at CRCOG to protect and improve the safety and accessibility of the people of Connecticut by: enhancing the quality of life, vibrancy, and vitality of the Greater Hartford region, and continuing to be a strong advocate for programs and services that provide solutions. And with an existing relationship with several municipalities, the state Department of Transportation, and access to some of the country's best collected crash data through their Crash Data Repository, UConn is well positioned to evaluate the effect of impact of ASE in real time.

CRCOG enthusiastically voices our support for this initiative and looks forward to further working with our partners at UConn to improve crash outcomes and eliminate fatalities on our roadways. We look forward to participating in support for survey recruitment and advertisement, facilitating industry connections, and providing input and guidance to aid in the success of this project.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart  
Executive Director

CC: CRCOG Policy Board & Transportation Committee

January 9, 2026

The Honorable Sean P. Duffy  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: BUILD FY2026 Planning Grant Application – Monteith Drive Extension over the Farmington River**

Dear Secretary Duffy:

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is pleased to support the Town of Farmington, Connecticut's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation FY2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program. The application requests BUILD planning funds to perform preliminary design and planning activities needed to complete a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document, for a proposed extension of Monteith Drive over the Farmington River.

The project aims to improve transportation connectivity, ease traffic congestion, and enhance system resilience by adding a new bridge over the Farmington River. This project will address limited north-south connections, benefiting key locations on both sides of the river and improving emergency response times in Farmington. The new bridge will offer a route for various modes of transport and help reduce congestion at existing river crossings. Designing the new Monteith Drive bridge to withstand higher flood levels will enhance system resilience during major flooding events.

In 2024, CRCOG completed the Farmington Connectivity Study, which noted that the new bridge would provide a critical link between the Farmington Town Hall Complex (Town Hall, Town Library, and High School) to the Police Station, Community Center, Senior Citizen Center, and Public Works Facility. The project is also included in the Connecticut Department of Transportation's (CTDOT) air quality conformity analysis to ensure it is eligible for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) once funding is available. If awarded, CRCOG will work with CTDOT to place this project in the STIP and the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

These recent planning activities funded by CTDOT and/or CRCOG have supported the Town of Farmington's efforts over many years to provide a much-needed additional river crossing. The recent traffic analysis and outreach to various federal, state, and local stakeholder groups, completed under CRCOG's Farmington Connectivity Study, have shown continued support to move this project forward. We thank you for your consideration and respectfully request that you fund the full request detailed in the application.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart  
Executive Director

CC: B. Connolly, K. Blonski, R. Arnold - Town of Farmington  
CRCOG Policy Board & Transportation Committee

January 15, 2026

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Re: Letter of Support for Coventry - Funding for locating and inventorying stormwater basins and outfalls.**

Dear Review Committee,

The Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is pleased to offer this letter of support for the Town of Coventry's DEEP Climate Resilience Fund application to help fund the town's inventory of its stormwater basins and outfalls.

CRCOG is working with its municipalities to address stormwater challenges and supports local initiatives to create tools and resources that will ultimately help implement projects that improve water quality. Developing a comprehensive and accurate inventory of stormwater infrastructure is a critical first step in effective stormwater management and long-term water quality improvement. CRCOG's regional *Plan of Conservation and Development* includes a specific strategy to improve the water quality of the region's rivers, streams, waterbodies, and groundwater. Coventry's proposed initiative supports this strategy.

Such an inventory would also support the town in advancing the goals of the *2024-2029 Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan*. Accurate, up-to-date locational information on stormwater assets will enable Coventry to better identify system vulnerabilities, assess risks from natural hazards and climate change, and prioritize future investments.

We appreciate your consideration and urge you to support this application in the full amount requested.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart  
Executive Director

CC: Lisa Thomas, Council Chair, Coventry  
Jim Drumm, Town Manager, Coventry  
CRCOG Policy Board