



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

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## SIMSBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Main Meeting Room – Simsbury Town Hall – 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury  
Regular Meeting – April 23, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### PUBLIC AUDIENCE

### PRESENTATION

- a) Proclamation in Honor of Bike Month

### FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

### TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

### SELECTMEN ACTION

- a) Tax Refund Requests
- b) FY 18/19 Historic Documents Preservation Grant
- c) Onion Mountain Forest Management
- d) Gifts of Love (Community Farm) Grant Application
- e) Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) Funding Solicitation for Transportation Projects
- f) Proposed Revisions to ADA Notice and Municipal ADA Grievance Procedure



### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

- a) Proposed Appointment of Elizabeth Peterson (R) as a Regular Member of the Tourism Committee with an Expiration Date of December 2, 2019
- b) Proposed Appointment of Michael Tanca (R) as a Regular Member of the Clean Energy Task Force with an Expiration Date of December 2, 2019
- c) Proposed Appointment of Robert Heagney (R) as a Temporary Regular Member to the Board of Assessment Appeals with an Expiration Date of September 30, 2018
- d) Proposed Appointment of Elaine Lang (D) as the Simsbury Historical Society Member of the Hometown Hero Selection Committee with an Expiration Date of December 2, 2019

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

- a) Regular Meeting of April 9, 2018
- b) Special Meeting of April 13, 2018

**SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) Personnel
- b) Finance
- c) Welfare
- d) Public Safety
- e) Board of Education

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- a) Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth – source: CCM Legislative Committee, April 2018
- b) Contract Amendment for Dial-A-Ride
- c) Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- d) Memorandum from T. Roy, re: 2018 Paving Schedule, dated April 6, 2018
- e) Memorandum from M. Glidden, re: CGS §8-24 referral from Board of Selectmen concerning Fiscal Year 2019 Capital Improvement Plan, dated April 11, 2018
- f) Freedom of Information Decision – Kalechman v. Board of Selectmen and Town of Simsbury – FOIC Docket #2017-0225
- g) Press Release, re: Police Chief Appointment, dated April 13, 2018
- h) Press Release, re: Neighborhood Assistance Act, dated April 7, 2018
- i) Press Release, re: Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Hearings, April 18, 2018

**ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a) Pursuant to CGS §1-200(6)(B) concerning Pending Claims and Litigation – Deepwater Wind Appeal, Petition 1313

**ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Possible action

**ADJOURN**

***Following adjournment, per §CGS 1-200(2) the Board of Selectmen and staff will meet to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining for the unit represented by IBPO.***



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Proclamation in Honor of Bike Month

2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018

3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Eric Wellman, First Selectman  
*Maria E. Capriola*

4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**  
The following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to authorize First Selectman Eric Wellman to execute the Proclamation in honor of Bike Month as presented.*

5. **Summary of Submission:**  
May is National Bike Month. In honor of Bike Month, a proclamation has been prepared. Members of the Simsbury Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee will briefly highlight May Bike Month happenings in Simsbury (see attachment). The upcoming Selectmen's Community Ride will take place on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm. The five mile ride begins at Town Hall and ends at J. Foster ice cream. All are welcome to join for the Selectmen's Community Ride.

6. **Financial Impact:**  
None

7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**  
a) Proclamation in Honor of Bike Month  
b) Simsbury Celebrates National Bike Month – May 2018



# Proclamation May 2018 Bike Month in Simsbury, CT

Whereas, for more than a century the bicycle has been an utilitarian, economical, environmentally sound and effective means of personal transportation, recreation and fitness; and

Whereas, the Town of Simsbury, Connecticut encourages the use of bicycles as a means of transportation; and

Whereas, the Town of Simsbury, Connecticut recognizes bicyclists as legitimate roadway users and therefore are entitled to legal and responsible use of all public roadway facilities in Simsbury; and

Whereas, the Town of Simsbury, Connecticut encourages the increased use of the bicycle, benefiting all citizens of Simsbury improving air quality, reducing traffic congestion and noise, decreasing the use of and dependence upon finite energy sources, and fostering exercise; and

Whereas, the Town of Simsbury, Connecticut recognizing the use of bicycles as a viable mode of transportation, endeavors to promote safe and responsible bicycling and is committed to incorporating the development of bicycle facilities in the vision for a vibrant downtown Simsbury; and

Whereas, the League of American Bicyclists has established May as National Bicycle Month, and the First Selectman establishes May as Bicycle Month in Simsbury, Connecticut's first town to be designated as a Silver Bicycle Friendly Community; and

Whereas, the Simsbury Bicycle Advisory Committee and the First Selectman encourage all citizens to ride their bicycles to work, to the store, to the park, around their neighborhoods and with friends and family to promote the personal and societal benefits achieved from bicycling.

Now, therefore, as First Selectman for the Town of Simsbury Connecticut, I hereby proclaim May 2018 to be Bike Month in Simsbury, Connecticut.

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**Eric Wellman,**  
**First Selectman, Town of Simsbury, Connecticut**

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**Date**



# Simsbury Celebrates Nat'l Bike Month - May 2018



[www.facebook.com/simsburyfreebike](http://www.facebook.com/simsburyfreebike)

[www.simsbury.bike](http://www.simsbury.bike)

See Back for Ride and Event Details

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>29</b> Season 8 <b>Simsbury Free Bike Opens on May 1st</b></p> <p>Sign up for the 4th Annual <b>Simsbury Bike Challenge</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>1</b> <b>Simsbury Bike Challenge</b> Begins Simsbury Bike Challenge Kickoff Ride at Simsbury Free Bike Shop 6PM challenge@simsbury.bike</p> <p> <b>Single Event</b></p>	<p><b>2</b> <b>Keep Your Bike Rolling</b> Simsbury Public Library - (Teen Bike Maintenance) 3:30-5PM</p>	<p><b>3</b> <b>Board of Selectmen Community Ride - Simsbury Town Hall 5:00 PM Everyone Welcome - 5 Miles</b></p> <p> <b>Single Event</b> <b>Weekly Casual Riders Meetup 6PM &lt;10mph</b></p> <b>Weekly</b>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> <b>Simsbury Bike's at the Mini Maker Faire - Simsbury Public Library 10-4 PM</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> <b>Eastern Bloc - Weekly 'C' Rides - Social Pace Mondays Farms Village Plaza West Simsbury 6:00PM</b></p> <b>Weekly</b>	<p><b>8</b> <b>Eastern Bloc Weekly 'B' Rides Farms Village Plaza - West Simsbury 6:00 PM</b></p> <b>Weekly</b>	<p><b>9</b> <b>National Bike to School Day</b> <b>Bike to School Day, Tootin' Hills Elem. School</b></p>	<p><b>10</b> <b>Eastern Bloc Weekly Women's 'B' Ride</b> Iron Horse Blvd Commuter Lot (behind Fitzgerald's - Simsbury)</p> <b>Weekly</b>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>
<p><b>13</b> <b>Mother's Day</b></p>	<p><b>14</b> <b>National Bike Week</b></p> <p><b>Eastern Block C Ride</b></p> <b>Weekly</b>	<p><b>15</b> Simsbury Chamber Presents: "Life In Simsbury: A Public Art Trail"</p> <p><b>Easter Bloc B Ride</b></p> <b>Weekly</b>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>Weekly Casual Riders Meetup 6PM &lt;10mph</b></p> <b>Weekly Eastern Bloc Women's Ride</b>	<p><b>18</b> <b>Nat'L Bike to Work Day</b> <b>Bike to Work Simsbury 6:30 AM</b> Iron Horse Blvd.</p> <p> <b>Single Event</b> <b>Bike Month Happy Hour Redstone Pub -5:30PM</b></p>	<p><b>19</b> <b>Canal to Trail History Bike Ride - Simsbury Public - Bob Madison - Author and Larry Linonis - 11-11:45AM - Lecture -Ride 2-3 PM Signup on- line - Simsbury Library</b></p> <p> <b>Single Event</b></p>
<p><b>20</b> <b>Try Simsbury Adventure Triathlon</b> Run, Bike &amp; Paddle 11am Perf Arts Ctr.</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <b>Weekly Easter Bloc B Ride</b>	<p><b>22</b> <b>Bikes and Books Storytime Simsbury Library 10:30-11AM</b></p> <b>Weekly Easter Bloc B Ride</b>	<p><b>23</b> <b>Bike Walk to School - Latimer Lane</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <b>Weekly Eastern Bloc Women's Ride</b> <b>Weekly Casual Riders Meetup 6PM &lt;10mph</b>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>
<p><b>27</b> Updated:April 5, 2018 v5</p>	<p><b>28</b> <b>Memorial Day</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <b>Weekly Easter Bloc B Ride</b>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b> <b>Bicycle Repair and Maintenance with Steve Novy, 6:30 - 8 PM. Simsbury Library,</b></p> <b>Weekly Eastern Bloc Women's Ride</b> <b>Weekly Casual Riders Meetup 6PM &lt;10mph</b>	<p> <b>Single ride or event</b></p> <b>Weekly ride</b> <b>Through summer</b>	<p><b>June 1 - Bike to School Squadron Line School</b> <b>June 6 - National Trails Day</b> <b>June 23 Ride The State -New Haven to MA</b></p>



Sign up TODAY at [nationalbikechallenge.org](http://nationalbikechallenge.org)



Upcoming Rides and Events: Learn more at [www.Simsbury.bike](http://www.Simsbury.bike) or [www.facebook.com/simsburyfreebike](http://www.facebook.com/simsburyfreebike)

May	<b>National Bike Month begins and Simsbury Free Bike</b> opens for the 8th season.
Wed. 5/2	<b>Keeping Your Bike Rolling: Bike Maintenance and Safety (Teens)</b> , Simsbury Public Library, 3:30-5PM.
Thurs. 5/3	<b>Board of Selectmen's Ride</b> - Community Invited. 5PM Simsbury Town Hall - 5 Miles
Sat. 5/5	Simsbury Bikes at <b>Mini Maker Faire</b> , Simsbury Public Library, 10-4PM
Wed. 5/9	<b>Bike to School Day, Tootin' Hills Elem. School</b> , Simsbury. <b>National Bike to School Day</b>
Sat. 5/12	<b>CCAP 2018 Breakaway Benefit Ride</b> , CT Cycling Advancement Program fundraiser, Case Mountain, Manchester, 7AM-3PM.
Wed. 5/16	<b>National Ride of Silence</b> , Hosted by <b>Valley Cycling</b> . Join cyclists worldwide in a silent slow-paced ride from Granby to Avon and back in honor of those who have been injured or killed while cycling on public roadways. Salmon Brook Park, Granby. 6PM
Fri. 5/18	<b>National Bike to Work Day</b> - Iron Horse Blvd Simsbury CT 6:30 AM
Sat. 5/19	<b>Canal to Trail History - Lecture and Ride</b> - Lecture 11:00 - 11:45; Ride 12-2ish. Sign up at the Simsbury Public Library
Sun. 5/20	<b>Try Simsbury Adventure Triathlon</b> , Simsbury Meadows, Simsbury, 11 AM.
Tues. 5/22	<b>Bikes and Books Storytime</b> , Simsbury Public Library, 10:30-11AM.
Wed. 5/23	<b>Bike to School Day, Latimer Lane Elem. School</b> , Simsbury
Thurs 5/31	<b>Bicycle Repair and Maintenance with Steve</b> Novy, 6:30 – 8 PM. Simsbury Public Library, Program Room.
Fri. 6/1	<b>Bike to School Day, Squadron Line Elem. School</b> , Simsbury.
Sat. 6/2	<b>FVTC National Trails Day Ride</b> , Farmington Valley Trails Council, Simsbury, 9:30AM.
Sat.6/23	<b>Ride the State</b> - New Haven to MA - 56 Miles - Sponsored by the East Coast Greenway and the Farmington Valley Trails Council

### Club and Bike Shop Rides Through the Summer

- \* **Bicycle Cellar Weekly Rides** Wednesdays - 6 PM from the shop - 12-15mph pace, 10-15 miles.
- \* **Eastern Bloc Cycling Club (EBCC)** weekly rides for all levels of road cyclists. Visit <http://www.easternbloc.net/calendar> for a full list of ride categories (pace & distance), dates, and locations to find a ride that fits your level. "C" level rides are appropriate for those new to group riding, and ride leaders and experienced riders are available to introduce and demonstrate safe group riding techniques. Non-members are always welcome.
- \* **Valley Cycling** weekly rides . See <http://valleycycling.org/> for details. All rides originate at the Dunkin' Donuts in Granby (next to Stop & Shop) Saturdays at 8 and 9 am ; weekdays, Mondays/Wednesdays - 6 pm Questions about Valley Cycling contact Paul Mikkelson [mikbenefit@comcast.net](mailto:mikbenefit@comcast.net)
- \* **Casual Bikers Meet-up** Weekly, Thursday evenings at 6PM at Jim Gallagher Way [www.meetup.com/casual-bikers](http://www.meetup.com/casual-bikers) (Statewide Weekend Meet-Up Rides also offered !) Rides are <10mph

Email [challenge@simsbury.bike](mailto:challenge@simsbury.bike) to learn more or to volunteer



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Tax Refund Requests
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Colleen O'Connor, Tax Collector  
*Maria E. Capriola*
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**  
If the Board of Selectmen supports approving the tax refunds as presented, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to approve the presented tax refunds in the amount of \$2,963.43, and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute the tax refunds.*

5. **Summary of Submission:**  
Tax refunds need to be issued from time to time for motor vehicles, real property, and personal property. Some of the most common reasons tax refunds need to be issued for motor vehicles include: sale of the vehicle; the vehicle is destroyed; the vehicle is donated; the owner has moved out of state; or, the owner has successfully appealed the taxes. Real estate refunds are typically due to the fact that during the sale or refinancing of a property, both a bank and an attorney's office have paid taxes owed, resulting in an overpayment to the Town. Overpayments of personal property taxes are rare; often overpayments of personal property are due to a person or entity forgetting that they paid in full in July, then also sending the January installment.

In a legal opinion from the Town Attorney dated May 22, 2001, he stated that CGS §12-129 "requires that all applications for tax refunds be referred to the Board (of Selectmen) for their consideration and action." Once approved by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager will sign off on tax refund applications.

As a reminder, the Tax Collector's Office is responsible for collecting revenue for the Fire District pursuant to Special Act #264 of the Legislature in 1945. However, tax refunds for the Fire District are not under the jurisdiction of nor approved by the Board of Selectmen and are therefore not included in the requested tax refunds presented.

6. **Financial Impact:**  
The aggregate amount of all tax refunds as presented is \$2,963.43. The attachment dated April 23, 2018 has a detailed listing of all requested tax refunds.
7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**
  - a) Requested Tax Refunds, dated April 23, 2018







# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** FY 18/19 Historic Documents Preservation Grant

2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018

3. **Individual or Entity making the submission**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Ericka L. Butler, Town Clerk

*Maria E. Capriola*

4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**

If the Board of Selectmen supports applying for a historic documents preservation grant as presented, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to submit a FY 18/19 historic documents grant application and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola to execute the grant application. Further move to designate Town Clerk, Ericka L. Butler as the designated applicant.*

In the event that the grant is awarded, the following additional motion is in order:

*Move, to accept the FY 18/19 historic documents grant should it be awarded to the town, and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola and Town Clerk, Ericka L. Butler (as the designated applicant), to execute all documents related to the grant award.*

5. **Summary of Submission:**

Each year the Town Clerk has an opportunity to apply for the Historic Documents Preservation Program grant. The grant is offered through the Connecticut State Library, Public Records Administrator. Based on our current population, we fall under the medium-sized Town category and are eligible for a grant of \$6,500. Simsbury has been the recipient of this grant in the past. Grant awards have been used to purchase archival shelving for the vault, to preserve and digitize historic documents, and conduct a needs assessment survey to evaluate facilities design as well as records management and organization.

Within the Simsbury Town Clerk's Office vault there is a designated room for the town's vital records. Currently, we are storing other records in this room as well. Our vital records are locked in shelving units in this room. Ideally, we would be able to lock the entire room in order to maximize available space and accommodate our ever-growing vital records, which are required to be retained as permanent records of the town. The goal is to remove non-vital records from this room. In order to do so, we would have additional storage units (archival shelving) installed in our vault to accommodate these non-vital records. The additional units will provide secure, organized and systematic storage for the Town of Simsbury's records.

**6. Financial Impact:**

If awarded, the grant is anticipated to be \$6,500. There is no local match. The grant award would cover the cost of the shelving and labor to install it.

**7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:**

a) FY 18/19 Historic Documents Preservation Grant Application

**APPLICATION**  
**TARGETED GRANT FY 2019**  
 Historic Documents Preservation Program  
 Connecticut Municipalities  
 GP-001 (rev. 1/2018)



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
 Connecticut State Library  
 PUBLIC RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR  
 231 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106

*This form may be completed and printed for submission at [ctstatelibrary.org/publicrecords/hdpp](http://ctstatelibrary.org/publicrecords/hdpp)*

<b>Name of Municipality:</b>	<b>Town of Simsbury</b>		
<b>Name of Municipal CEO:</b>	<b>Maria E. Capriola</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Town Manager</b>
<b>Phone with Area Code:</b>	860-658-3230		
<b>Email:</b>	mcapriola@simsbury-ct.gov		
<b>Name of Town Clerk:</b>	<b>Ericka L. Butler</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Town Clerk</b>
<b>Phone with Area Code:</b>	860-658-3261		
<b>Email:</b>	ebutler@simsbury-ct.gov	<b>Check if Designated Applicant:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>TC Mailing Address:</b>	933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070		
<b>MCEO Address if Different:</b>	(same)		

**Grant Application Deadline:**  Cycle 1: April 30, 2018  Cycle 2: September 30, 2018

**Grant Contract Period:** The contract period begins after July 1, 2018 AND receipt of the fully executed contract. Grant projects must be completed and funds expended by June 30, 2019.

**Maximum Grant Allowed:**

\$4,500	Small Municipality	Population less than 20,000
\$6,500	Medium Municipality	Population between 20,000 and 69,999
\$9,500	Large Municipality	Population of 70,000 or greater

**Amount Requested:** \$ 6,500

**Grant Category(ies):**

<input type="checkbox"/> Inventory and Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization and Indexing
<input type="checkbox"/> Program Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Storage and Facilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation/Conservation	

Budget Summary	Grant Funds (A)	Local Funds (B)	Total Funds (A+B)
<b>1. Consultants/Vendors</b> (Total cost for all consultants and vendors)	\$	\$	\$
<b>2. Equipment</b> (Total cost for eligible items, i.e. shelving)	\$ 6,500	\$	\$ 6,500
<b>3. Supplies</b> (Total cost for eligible items, i.e. archival supplies)	\$	\$	\$
<b>4. Town Personnel Costs</b> (Total cost for all town personnel)	<sup>1</sup> \$	<sup>2</sup> \$	\$
<b>5. Other</b> (Please specify on a separate sheet)	\$	\$	\$
<b>6. TOTAL</b>	\$ 6,500	\$	\$ 6,500

<sup>1</sup> Base pay only for personnel hired directly by the municipality for the grant project. Consultant/vendor costs should be listed on Line 1.

<sup>2</sup> Personnel taxes, benefits and any overtime must be paid by the municipality.

## Narrative Page & Supporting Documentation

- Answer on an attached page, numbering the answers for questions 1 through 3; and question 4 if required.
  - If applying for more than one project, questions 1 through 3 must address each project separately; for example, number the answers 1a and 1b, 2a and 2b, 3a and 3b.
  - Answers should be provided in the applicant's own words, not by referencing the vendor's proposal.
1. **Describe the project.** State what will be done and why. For records projects, identify the specific records involved, including volume numbers and date range.
  2. **Identify the vendors or town personnel; and project timeframe.** For consultants/vendors, identify the company and the timeframe for completing the work. For town personnel to be paid with grant funds, follow the instructions provided on **Page 12** of the Grant Guidelines.
  3. **State what the municipality hopes to accomplish.** Explain how the project will impact the records, the office and/or the municipality.
  4. **Provide a detailed budget.** Show the project expenses included under each line item (Consultants/Vendors, Equipment, Supplies, and Town Personnel Costs); and show the split between grant and local funds where applicable. If applying for only one project with one vendor, you may **omit** this question.
  5. **Attach supporting documentation.** For consultants/vendors, provide a copy of the proposal or quote. For direct purchases of equipment or supplies, provide a copy of the product information/pricing.

## Designation of Town Clerk as Applicant

This section to be completed only if the MCEO wishes to designate the Town Clerk to make the application for the grant.

I hereby designate, Ericka L. Butler, the Town Clerk, as the agent for making the above application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of MCEO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Maria E. Capriola  
Name and Title of MCEO

## Certification of the Application

This section must be signed by the applicant.

If the Town Clerk is designated above, the Town Clerk must sign. If the Town Clerk is not designated, the MCEO must sign.

I hereby certify that the statements contained in this application are true and that all eligibility requirements as outlined in the *FY 2019 Targeted Grant Guidelines* have been met.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant (MCEO or Town Clerk if Designated)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date (must be same as or later than above date)

Ericka L. Butler, Town Clerk  
Name and Title of Applicant

*For State Library Use Only*

Grant Disposition:  Approved  Denied

Grant Award: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Grant Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Public Records Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Narrative

### **Describe the project:**

1. Within the Simsbury Town Clerk's Office vault there is a designated room for the Town's vital records. Currently, we are storing other records in this room as well. Our Vital Records are locked in shelving units in this room, but ideally we would like to be able to lock the entire room to take advantage of the available space to house our ever-growing vital records. The goal is to remove non-vital records from this room. In order to do so, we will be having additional storage units installed in our vault to accommodate these non-vital records. The additional units will provide secure, organized and systematic storage for the Town of Simsbury's records.

### **Identify the vendors or town personnel:**

2. Dupont Storage Systems, 17 Canoe Birch Court, Berlin, CT 06037 will be completing the above described work by the end of June, 2019.

### **State what the municipality hopes to accomplish:**

3. Completing the above project will provide the Simsbury Town Clerk's Office with additional efficient storage space for its vault. It is important to store the Town's records in an organized, systematic, and secure manner in order to locate records more easily and efficiently, and to help preserve them for years to come. The storage unit will also serve as workspace for constituents that utilize the records in our vault. With this, we will be able to discard of the folding table that is currently being used as a workspace, making better use of the limited space we have. In doing so, we will also free up some space that will allow for additional storage units to be installed when needed in the future.



4/17/2018

Ericka Butler  
Simsbury Town Hall  
933 Hopmeadow Street  
Simsbury, CT 06070

Dear Ericka,

Thanks for the continued support and the time you spent with me reviewing your vault. We have completed the design for the front area of your vault with the special features you requested to meet the needs of storing your highly valued material. I am pleased to present the proposal for the system we discussed.

Below is the pricing detail for the items we will be supplying your town:

Front wall Records Storage System with Laminate Top and locking doors  
Record Storage Research Unit  
Shelving (2) Bottom A units @ 30"L x 30"D x 40"H (3 openings)  
Shelving (1) Bottom B unit @ 24"L x 24"D x 40"H (3 openings)  
2 sitting areas  
Special L shape Laminate

Project Price: \$6,225.00

Prices include equipment, freight, delivery and assembly. Work to be done during normal working hours. We look forward to working with you on this project and servicing all your storage needs. Please contact me @ 203-206-1958 at any time.

