

March 4, 2026

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

Re: FY 2026 BUILD Grant Application – Planning Grant for Planning Assistance for Four Corners Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project, Mansfield, Connecticut

Dear Secretary Duffy:

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is pleased to support the Town of Mansfield’s planning grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation FY2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program for the **Planning Assistance for Four Corners Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project** (“Project”). The Project will advance BUILD program priorities including safety, economic development, multimodal connectivity, climate resilience, and state of good repair while fostering meaningful partnerships in this rural community.

The grant will fund the design and permitting of two roundabouts on CT Route 195 (the main gateway to the University of Connecticut Storrs Campus (UConn)), a new sidewalk along U.S. Route 44 (from CT Route 195 to Discovery Drive), and new crosswalks and ramps. These improvements are necessary to address long-standing traffic congestion issues at these key intersections and along the Route 195 corridor. The Project will tie into a nearly 1-mile multi-use trail system planned along CT Route 195, funded with support from Congressman Courtney, which will improve access and connectivity to UConn and Downtown Storrs.

The need for this project is well documented. CRCOG, the Town of Mansfield, and the CT Department of Transportation (CTDOT) collaborated to complete conceptual designs as part of CRCOG’s Roundabout Screening Study, which is now incorporated into CRCOG’s Regional Transportation Safety Plan (RTSP). The RTSP recognizes the Project as an effective countermeasure to address safety issues and congestion. The Project is also consistent with CRCOG’s Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Regional Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs), all of which emphasize the importance of improving transportation systems at UConn, a major asset for the region.

As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Hartford region, including Mansfield, CRCOG affirms that this Project is regionally significant and consistent with adopted long-range plans. Improved roadway safety and multimodal infrastructure along CT Routes 195 and 320 and U.S. Route 44 will enhance multimodal connectivity to the University of Connecticut

and Downtown Storrs while improving safety for all users. This application reflects a clear commitment to delivering a high-quality planning investment efficiently and responsibly. BUILD planning funds will catalyze a transformative, safety-focused, and economically strategic corridor that will serve the region for decades to come. If awarded, CRCOG will work with the CTDOT to place this project in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

On behalf of CRCOG, I strongly support this application and respectfully request your favorable consideration of funding for this important project. The **Planning Assistance for Four Corners Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project** will deliver long-term safety, economic, and mobility benefits for Mansfield and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,



Matthew W. Hart
Executive Director

CC: Mayor Antonia Moran, R. Aylesworth, J. Carrington – Town of Mansfield
CRCOG Policy Board & Transportation Committee

March 16, 2026

Representative Joe Courtney
2348 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Town of Enfield Application for Congressionally Directed Spending
Replacement of Sewer Force Main Interchange on South River Street**

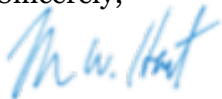
Dear Representative Courtney:

On behalf of the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), I am pleased to offer my strong support for the Town of Enfield's application seeking funding for replacement of the **sewer force main interchange on South River Street in Thompsonville**, a critical infrastructure and community development initiative. Enfield is a community with deep roots, significant assets, and a clear vision for its future. The Town's leadership has demonstrated a consistent ability to translate that vision into well-planned, community-supported projects that deliver lasting public value.

This project represents a comprehensive investment in Thompsonville's revitalization and in the safety and wellbeing of all Enfield residents. Reliable underground infrastructure is the foundation upon which all community investment depends. The replacement of the sewer force main on South River Street will protect public health, reduce the risk of costly emergency repairs, and ensure that Thompsonville's growing residential and commercial activity is supported by utility systems equal to the demand.

Building resilient infrastructure, protecting public health, and investing in existing development areas to expand capacity and enable responsible growth are goals and strategies consistent with CRCOG's regional Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). We are confident that this investment will be managed responsibly, deliver meaningful results, and contribute to an Enfield that is stronger, safer, and more vibrant for years to come. I respectfully urge you to support the Town of Enfield's requests and look forward to seeing these important initiatives come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Matthew W. Hart
Executive Director

CC: Mayor Gina Cekala, M. Coppler, A. Marcavitch– Town of Enfield
CRCOG Policy Board

March 17, 2026

Ms. Binu Chandy
Director, Office of Brownfield Remediation & Development
Department of Economic and Community Development
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 5
Hartford, CT 06103

Re: Town of Enfield Application for CT DECD Round 23 Municipal Brownfield Grant, Remediation of 132 Weymouth Road

Ms. Chandy:

On behalf of the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), I am pleased to offer my strong support for the Town of Enfield's application for a Municipal Brownfield Grant from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) Office of Brownfield Redevelopment (OBRD) to remediate and redevelop the blighted property at 132 Weymouth Road. This site has been vacant for over a decade and has been a constant source of complaints from the public as its condition continues to deteriorate over time.

Historically, the redevelopment of this site has been hampered by the need to abate several hazardous building materials and groundwater contamination from a leaking underground storage tank on an adjacent property. These conditions make site work complicated and expensive, which has hampered redevelopment efforts to date. Fully funding this grant request will give the town of Enfield the resources needed to form a public private partnership to remove this blight on the Weymouth Road neighborhood and bring economic activity and new jobs to the area.

Cleaning up and redeveloping brownfields is an important aspect of creating healthy, vibrant communities, a goal that is consistent with CRCOG's regional Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs).

I would like to thank you and your team for their consideration of this important project. Please contact me at mhart@crocogct.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,



Matthew W. Hart
Executive Director

CC: Mayor Gina Cekala, M. Coppler, A. Marcavitch– Town of Enfield
CRCOG Policy Board