

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT Intergovernmental Policy & Planning Division

June 30, 2021

Sam Gold Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments 145 Dennison Road Essex, CT 06426

Re: Draft Lower Connecticut River Valley Plan of Conservation and Development 2021-2031

Dear Sam:

The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) has reviewed the draft *Lower Connecticut River Valley Plan of Conservation and Development 2021-2031* (Regional POCD) that you provided by email on April 26, 2021, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes <u>Section 8-35a(b)</u>. OPM hereby determines that the draft plan is not inconsistent with the *Conservation and Development Policies: The Plan for Connecticut 2013-2018* (State C&D Plan).

OPM would like to commend RiverCOG for preparing an especially thoughtful plan that should prove to be a useful tool for the COG and its member municipalities. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way citizens of the state work, live, and communicate. OPM acknowledges that the timing of the pandemic created a challenging planning process for RiverCOG, as there are many unknowns about the way traditional customs and expectations will evolve in a post-pandemic economy. Undoubtedly trends will evolve, and some predictions or expectations may be wrong. To the extent resources allow, OPM encourages incremental revisions to RiverCOG's Regional POCD in the coming years to account for these anticipated unknowns.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Eric Lindquist

Environmental Analyst

Eric K. Lindquist

Cc: Dan Morley, OPM