Sincerely,

Ronald Keith  
Dupont Storage Systems



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Onion Mountain Forest Management
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Michael Glidden CFM CZEO, Assistant Town Planner;  
Gerard G. Toner, Director of Culture, Parks and Recreation  
*Maria E. Capriola*
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**  
The Board has two options for action:
  - *Option A:* The Board can proceed with the Onion Mountain Forest Management Plan and timber harvest as planned.
  - *Option B:* The Board can take no action on the Onion Mountain Forest Management Plan and timber harvest at this time, and revisit the matter in the future should the Board desire.

If the Board supports Option A, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to proceed with the Onion Mountain Forest Management Plan and timber harvest as planned. Further move to direct staff to conduct public education and engagement sessions, prepare and release a RFQ, evaluate received proposals, and submit a negotiated agreement with a selected vendor to the Board of Selectmen for review and consideration.*

If the Board supports Option B, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective, April 23, 2018 to take no action on the Onion Mountain Forest Management Plan and timber harvest at this time.*

5. **Summary of Submission:**  
At the March 6, 2018 Conservation Commission meeting, members voted (4-2) in favor of recommending to the Board of Selectmen that the "Onion Mountain Management Plan be resuscitated..." This recommendation re-affirms action taken by the Conservation Commission concerning the timber harvest scheduled for Onion Mountain Park. The Commission also suggested that public education and engagement regarding the topic might be helpful. More specifically, they suggested that a forester conduct a public presentation on the topic and that discussion on the matter be incorporated into the open space master planning process. Funds were previously budgeted and are available in the capital fund for an open space master plan; this project will be tasked to the incoming Culture, Parks, and Recreation Director later this year.

As noted above, the Board has two options in determining how to proceed with this matter.

One option (Option A) is that the Board can take action on proceeding with the planned timber harvest of Onion Mountain Park. Staff can conduct educational and public engagement sessions on the matter, develop and issue an RFQ for the timber harvest, and evaluate received proposals. Based on recent past practice on this matter, prior to entering into an agreement with a contractor, staff would bring the negotiated contract to the Board of Selectmen for review and approval.

The second option (Option B) is that the Board can decide to take no action on the planned timber harvest at this time. Some reasons for delaying action on this item include: the upcoming staffing transition in Culture, Parks and Recreation due to Gerry Toner's retirement effective June 1, 2018; the open space master plan RFQ will be tasked to the new Culture, Parks and Recreation Director later this year; and the need for increased public engagement due to interest in this particular issue.

Taking no action on this item would mean that current practices would still take place as they relate to tree management. Walking trails are monitored and when trees are identified as safety issues, they are removed. Coordination is made with Culture, Parks, and Recreation, along with Department of Public Works for physical removal.

The other situation where trees may be removed/cut is related to disease or pests. In cases where evidence is found that a tree is either diseased or infested with pest, such as emerald ash borer, the tree would be identified for removal by the tree warden. Posting of public informational signage would be done, so that interested parties would be notified of said activities.

**6. Financial Impact:**

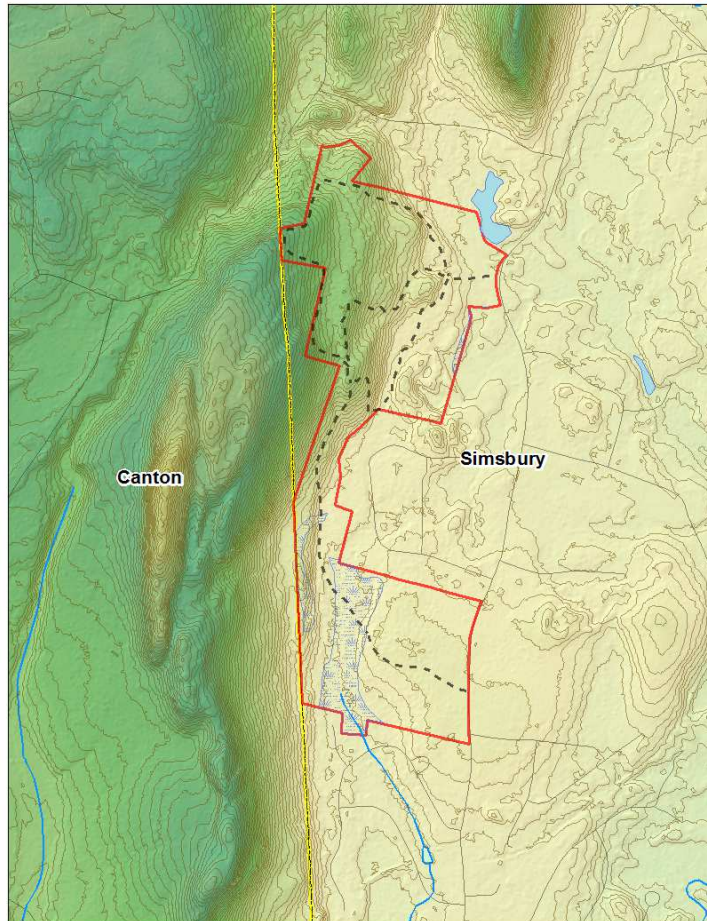
None at this time. If Option A was ultimately pursued and implemented, the town would receive revenue from the timber harvest that would then be used to fund open space maintenance.

**7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:**

- a) Forestry Management Plan for Onion Mountain Park
- b) Correspondence from Conservation Commission, dated April 3, 2018
- c) Memo from G. Toner to M. Capriola, re: Town's Forest Management Program, dated March 14, 2018



**Management Plan for  
Onion Mountain Park  
Town of Simsbury  
179 acres; 2014-2023  
Simsbury, CT – Hartford County**



**Prepared for:**



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## *Executive Summary*

This Management Plan is intended to guide the management of Onion Mountain Park, a property owned by the Town of Simsbury located in Simsbury, Connecticut for the period of 2014-2023. This property is to be managed to maintain and enhance forest health, wildlife habitat for a variety of species, improve timber quality, help maintain balanced and properly functioning ecosystems, improve recreational experiences, and maintain aesthetic qualities, all while keeping the protection of water quality and soil integrity paramount.

This property is approximately 179 acres. This property was researched and field-investigated by Ferrucci & Walicki, LLC during summer 2014. The results, along with multiple-use management recommendations for the next

ten years, are included in this management plan.

Overall, the investigation revealed that the property contains generally even-aged and two-aged forested, healthy upland, wetland, and riparian ecosystems. This property possesses varying levels of both existing and potential opportunities for future forest and wildlife management. The property also contains existing road and trail systems that provide good access to many parts of the property.

This property is well-suited for a multiple-use land management program. All recommendations have been carefully considered and balanced within the general overall objectives of the Town's forestland management goals and other interests.

### **Goals for the Onion Mountain Park Multiple-Use Management Program**

1. Engage in sound, sustainable land stewardship
2. Provide suitable recreational opportunities
3. Conserve soil & water resources
4. Maintain sensitive or special areas as reserves
5. Protect cultural resources
6. Maintain & improve forest and ecosystem health
7. Protect & enhance diverse wildlife habitat
8. Generate periodic income from the sale of forest products to help fund land management projects on the property



## *Summary of Major Recommendations*

Further details on these major recommendations are contained within the body of this plan.

### **Natural Resources**

1. A forest management program, including periodic timber harvests and wildlife habitat work, should be continued on this property. Efforts to maintain and enhance wildlife habitat, improve forest health, personal safety, and maintain water quality and soil stability, should be the focus of management activities.
2. Engage in a series of timber harvests to improve forest health and species, age class and size class diversity.
3. Invasive plant species, where found, should be controlled/removed where possible to encourage regeneration of native vegetation.

### **Recreation**

1. Continue the maintenance of the road and trail system providing safe access throughout the property. Convert log roads to usable trails following completion of forest management activities in certain areas.
2. Consider developing educational signage to explain management activities undertaken and/or natural features to recreational users of the property.
3. Ensure the preservation of historical features on the property (i.e. stone walls).

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*SIMSBURY – ONION MOUNTAIN PARK NATURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE*

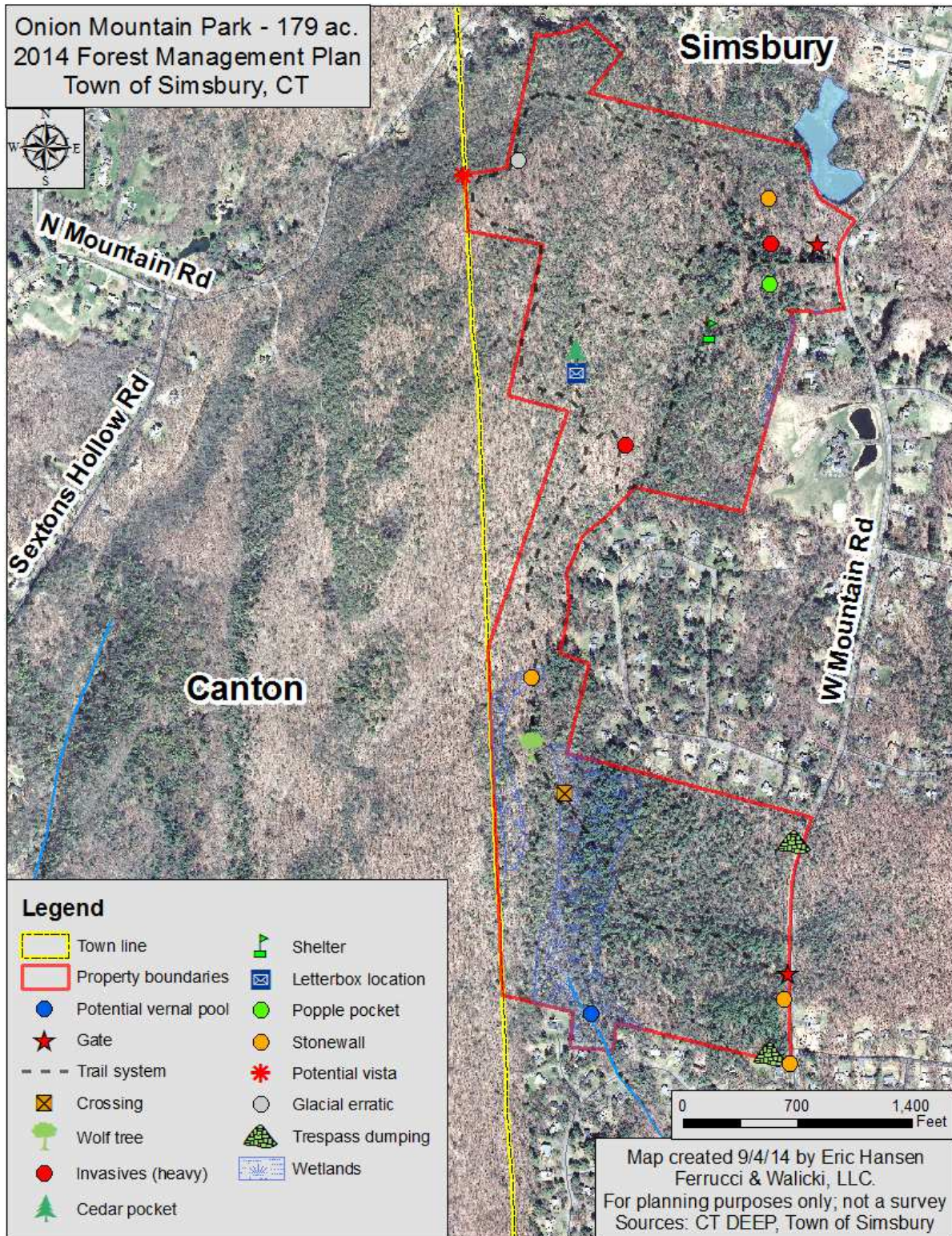
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All photos included in this plan were taken by Ferrucci & Walicki, LLC

# Onion Mountain Park Items of Interest Map



## PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

### General Property Description and Inventory Methods

Onion Mountain Park is a 179-acre property owned by the Town of Simsbury. The property is cared for and maintained by the Town, volunteers, and other users of the property. A history of agricultural uses as evidenced by stone walls, and previous timber harvests have helped shape the property that is visible today. Vegetation and other physical attributes including old roads and, potentially, drainage patterns may all be partially a product of past land use history.



Above left: This stonewall at the near the toe of the slope in Stand 6 is one of many that are found on the property. Its presence indicates the fact that this area was once likely open farmland.



Above right: The stumps from the last timber harvest shown here in Stand 5 in the northwest portion of the property give us a clue of some of the past management that has happened on the property.

The property is located on the western side of the town along the boundary with Canton. Currently, the best access to the property is from West Mountain Road where there is a parking area and kiosk with information about the trail system (see picture of entrance to the Park at the top of page 2). The majority of the use of the property appears to be for hiking and dog walking. Current trail conditions indicate that the use is concentrated on the trails near the center of the northern half of the property.



Left: This kiosk is located near the parking area at the northern end of the property.

This property contains a mix of forest types and tree species. Most of the area is well-drained upland forestland, but there are also wetlands, riparian areas, and dry ridgetop forests. An inventory of the forest resources on the property was completed in summer of 2014. A series of inventory points were laid out throughout the property. At each point a 20 Basal Area Factor (BAF) angle gauge was used to determine basal areas<sup>1</sup> and a Biltmore stick and/or diameter tape were used to determine diameters and merchantable heights of trees. Additionally, a qualitative visual inspection of invasive

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<sup>1</sup> Basal area is a relative measure of density of trees in a given area. Usually described on an average per acre basis it is the cross-sectional surface area (in square feet) of wood that would be found in all trees at breast height which is 4.5 feet above the ground on any given acre.

plant species, as well as individual tree and stand health, and understory prevalence and species composition was conducted at each point.

Tree size varies throughout the property, but trees in the overstory (i.e. main canopy) are generally in the medium-sized sawtimber size class (14-18 inches in diameter at breast height (dbh, which is measured at 4.5 feet above the ground)), with poletimber (5-11 inches dbh) and some large diameter sawtimber-sized trees. It appears as though competition from adjacent trees is the limiting factor for tree growth and vigor as basal areas (i.e. density/amount of trees in any given area) are relatively high in many places on the property. Trees are tall in most places on the property – with the exception of the dry ridgetop forests on the west end of the property – which is an indication that the site conditions are appropriate for growing trees.

The understory consists a mix of woody and herbaceous species. The most prevalent tree species found in the understory are black birch, American beech, white pine, and eastern hemlock. White pine and black birch seedlings and saplings are particularly dense where natural disturbance or harvesting of trees has recently occurred. In places, sugar maple, red maple, yellow-poplar, and some oak seedlings and saplings can be found. These last four species are less prevalent than black birch, beech or white pine, and are mostly found in areas with limited overstory competition.



Above: This picture taken in Stand 3 shows how well portions of the property with gaps in the canopy can regenerate. The area toward the left has a relatively closed canopy and a lack of regeneration and associated structure. The area on the right is adjacent to a canopy gap and has a significant amount of desirable regeneration and provides both vertical and horizontal structural diversity. This area was part of a timber harvest that occurred in the early 1990s.

Ferns and maple-leaf viburnum are found throughout the property. Mountain laurel dominates the understory in small pockets. The presence of mountain laurel makes seedling germination in and human travel through these pockets difficult, but their dense vegetation is beneficial for some species of wildlife including songbirds such as the black throated blue warbler. Throughout the property, tree regeneration, understory and midstory species (0-15 feet from the forest floor) are present in varying densities. Again, the densest regeneration is occurring in areas with a limited overstory canopy due to recent harvesting or other disturbances.

Deer browse may prove to be an issue for regeneration at some point as there are deer in the area as evidenced by the heavy browse on some seedlings (see photo on next page).

The topography is undulating throughout the property. East of the wetland that bisects the southern half of the property, the land is mostly flat, but there are steep, rocky sections in portions of the entire





western side of the property. Soils are rocky throughout the property and soil drainage ranges from excessively well-drained near the western boundary to very poorly drained with standing water in the wetlands.

Left: The stunted twigs on this winged euonymus shrub were browsed by deer. Unfortunately, deer don't just browse on the non-native invasive plant species. Frequently, their preferred browse species are the same native species that we would like to have in our forests.



There are some areas where there is exposed ledge and others with glacial erratics, giving us more clues about the longer-term history of the property. Glacial erratics are large pieces of rock that were broken off and transported then deposited on top of existing soil or ledge by advancing or retreating glaciers. Elevation ranges from approximately 330 feet above sea level near the southern end of the property in the wetland to over 660 feet toward the northwest corner of the property close to the Canton boundary along the property line.

Left: Glacial erratics such as this one found in the northwestern corner of Stand 7 are rare on this property but tell a story of the longer geologic history of the region.

As stated above, some of the cultural features found on the property include stone walls and old barbed wire fence. Portions of boundary lines are marked by some of these features though most of the boundaries are delineated by signs as opposed to fences or walls. The signs are relatively widely spaced, and sometimes face the wrong direction (into the property as opposed to outward).

## Location and Access

This property is located in the central-west portion of Simsbury. There is only one practical entrance for access to the property currently which is off of West Mountain Road where the parking lot is located.

The parking area is generally well-maintained, and it is surrounded by forest, some of which contains invasive plant species and some poison ivy. There is a kiosk at the western end of the parking lot near the trailhead, which was built and installed as a part of an Eagle Scout project by Carl Johnson in May 2007, and is in good structural condition. There is a map of the property on the kiosk that shows the locations of the color-coded trails, as well as some other information about the park.



Right: These poison ivy vines cover a tree in the parking area. While the oils in poison ivy can be poisonous to people, the berries are an important food source for wildlife including songbirds.

Most of the trails in the north half of the property are well-maintained. The condition of the paint indicating trail color varies, but is better in the northern half of the property. In one location, a pole bridge was installed during or following the last timber harvest and is still in place. This bridge is rotting and is not suitable for use for another timber sale or for regular recreational use.

There are two gates that restrict access to the property. One of these is located at the western end of the parking area near the kiosk. The other is near the southern end of the property adjacent to West Mountain Road. The area adjacent to the southern gate was used as a landing during the last timber harvest.

The property has some road frontage (approximately 2,000 feet) in two separate sections along West Mountain Road.

The Town of Simsbury owns and manages several properties within the Town. There are several adjacent conserved properties – of which Simsbury’s Onion Mountain Park and Ethel Walker property are a significant part – that form a corridor that covers approximately 1,200 acres. This includes land owned by the Canton Land Conservation Trust, the State, the Simsbury Coon Club, and other town-owned land. In an increasingly developed landscape these large blocks of undeveloped land continue to increase in importance. See the map on page 44 to understand how this property fits into the larger landscape of conserved properties.

## Water Features

There are no perennial streams that are found at Onion Mountain Park, though Nod Brook appears to have its headwaters on or near the wetland at the south end of the park and continues flowing south from there. Stoddard Reservoir, a water body located just north of the property adjacent to West Mountain Road is owned by the Town of Simsbury and leased to the Simsbury Fish and Game Club who stewards the land and holds annually fishing derbies for children. The public is welcome at the Reservoir, but fishing is allowed by permit only. There are several small intermittent drainages that were completely dry during the time when the inventory for this property was completed (August 2014). These small drainages likely carry water during part of the year, or at least when significant precipitation events occur.



Right: This drainage on the boundary of Stand 6 and Stand 8 (the wetland) in the south end of the property was dry during late summer 2014, but clearly contains water at certain times of year.

The major water feature on the property is a wetland complex found in the southern half of the property. The wetland is generally oriented north-south and encompasses over 10 acres. Vegetation types vary within the wetland and there are pockets of other wet areas throughout the property, but this southern wetland is the largest and likely the most important. In general, wetlands are important for wildlife as they frequently provide shrubby habitats that are not often found elsewhere. Additionally, wetlands function as filters for sediment and pollutants upstream and upslope, helping to maintain water quality.

There may be a vernal pool near the southern property boundary. At the time of the inventory, there was no water in the depression, however it may serve as a vernal pool during the spring and early summer.



Above: This depression near the southern end of Stand 8 may serve as a vernal pool during the spring and early summer months of the year.

No fish species were noted in the property's water features during the forest inventory, but they likely exist in the nearby pond.

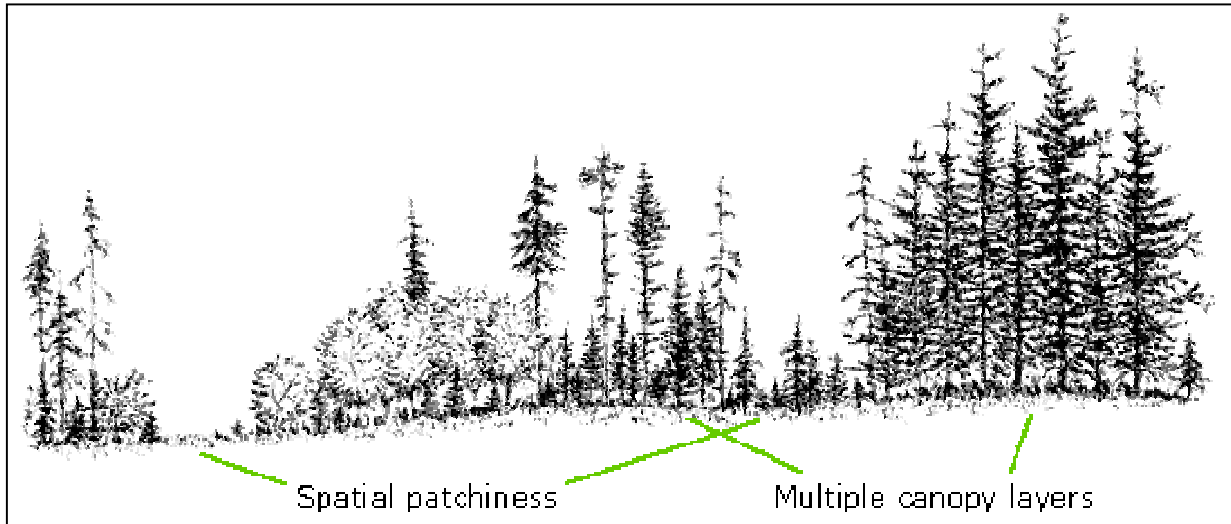
## **Insect, Disease and Other Forest Health Issues**

In general, forest health throughout this property is fair to good. The major issues are:

- a lack of structural diversity in places;
- some small and relatively isolated, but very dense populations of invasive plant species;
- a lack (in places) of desirable species of tree regeneration;
- hemlock woolly adelgid and hemlock scale;
- ash mortality due to a variety of factors;
- windthrow;
- nectria on black birch;
- beech bark disease; and
- a potential near-term future infestation and subsequent defoliation by the gypsy moth.

Each of these issues will be addressed briefly below. Forest structure and structural diversity is described in both vertical and horizontal contexts. Vertical diversity is the presence of vegetation of various heights (also called strata) in a relatively small observable area. Horizontal diversity is a description of how vegetation heights vary over a larger landscape level. In some places on the property tree regeneration is completely or nearly completely absent from the 0-5 foot size class. Though it may be aesthetically pleasing and may facilitate some kinds of recreation, this lack of vegetation negatively affects the ability of the area to serve as habitat for many species of wildlife that use this stage of vegetative development

for cover and feeding. Increasing vertical and horizontal structural diversity improves habitat for deer, ruffed grouse, woodcock, rabbits, turkeys, songbirds and other species that use a combination of habitat types for their life requirements.



The figure above shows the multiple canopy layers in one spot representing vertical structure and the spatial patchiness of horizontal structure over a wider area. Diagram courtesy of the British Columbian Ministry of Forests.



Left and above: These pictures are examples of good and poor structural diversity. The photo at left (Stand 6) shows vegetation in the understory (+/- 0-5 ft.), midstory (+/- 5-30 ft.) and a canopy in the overstory (30 ft.+). The photo above (Stand 6) has a lack of regeneration and associated diversity in the understory and midstory levels in places.

One additional element of diversity that will be discussed later is tree species diversity. In particular, there is a good mix of softwood species (a.k.a. conifers or evergreens) that compliment or even dominate the hardwoods in certain parts of the property.

There are some pockets of non-native invasive plants found on the property. Winged euonymus (a.k.a. burning bush) is the primary invasive plant here, though autumn olive, Norway maple, Japanese barberry,



and privet are also located in places. Most of the populations of invasives are in the north end of the property near the parking area or adjacent to the trail. For a spatial representation of some of the invasive plant locations, see the Items of Interest Map on Page 5.

Left: This autumn olive and honeysuckle thicket found in Stand 7 adjacent to a trail is overrun with invasive plants. Though there are some pockets that contain heavy infestations of invasive plants, the majority of the vegetation on the property is native species.

Not all non-native species are considered invasive. In fact, some non-native plants such as apple and some clovers have become naturalized in our region and are considered beneficial for a variety of reasons, including their values for wildlife and aesthetics. Invasive plant species on the other hand have qualities that make them detrimental to the overall ecological health of the area. These features can give invasive plants a competitive advantage over native species and can lead to the development of monocultures of invasives, reducing species diversity. Such features include:

- vigorous sprouting when above ground portions of the plant are cut;
- prolific seed production;
- rapid growth rates;
- ability to colonize disturbed areas;
- long periods of seed bank viability;
- extended growing seasons due to early leaf out and ability to photosynthesize later in the season; and
- a lack of wildlife species that browse on buds (except for burning bush)

The reduction in species diversity described above is important because a diverse ecosystem helps to provide diverse habitat for wildlife and insect populations including pollinators. Wildlife and insect species have adapted to be able to utilize the pollen, seeds etc. produced by native species in an area. Because significant populations of invasive plant species can have a negative effect on ecosystem health, it is best to treat known infestations while they are small and manageable. For more information on how to identify and control invasive plant species in Connecticut visit:

[http://www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg/art\\_pubs/GUIDE/guideframe.htm](http://www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg/art_pubs/GUIDE/guideframe.htm).

There were some insect and disease issues observed during field visits to the property that are currently affecting individual tree and forest health. Primary among these are the invasive insects found on hemlock trees in this area including the hemlock woolly adelgid and the hemlock scale. Both of these insects are non-native and can lead to mortality of the trees that they infest. Some young hemlock trees exhibiting vigorous growth had a lack of invasives present on their needles. Others were significantly affected, and showed a typical lack of vigor. In a forest setting, there is no effective or efficient method of treatment. Hemlock occupies an important role in Connecticut's forests for a variety of reasons. Periodic thinning to maintain individual tree vigor is the most effective treatment strategy in a forest setting.



Left: A healthy, vigorous hemlock adjacent to the blue trail north of the parking area. No evidence of decline, insect or disease infestation was found on this individual, which was in mostly full sunlight.

Right: This individual in Stand 7 shows significant decline as well as the presence of hemlock woolly adelgid and elongate hemlock scale, both non-native invasive insects.



For many decades ash trees have slowly been declining in health and numbers due to ash yellows and ash decline. The ash on this property are affected by these disease complexes. Many of the ash appeared to be in decline and some had died. Based on a visual inspection of some of the dead ash trees at Onion Mountain Park, there was no obvious indication that the emerald ash borer was to blame.



Left: The small opening in the canopy is created by a white ash declining then dying has been a common occurrence for decades in this region due to ash yellows and ash decline. The presence of emerald ash borer (EAB) – a non-native invasive insect pest – will likely hasten the demise of ash.

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is a non-native insect that has killed millions of ash trees in the United States and Canada over the last 10-15 years. It was initially discovered near Detroit in 2002 and has since spread rapidly through the Midwest and the northeast. Most new infestations are caused by people moving firewood that is infested with the insect. Mortality in infested trees is near 100%. EAB was first detected in Connecticut in July of 2012 and is not found in all four western counties of the state as well as Middlesex County. As of the writing of this plan, EAB has not been found in Simsbury, nor in any of the surrounding towns.

Over the last several years, severe storm events have affected many trees in Connecticut. Hurricane Irene, Superstorm Sandy and the October 2011 snowstorm have all had significant impacts in different ways in different areas of the state. On this property, there are some instances in which tree tops, and in some cases, entire trees have recently been lost. Where tops have been lost, they are likely attributable to one or more of these events.

Nectria – a fungal infection – is common in black birch on the property. This fungus creates visible cankers, frequently referred to as “target” cankers, which tend to expand over time. The cankers in turn

create points of entry for other diseases and insects as well as reducing the structural integrity of the wood.

Beech bark disease is another complex of issues that are affecting trees on this property. This disease is begun by the non-native beech scale, a small, woolly covered insect that colonizes and feeds through the thin bark of beech trees. A nectria fungus then invades through the wound created by the feeding of the scale insect and infects the vascular system. Over time infected trees begin to lose the typical smooth, light grey appearance of beech and the bark becomes pock marked with dark colored wounds. In a forest setting there is no effective control, besides cutting and removing some of the more severely affected individuals.

Another non-native insect that was found during the inventory in August of 2014 is the gypsy moth. The gypsy moth is an early- to mid-season defoliator of different species of trees, but it focuses primarily on oak and aspen, both of which are found on this property. There were a significant number of egg masses noted during the inventory, which may indicate a building of population for future years and may lead to some defoliation. One method of helping to curb the effect the gypsy moth has on forests is to keep individual trees healthy through periodic thinning, and to maintain species diversity, including managing for tree species that it finds less palatable. For information about this insect and its potential control see this website: [http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/gm/online\\_info/gm/gm\\_hb.htm](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/gm/online_info/gm/gm_hb.htm)



Above: This gypsy moth is laying eggs that will overwinter on the bark of this black birch in Stand 5. In spring the eggs will hatch and in early summer significant amounts of defoliation can occur during heavy infestations of the insect.

Although it is important to attempt to ensure tree health and vigor through active management, not all trees that appear to be poorer quality should be removed. Having some trees (some standing and some on the ground) that show signs of rot etc. helps provide an element of ecological diversity that is important for a variety of species of insects, fungi, bacteria and wildlife.

There are some snags (standing dead trees) that are well-scattered throughout the property, but populations of cavity trees (larger diameter standing trees with cavities) are limited. Coarse and fine woody material is found in places. Coarse woody material is woody material on the ground that is greater than 4 inches in diameter, fine woody material is less than 4 inches in diameter. Both coarse and fine woody material play a role in providing different kinds of habitat for a variety of vertebrate and invertebrate wildlife species.

Snags and cavity trees are also important ecologically for a variety of fungi, bacteria, insect and wildlife species as well as for nutrient cycling, and, in some cases, tree seedling germination. The recruitment of these features may be appropriate in certain areas on the property, where and if personal safety and infrastructure integrity would not be compromised by doing so.

Wildfire risk on the property is relatively low due to typical climate conditions, a lack of significant ladder fuels and fine woody material, as well as wetlands and otherwise soggy soils in places.



Left: Snags such as these found in Stand 3 can provide valuable wildlife habitat in the form of a source of insects and fungi for food as well as potential cavities for nesting.

Above: This oak top in Stand 1 likely came down during a recent storm. The fine woody material (FWM) of the branches can provide nesting, cover and forage opportunities for a variety of wildlife. As the larger coarse woody material (CWM) decomposes, it can provide forage and habitat for species such as amphibians, birds and mammals.

## Property History

Due to relatively uniform forest structure and physical evidence including the stone walls that are found on the property, it appears as though many parts of this area were once used for agriculture and subsequently abandoned, perhaps at the turn of the last century. Evidence of prior logging (i.e. stumps) and what appear to have been skid roads exist on the property as well.

Over the past few decades, timber harvests have been undertaken to increase forest health, to encourage the development of regeneration on the property, and to produce forest products. Evidence of previous harvests in the form of old stumps can be found in many places throughout the property. The last harvests appear to have taken place in the early to mid-1990s and occurred throughout the property. The varying stages of decay of stumps indicate that there was another harvest that occurred perhaps 15 to 20 years prior to that.



Above left: A decomposing stump in Stand 1 is beginning to act as a nursery for new growth including moss, hemlock and black birch seedlings (shown in detail above right).



In addition to the commercial timber sales that took place in 1990 and 1993 (in the northern and southern portions of the property respectively) there was non-commercial timber stand improvement work done as well. In the northeastern portion of the property some crop tree release work was completed in 1992. There is still evidence of some of the trees that were girdled (successfully and



Above: This double girdle in Stand 4 successfully created a snag which has subsequently fallen. Other trees in this stand were girdled but are still alive.

Right: This large white oak in Stand 6 has the form of a “wolf tree” and may have been alive for longer than many of the trees surrounding it.

“Wolf trees” can be found scattered throughout the property. Wolf trees are those that have grown in a relatively open condition, with little competition from adjacent trees. They can give us clues to past land use history because they likely were remnants from old fields, probably pasture. Wolf trees can be identified by the many large, low branches they possess, which is frequently different from the less limby structure visible in nearby trees. Competition from adjacent trees shades lower branches, which frequently leads to mortality and subsequent shedding of those branches. This creates relatively straight, branch free lower trunks, which is in stark contrast to the large, low limbs on wolf trees.

One potential explanation for the name of the wolf tree comes from the amount of space that their large crowns occupy. Early foresters would say that those trees were like wolves that were chewing up all the



growing space that could be available for younger trees that may have had more value for timber.<sup>2</sup> Similar to wolf trees, “legacy trees” is a term for large trees that may or may not have that typical wolf tree form that are scattered throughout the property.

## Wildlife

Providing quality habitat for a variety of wildlife species is a goal for the management of this property. Some focus species to manage for include deer, turkey, songbirds, birds of prey, small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.

Some wildlife (primarily deer) was observed during field visits to the property, and there is good potential for a variety of species to exist here due to the variety of habitats present. Throughout the property there are hard mast producing species of trees in the overstory. Black, red, chestnut, scarlet and white oaks, American beech and hickory play a significant role in upland hardwood stands which constitute a good portion of the non-wetland portions of the property.

Some recently dropped acorns were observed during summer 2014 field visits. Having a variety of different kinds of mast producing species is beneficial because oftentimes different species will have good mast years (i.e. produce significant amounts of seeds, nuts or acorns) in different years. Staggered production of seed sources can aid in the dispersal of mast over time and help wildlife prepare for winter. The hard mast produced by the tree species mentioned above is used as food for a variety of wildlife.



Above: Acorns like this one dropped in late summer near the Yellow Trail may germinate into oak seedlings if the conditions are right.

Additional tree species found on the property that are beneficial to wildlife include eastern hophornbeam (a.k.a. ironwood or hardhack). This species produces seeds which stay on the trees until later in the fall and into early winter. The seeds from these trees as well as the catkins which can be found on the trees in winter, can be an important food source for turkey and grouse.

Soft mast in the form of black cherry trees as well as blueberry and huckleberry in the understory is also found in places on the property, but is not as well distributed as the hard mast producing species described above. Frequently where the overstory canopy is not closed and mountain laurel and witch hazel do not occupy the mid- and understory, blueberry and huckleberry have colonized the area. It is beneficial for many species of wildlife to have a combination of hard and soft mast in their diet as each mast source provides different dietary elements. Hard mast often has more protein and fats, whereas soft mast tends to be higher in sugars.

Some areas on the property contain either single individuals or small groups of aspen trees. In different life stages, these trees can be an important source of food and cover for a variety of wildlife including

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<sup>2</sup> Gaige, Michael. “A Place for Wolf Trees.” *Northern Woodlands Magazine*. 25 February, 2011. 28-32. Print.

grouse, woodcock, songbirds and deer. Aspen – also known as popple – sprouts very vigorously from roots and stumps when the above ground portion of the trees are cut. (See observed populations of popple on the Items of Interest map.) Aspen are very shade intolerant trees so in order to successfully regenerate, they need a significant amount of direct sunlight. Successfully regenerating aspen can create dense thickets which can provide cover, feeding, nesting and courtship habitat for the wildlife species mentioned above. Additionally, flower buds of male aspen<sup>3</sup> trees can be a valuable food source for grouse in winter.)

As mentioned earlier, there are some stands where softwood trees dominate the overstory in places on the property. In particular hemlock and cedar, but also white pine to a certain extent can act as a sheltering area for wildlife. In heavy snows, dense softwood cover can limit snow depths allowing for easier travel for deer and other large animals. Additionally, wild turkeys frequently roost in white pine. Many other species including non-game species of wildlife such as songbirds utilize the dense cover of softwood foliage.



Left: This white pine in Stand 4 was unsuccessfully girdled many years ago. It was likely selected against due to its poor form. Softwoods such as these can provide an element of diversity which can benefit a variety of wildlife.

Snags and cavity trees are two elements of a forest that are frequently overlooked. As described earlier snags are standing dead trees. As these trees decompose, they provide a variety of habitat for many species including insects, fungi, bacteria, birds, and mammals. Cavity trees are standing trees with holes in them that may provide habitat. Where feasible, attempt to retain and recruit snags and cavity trees. At any given time, the presence of at least six (6) snags and/or cavity trees per acre of various sizes is ideal. If possible, attempt to retain one (1) tree/acre that is greater than 18 inches in diameter at breast height (dbh)<sup>4</sup> and three (3) trees that are greater than 12 inches dbh.<sup>5</sup>

Providing quality fish habitat is another potential goal for this property. Though no perennial streams were located on the property during the inventory, management activities can still affect water quality and associated aquatic habitats. Making sure BMPs are followed during timber harvesting and limiting the amount of sunlight that is allowed on perennial streams to help keep them cool are ways in which the management of this property can help maintain quality fish habitat.

A check of Connecticut's Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB) indicates that there are some areas on the property that may contain rare or threatened species or species of special concern. A request for more

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<sup>3</sup> Aspen trees are dioecious, which means that male and female flowers are housed on different trees. Male aspen buds are considered to be larger than females.

<sup>4</sup> Diameter at breast height (dbh) is diameter outside bark as measured at 4.5 feet above the ground on the high side of the slope (if there is slope).

<sup>5</sup>Hagenbuch, Steve, Katherine Manaras, Jim Shallow, Kristen Sharpless, and Michael Snyder. *Silviculture with Birds in Mind*. Huntington & Waterbury, VT: Audubon Vermont & VT FPR, 2011. Printed guide.

information from Connecticut's NDDDB would be helpful to determine which species may exist there and how they may be protected when managing the property. (See NDDDB Map near the end of this document on page 43.)

## Recreation

This property is an important part of the recreational portfolio for the Town of Simsbury. There is a significant amount of recreational infrastructure on the property including a parking area, kiosk, gates, a color-coded trail system, and a map of the area (available on-line). The majority of the recreational use appears to be hiking and dog walking. Recreation appears to occur primarily in the northern half of the property on the yellow, blue, white, and portions of the red and orange trails. The western and northwestern portions of the red trail and the southern half of the blue trail are less traveled than the other trails and appear to receive less maintenance. There is a self-guided tour with periodic stations set up throughout the northern portion of the property.



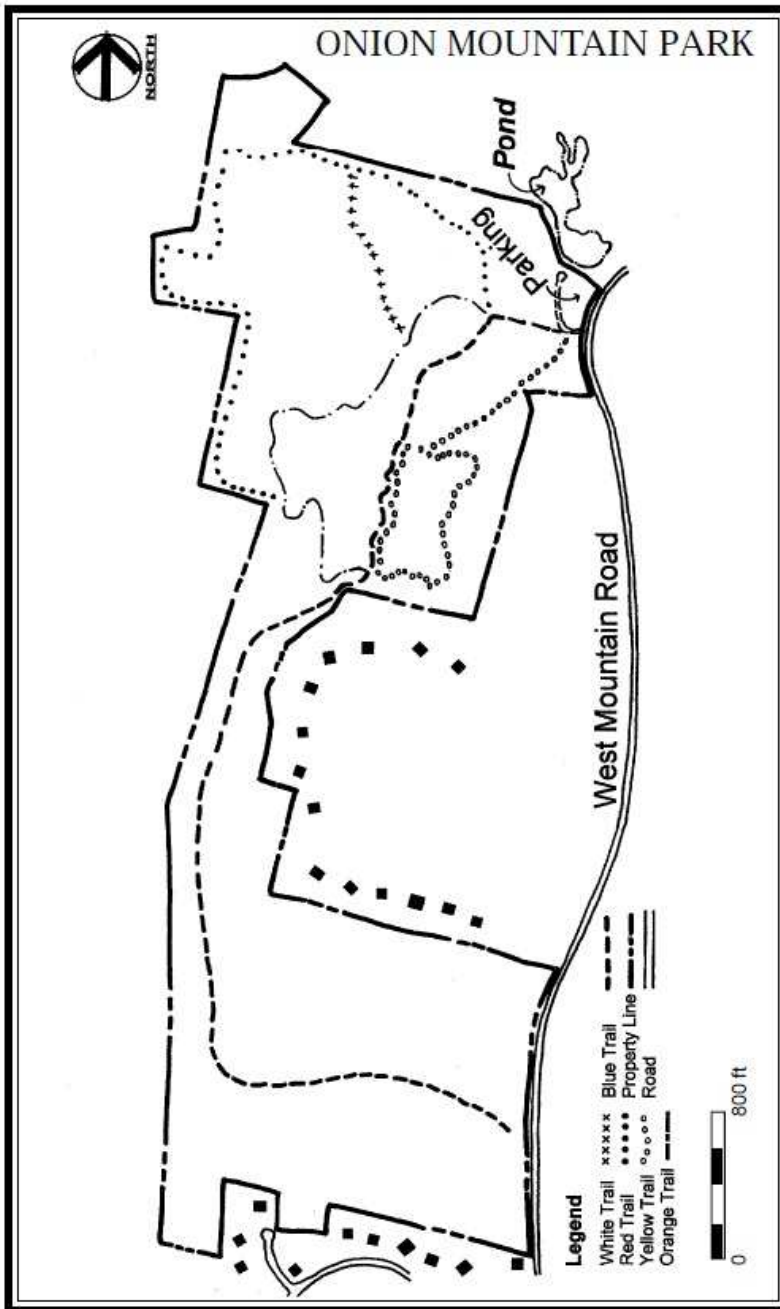
Above left and center: The color coded trail system on the property is best maintained close to the parking area. Further from the parking lot, the trails become less open, though there was some work done in late fall 2014 to the blue trail in the southeast corner of the property.

Above right: The self-guided tour provides information about the natural world at several stations throughout the northern portion of the property.

In addition to hiking and dog walking at least one letterbox location was found on the property. Letterboxing is an interactive experience where people use clues about the natural world or other landscape features to help guide them to an area where they will find a sealed box. The box generally contains a sign in sheet and a special stamp with which people can stamp their own books.

## Education

As this park is part of the public land offerings the Town of Simsbury provides, there is an opportunity to use it to further people's understanding of the natural world and the roles Onion Mountain Park can play. The self-guided tour described above is a great tool to help with this. In addition, when future management activities are to take place, signage and guided tours before, during, and after the activities would help keep people informed about what is happening and why.



Left: This map of Onion Mountain Park is available on-line and is also posted at the kiosk near the parking area shows the property boundaries and the color-coded trail system.

## Trespass

There is some minor trespass activity that was noted during field visits in summer 2014. This is mostly dumping of yard debris or other garbage. Two locations of such trespass were observed, but there may be more.

## Summary of Recommendations

- Continue the active forest management program with periodic timber sales to maintain and enhance tree vigor and diversity (Stand specific recommendations in next section and at end of the plan)
- Retain and recruit snags, cavity trees, and coarse and fine woody material
- Continue to work with local volunteer groups to help with the maintenance of the trail system
- Develop additional educational material to be installed at the kiosk and potentially in the woods
- Consider development of a Braille trail on flat areas adjacent to the parking area
- Consider entering into discussions regarding cross boundary forest management with adjacent landowners
- Attempt to control invasive plant species where they exist in pockets
- Monitor health of hemlock trees and consider salvage if adelgid and/or scale damage appears to be leading to mortality
- Attempt to harvest trees during times of the year when migratory songbirds are not breeding (i.e. avoid logging during May-late July).
- Consider developing a secondary parking area at the southern gate along West Mountain Road. Redevelop the blue trail so that it is obvious and connected to the rest of the trail network in the north.
- Consider developing a vista facing west near the height of land on the red trail adjacent to the western boundary. This would include working with the adjacent landowner as most of the trees that would need to be cut in order to open the vista are not on the Town's property.
- Periodically walk boundaries to ensure signage is still up and facing the correct direction
- Work with adjacent landowners to discourage illegal dumping of yard debris etc. on Town property.

## Landowner Goals

The Town is interested in continuing a sustainable forest management program that will strive to maintain and enhance diverse wildlife habitat, recreational access and opportunities, improve forest health and diversity, and maintain water quality and soil integrity. Additional goals include preserving historical features such as stone walls and ensuring that the property remain aesthetically pleasing to the general public. Generating revenue through the periodic sale of forest products to help fund continued forest, wildlife, education, and recreation management efforts is also important.

## OVERVIEW

This property is a mix of upland and riparian forests, and open, shrubby wetlands. Stonewalls are found in places throughout the property. The forested portions of the property contain a mix of species including oaks (black, red, white, scarlet and chestnut), white pine, and hemlock that dominate the overstory in many places. They frequently associate with other hardwoods including black birch, hickory, red maple, American beech, yellow poplar and sugar maple. There was also a very small pocket of cedar located near the higher elevations on the west side of the property as well as some Norway spruce that were planted near the parking area at the northern end of the property.

Regeneration is mostly white pine and black birch with some hemlock. In the north and northwestern portions of the property regeneration resulting from previous timber harvests and storm damage has encouraged the regeneration of more diverse species mix that includes sugar maple and yellow poplar in addition to the other species listed above.

Right: Regeneration in canopy gaps such as these in Stand 3 adjacent to the red trail provide species and structural diversity to the forest.

This plan addresses all 179 acres of the Town of Simsbury's Onion Mountain Park property. There are seven (7) different forested stand types and a wetland described in this plan.



## Stand Descriptions

For the purposes of this management plan, the property has been divided into 8 management units called stands. Stands are areas uniform enough in species composition, age class, size class, density etc. to be able to group together as relatively homogenous. Other elements that are examined to help classify stands include location, accessibility, and size of area. That is not to say, however, that stands are completely uniform. There will almost always be some variability due to the fact that we are attempting to quantify and qualify natural systems, which inherently trend towards entropy.

There is a set of recommended actions provided for each stand. Significant activities are provided with a date to help guide the management of the property over the next 10 years. Some of the dates may be

interchangeable and should remain flexible to be able to respond to changing conditions (i.e. storm, insect or disease damage/infestation, changing goals on the part of the Town, etc.). Additionally, there may be opportunities to work with adjacent landowners such as the Canton Land Conservation Trust or the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to conduct simultaneous operations, which may increase economic feasibility and/or increase the effectiveness of a treatment across boundaries. As wildlife likely use many of the adjacent properties in addition to the land the Town owns and manages, conducting operations in tandem with adjacent landowners may have the capacity to have a greater impact than managing for one property.

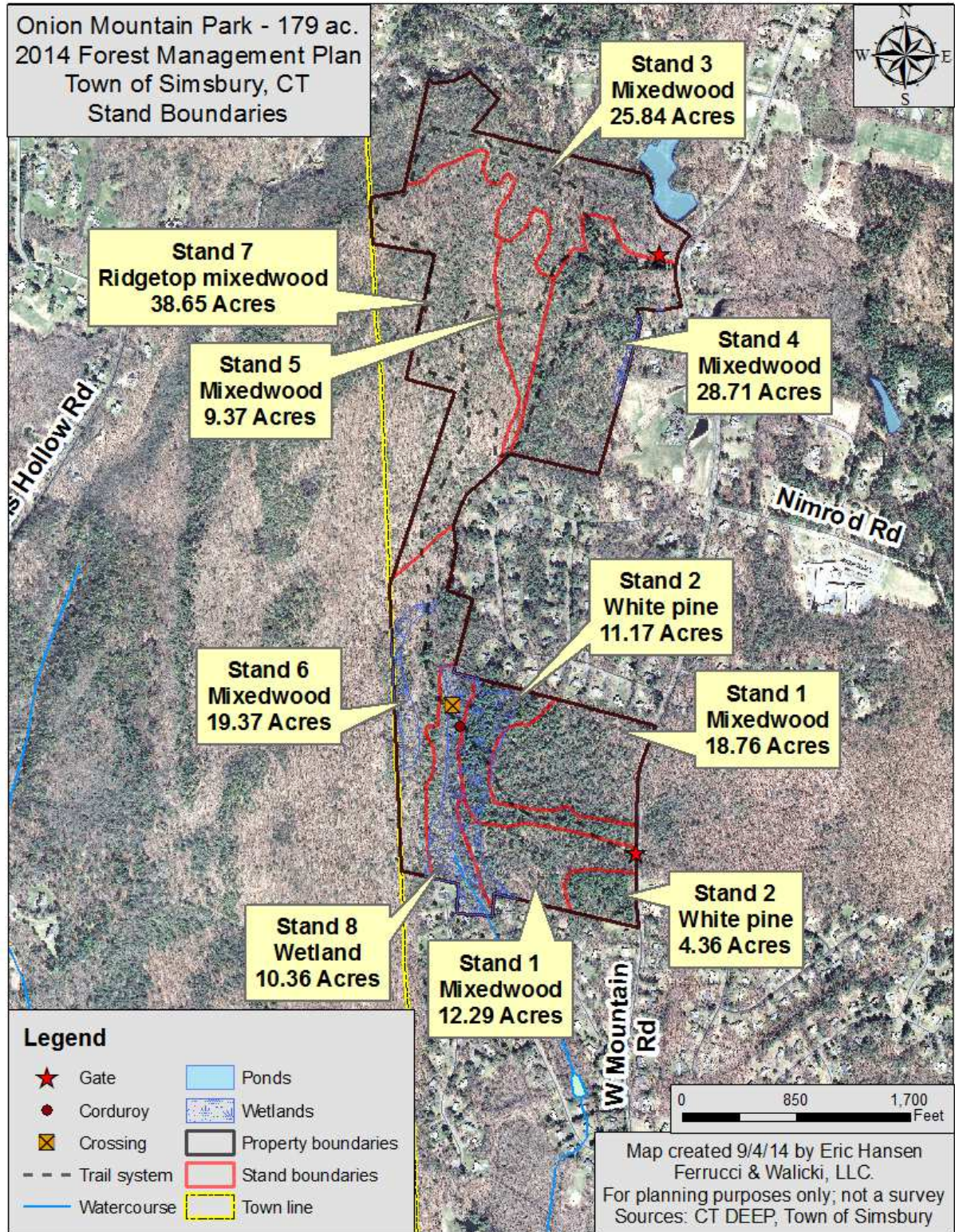
## Onion Mountain Park Stand Information

### ONION MOUNTAIN PARK STAND INFORMATION

Stand	Stand Type	Acreage
1	Mixedwood sawtimber and poletimber	31.05
2	White pine sawtimber and poletimber	15.53
3	Mixedwood sawtimber and poletimber	25.84
4	Mixedwood, white pine sawtimber and poletimber	28.71
5	Mixedwood, hardwood sawtimber and poletimber	9.37
6	Mixedwood sawtimber and poletimber	19.37
7	Ridgetop mixedwood	38.65
8	Wetland	10.36
	<b>TOTAL ACREAGE</b>	<b>178.89</b>



# Onion Mountain Park Stand Map



## Stand 1: Mixedwood sawtimber and poletimber (31.05 Acres)

### **Description:**

This is the largest accessible forested stand on the property and is located in the southeastern portion of the property adjacent to West Mountain Road. The topography is flat to very gently rolling and is mostly well-drained.

Prevalent overstory species include white pine, scarlet oak, hemlock, black oak, white oak, and red oak. Other less common associates include beech, hickory and red maple. Medium diameter sawtimber (14-18 inches dbh) and large poletimber are the predominant size-classes, though there are also many trees (around 20% of the stocking in the stand) that are 20 inches or greater in dbh.

The stand is two-aged to uneven-aged<sup>6</sup>. There are approximately 744 trees/acre with 400 of these found in the seedling and sapling size classes and approximately 155 trees/acre are snags. Total basal area for this stand is approximately 147 square ft/acre. This number is perhaps higher than optimal for a mixedwood stand such as this that is approximately 60% hardwoods (i.e. deciduous trees). There is approximately 10,800 board feet and 8 cords of wood per acre. Many of the trees in this stand are hard mast producers (i.e. oaks).



Above: The structure in Stand 1 is lacking in diversity in places. In this picture we see a variety of species and size classes represented but very few trees are successfully regenerating due to a relatively closed canopy. The woody material on the forest floor provides diversity, but in many places is scarce in this stand.

In places this stand lacks a significant presence of desirable tree regeneration in the understory. White pine, white oak, black oak, hemlock and red maple dominate the seedling size class while white pine, red maple, black birch and hemlock are the most predominately found saplings. In small openings where trees don't completely occupy the growing space in the overstory, white pine and occasional scarlet, white and black oak seedlings are present. Maple-leaf viburnum is found throughout this stand in the understory as well as witch hazel. Mountain laurel can be found in pockets near the northern and central portions of the stand.

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<sup>6</sup> Two aged stands are those that contain trees of two distinct age classes generally separated by at least fifteen years. Uneven-aged stands are those that contain at least three distinct age classes. In this case there is a medium to large sawtimber overstory, a poletimber midstory, and a recently developed seedling and sapling size class in the understory.



Tree health appears to be generally good aside from limited growth rates in places. There was occasional damage to some of the oak tops from recent storms, but is fairly minimal compared to many of the other areas that were hit much harder nearby.

Left: A lack of understory and regeneration is common in this stand.

One of the more desirable species currently found in the overstory (i.e. main canopy) of this stand and indeed throughout the property is a variety of oak trees. In general oak regeneration is lacking on this property and in this stand. Oak is mid-tolerant to shade intolerant which means that in order for it to regenerate successfully, it needs significant amounts of sunlight.

This stand is located in two blocks in the southeastern corner of the property, both of which are bounded by West Mountain Road on the east. Occasional Japanese barberry plants were noted during the inventory (none fell within any of the inventory plots), but the majority of the vegetation present in all strata is native.

Access is good throughout this stand due to the well-drained soils, flat topography, and infrastructure from previous forest management activities.

Stump evidence of previous harvests was observed during data collection.

### ***Recommendations:***

Some of the Town's primary goals for this property are to continue to promote forest and ecosystem health, to provide diverse wildlife habitat and to offer safe, quality recreational experiences on this property. To this end, where possible and desirable, reopen trails that have grown in to ensure continued access throughout.

Current basal area levels and a relative lack of desirable regeneration in places indicate that the stand may benefit from a treatment that increases sunlight to residual stems and to the forest floor.

Where patches of barberry are found, treat them prior to cutting trees in the overstory. Also, when managing near wetlands, extra care must be taken with placement of roads and cutting patterns so that management does not create adverse effects.

Annually – Maintain roads and trails

2015 – Use single tree and small group selection with crop/mast tree release to treat this stand. Focus removals in overstocked areas and remove mature and poorly formed individuals, as well as those exhibiting rot or other defects. Remove hemlock that appears to be declining. Retain good quality stems of a variety of species from all size classes. Reduce basal areas to around 85-95. Crop trees

should be healthy, vigorous individuals of desirable species, particularly oak and pine. Red and white oaks should be retained where possible if they are not mature or poor quality.

Where pockets of poor quality or mature trees exist consider removing them in groups from ½ -1 acre. Retain snags and cavity trees (6 per acre) where possible and where doing so will not be a safety concern. Retain some mature individuals for a seed source, structural diversity and for aesthetics. Where possible and desirable, retain and release “wolf trees” (if found) from competition. Maintain a component of hemlock where healthy individuals are found. Release pockets of quality, desirable, established regeneration where it exists. Use group selection when the overstory is mostly poor quality or heavy thinning where there are better quality trees to work around. Entries for commercial timber sales should be done every 15-20 years.

Opportunities may exist to create openings using small clearcuts or other regeneration techniques. Where these opportunities exist, attempt to make the openings large enough so that shade intolerant species may be able to take advantage of the opening and regenerate there. Attempt to create imperfect geometric shapes to increase edge effect. If openings are more linear, attempt to orient them north-south to increase the amount of sunlight they may receive.

Where mountain laurel exists, attempt to regenerate some of it at the time when the rest of the stand is treated so it remains vigorous. This can be accomplished by cutting it or running it over with machinery. If possible, attempt to limit its spread so other native species can become established in the understory where mountain laurel doesn't currently exist.

Following the treatment, consider converting the landing into a small parking area, and transitioning a portion of the skid road system into a trail system that can be integrated with the trails that currently exist elsewhere on the property. These areas should continue to be able to serve multiple purposes including for use during future forest management activities.

When treatments are to occur in this stand ensure personal safety by temporarily keeping hikers out of the area being harvested while harvesting is occurring. Also, it will be very important to keep an open line of communication between adjacent landowners and homeowners when activities in Stands 1 and 2 are occurring as they are in such close proximity to houses.

Attempt to treat any invasive plant species that may be found within or adjacent to areas being treated prior to cutting trees in the overstory.

## **Stand 2: White pine sawtimber and poletimber (15.53 Acres)**

### ***Description:***

This stand is also located in the southeastern corner of the property and is also in two blocks. The northern block is bounded on the west by the wetland, on the north by houses on Quorn Hunt Road and there is a narrow finger that reaches to the eastern boundary along West Mountain Road. The southern block is at the very southeastern corner of the property bounded on the south by a stone wall which is the southern boundary and on the east by West Mountain Road. The topography is flat and the soils are generally well-drained though some of the western part of the northern block of the stand is mapped as having wetland soils.

This stand contains approximately 564 trees/acre, 352 of which are seedlings and saplings. The remainder of the trees are relatively equally split between sawtimber, poletimber and snags (60, 74 and 79 trees/acre respectively). Though this is a relatively high number of trees per acre of snags, they are mostly small in diameter and therefore neither serve a very functional purpose for wildlife nor do they negatively affect the available growing space or health of the residual stand. Sawtimber (trees  $\geq$  12 inches dbh) constitute almost 80% of the basal area in the stand. Nearly 2/3 of the sawtimber in the stand is in the large sawtimber size class ( $\geq$  20 inches dbh), which indicates the stand's relative maturity.

Total basal area is approximately 165 square feet per acre, which is slightly higher than optimal for maximizing productivity for this forest type. There is approximately 17,500 board feet of sawtimber volume per acre, the majority of which is white pine. There are approximately 6 cords/acre which are also mostly white pine poletimber trees. There are small amounts of hemlock, scarlet oak, red oak, yellow poplar, and black birch sawtimber and poletimber in this stand.



Tree regeneration is patchy throughout the stand, though it is thick in pockets. It consists of white pine, red maple, sugar maple, hickory, American chestnut, white ash, and hemlock seedlings and white pine, black birch, red maple, hickory, hemlock and occasional American chestnut saplings. American hornbeam, mountain laurel and huckleberry were also present in places in the stand. No invasive species were noted at the inventory plots for this stand.

Left: This shows some of the vertical diversity this stand offers in places with herbaceous species including mast producing blueberry in the understory with white pine seedlings and saplings as well as a well-developed overstory. The midstory is somewhat lacking, but can be improved with further development of the saplings via increased sunlight and occasional canopy gaps.

Tree health appears to be generally good, aside from areas that appear to be overstocked. There were no obvious insect or disease infestations. Some minimal evidence of previous harvests (stumps) is visible in portions of the stand.

### **Recommendations:**

2015 – Thin from all diameter classes to a residual basal area of approximately 120 square feet/acre. Release quality crop and mast trees (i.e. oaks) where feasible. Crop trees should be healthy, vigorous individuals of desirable species, particularly white pine and oak. Red and white oaks should be retained where possible if they are not mature or poor quality. Where pockets of poor quality or mature trees exist consider removing them in small groups up to ½ acre. Release pockets of quality, desirable, established regeneration where it exists. Retain snags and cavity trees (6 per acre) where possible and where doing so will not be a safety concern. Retain some mature individuals for a seed source,

structural diversity and for aesthetics. Where possible and desirable, retain and release “wolf trees” (if found) from competition. Entries for commercial timber sales should be done every 15-20 years.

Following the treatment, consider converting a portion of the skid road system into a trail system that can be integrated with the trails that currently exist elsewhere on the property.

When treatments are to occur in this stand ensure personal safety by temporarily keeping hikers out of the area being harvested while harvesting is occurring. Also, it will be very important to keep an open line of communication between adjacent landowners and homeowners when activities in Stands 1 and 2 are occurring as they are in such close proximity to houses.

Attempt to treat any invasive plant species that may be found within or adjacent to areas being treated prior to cutting trees in the overstory.

### **Stand 3: Mixedwood sawtimber and poletimber (25.84 Acres)**

#### ***Description:***

This stand can be found along the northern boundary of the property and has road frontage along West Mountain Road north of the main parking area. Access to the stand is gained from the main parking area then via the trail system. There was a harvest done in this stand in 1990 removing some mature trees, poor quality trees, and creating some canopy gaps which have resulted in diverse structural conditions and regeneration. Generally the soils are well drained, but there are pockets of moist soils. Bird activity noted in this stand includes winter wren, scarlet tanager, both of which may be attracted to the gaps described above.

Right: This area shows quality structural attributes including desirable regeneration of a variety of species in a small canopy gap created during the last harvest. This area is right along the red trail as indicated by the red blaze at the right of the picture.



The topography in this stand is undulating and can be moderately steep at times. Old skid roads have been converted into trails in areas of this stand. This stand has approximately 1,055 trees/acre, 1,000 of which are seedlings and saplings. Regeneration in this stand is a mixture of sugar maple, white pine, black birch, yellow poplar, red maple and beech. There are approximately 44 sawtimber-sized trees/acre and about 12 poletimber-sized trees/acre. Total basal area is approximately 120, about 2/3 of which is sawtimber. The stand contains approximately 9,300 board feet of sawtimber and only about 4 cords/acre. Over half of the stand is composed of trees that are  $\geq 20$  inches dbh.

The numerical data in this stand indicate that the area is slightly overstocked. Red oak, white pine, hemlock, sugar maple and black birch are the primary species found in the overstory of this stand with associates of hickory, red maple, and yellow poplar. There were no snags detected statistically during the inventory process, but there are examples of snags as well as coarse and fine woody material throughout the stand.

The majority of the trees in this stand are medium sized sawtimber. Many of the white pine are large to very large in diameter (>30 inches dbh) and are of relatively poor quality. The stand is generally two aged, with some pockets nearing an uneven-aged condition.



Above: This oak was tipped over by wind in recent storms. Based on tree heights and the size and depth of the root ball, this appears to be a good site with quality soils.

Some invasive plant species including burning bush, barberry, olive, and bittersweet were found on the southern edge of this stand and may exist in other places throughout.

***Recommendations:***

Attempt to continue to diversify the structure in this stand. Continue to maintain trails.

2019 – Using a combination of silvicultural methods including thinning (in areas that do not appear ready for regeneration), crop tree release, seed tree and shelterwood, continue to regenerate portions of this stand. Where thinning is to occur, reduce basal areas to approximately 90 square feet/acre. Retain quality individuals of a variety of species, focusing on good quality oak, pine, sugar maple and yellow poplar. Crop trees should be healthy, vigorous individuals of desirable species. Red and white oaks and smaller diameter (i.e. +/- 16 inch) yellow poplar should be favored where possible if they are not mature or poor quality. Retain some mature individuals for a seed source, structural diversity, and for aesthetics.

Ideally, regeneration cuts should be done during the time of year where soil scarification<sup>7</sup> is possible during a good seed year (i.e. acorn crop).

Prior to treating the overstory, attempt to treat the invasive plant species populations in this stand.

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<sup>7</sup> Soil scarification means exposing mineral soil by disturbing the duff layer. Acorns, hickory and other nuts have more successful germination rates when they do not have to grow through duff to reach bare soil. Scarification is most likely during dry summer and early fall months.

Before and during this activity, post educational materials explaining what is being done and why. Consider incorporating a guided tour for interested individuals before, during, and/or following the completion of the activity.

When treatments are to occur in this stand ensure personal safety by temporarily keeping hikers out of the area being harvested while harvesting is occurring. Also, it will be very important to keep an open line of communication between adjacent landowners and homeowners when activities in Stands 1 and 2 are occurring as they are in such close proximity to houses.

Attempt to treat any invasive plant species that may be found within or adjacent to areas being treated prior to cutting trees in the overstory.

## **Stand 4: Mixedwood, white pine sawtimber and poletimber (28.71 Acres)**

### ***Description:***

This stand is located in the northeastern corner of the property and has some road frontage along West Mountain Road south of the main parking area. Topography is generally flat and soils are generally well-drained. Some timber stand improvement activities including girdling of trees (sometimes unsuccessfully) was undertaken in the early 1990s.

This stand contains approximately 615 trees/acre, 469 of which are seedlings and saplings. The seedlings and saplings in this stand are primarily hemlock and black birch with lesser associates of striped maple, red and white oak, and American hornbeam. Overstory species include white pine, hemlock, black and red oak, hickory, and sugar maple. There are also a couple of small pockets aspen that exist in this stand, but were not detected numerically in the inventory because their populations are small and their locations are relatively isolated. Additionally, there is a small strip of Norway spruce that lines the parking area and the beginning of the trail system west of the parking area that currently exists but was also not numerically included in the inventory because of how infrequently it occurs. There has been some damage to some of the spruce adjacent to the trails from recent storms.



Above right: This pocket of aspen (a.k.a. popple) is found along the trail in the central portion of this stand.

Right: Storm-damaged Norway spruce near the trailhead at the parking area.



Basal areas average just around 140 square feet/acre, which is higher than optimal for maximizing tree growth and productivity in this forest type. There are approximately 15,500 board feet of timber and a little less than 2 cords/acre. 90% of the trees in this stand are sawtimber-sized ( $\geq 12$  inches dbh) and 1/3 of the basal area is found in individuals  $\geq 20$  inches dbh.

Some of the oak in this stand was damaged by recent storms.



There are some areas in this stand where invasive plant species have significant populations (see Items of Interest map).

Left: Burning bush (a non-native invasive plant species) dominates the understory in small pockets in portions of this stand.

**Recommendations:**

2015 – Attempt to treat areas heavily infested by invasive plants. Follow up treatments in subsequent years may be necessary.

2019 – Perform a light thinning/crop tree release in areas of higher tree densities. Crop trees should be healthy, vigorous individuals of desirable species. Quality individuals of red oak and white pine as well as healthy hemlock in particular should be retained. Attempt to release 20-30 stems/acre where this activity is undertaken. Remove some storm damaged oak that may still have economic value.

In conjunction with the crop tree release, attempt to release desirable advance regeneration using group selection and overstory removal methods.

Where pockets of aspen exist, consider attempting to regenerate that species using a small patch cut. Remove much of the overstory so the shade intolerant aspen sprouts can successfully regenerate. Retain some of the trunks of the trees on site as coarse woody material. Dense thickets of regenerating aspen can act as quality habitat for ruffed grouse, which due to lack of suitable habitat has been experiencing population declines in Connecticut. If a patch cut to regenerate aspen is completed, consider including an education sign along the trail to describe what was done and why.

When treatments are to occur in this stand ensure personal safety by temporarily keeping hikers out of the area being harvested while harvesting is occurring. Also, it will be very important to keep an open line of communication between adjacent landowners and homeowners when activities are occurring as they are in such close proximity to houses.

Attempt to treat any invasive plant species that may be found within or adjacent to areas being treated prior to cutting trees in the overstory.

## Stand 5: Mixedwood, hardwood sawtimber and poletimber (9.37 Acres)

### **Description:**

This is a relatively small, narrow, north-south oriented stand located at the toe of the rocky western slope. It is located near the center of the northern half of the property. Topography is generally flat with relatively well-drained soils. Access to this stand is via trails that begin at the main parking area. Evidence of harvesting in the stand includes stumps, canopy gaps, and in places, quality regeneration.

Right: Regeneration in Stand 5 below a gap in the canopy. This pocket of regeneration includes white pine, black birch and hemlock.



Species in this stand vary but are generally a mix of hardwoods including black birch, red oak, yellow poplar, chestnut oak and sugar maple. Other less common associated species include hemlock and aspen. There are approximately 2,160 trees/acre 2,000 of which are seedlings (primarily red maple, black birch, and white pine). Though sawtimber sized trees make up about 40% of the total trees in the featured stand, they account for approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the basal area. There are approximately 95 trees/acre in the poletimber size class and a little over 3 snags/acre.

Total basal area is approximately 130 square feet/acre, which is overstocked for a hardwood dominated mixedwood stand. There is approximately 10,155 board feet of timber and 4.4 cords of wood/acre. For a hardwood dominated stand, this is a very high volume of wood/acre.

Red maple, black birch, white pine, sugar maple, and white ash are all present as seedlings in the understory along with Christmas fern. Black birch, sugar maple, hemlock and white pine can also be found as saplings along with witch hazel and the occasional pocket of mountain laurel.

### **Recommendations:**

2019 – Conduct a light thinning to maintain stand vigor and continue development of structural diversity. Reduce basal areas to approximately 80 square feet/acre. Focus removals on less vigorous, poorer quality trees as well as some mature individuals. Retain healthy trees of a variety of species including healthy hemlock and white pine where found. Release desirable regeneration where it occurs. Treat invasive plant species if found in the stand prior to cutting trees in the overstory. Retain some snags (+/- 6/acre) for wildlife and nutrient cycling.

When treatments are to occur in this stand ensure personal safety by temporarily keeping hikers out of the area being harvested while harvesting is occurring. Also, it will be very important to keep an open line of communication between adjacent landowners and homeowners when activities are occurring as they are in such close proximity to houses.

Attempt to treat any invasive plant species that may be found within or adjacent to areas being treated prior to cutting trees in the overstory.

## Stand 6: Mixedwood sawtimber and poletimber (19.37 Acres)

### **Description:**

This narrow, north-south oriented stand is located in the southwest corner of the property west of the wetland complex. The terrain ranges from relatively flat adjacent to the wetland to moderately steep and somewhat rocky near the western boundary. Soils are operable for forest management purposes and, where not directly adjacent to the wetland, are generally well-drained.

The featured stand<sup>8</sup> contains approximately 115 square feet of basal area, about 70% of which is in sawlog size trees (80 sf/acre), which is relatively low for a mixedwood stand. There are 960 total live trees/acre, 750 of which are seedlings, primarily white ash with associates of black birch, white pine, red maple, sugar maple and hemlock. Hemlock saplings dominate the midstory with associates of American hornbeam, striped maple, black birch and witch hazel. Also present in the understory are ferns.

Sawtimber makes up about 25% (50 trees/acre) of the remaining stocking, with the rest being poletimber. Additionally, there are approximately 25 snags/acre. These are mostly smaller diameter trees that have been outcompeted by the larger trees and succumbed to mortality. There is approximately 10,000 board feet of sawtimber/acre and 5.7 cords/acre in this stand currently.

Primary species found in this stand in the overstory include red oak, yellow poplar, hickory, hemlock, white pine, white oak, and red maple. There is an old skid road that runs parallel to the west side of the wetland about mid-way through the stand which affords access to the majority of the stand. Some barberry was noted near the southern end of this stand. Bird activity noted in this stand includes American goldfinch, Carolina wren, and cedar waxwings.



Left: Eastern edge of Stand 6 adjacent to the wetland showing coarse woody material from fallen hemlock. Structure and regeneration in this stand improves somewhat toward the western portions of the stand near the toe of the slope.

### **Recommendations:**

Attempt to maintain and/or enhance stand vigor and diversity.

2015 – Reduce overall stand density to approximately 90 square feet of residual basal area using a combination of single tree, group selections and even age treatments including

shelterwood. Retain good quality individuals of a variety of species. In particular focus on retaining quality white pine, hemlock, and vigorous mast producing individuals as well as good quality sugar maple and yellow poplar. Perform a 3-4 sided crown touching release on mast trees. Attempt to ensure good live crown ratios on residual pine trees (goal should be 1/3).

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<sup>8</sup> “Featured stand” is considered to be the live trees that constitute the overstory and midstory. Trees in the main canopy are described in the featured stand. Generally it does not take into account seedlings, saplings, or snags.

Where pockets of desirable advance regeneration exists, remove the overstory. This should not be done everywhere, especially if it would remove trees in the overstory that are not yet mature or if it would remove more desirable species (i.e. oak, pine, yellow poplar) in favor of black birch saplings and/or small poles. Where pine regeneration exists, consider the value of continuing to grow the trees in the overstory. Remove the overstory if trees appear to be mature and/or poor quality and regeneration is well-established.

When treatments are to occur in this stand ensure personal safety by temporarily keeping hikers out of the area being harvested while harvesting is occurring. Also, it will be very important to keep an open line of communication between adjacent landowners and homeowners when activities are occurring as they are in such close proximity to houses.

Prior to treatment, attempt to treat invasive plant populations established in this stand.

## **Stand 7: Ridgetop mixedwood (38.65 Acres)**

### ***Description:***

This area is located in the northeastern portion of the property and includes the heights of land along the red and orange trails. It is oriented north-south and is set on generally well-drained to excessively dry soils. Topography is undulating, to frequently moderately steep and rocky. Site conditions in this stand appear to be poorer than most other stands on the property. This assertion is based on the poorer form and the fact that the trees are generally shorter in this stand. Species composition, size and appearance of trees here indicate that the area has less potential for growing quality timber than other places on the property, however due to natural disturbances (i.e. storms) and other recent mortality, the stand has begun to develop quality structural characteristics.



Above: Stand 7 contains mostly shallow soils, which limits height growth on most trees, however in places there are a diversity of species regenerating in the stand. Here we see black birch, striped maple, white pine and hemlock as well as some ironwood.

Total basal area in this stand for trees in the live overstory and midstory is approximately 105 sf/acre. Almost 60% of the stocking in the stand is in the poletimber size class. In total, there are approximately 554 live trees/acre (365 seedlings/saplings, 150 poletimber sized-trees and 40 sawtimber-sized trees). Approximately 4,200 board feet of sawtimber and 11 cords/acre are currently growing in this stand. Additionally, there are approximately 24 snags/acre.

The species found in this overstory of this stand include white, red, chestnut and black oak, hemlock, white pine, sugar maple and hickory. Seedlings and saplings include hickory, white pine, chestnut oak, red maple, hemlock, sugar maple, ironwood and white oak. Shrubby species include maple leaf viburnum, lowbush blueberry, witch hazel, and, occasionally hobblebush. Bird activity in this stand included eastern wood peewee, wood thrush, red shouldered hawk, and downy woodpeckers. Some invasive species were noted in this stand including burning bush, Japanese barberry, bittersweet and multiflora rose.

There is a small pocket of cedar adjacent to the orange trail near the central part of the stand. These trees are unique on this property, because there are few cedars that are still alive. The cedars are declining due to competition from hardwood trees that are beginning to overtop them. The hemlock in the stand is also declining.

Little evidence of recent harvests were observed during the inventory, however it appears as though the orange trail may have been converted from an old skid road, indicating that some forest management likely occurred in this stand at some point.

***Recommendations:***

This stand will likely not produce high quality forest products. Access is difficult and soils on slopes may be sensitive. Large scale forest management operations may not be feasible for these reasons, however monitoring the area for forest health and diversity issues is still important. Trails that run through this stand should be monitored and maintained.

2015 – Attempt to eliminate pockets of invasive plant species where they currently exist

2015 – Consider releasing the pocket of cedar trees from hardwood competition

Any time – Consider working with adjacent landowner to open a vista near the height of land on the red trail at the western boundary. If possible and desirable, combine this with work being done in adjacent stands to improve efficiency.

**Area 8: Wetlands (10.36 Acres)**

***Description:***

This relatively narrow, north-south oriented area is located in the south-central portion of the property. The best access to this area is from the southern gate adjacent to West Mountain Road and the old skid road that leads west from there. The water table varies in this area but is consistently near the surface of the soil and sometimes is high enough to create standing water. Relatively few invasive plant species were noted during field visits to this area. In places, high mortality of trees was noted. Many of these trees are ash, the mortality of which may not be associated directly with the fluctuating water table.



Above: Wetland near the southern end of the property in Area 8.

***Recommendations:***

Ensure that activities on portions of the property adjacent to these areas do not negatively affect the quality of the area. Follow Connecticut’s Field Guide for Best Management Practices for Water Quality while Harvesting Forest Products during any forest management operations. Where appropriate, set buffers when conducting forest management operations near water features.

Monitor for the development of invasive plant species. If populations are discovered, attempt to eradicate them while the populations are small.

If a trail system connecting the blue trail over the wetland using the existing crossing is re-established, ensure that the crossing meets BMP standards, and is periodically monitored and maintained for effectiveness and safety.



Above: The corduroy crossing of an area with standing water in the wetland.

## GENERAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS

- With any activity undertaken on the property, attempt to:
  1. Improve forest health and species diversity
  2. Improve vertical and horizontal structural diversity, including retaining and recruiting snags and cavity trees where doing so is not counter-productive to the goal of the activity
  3. Ensure water quality and soil stability
  4. Increase accessibility
  5. Limit spread of invasive plant species. Treat populations of invasives prior to forest management activities.
  6. Ensure the public and neighbors are aware of and understand the activities being completed.
- Attempt to limit populations of invasive plant and insect species. Keep abreast of information regarding invasive insects, especially the emerald ash borer and Asian long-horned beetle. Amend plan to salvage imminently infested stems if necessary.
- Attempt to treat most areas on a +/- 20 year cutting cycle.
- If aspen trees are encountered during treatments, attempt to regenerate those areas to encourage dense sprouting.
- Attempt to maintain and enhance populations of softwood tree species on the property.
- Attempt to recruit some large trees scattered throughout the property, even if these trees are not “wolf trees” to increase structural diversity. These large trees could become “legacy trees” and be allowed to mature and die naturally.
- Continue to maintain all boundary lines.
- Continue to maintain all roads, trails, and other infrastructure to ensure continued and improved access throughout the property.
- Where and when appropriate consider working with adjacent landowners (i.e. Canton Land Conservation Trust, Inc., State of Connecticut, etc.) to “manage across boundaries”.
- Follow Connecticut’s Field Guide for Best Management Practices for Water Quality while Harvesting Forest Products during any forest management operations.

## STAND SPECIFIC PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. 2015 – All Stands: Treat invasive species where located
2. 2015 – Stand 1: Use single tree and small group selection with crop/mast tree release to treat this stand. Focus removals in overstocked areas and remove mature and poorly formed individuals, as well as those exhibiting rot or other defects. Remove hemlock that appears to be declining. Retain good quality stems of a variety of species from all size classes. Reduce basal areas to around 85-95. Crop trees should be healthy, vigorous individuals of desirable species, particularly oak and pine. Red and white oaks should be retained where possible if they are not mature or poor quality.
3. 2015+ – Stand 1: Following the completion of the prescribed treatment, consider converting the landing into a small parking area, and transitioning a portion of the skid road system into a trail system that can be integrated with the trails that currently exist elsewhere on the property. These areas should continue to be able to serve multiple purposes including for use during future forest management activities.
4. 2015 – Stand 2: Thin from all diameter classes to a residual basal area of approximately 120 square feet/acre. Release quality crop and mast trees (i.e. oaks) where feasible. Crop trees should be healthy, vigorous individuals of desirable species, particularly white pine and oak. Red and white oaks should be retained where possible if they are not mature or poor quality. Where pockets of poor quality or mature trees exist consider removing them in small groups up to ½ acre. Release pockets of quality, desirable, established regeneration where it exists. Retain snags and cavity trees (6 per acre) where possible and where doing so will not be a safety concern. Retain some mature individuals for a seed source, structural diversity and for aesthetics. Where possible and desirable, retain and release “wolf trees” (if found) from competition. Entries for commercial timber sales should be done every 15-20 years.

Following the treatment, consider converting a portion of the skid road system into a trail system that can be integrated with the trails that currently exist elsewhere on the property.

5. 2019 – Stand 3: Using a combination of silvicultural methods including thinning (in areas that do not appear ready for regeneration), crop tree release, seed tree and shelterwood, continue to regenerate portions of this stand. Where thinning is to occur, reduce basal areas to approximately 90 square feet/acre. Retain quality individuals of a variety of species, focusing on good quality oak, pine, sugar maple and yellow poplar. Crop trees should be healthy, vigorous individuals of desirable species. Red and white oaks and smaller diameter (i.e. +/- 16 inch) yellow poplar should be favored where possible if they are not mature or poor quality. Retain some mature individuals for a seed source, structural diversity, and for aesthetics.

Prior to treating the overstory, attempt to treat the invasive plant species populations in this stand.

6. 2019 – Stand 4: Perform a light thinning/crop tree release in areas of higher tree densities. Crop trees should be healthy, vigorous individuals of desirable species. Quality individuals of red oak and white pine as well as healthy hemlock in particular should be retained. Attempt to release 20-30



stems/acre where this activity is undertaken. Remove some storm damaged oak that may still have economic value. Consider patch cutting in aspen areas to regenerate aspen.

7. 2019 – Stand 5: Conduct a light thinning to maintain stand vigor and continue development of structural diversity. Reduce basal areas to approximately 80 square feet/acre. Focus removals on less vigorous, poorer quality trees as well as some mature individuals. Retain healthy trees of a variety of species including healthy hemlock and white pine where found. Release desirable regeneration where it occurs. Treat invasive plant species if found in the stand prior to cutting trees in the overstory. Retain some snags (+/- 6/acre) for wildlife and nutrient cycling.
8. 2015 – Stand 6: Reduce overall stand density to approximately 90 square feet of residual basal area using a combination of single tree, group selections and even age treatments including shelterwood. Retain good quality individuals of a variety of species. In particular focus on retaining quality white pine, hemlock, and vigorous mast producing individuals as well as good quality sugar maple and yellow poplar. Perform a 3-4 sided crown touching release on mast trees. Attempt to ensure good live crown ratios on residual pine trees (goal should be 1/3). Release quality advance regeneration where appropriate.
9. 2015 – Stand 7: Consider releasing the pocket of cedar trees from hardwood competition
10. 2015+ – Stand 7: Consider working with adjacent landowner to create a vista near the height of land on the red trail at the western boundary. If possible and desirable, combine this with work being done in adjacent stands to improve efficiency.
11. 2023 – Re-inventory property and develop management plan for next 10-year plan period.
12. Annually – Maintain property boundaries
13. Annually – Maintain parking lot, gates, kiosk, roads and trails

## SUMMARY OF SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES 2014-2023

Town of Simsbury - Onion Mountain Park		
Summary of Scheduled Activities		
2014-2023		
Year	Stand	Treatment
2015	All	Treat invasive plant species where they exist
2015	7	Consider working with adjacent landowner to create a vista near the height of land on the red trail
2015	1	Single tree/small group selection with crop/mast tree release
2015	1, 2	Upon completion of harvest, consider temporary conversion of infrastructure to parking area and trails for recreational access
2015	2	Thinning with crop/mast tree release
2015	6	Single tree/small group selection with crop/mast tree release and shelterwood
2015	7	Release cedars from hardwood competition
2019	3	Thinning with crop/mast tree release and limited shelterwood
2019	4	Light thinning/crop tree release. Consider patch cut in aspen
2019	5	Light thinning/crop tree release
2023	All	Re-inventory and develop new 10 year management plan
Annually	All	Maintain boundaries, roads and trails
Annually	All	Treat invasive plant species where located if resources are available to do so
Annually	All	Maintain parking lot, gates, kiosk, roads and trails

## SOURCES CONSULTED AND/OR CITED

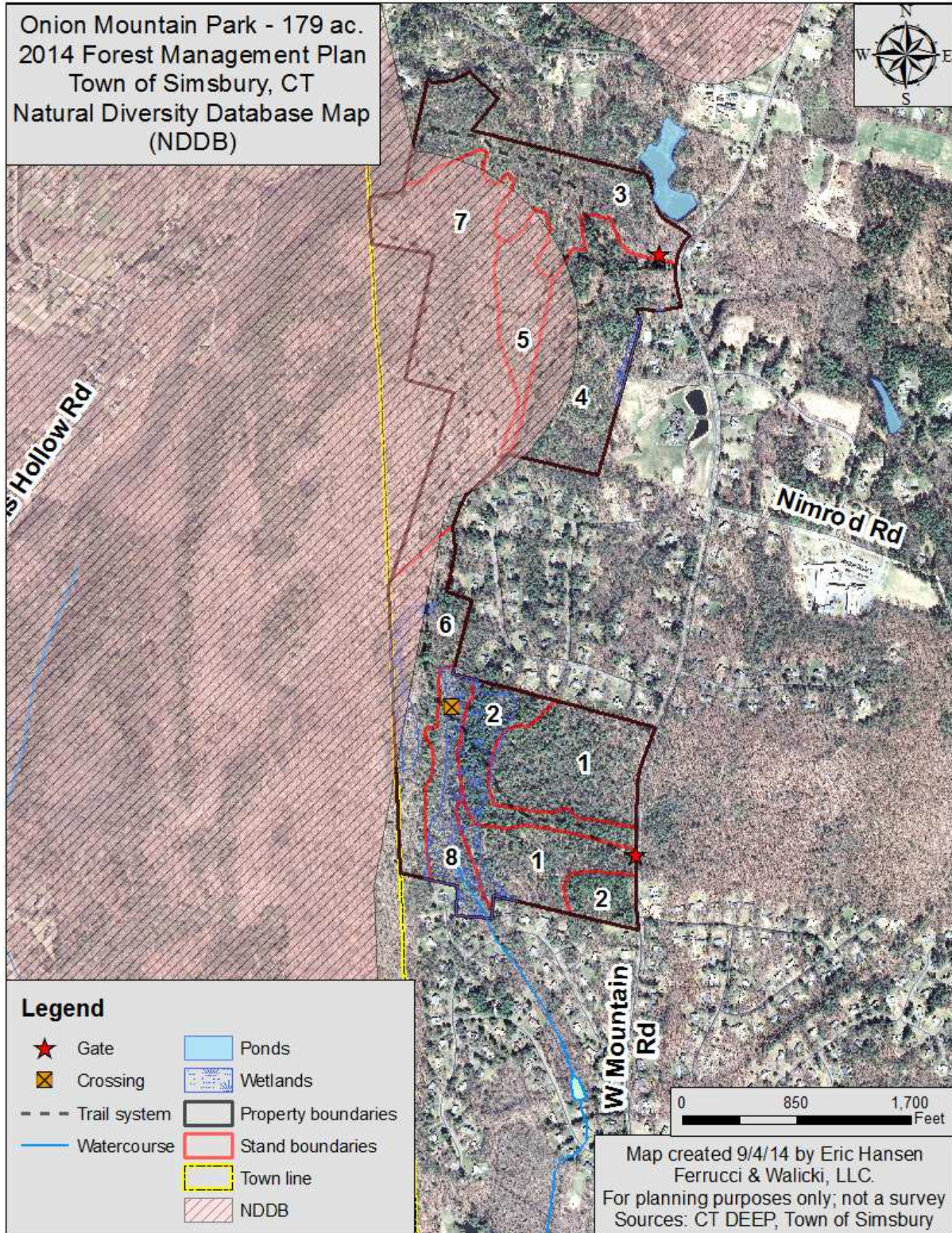
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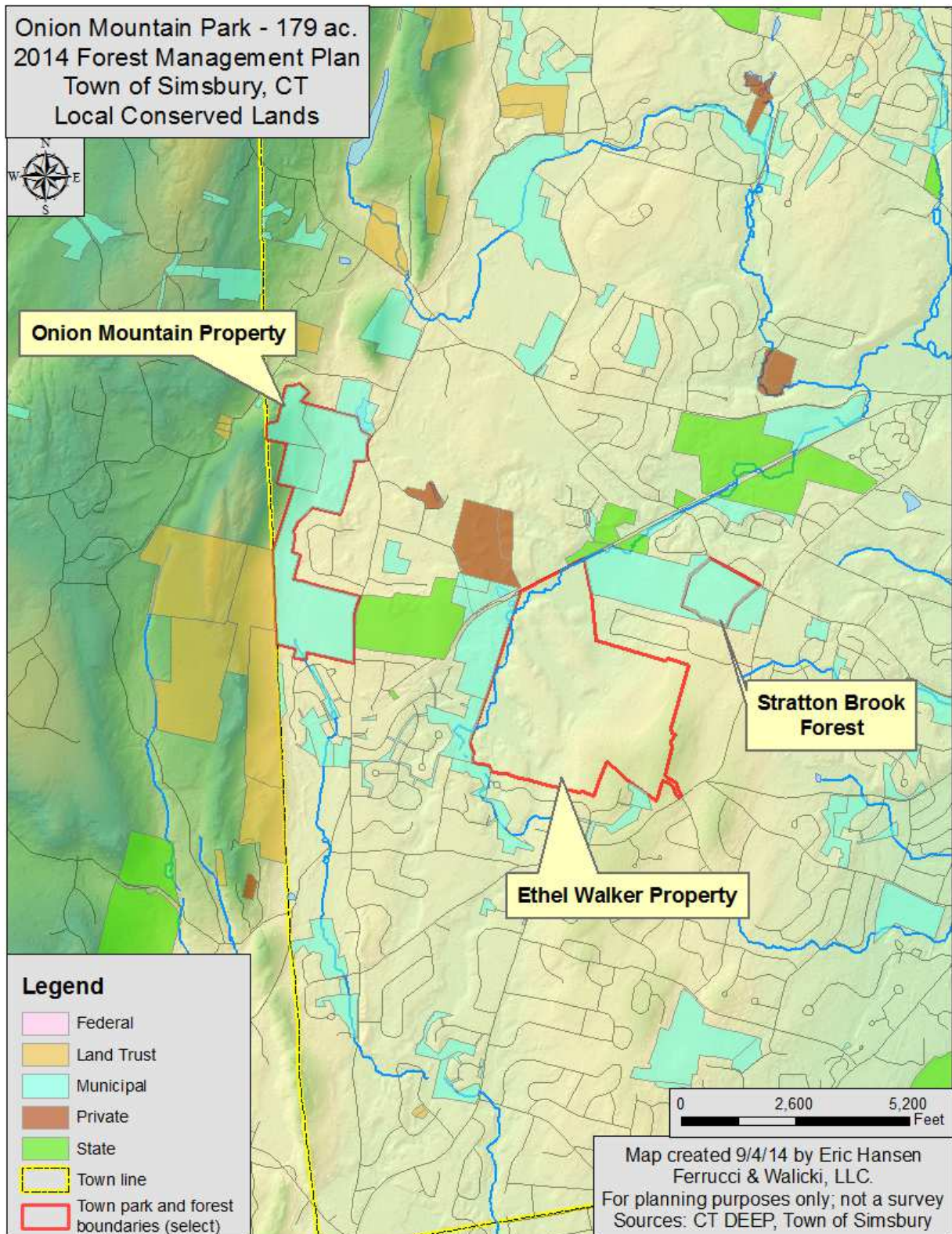
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# MAPS

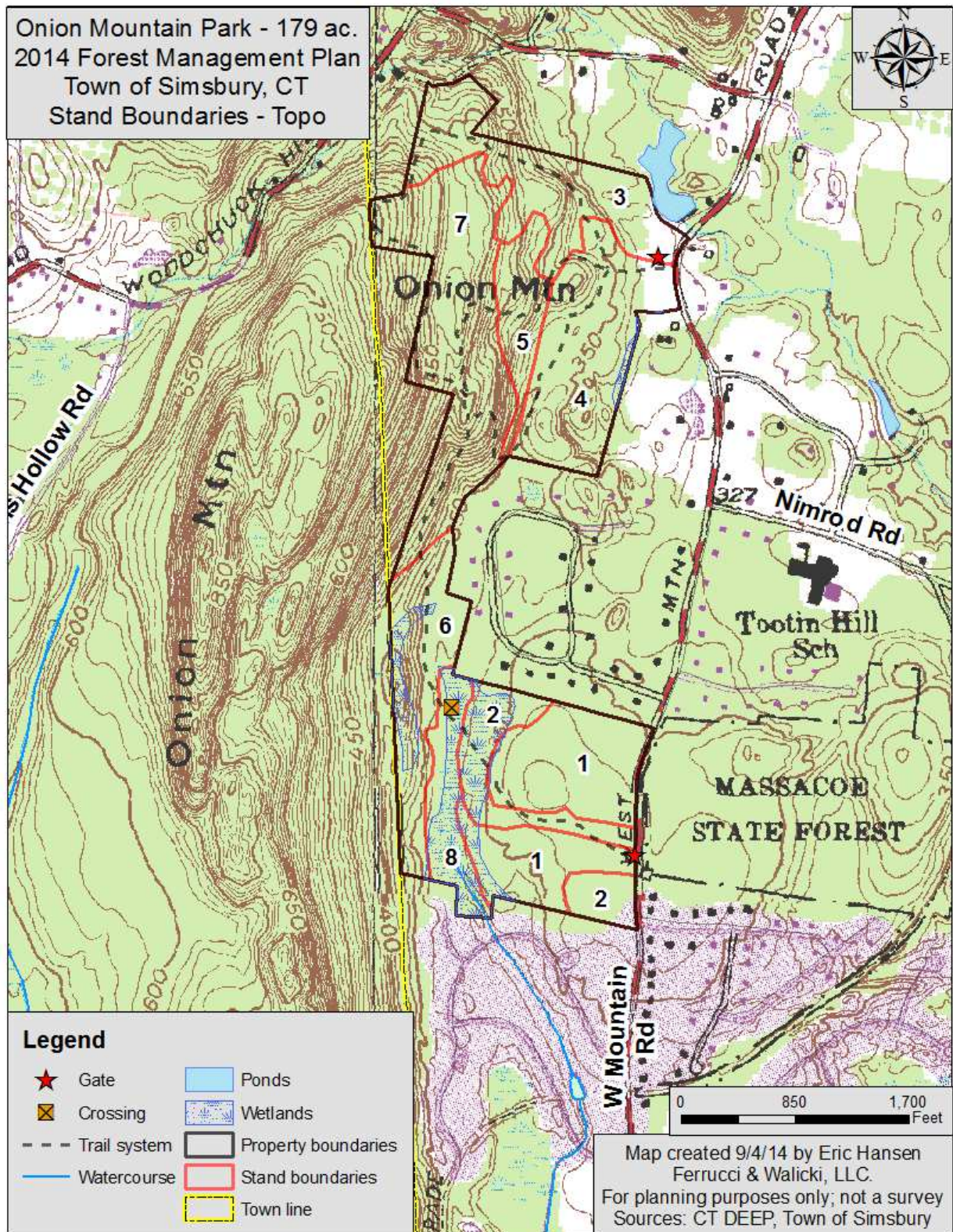
## Simsbury – Onion Mountain Park Natural Diversity Database Map



## Conserved Properties Surrounding Onion Mountain Park



# Onion Mountain Park Topo Map



## GLOSSARY

### aspect

The general direction in which land slopes

### basal area

A commonly used measure of forest density or stocking. It is measured as the cross sectional area of a tree in square feet at 4.5 feet above ground.

### B-level

The stocking level considered optimal for sawtimber growth.

### board foot

A measurement unit for lumber volume. One board foot is a piece of wood 1 foot long by 1 foot wide by 1 inch thick (Abbreviated b.f.)

### breast height

Measurement at which diameter is generally measured for inventory and timber tally purposes. Breast height is measured at 4.5 feet above the ground. Where there is any slope, breast height is always measured from the highest part of the slope where the ground intersects the tree.

### clearcut

An even-age silvicultural technique in which all the trees in an area are severed and – typically – removed. Silvicultural clearcuts generally remove all trees above 2 inches dbh. Commercial clearcuts or “high-grades” remove all the trees of value leaving poorer quality trees of a variety of diameters.

### clearcut with reserves

A modified clearcut in which the majority of the trees in an area are cut, but some minimal trees are left standing. Typically reserve trees will allow to mature and will not be cut. This differs from a shelterwood or seed tree harvest in that residual trees following the initial regeneration cut are intended for removal.

### clear log

A length of tree stem or cut log that has no horizontal (i.e. side) branches.

### coppice

A sprout from roots or stumps. Or a practice of cutting a tree or group of trees to cause them to resprout from the stump or roots.

### cord

A measurement unit for firewood. One cord of stacked wood measures 4 feet by 4 feet by 8 feet. 1 cord contains 85 cubic feet of solid wood. (Abbreviated cd)

### crown

The top of the tree, including the live branches and the leaves.

cruise

An inventory of standing trees during which information about species, size and other characteristics is gathered.

cull

A tree of such poor quality that it is not suitable for sawtimber. Culls are sometimes sold for firewood.

dbh

Diameter of a tree outside the bark measured at breast height

den tree

A tree with a hollow or cavity large enough to potentially be used by wildlife (a.k.a. cavity tree)

even-age management

Managing trees in such a way that it creates a single or two age classes in a stand.

girdle

To attempt to kill a tree by cutting through the outer bark and cambium around its entire circumference.

hardwood

A deciduous, broadleaf tree. Angiosperm.

high-grade

A logging practice in which only the best trees are removed leaving poorer quality and/or damaged trees.

International Rule

A type of log (measuring) rule. The International Rule is the legal standard for measuring sawtimber in Connecticut.

live crown ratio

The ratio of live crown length to total tree height.

mast

Seeds and nuts produced by trees and shrubs. Mast is often discussed in terms of hard and soft and is crucial to providing food for wildlife.

mbf

One thousand board feet (of sawtimber) or "a thousand".

overstory

The portion of trees in a stand which form the upper canopy.

overstory removal

An even age silvicultural treatment type in which most or all of the overstory trees are removed in order to release established regeneration.



poletimber

Trees from 5 to 11 inches diameter at breast height (4.5 feet above ground). Also pole or pole tree.

regeneration

New trees, generally seedlings, saplings and sprouts. Regenerating a forest involves replacing existing trees with new ones.

release

To free a desirable tree from competition by cutting or otherwise killing one or more adjacent competing trees or shrubs.

sapling

A tree from 1 to 5 inches diameter.

sawlog

A log that is straight, large and sound enough to be sawn into boards. Sawlogs are usually at least 8 feet long and ten inches or larger in diameter.

sawtimber tree

A tree large enough to contain at least one sawlog. (Saw)timber trees are usually twelve inches or larger in diameter outside the bark at breast height.

seedling

A tree from newly germinated up to 1 inch diameter.

Selection System

A silvicultural system involving the removal of individual trees or groups of trees at regular intervals. This system tends to promote the development of uneven aged forests.

Shelterwood System

A silvicultural system whereby new trees are regenerated under the partial shelter of other trees. This system is one of the options available to regenerate a stand or part of a stand to create an even aged or two-aged forest. (The latter occurs when the overstory trees are not removed following the successful regeneration of trees in the understory).

silvicultural system

A planned program of silvicultural treatments during the entire life of a stand. The main focus is on the methods used to obtain desirable regeneration.

silviculture

The science and the art of growing and tending trees for a variety of purposes.

slash

The debris left after logging, pruning or thinning. Slash can include tree tops and unused or unusable portions of the main stems of trees.

stand type

A group or community of trees sufficiently uniform with respect to size, species composition, spatial arrangement, age or condition to be distinguished from other groups of trees.

stocking

An indication of the amount or density of trees in a stand.

stumpage

Standing trees, usually associated with volume information and intended for sale.

thinning

A cutting done in immature stands in order to maintain tree health and vigor, stimulate the growth of the trees that remain and increase the total yield of useful material from the stand.

tolerance

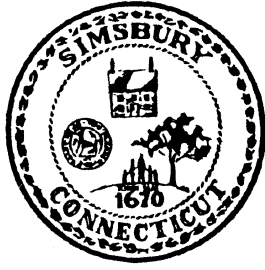
The relative ability of a tree species to survive and/or grow in shade.

timber stand improvement

Improving a stand of trees, usually by pruning, cull-tree removal or pre-commercial thinning. (Abbreviated TSI)

uneven-age management

Managing trees in such a way that it creates three or more age classes in a stand. The selection system is most often used to develop uneven-age stands.



# *Town of Simsbury*

## *Conservation Commission*

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

3 April 2018

The Board of Selectmen  
Town of Simsbury  
933 Hopmeadow Street  
Simsbury, Connecticut 06070

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Conservation Commission recommends that implementation of the Management Plan for Onion Mountain Park, which the selectmen approved in 2015 but was interrupted by a problem with the logging contract, be resumed and that the Town pursue a broad public consensus on its forest stewardship goals. Several years having elapsed since the trees were marked for harvest, we would suggest that the forester be asked to review the tree selection and revise it as needed, being alert for opportunities, to the extent consistent with the plan, to foster the development of old growth characteristics and being mindful of the effects of nearby forestry operations. We would suggest that the forester be reminded of the intention to minimize soil impacts, through techniques he judges appropriate, such as the timing of the harvest and the use of a forwarder rather than a skidder. Having observed a high level of public interest in this plan, we would suggest that the forester be asked to make a public presentation of its features, and we would be happy to host such a session at one of our commission meetings.

Our assumption is that resuming implementation will require a new request for proposals from logging contractors. We understand that a small job such as this is relatively unattractive in the marketplace, made more so last time by the stipulation that no work be done on the weekend. We hope that the selectmen will find the flexibility to permit weekend work if it proves necessary to securing an attractive contract.

The commission has devoted months to discussing forest stewardship and hearing from interested members of the public. We reached the clear consensus that whatever subsequent forest management plans the town considers implementing should be informed by input from the public and from as broad a spectrum of experts as is practical. From our own experience, we do not minimize the likely difficulty of those discussions. They will be hampered, in part, by the absence of predefined goals. For our purposes as a commission, we agreed on several goals:

- to encourage conservation of soil, water and cultural resources while improving forest and ecosystem health and wildlife habitat;

- to encourage locating and structuring recreational and other uses such that they will be consistent with conservation objectives; and
- to encourage maintaining environmentally sensitive areas as reserves permitting only limited human impact.

However, in this area we are only an advisory body, and our goals have no more weight than anyone else's. Moreover, abstract goals only advance the discussion so far.

There is an active debate as to whether a forest is better dealt with by active management or by nonintervention except what is needed for public safety. Assessing a proposed plan for a given parcel might draw on myriad data about the land, its living organisms, and its place in the context of other town forested land and the region, but persons will differ about both the sufficiency and implications of the data. There are those who believe that these discussions cannot properly begin until the town reaches a philosophical understanding of its purpose in owning and conserving forestland. As a commission, we were not able to reach agreement on these matters, but a broader discussion might build towards public consensus and facilitate subsequent forest stewardship efforts. The selectmen should consider incorporating such a discussion into the anticipated Open Space Master Plan process. Absent such a broad public discussion, consideration of subsequent forest stewardship activities would likely be mired in controversy.

Very truly yours,

Simsbury Conservation Commission



by Margery Winters  
its Chairman

cc: Maria Capriola, Town Manager



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

*Culture, Parks and Recreation Department*

March 14, 2018

To: Maria Capriola, Town Manager

From: Gerard G. Toner, Director

As we discussed earlier, I have tried to put together a timeline of key dates on the second phase of the town's forest management program. After completion of actively managing and conducting timber harvests at 6 separate sites beginning in 1989, the program was put on hold.

At the direction of former First Selectman Mary Glassman, I began looking at the feasibility of a second phase beginning in 2008. The program had been introduced to and approved by the Board of Selectmen in 1989 with the condition that it be done on a self-sustaining basis with revenues generated by timber sales being used to offset expenses. For a number of years, the timber market remained depressed and didn't warrant pursuing further. Once the market improved and it became more feasible, I was directed to begin the solicitation process for a consulting forester to develop management plans for four separate sites. The following is an approximate time line of key dates in this process:

## **November, 2013**

A Request for Proposal is advertised soliciting certified foresters to submit proposals to prepare management plans for four parcels: Onion Mountain Park, the former Ethel Walker Woods property, the town owned property on the corner of Stratton Brook and Bushy Hill Road, and Belden Forest. (att.)

## **December, 2013**

Proposals are received from two consulting foresters, Ferrucci and Walicki, LLC and Connwood Foresters, Inc. Based primarily on cost proposal and the quality of past work, Ferrucci and Walicki is selected.

## **May, 2014**

After approval by the BOS, the Town enters into an agreement with Ferrucci and Walicki (att).

## **December, 2014**

At the direction of the First Selectman, draft plans are presented to the Conservation Commission for approval. With addendum added to all four plans as requested by the Commission, they are approved for implementation.

### **September, 2015**

Following site walks and meeting with Conservation Officer and Assistant Town Planner, timber harvest bid package is put together and advertised. At their September 16 meeting, the Board of Selectmen approve the bid of DML Logging for a timber harvest on 37 acres of the southern parcel of Onion Mountain Park. (att.)

### **April, 2016**

After signing agreement on September 25, Mr. Moon informs the Town that he cannot adhere to the terms of the agreement.

### **October, 2016**

Eric Hansen of Ferrucci and Walicki, LLC addresses the Open Space Committee on the next steps for the management plan. After a request by committee member Helen Peterson to seek more information at the October and November meetings, the Conservation Commission is asked to deliberate on the future of the forest management plans.

### **March, 2018**

After many lengthy discussions, the Conservation Commission at their March 6 meeting approved by a 4-2 vote the following:

Mr. Rieger made a motion to communicate to the Board of Selectmen that it recommends that the implementation of the Onion Mountain Management Plan be resuscitated and that the forester be encouraged to revise and review, as necessary, the markings that have been made in the forest. In doing so, the forester should be encouraged to look for opportunities to foster old growth characteristics. Additionally, the forester should be encouraged to avoid soil impacts, whether by timing of the operation or by the use of equipment (i.e. forwarder verses skidder) or other techniques that would reduce impact. The Board of Selectmen should be encouraged to evaluate weekend work that has been potentially problematic at this site, with regards to project economics. Motion was seconded by Mr. Haldeman. Discussion: Understanding that the motion can be part of a letter to be sent to the Board of Selectmen that will provide more detail/clarification on the motion, as well as the Commission's concerns as projects move forward. Mr. Levy, Mr. Morrison, Mrs. Powilatis and Mr. Rieger voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Winters and Mr. Haldeman voted against the motion. Motion passed 4-2.



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

- Title of Submission:** Gifts of Love (Community Farm) Grant Application –
- Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
- Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Thomas Roy, Director of Public Works *on behalf of the Gifts of Love, Inc. Farm & Education Center (formerly Farm To Family, Inc. dba Community Farm of Simsbury)* *Maria E. Capriola*

- Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**  
If the Board of Selectmen supports Gifts of Love request to seek funding for the installation of a new well for irrigation, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to authorize Town Manager Maria E. Capriola to issue a letter of support for the grant application being submitted by Gifts of Love to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture for installation of a new well for irrigation.*

- Summary of Submission:**  
The Town of Simsbury owns 73 Wolcott Road, which is currently used as a community farm. The Gifts of Love operates the farm through a lease with the Town. In an effort to better manage the property, the Gifts of Love (the Farm) is looking to improve irrigation to the fields east of Wolcott Road. As a result, Gifts of Love is seeking grant funds to pay for the installation of a new well that would be used for irrigation. The grant is offered through the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Farmland Restoration Program (FLRP).

If awarded, the Farm would be the recipient of this grant and the town would not be the fiduciary. The Farm would be responsible for administering this grant, management of the installation of the well, and for the removal of four trees that are currently shading one of the fields used for farming. The Farm will be responsible for securing all approvals for this project including: Zoning Commission; Farmington Valley Health; and the Building Department.

Public Works will be the lead town agency coordinating this project with the Farm. The well would only be used for irrigation and power for the well will be supplied from the WPCA pump station adjacent to the facility. The power used will be minimal and the Farm will need to receive approval from the WPCA for this electrical connection. The Town would own this asset as it is an improvement to the property. The Farm would be responsible for any maintenance to the well which should be minimal.

The following is the anticipated schedule for this project:

- (i) Submission of grant application on 4/24/18 by Gifts of Love, Inc.
- (ii) Zoning Commission for site plan amendment on 5/7/18
- (iii) If the grant is awarded, actual work will be estimated to begin mid-to-late May, 2018. Well to be drilled by Spence Well Drilling, tree removal by Bartlett Tree Experts and shed will be purchased at a local retail store.

**6. Financial Impact:**

Initially there is no direct financial impact. As the lead town agency coordinating this project, a small amount of Public Works staff time will be needed. The town will own this asset once the well is complete; future anticipated maintenance costs for the well are minimal.

**7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:**

- a) Farmland Restoration Program Application
- b) Aerial photograph of the area where the well, pump shed and trees are located





# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## Department of Agriculture



### FARMLAND RESTORATION PROGRAM (FLRP) APPLICATION

NAME OF APPLICANT: Gifts of Love, Inc. (lessee) Formerly: FarmTo Family  
dba Gifts of Love &  
Community Farm of  
Simsbury

FARM NAME: Gifts of Love Farm #1 Education Center FARM OWNER: Town of Simsbury

ADDRESS: PO Box 4163, Avon, CT 06001 County: Hartford  
(Street/Town/State/ZIP)

TELEPHONE: 860-676-2323 FAX: 860-676-9864

E-MAIL: accounting@giftsoflove.ct.org TAX ID Number: 06-1309318

FARM PROPERTY LOCATION (street/town): 73 Wolcott Rd, Simsbury, CT 06070

DEED REFERENCE(S): Vol \_\_\_\_\_ Pg \_\_\_\_\_ ; Vol \_\_\_\_\_ Pg \_\_\_\_\_ ; Vol \_\_\_\_\_ Pg \_\_\_\_\_

ZONING OF PROPERTY: \_\_\_\_\_

TAX MAP REFERENCE(S): Map \_\_\_\_\_ Block \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_ ; Map \_\_\_\_\_ Block \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_  
(Attach sheet if more space is needed for multiple deed and/or tax map references)

Are You a Farmer? (check one)  Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No: If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you farm full time  ; or part time \_\_\_\_\_ ; How long have you been farming 5 YEARS  
 Number of employees: full time 3 ; part time 2 ; seasonal full time 1 ; seasonal part time 10  
 Explain: SEASONAL PART-TIME employees include those involved in the farm educational programs  
 Do you own or lease the farm restoration area? \_\_\_\_\_ Own; or  Lease; lease term 2 5 YEAR RENEWALS  
 If leased, explain annual lease paid or other arrangement: \$1 (one dollar) per year + produce donated to Simsbury Social Service  
 (Attach copy of lease)  
 Have you applied to the USDA-NRCS for Farm Bill Environmental and/or Easement Programs (EQIP)  Yes; \_\_\_\_\_ No;  
 If yes, please indicate the program(s) and if you have an approved agreement: EQIP 20147411061607

Have you consulted the DEEP Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB) regarding FLRP area? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yes;  No: If your project falls within a listed species area, and your application is approved, you will be required to submit a NDDDB review request form to DEEP.

Check under which Scenario you are applying:  
 Scenario 1: Existing NRCS approved conservation plan: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Scenario 2: Planning to participate under a NRCS approved conservation plan:  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Scenario 3: Planning to participate under a NCCD or other approved plan: \_\_\_\_\_

**I. DESCRIPTION OF FARM OPERATION (may attach description sheet):**

SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT - FARM OPERATION NARRATIVE

1. # acres owned: N/A ; 2. # acres leased: 77  
3. # cropland acres owned: N/A ; 4. # cropland acres leased: 7  
5. # acres pasture owned: N/A ; 6. # acres pasture leased: 18  
7. # acres prime farmland soils: \_\_\_\_\_ ; 8. # acres important farmland soils: \_\_\_\_\_

9. What are the farm's gross sales? \$31,935 Explain how the sales are derived and percentages of each (if multiple and not fully accounted for on other pages): TOTAL = \$31,935 + \$8,520 WORTH OF PRODUCE DONATED TO OUL FOOD BANK DENTON & SIMSBURY SOCIAL SERVICES \$14,500 - CSA GRANT, \$16,725 CSA SALES, \$410 - FARMSTAND SALES

10. Current production - land offered (list each crop, acreage & gross annual receipts from unit production):

CROP	Acres	Gross annual sales
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SEE ATTACHED SPREADSHEET - CROPS DATA 2018

(if more space is needed, please attach sheet and continue)

11. Farm income from other than crop production. (list each source and gross annual sales):  
SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT "NON-CROP INCOME"

12. If applicable, indicate size of herd, flock, etc.: N/A

13. Please check your type(s) of farm marketing that apply, if any: No marketing of any product \_\_\_\_\_  
Farm on contract \_\_\_\_\_; if so type of contract: \_\_\_\_\_; Member of cooperative \_\_\_\_\_  
Community and/or educational supported agriculture (explain) CSA - 62 shares 2018  
Delivery Route \_\_\_\_\_; Farmer's markets \_\_\_\_\_; Other off-site markets \_\_\_\_\_; On-site farm stand \_\_\_\_\_  
 Off-site farm stand \_\_\_\_\_; Mail order \_\_\_\_\_; Pick-your-own \_\_\_\_\_; Regional market: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (explain) RSA - IN 2018 WE ARE STARTING AN RSA SUPPLYING LOCAL RESTAURANTS WITH WEEKLY DELIVERIES OF PRODUCE

14. Are farm products sold on the farm? Yes  ; No \_\_\_\_\_  
15. Are the sold products produced on the farm? Yes  ; No \_\_\_\_\_  
16. Percent of products sold not produced on the farm 0 %; What are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
17. Do you have an agricultural business plan? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  ; (if yes, attach copy)

II. Briefly explain why you are applying to the Farmland Restoration Program: Tree Removal  
to increase cultivated acreage. New well to  
double irrigation capacity and decrease cultivated

DESCRIPTION OF FARMLAND RESTORATION PROGRAM TREATMENT REQUESTING TO BE COVERED BY THIS APPLICATION (examples: land clearing, stump and stone removal; brush hogging and brush clearing; field surface/subsurface drainage and related swales, waterways and sediment capture; water well, pond restoration and/or improvements; stream ford crossing and stream bank protection; fencing of restored area including permanent perimeter livestock and deer fencing; etc.):

See attached document - Farmland Restoration  
Requirements.

How many people do you estimate this project will employ? \_\_\_\_\_; For what period of time? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you and/or your family be doing any of the work? (please explain): NO

Tree Removal - stump grinding - 3-4 people - 1 day  
well drilling - 3 people - 1 day  
All work will be contracted - no family members

Your Farm and Farmland Restoration Area Land Use:

1. # acres in woodland: 10; # acres in wetlands: 40; # acres prime farmland: N/A #  
acres important farmland: N/A; # acres local important farmland: 7

2. Describe the existing use of restoration area: FALLOW FARMLAND TOO SHADY

3. # acres to be cleared: 3+; # wetland acres to be cleared if any: 0

4. Is the restoration area in forest land? Yes  No;

5. Does the farm have a conservation easement on it? Yes  No;

If yes, with what entity: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Does the farm have a current USDA-NRCS Conservation Plan? Yes ; No \_\_\_\_\_ (w/NRCS) (For specific contracts)

7. Does the farm have a current Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan? Yes \_\_\_\_\_; No

8. Have you received a highly erodible land/wetland determination from NRCS for the farmland restoration area? (When you visit the local USDA Farm Services Agency you will find out if this has already been done or if NRCS has to make the determinations) Yes \_\_\_\_\_; No \_\_\_\_\_ if no, did you will out the form (AD-1026) requesting the determination?

9. Have the soils on site been upgraded through the removal of stones, stumping, topsoil amendments or conditioning, or any other method(s)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_; No  Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

III. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS - Total Acres to be restored 3 \$/acre \$6,666.66

1. Federal USDA financial payments: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Other cost share: \_\_\_\_\_

3. State FLRP funds request: \$ 18,000-

4. Owner Costs: \$ 2,000-

5. Value of in-kind cost(s): \_\_\_\_\_

6. Total Estimated Cost: \$ 20,000-

Explain in kind cost(s) or other cost you wish to note: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**IV. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Other Department of Agriculture program information can be obtained at our web-site:  
**www.ct.gov/DOAG**

Please let us know if you would like to receive information on any of the following:  
Farmland preservation programs: \_\_\_\_\_ Estate planning information: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm-Link program: \_\_\_\_\_  
Conservation Options Booklet: \_\_\_\_\_ Leasing of agricultural lands guide: \_\_\_\_\_

**V. REQUIRED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS** (these documents are required with your application, if not available, state reasons why):

1. Completed and signed Farmland Restoration Program application
2. If applying under an existing approved NRCS Conservation Plan, or approved Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan, attach copy
3. Supporting documentation including aerial photograph of FLR Plan area; soils map of Plan area; tax map of Plan area, Survey if available, or like documents to identify Plan area; (a copy of the property tax map is available from you local Tax Assessor's office)
4. Copy of the tax card(s) for the subject property
5. Detailed map identifying the common land units (field locations, crops grown & acres per field). This map MUST be obtained from the Farm Service Agency office at your local USDA-Service Center, see below
6. Detailed sketch of the Farmland Restoration Plan site area, identifying treatment(s) on an aerial photograph
7. Pictures of the planned Farmland Restoration area site in both electronic format and paper photo
8. Detailed project budget / job sheet itemizing estimated project costs (see attached)
9. If land is leased, a copy of the executed lease, and owner letter of activity approval
10. If state, municipal or land trust leased lands a copy of lease and letter indicating entity's approval to apply for the Farmland Restoration Program
11. If land encumbered by conservation or like easement, a letter of plan activity approval from interest holder;
12. If Plan impacts inland/wetlands, copy of letter notifying the local inland-wetland of the proposed activity.
13. Copy of your IRS Tax schedule F, Form 1120 S, or schedule C from most current year;
14. Copy of State Department of Revenue Services tax exempt form (note reason if you don't have one) \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions on the application, feel free to call the Department of Agriculture, Farmland Preservation Program at 860-713-2511. It is necessary for all owners of the land submitted to give their approval and consent to this application by signing the application. By signing, applicant(s) declare under penalty of law, they have completed the application, including any accompanying schedules and statements, to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief all is true, complete and correct. The Applicant understands the FLRP grant program is not an entitlement program, and the State is under no obligation to fund your request. The applicant also understands that other local, state or federal jurisdiction(s) may apply on or near such lands as inland wetlands and watercourses or endangered species list, and such treatment approval or notification responsibility is the applicants:

Signed Jason A. Pribylo  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date 4.16.18

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Maps and crop information on your specific farm may be obtained from the United States Department of Agriculture by contacting the Farm Services Agency at your area Agricultural Service Center listed below:

**U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency  
Offices and Centers**

**Hartford and Tolland Counties**

Windsor Service Center  
100 Northfield Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Windsor, CT 06095  
860.688.7725

**Middlesex and New London Counties**

Norwich Field Office  
238 West Town Street  
Norwich, CT 06360  
860.887.3604

**Litchfield County**

Torrington Field Office  
1185 New Litchfield Street  
Torrington, CT 06790  
860.626.8258

**Windham County**

Danielson Service Center  
71 Westcott Road  
Danielson, CT 06239  
860.779.0557

**Fairfield and New Haven Counties**

Hamden Service Center  
51 Mill Pond Road  
Hamden, CT 06514  
203.287.8038

**State Office**

Tolland State Office USDA-NRCS  
344 Merrow Road  
Tolland, CT 06084-3917  
860.871.4011

**North Central Conservation District (NCCD)**

24 Hyde Avenue  
Vernon, CT 06066  
860.875.3881

Completed applications must be sent to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture at the address below.  
Please feel free to call or email with any Farmland Restoration Program questions.

Via email: [cam.weimar@ct.gov](mailto:cam.weimar@ct.gov) or [lance.shannon@ct.gov](mailto:lance.shannon@ct.gov)

**Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
Farmland Restoration Program**

450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 703  
Hartford, CT 06103-1841  
860-713-2511  
Attn: Cameron Weimar or Lance Shannon



The Gifts of Love Farm, formerly Community Farm of Simsbury (CFS), is located at 73 Wolcott Road, Simsbury, CT 06070. The property dates to 1675 when a tract at this location was laid out to Simon Wolcott, the father of Roger Wolcott, colonial governor of Connecticut. The state of Connecticut assumed the property under a complicated mortgage foreclosure in 1879. Amos R. Eno, purchased the farm from the state in 1882 for \$3,000 and donated it to Simsbury for use as the Town Poor Farm. Here the poor and indigent under the town's care received shelter in return for working the farm, which produced dairy products, eggs, vegetables, tobacco and other products. In 1989 the farm was leased as a dairy farm under the name Town Farm Dairy. The Friends of Town Farm Dairy, a non-profit organization, formed in 2005, and created a collaborative effort to run the farm in 2008 when the dairy closed. Its goal was to remain consistent with the original mission of serving the disadvantaged and called the farm The Community Farm of Simsbury. The Town of Simsbury assumed the ownership of the farm in 2009.

Gifts of Love began working with the farm in 2009 to fulfill its mission to supply healthy organic produce throughout its food pantry network. The farm merged with Gifts of Love in 2013 and has stayed true to the original mission of serving the disadvantaged along with educating the public about agriculture, nutrition, healthy eating and the relationship farms have to all of us. The Farm is a certified organic farm. Gifts of Love leases the farm from the Town of Simsbury and pays \$1 a year plus agrees to supply Simsbury Social Services with fresh produce grown on the land for use in the Simsbury Food Pantry during the growing season.

Presently, the farm consists of 77 acres encompassing 5 ecosystems. There are 7 acres of cultivable land with 3 acres currently in production growing 36 vegetables in 84 varieties (see Crop Data Plan 2018). The farm serves educational purposes both as a working farm, a summer camp setting and an innovative and successful (9<sup>th</sup> year) Inter-District program bringing urban and suburban students together to study STEM-base curricula. The Farm has an Incubator Farmer program for beginning farmers and a tenant farmer. The tenant farmer has ½ acre under cultivation and is in the second year as tenant after 3 years in the Incubator program. Presently there is one farmer in the Incubator program with ¼ acre under cultivation. This program provides access to quality farmland, supplies, training in organic farming techniques (CTNOFA and UCONN); implementing a farm business plan; and finding markets to sell produce.

With the FLRP grant funding, an additional 3 acres can be added in 2018. Production needs to increase to meet the growing needs to supply basic needs (food) to Gifts of Love's 20,000 + clients, the three additional food pantries/shelters it helps supply and the CSA/RSA programs which help subsidize the farm operation and guarantee it remains a viable and sustainable enterprise in the future. Additionally, there will be more land available to expand the Incubator program.



## Farm Restoration Project

Gifts of Love is applying for the Farmland Restoration grant to increase the production capacity of The Gifts of Love Farm, formerly Community Farm of Simsbury, in an effort to improve efficiencies of the existing acreage under cultivation as well as to bring additional acreage under cultivation. This is needed to grow more crops which supply a network of three food pantries and shelters in Avon, Simsbury and the city of Hartford and to expand the CSA/RSA program which helps sustain the viability of the farm year-to-year. We estimate (see crop plan data 2018 document) that an additional \$18,935 worth of crops can be produced if we can increase capacity.

**The need for a new well.** The existing well does not have the capacity to irrigate more than 1/8 acre at a time and can only be run 2-6 hours a day due to low output capacity. Therefore we can only irrigate approximately 2-3 acres. A new well will allow us to increase our production from approximately 3 acres to 6+ acres. (See attachment DoAG-Well GIS)

**Well specifications:** The well is a screen well with a 6-inch diameter, 17lbs/ft 6" steel casing, stainless steel .015 slot well screen with a 6-inch drive shoe. Submersible Well Pump System with a 1.5 hp 230 volt 25 gpm pump set on 1 1/4" well pipe connected to an 85 gallon water tank. (See quote from Spence Well Drilling; Estimate based on well depth of 100-150 feet). The new well could be connected into existing field irrigation system.

**Tree removal.** There are four trees approximately 75+ feet tall which are shading over 1 acre of existing fields. The shade severely limits the production of the current crops grown. Besides improving the production capacity of the current crops, removing the trees would more than double the amount of production space around them to 2+ acres. Wood chips from the trees will be used for mulch, composting, animal bedding. There will be no adverse environmental impact by taking down the trees (See attachment DoAG-Trees GIS).





**ZONES**

- I 1
- 50 ft. Front Yard
- 40 ft. Side Yard
- Flood Plain
- Elev. - 154.0 ft.

This Project was initiated through the efforts of the

**Community Farm of Simsbury**



**NOTES**

1. CALL BEFORE YOU DIG @ 1-800-822-4433
2. WETLAND LOCATIONS SHOWN REFLECT TOWN WETLANDS MAPPING
3. THESE PLANS ARE FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY
4. A MORE DETAILED SURVEY WILL BE NECESSARY

Town of Simsbury  
 833 Esplanade Street, P.O. 495, Simsbury, CT 06076  
**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**Site Plan for  
 Greenhouse  
 @ Eao Farm on Wolcott Road**

Date: August 16, 2010		Job Number: 10-07	
Scale: P = 4" = 1'		Date:	Plan Number:
Survey by: H. Colallo, S. Yarboll			Add Berlin Work
Drawn by: James H. Robinson			Rooms & Mechans
Checked by:			Storage Room
Approved by:			Sheet 1 of 1

Notes:  
 This Plan was created on AUTOCAD Release 12 Software  
 Drawing File Name: WALSH.DWG

- A - Large Barn  
 Four large barns are being located to accommodate multiple uses and housing for a variety of farm animals.
- B - Old Barn - storage
- C - New Feed Room Facility  
 3 rooms, 5 stalls
- D - Planned Community Space  
 Grant issued from USDA \$12,000
- E - Ems House  
 Currently housing for Executive Director, Tim Gaudin
- F - Manure Pit
- G - Animal Housing - 3 sheep
- H - New High Tunnel Fedded by USDA

- I - Proposed storm drain including roof gutters and regrading of land to channel water and reduce erosion damage
- J - Proposed irrigation line, low wall, under road, and side Invertebrate Storage Fields.

- K - General location of well
- L - Pump Shed for well



**PROPOSED  
 30' X 70'  
 GREENHOUSE**

Flood plain elev. - 154.0 ft.

K = Well

L = Shed for well Pump



K = Well

L = Shed for Well Pump



H Trees To be Removed





# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG)  
Funding Solicitation for Transportation Projects
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Jerome F. Shea, Town Engineer; Thomas Roy, Director of Public Works; Adam Kessler, Project Engineer  
*Maria E. Capriola*
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**

If the Board of Selectmen supports submitting a transportation project funding request to CRCOG for the construction of approximately 5,000 linear feet of new sidewalk along Firetown Road, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to submit a proposal and funding request to CRCOG under the LOTCIP Phase 2 Solicitation to fund the construction of approximately 5,000 linear feet of new sidewalk along Firetown Road and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola to execute the application documents.*

In the event that the grant is awarded, the following additional motion is in order:

*Move, to accept the LOTCIP Phase 2 Solicitation funding should it be awarded to the town, and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola to execute all documents related to the grant award.*

5. **Summary of Submission:**  
CRCOG is currently soliciting proposals for municipal transportation projects that would be funded by the LOTCIP Phase 2 program and funded with state funding. Despite the current uncertainty of the funding source at the state level, CRCOG has decided to proceed with preparing and submitting proposals in the event that funding does become available. Municipal proposals are due to CRCOG by May 22, 2018. CRCOG's Transportation Committee will review project proposals and establish rankings in July 2018, ultimately seeking an endorsement from the CRCOG Policy Board by September 2018.

Tom Roy, Director of Public Works, Jeff Shea, Town Engineer, and Adam Kessler, Project engineer analyzed which of Simsbury's transportation projects were most suitable for the LOTCIP Phase 2 program. Of the possible projects, it was determined that the construction of approximately 5,000 linear feet of new sidewalk along Firetown Road (see attached map) was the most feasible option. This determination was based on: project's eligibility for LOTCIP Phase 2 funding; anticipated project score based on grant criteria and

rankings; community need for the project; dollar value of the town's contribution to the project; and amount of staff time needed to complete the grant application.

**6. Financial Impact:**

If awarded, the grant will provide funding for 100% of the construction cost for the project, which is estimated at \$875,000. The cost for the design of the project will be the responsibility of the municipality under the program. The design for the project would be completed by Engineering Department staff. The estimated cost for the field survey to support the project is estimated at \$30,000; if we are awarded the grant, \$30,000 in funding will be requested as part of the FY 19/20 capital improvement budget process to support the survey/design.

**7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:**

- a) Memo from A. Kessler re: CRCOG LOTCIP Phase 2 Solicitation Project Recommendation, dated April 17, 2018



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Selectmen  
From: Adam D. Kessler, Project Engineer  
CC: Jerome F. Shea, Town Engineer  
Thomas J. Roy, Director of Public Works  
Subject: **CRCOG (LOTICIP) – Phase 2 Solicitation  
Project Recommendation**  
Date: April 17, 2018

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The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) issued a LOTICIP Solicitation Request for Proposals on February 26, 2018. Jeff Shea, Tom Roy, and I met on March 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss potential projects. A follow-up meeting was conducted on April 3, 2018, to determine the projects that might compete under the selection criteria for this solicitation. On April 16, 2018, Maria Capriola, Tom Roy, Jeff Shea, and I discussed a short list of three projects to select one for this application.

The following is our recommendation for the LOTICIP application:

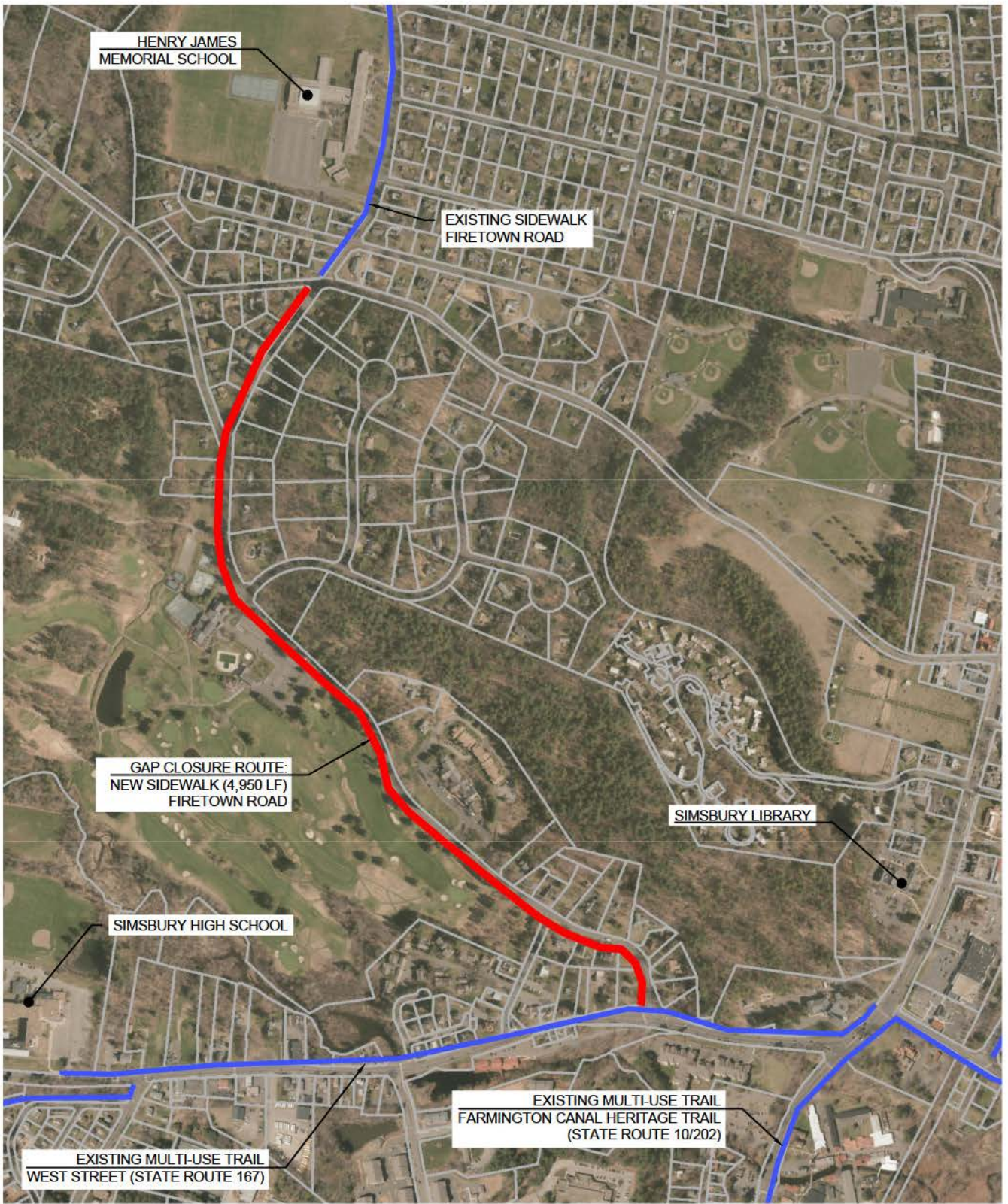
### **Sidewalks Gap Closure: Firetown Road**

This project closes an important gap in our sidewalks network between West Street and Henry James Memorial School via Firetown Road. The gap has been identified in our recently developed draft Bike-Pedestrian Master Plan report. Sidewalk gap closures tend to rate low, but in conversations with CRCOG staff, this could be a strong project.

#### Application considerations:

- Potential for support under the sidewalk category in considering the gap connectivity between HJMS, High School, Library and Simsbury Center.
- Schematic and final design can be done in-house.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information on this proposal. Attached is a figure showing the limits of the proposed project.



HENRY JAMES  
MEMORIAL SCHOOL

EXISTING SIDEWALK  
FIRETOWN ROAD

GAP CLOSURE ROUTE:  
NEW SIDEWALK (4,950 LF)  
FIRETOWN ROAD

SIMSBURY LIBRARY

SIMSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

EXISTING MULTI-USE TRAIL  
FARMINGTON CANAL HERITAGE TRAIL  
(STATE ROUTE 10/202)

EXISTING MULTI-USE TRAIL  
WEST STREET (STATE ROUTE 167)

**SIDEWALKS GAP CLOSURE  
FIRETOWN ROAD**





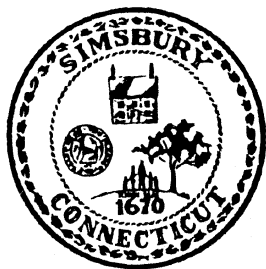
# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Proposed Revisions to ADA Notice and Municipal ADA Grievance Procedure
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager; Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager  
*Maria E. Capriola*
4. **Action requested of the Board of Selectmen**  
If the Board of Selectmen supports adopting the presented policies, the following motion is in order:  
  
*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to adopt the ADA Notice and the Municipal ADA Grievance Procedure as presented and to authorize Town Manager Maria E. Capriola to execute the documents.*
5. **Summary of Submission:**  
In connection with the Small Cities grant and to reaffirm the Town's commitment to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), we are seeking to readopt our ADA policies. The ADA Notice and Municipal ADA Grievance Procedure have been updated to designate the Deputy Town Manager as the ADA Compliance Coordinator (formerly the responsibility of the Director of Administrative Services) and to reflect a change in the chief executive officer position from First Selectman to Town Manager.  
  
Pursuant to Section 2 of the Town's Personnel Rules and Regulations, administrative and personnel policies are adopted by resolution of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager is responsible for execution and implementation. Once executed, these documents will be posted publicly in Town Hall and will be available on the Town website.
6. **Financial Impact:**  
Ordinarily there are nominal costs associated with implementing these policies. Additional resources are needed when investigatory proceedings, policy compliance, or reasonable accommodation activities are warranted.
7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**
  - a) Town of Simsbury – ADA Notice
  - b) Town of Simsbury –Municipal ADA Grievance Procedure



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## Town of Simsbury – ADA Notice

The Town of Simsbury does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services or activities. The Town of Simsbury does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices.

This notice is provided as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for additional information regarding the ADA may be forwarded to the Town of Simsbury's designated ADA Compliance Coordinator:

Name: Melissa A.J. Appleby

Title: Deputy Town Manager

Office Address: 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070

Phone Number: 860-658-3230 Fax: 860-658-9467

TDD: 1-800-842-9710

Days/Hours Available: Monday: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs and services of the Town of Simsbury are invited to make their needs and preferences known to the ADA Compliance Coordinator.

This notice is available in large print, on audio tape, and in Braille, from the ADA Compliance Coordinator.

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Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager

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Date

Telephone (860) 658-3200  
Facsimile (860) 658-3206

[www.simsbury-ct.gov](http://www.simsbury-ct.gov)  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

8:30 - 7:00 Mondays  
8:30 - 4:30 Tuesday through Thursday  
8:30 - 1:00 Friday



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## Town of Simsbury MUNICIPAL ADA GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in employment practices and policies or the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the Town of Simsbury.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to:

Melissa A.J. Appleby, Deputy Town Manager - 860-658-3230  
933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, Ms. Appleby will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, Ms. Appleby will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of Ms. Appleby and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by Ms. Appleby does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision of the ADA Coordinator within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the Town Manager or his or her designee.

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the Town Manager or his or her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting the Town Manager or his or her designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by Ms. Appleby, appeals to the Town Manager or his or her designee, and responses from the ADA Coordinator and Town Manager or his or her designee will be kept by the Town of Simsbury for at least three years.

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Date

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Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager

Telephone (860) 658-3200  
Facsimile (860) 658-9467

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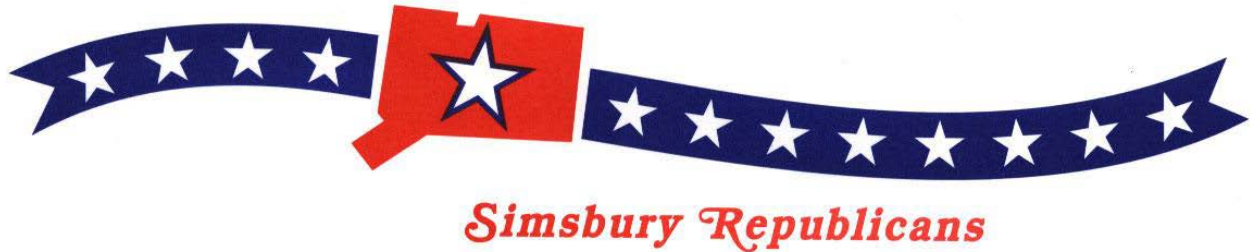
# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Proposed Appointment of Elizabeth Peterson (R) as a Regular Member of the Tourism Committee with an Expiration Date of December 2, 2019
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager  
*Maria E. Capriola*
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**  
If the Board of Selectmen supports the Republican Town Committee's recommendation to appoint Ms. Peterson to the Tourism Committee, the following motion is in order:  
  
*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to appoint Elizabeth Peterson (R) as a regular member of the Tourism Committee with a term expiring December 2, 2019.*
5. **Summary of Submission:**  
The Republican Town Committee has recommended Elizabeth Peterson (R) for appointment to the Tourism Committee, as a regular member, with a term expiring December 2, 2019.
6. **Financial Impact:**  
None
7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**  
a) Letter from Kevin Beal



April 5, 2018

The Board of Selectmen  
Town of Simsbury

Re: Nominations for Appointment

Dear First Selectman and Members of the Board,

The Simsbury Republican Town Committee (SRTC) duly voted by Special Meeting on March 28, 2018 for the nomination for your appointment of the following individuals to the indicated Boards and Committees.

Robert Heagney to the Board of Assessment Appeals

Elizabeth Peterson to the Tourism Committee

Michael Tanca to the Clean Energy Task Force

The SRTC respectfully requests the appointment of the listed nominees.

Respectfully,

Kevin T. Beal  
Chairman



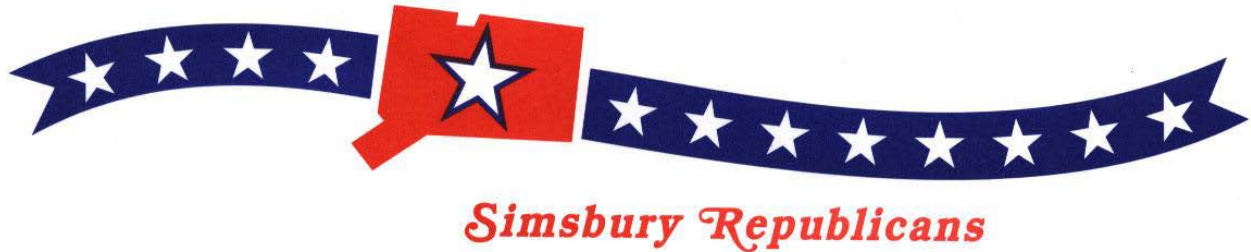
# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Proposed Appointment of Michael Tanca (R) as a Regular Member to the Clean Energy Task Force with an Expiration Date of December 2, 2019
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager  
*Maria E. Capriola*
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**  
If the Board of Selectmen supports the Republican Town Committee's recommendation to appoint Mr. Tanca to the Clean Energy Task Force, the following motion is in order:  
  
*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to appoint Michael Tanca (R) as a regular member of the Clean Energy Task Force with a term expiring December 2, 2019.*
5. **Summary of Submission:**  
The Republican Town Committee has recommended Michael Tanca (R) for appointment to the Clean Energy Task Force, as a regular member, with a term expiring December 2, 2019.
6. **Financial Impact:**  
None
7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**  
a) Letter from Kevin Beal



April 5, 2018

The Board of Selectmen  
Town of Simsbury

Re: Nominations for Appointment

Dear First Selectman and Members of the Board,

The Simsbury Republican Town Committee (SRTC) duly voted by Special Meeting on March 28, 2018 for the nomination for your appointment of the following individuals to the indicated Boards and Committees.

Robert Heagney to the Board of Assessment Appeals

Elizabeth Peterson to the Tourism Committee

Michael Tanca to the Clean Energy Task Force

The SRTC respectfully requests the appointment of the listed nominees.

Respectfully,

Kevin T. Beal  
Chairman



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Proposed Appointment of Robert Heagney (R) as a Temporary Regular Member to the Board of Assessment Appeals with an Expiration Date of September 30, 2018
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager  
*Maria E. Capriola*
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**

If the Personnel Sub-Committee supports the proposed recommendation from the Republican Town Committee to appoint Mr. Heagney as a temporary regular member to the Board of Assessment Appeals, and the Board of Selectmen concurs with that recommendation, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to appoint Robert Heagney (R) as a temporary regular member to the Board of Assessment Appeals with a term expiring September 30, 2018.*

5. **Summary of Submission:**  
A new ordinance, Assessment Appeals Board, took effect April 22, 2016. Chapter 5-2 provides that, "The Board of Selectmen may, upon the request of the Simsbury Board of Assessment Appeals, appoint additional regular members to the Simsbury Board of Assessment Appeals to serve on the Board for any assessment year." Chapter 5-1 further provides that, "The Board of Selectmen may appoint an alternate for each member of the Board of Assessment Appeals. Each alternate member shall be an elector of the Town of Simsbury. When seated, an alternate member shall have all the powers and duties of a member of the Board of Assessment Appeals."

At your November 13, 2017 Board of Selectmen meeting, it was decided that temporary regular appointments and alternate appointments to the Board of Assessment Appeals would be vetted through the Personnel Sub-Committee. It was further discussed that two temporary regular members, with terms expiring September 30, 2018, two alternate members with terms expiring December 2, 2019, and one alternate member with a term expiring December 6, 2021 would be sought.

One temporary regular appointment slot was filled at your February 26, 2018 Board of Selectmen meeting. One temporary regular appointment and three alternate member vacancies remain. If Mr. Heagney is appointed to the temporary regular member slot, three alternate vacancies will remain.



The Personnel Sub-Committee is reviewing the matter at its special meeting on April 23, 2018 and will report to the full Board at your meeting later that same evening.

The Board of Assessment Appeals began conducting appeals hearings on assessment values during March 2018; their work continues.

**6. Financial Impact:**

None

**7. Description of Documents Included with Submission:**

a) Resume of Robert Heagney

**ROBERT W. HEAGNEY**

██████████  
Simsbury, CT 06070

Cell ██████████

Home ██████████

**EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE**

<b>ARK UNDERWRITING INC. (Chief Legal and Operations Officer)</b>	<b>6/2013-Present</b>
<b>CONNECTICUT HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS (Redistricting Counsel)</b>	<b>11/2010-12/2012</b>
<b>LINDA MCMAHON FOR SENATE 2010 (Counsel)</b>	<b>3/2010-11/2010</b>
<b>MONTPELIER UNDERWRITING INC. (Senior VP, General Counsel)</b>	<b>2007-2010</b>
<b>HASSETT &amp; GEORGE (Of Counsel)</b>	<b>2003 - Present</b>
<b>WELLINGTON UNDERWRITING INC. (General Counsel)</b>	<b>2003 - 2007</b>
<b>GILMAN &amp; MARKS (Partner)</b>	<b>1984 - 2003</b>
<b>AUSTIN &amp; HEAGNEY (Partner)</b>	<b>1980 - 1984</b>

**EDUCATION**

J.D. University of Bridgeport School of Law, 1980 American Jurisprudence awards in Business Organizations and Insurance Law  
Senator student Bar Association Chairman, Law School Accreditation Committee, Contributing writer Common Pleas, Student newspaper

Institute on International and Comparative Law, 1978 - Sorbonne, University of Paris, France\*

Institute on International and Comparative Law, 1979 - Kings College, University of London, England\*

\*Institutes organized with the University of San Diego School of Law

B.A. Saint Anselm College Manchester, New Hampshire World History, 1975

**BAR ADMISSIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

Member of Connecticut State Courts, United States District Court for the District of Connecticut United States Court of Appeals,  
Second Circuit Member of the American, Connecticut and Hartford County Bar Associations

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Trustee, Simsbury Land Trust (2007-Present)  
Connecticut State Representative, 16<sup>th</sup> House District (1999-2007)  
House Ranking Republican of Education Committee (2001-2005)  
Republican Minority Whip (2005-2007)  
Simsbury Board of Finance, 1993 - 1999  
Chairman, 1996 - 1999  
Simsbury Little League 1994 President, 1995 - July 2002  
Selectman, Town of Simsbury, 1989-1993  
Simsbury Board of Police Commissioners, 1989 - 1993  
Planning Commission Town of Simsbury, 1987 - 1989  
Simsbury Affordable Housing Partnership Board Vice Chairman, 1988 - 1997  
Simsbury A Better Chance, Inc., Vice President & Treasurer 1979 - 1990  
Simsbury Affordable Housing Coalition, Inc. 1988 - 1990  
Simsbury Republican Town Committee, 1987 - Present, Chair 2014-17  
State of Connecticut, Secretary of State's  
Task Force on Citizenship Subcommittee, 1990 - 1994  
State of Connecticut, Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities  
Hearing Officer, 1985 - 1999

(f) Describe 10 litigated or non-litigated matters which, in your opinion, are the most significant cases you have handled and give the citations if the cases were reported.

1. Goodman vs. Heublein, Inc., 682 F.2d 44, 43 Fair Empl. Prac.Cas. (BNA) 247, 29 Empl.Prac.Dec. P 32, 841, 34 Fed.R.Serv.2d 412, C.A.2 (Conn.), June 11, 1982 (No. 1046, Docket 81-7875), (age discrimination)

2. Finley vs. Aetna Life & Casualty Co., 198 Conn. 802, 501 A.2d 1213, Conn., December 06, 1985 (employment contract)

**Finley v. Aetna Life & Casualty Co., 202 Conn. 190, 198-99, 520 A.2d 208, 2 IER Cases 942, Conn., January 27, 1987, overruled on other grounds, 225 Conn. 782, 626 A.2d 719 (1993);**

**Finley v. Aetna Life & Cas. Co., 5 Conn.App. 394, 499 A.2d 64, 120 L.R.R.M. (BNA) 3519, Conn.App., October 01, 1985 (No. 2599).**

3. Michael Thomas vs. Northeast Utilities (nuclear workers' protection)

4. Lebert Thomas v. Metropolitan District Commission, Not Reported in F.Supp.2d, 2004 WL 1402290, D.Conn. June 01, 2004 (No. 3:02CV457(MRK)). (race discrimination)

5. Calvin Creekmore v. Asia Brown Boveri, 93-ERA-24 at 4 (Dep. Sec'y Feb. 14, 1996) (Nuclear Workers' Protection Act)

6. William Hawkins and Shea Hemingway, et al v. Northeast Utilities (Nuclear Workers' Protection Act)

7. Carlin Construction Company v. Department of Consumer Protection, 49 Conn.App. 501, 714 A.2d 714, 1998 WL 406831, Conn.App. July 21, 1998 (No. 17662).

8. Ireland v. Town of Wethersfield, 41 Conn.App. 421, 676 A.2d 422, 1996 WL 251482, Conn.App. May 21, 1996 (No 14401) (property tax appraisal appeal)

9. Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank v. Sullivan, 216 Conn. 341, 579 A.2d 1054, 1990 WL 120882, Conn., August 21, 1990 (No. 13629). (legal malpractice)

10. Tansi vs. CL&P (Dormant Mineral Rights Act).

I would only list ten. If you feel that there is more that you can say about them, I think there is no reason why you can't elaborate in the parenthetical.

**Other Cases of Significance:**

11. Curley Richard v. MDC, (race discrimination)

12. Patricia Daniel v. Hartford Board of Education (Contract dispute)
13. Ahmed Moustafa v. Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New York (race discrimination)
14. John Kennedy v. Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New York, 170 F.Supp.2s 294, 2001 WL 1351113, 147 Lab.Cas. P. 59, 623, D.Conn., October 29, 2001 (No. 3:00CV0042(GLG)).
15. Thomas Mastrianna v. CL&P (disability discrimination and social security)
16. MaryLou Zuccala, Social Security (physical disability)
17. Ireland v. Town of Wethersfield, 242, Conn. 550, 698 A.2d 888, 1997 WL 451174, Conn. August 19, 1997 (No, 15482).
18. R.C. Associates v. Town of West Hartford, Zoning Bd. of Appeals, Not Reported in A.2d, 1991 WL 162318, Conn.Super. August 19, 1991 (No., 339303) (Zoning matter)
19. Chavez v. Metropolitan District Commission, Not reported in F.Supp.2d, 2005, WL 1923119, D. Conn., August 9, 2005 (No. 3:02CV458MRK).
20. LaPre v. Nibo Films, Ltd., 10 Conn.App. 669, 525 A.2d 140, Conn.App., May 12, 1987 (No. 4522).
21. Jones v. Town of Litchfield, 192 Conn. 802, 470 A.2d 1218, Conn., February 01, 1984.
22. Helming v. Sherwood, 31 Conn.App. 919, 625 A.2d 849, 1993 WL 181459, Conn.App., May 25, 1993 (No., 11471).
23. Morgan v. Metropolitan District Commission, 222 F.R.D. 220, 204 WL 1498120, D. Conn., June 28, 2004 (No. 3:01CV2037(MRK)).



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA SUBMISSION FORM

1. **Title of Submission:** Proposed Appointment of Elaine Lang (D) as the Simsbury Historical Society Member of the Hometown Hero Selection Committee with an Expiration Date of December 2, 2019
2. **Date of Board Meeting:** April 23, 2018
3. **Individual or Entity Making the Submission:**  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager  
*Maria E. Capriola*
4. **Action Requested of the Board of Selectmen:**  
If the Board of Selectmen supports Ms. Lang's appointment to the Hometown Hero Selection Committee, the following motion is in order:  
  
*Move, effective April 23, 2018 to appoint Elaine Lang (D, Historical Society) as a regular member of the Hometown Hero Selection Committee with a term expiring December 2, 2019.*
5. **Summary of Submission:**  
The Hometown Hero Program was initiated in 1986, with the purpose being to recognize residents for any deed or service that made our community a better place to live.  
  
Appointments of Hometown Hero Selection Committee members are in accordance with the guidelines amended on March 26, 2018. Members are appointed on a biennial basis and include: the First Selectman; a Board of Selectmen member of the opposite party; a member of the Historical Society; a business leader; a previous Hometown Hero; and a member of a veterans or service organization, with the goal of non-partisanship in mind. All members were appointed at the March 26, 2018 Board of Selectmen meeting with the exception of a member of the Historical Society. The Board of Selectmen needs to appoint a Historical Society member to the Hometown Hero Selection Committee, with a term expiring December 2, 2019.
6. **Financial Impact:**  
Approximately \$500 is budgeted annually under the Board of Selectmen/Community Services budget to support costs associated with this program. If all budgeted funds are not needed for the program, those funds are not expended.
7. **Description of Documents Included with Submission:**  
None

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY – BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 9, 2018  
(Subject to Approval)**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: Deputy First Selectman Christopher Kelly; Board members Sean Askham, Michael Paine, Cheryl Cook, and Chris Peterson. First Selectman Eric Wellman was absent. Others in attendance included: Town Manager Maria Capriola, Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby, Finance Director/Treasurer Sean Kimball, Director of Parks and Recreation Gerard Toner, and other interested parties.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Kelly noted that there is a box at the end of the agenda stating “following adjournment, per §CGS 1-200(2) Chapter 14, the Board of Selectmen and staff will meet to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining for the unit represented by IBPO.” Ms. Capriola said this notification is best practice per State statutes and for transparency purposes.

**PUBLIC AUDIENCE**

Robert Kalechman, 971 Hopmeadow Street, spoke about his concerns on the proposed budget expenses for the school and Chamber. He also spoke about the marijuana facility, possible 5<sup>th</sup> district indiscretions, and handicapped accessibility in Town.

Joan Coe, 26 Whitcomb Drive, spoke about the Board of Finance Budget Hearing, the money for Henry James School and other budget issues. She also spoke about her staff complaints and an FOI complaint for their records, and other issues.

Susan Masino, 41 Madison Lane, spoke about a landscaping approach to the forests and the open space management. She said she has a lot of information for the Board on this issue.

John Shiman, 9 Aruja Drive, re-invited everyone to a form called “THE PLANET, OUR FORESTS, AND CHAMPIONSHIP TREES” at the Simsbury Library on April 26, 2018. There will be a light dinner at 6 p.m. and the program begins at 7 p.m.

**FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT**

Mr. Kelly, Deputy First Selectman, reviewed First Selectman Eric Wellman’s report.

**TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT**

Town Manager Ms. Capriola reviewed her report.

Ms. Cook made a motion to amend the agenda to add FY 18/19 Operating and Capital Budget Resolutions and to set the Budget Referendum Date to be between Mr. Kimball’s Proclamation and the Tax Refund item. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**SELECTMEN ACTION**

**a) Proclamation Recognizing Sean Kimball for his Service to Simsbury**

Mr. Kelly said this would be Mr. Kimball's last Board of Selectmen meeting as his last day is April 13, 2018. He said "Many are called on – Few are chosen." He said Mr. Kimball has served Simsbury in different capacities where he has always had depth of knowledge, was a good leader, and had good inter-personnel skills.

Mr. Askham read a Proclamation for Mr. Kimball that listed some of his accomplishments and also said that April 13, 2018 will be Sean Kimball Day. Ms. Cook said the Town appreciated his willingness to always work with everyone and appreciated his sense of humor. He was also given gifts from the Town and wished well.

Mr. Kimball thanked everyone and said it was his pleasure to serve Simsbury. He has enjoyed working with the staff and all former and current Boards.

**b) Budget Proposals**

Ms. Cook made the following resolution:

Pursuant to Section 808 of the Town Charter the following motions were introduced at the Special Meeting of the Board of Finance on April 9, 2018:

Be it resolved, that the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the Board of Selectmen annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 shall be approved and implemented in the amount of \$21,020,727.

Be it resolved, that the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the Board of Education annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, shall be approved and implemented in the amount of \$69,149,552.

Be it resolved, that the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of Sewer Use Fund (Sewer Treatment Plant), Residential Rental Properties, Simsbury Farms/Special Programs, Non-Public Schools, Debt Retirement/Capital and Capital Non-Recurring annual budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, shall be approved and implemented in the amount of \$13,189,209.

In Accordance with Section 406 (Automatic Referendum) and 808 (Duties of the Board of Finance on the Budget) of the Charter, the recommended operating budgets will be submitted to a referendum in the following forum:

Questions for Referendum Ballot:

1. Shall the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the Board of Selectmen annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, be approved and implemented in the amount of \$21,020,727?

TOWN OF SIMSBURY – BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 9, 2018  
(Subject to Approval)

2. Shall the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the Board of Education annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, be approved and implemented in the amount of \$69,149,552?
3. Shall the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of Sewer Use Fund (Sewer Treatment Plant), Residential Rental Properties, Simsbury Farms/ Special Programs, Non-Public Schools, Debt Retirement, Capital and Capital Non-Recurring annual budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, be approved and implemented in the amount of \$13,189,209?

Mr. Askham seconded the resolutions which was approved by 5 (five) votes in favor and 0 (zero) votes opposed. Therefore, the motion passed.

Ms. Cook made a motion to set the date of Tuesday, May 1, 2018 for automatic referendum, pursuant to Section 406 of the Town Charter, from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Henry James Memorial School. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon motion duly made, seconded and adopted, the reading into the minutes of the full text of the resolutions set out below is waived, copies of the resolutions having been made available to those in attendance, and recorded in these records immediately following these minutes. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen recommends and approves the following:

CIP# General Purpose Projects (Cash)

Greenway Improvements	\$	275,000
Highway Pavement Management	\$	845,000
Sidewalk Resurfacing	\$	250,000
Ash Borer Tree Mitigation	\$	85,000

**School Projects (Cash)**

School Facilities Master Planning/Reconfiguration Study	\$	200,000
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**General Purpose Projects (Grants)**

Multi-Use Trails Simsbury-Bloomfield	\$	1,020,000
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**Sewer Use Fund (Cash)**

Tariffville Sewer Rehabilitation	\$	100,000
Primary Clarifier Rehabilitation	\$	75,000
Plant Water System Rehabilitation	\$	80,000
Jet Flusher Truck Replacement	\$	175,000



**School Projects (Bonds)**

District Network Infrastructure	\$ 400,000
HJMS Renovation Phase 3	\$ 23,965,620
Latimer Lane Boiler Replacement	\$ 900,000
School Security Improvements	\$ 850,000

Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**c) Tax Refund Requests**

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective April 9, 2018 to approve the tax refunds in the amount of \$4,350.15 as requested and approved by the Tax Collector, and to authorize Town Manager, Maria E. Capriola, to execute the tax refunds. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**d) Proposed Public Gathering Permits for 2018 Events**

Mr. Toner went through the list of events that were submitted for Public Gathering Permits. He noted that Mr. Brown from the Farmington Valley Health District was not in attendance at the Public Gathering meeting and the events will require his approval on the serving of food.

Mr. Askham made a motion to approve, effective April 9, 2018, the public gathering applications as presented and to authorize issuance of those public gathering permits. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**e) Proposed Fair Housing Policy, Resolution and Proclamation**

Ms. Capriola said April is Fair Housing Month and part of the Small Cities Grant process is to engage in activities that support Fair Housing. There are a number of activities identified in our Fair Housing Plan. She is recommending that the Town adopt the various documents for Fair Housing.

Ms. Cook made a motion, effective April 9, 2018, to adopt the Fair Housing Resolution and Fair Housing Policy as presented and to authorize Town Manager Maria E. Capriola to execute the documents. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ms. Cook made a motion to recognize and declare April as Fair Housing Month in the Town of Simsbury and to authorize Deputy First Selectman Christopher Kelly to execute the Fair Housing Proclamation as presented. Mr. Askham seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed. Ms. Cook read the Proclamation.

**f) Proposed Revisions to Affirmative Action Policy and Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Policy**

Ms. Capriola said these are additional policies that needed to be updated related to equal opportunities. She said pursuant to Section 2 of the Town's Personnel Rules and Regulations administrative and personnel policies are adopted by resolution. The Town's revised Affirmative Action Policy and Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Policy has been reviewed and edited by labor counsel.

Mr. Askham made a motion, effective April 9, 2018, to adopt the Affirmative Action Policy and the Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Policy as presented and to authorize Town Manager Maria E. Capriola to execute the documents. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**g) Appointment of LeClairRyan as Labor Counsel**

Ms. Capriola said the Board received notification that Mr. Harrington, the Town's Labor Counsel, left Murtha Cullina and is now at LeClairRyan. When the Town appoints counsel, they appoint the firm, not an individual and therefore, we can follow counsel to their new firm. The Town Attorney has reviewed the proposed engagement letter.

Ms. Capriola said on December 4, 2017 the Board of Selectmen motion provided staff with the option to conduct RFP's after June 30, 2018 and they will review issuance of a RFQ for labor counsel.

Mr. Paine made a motion, effective April 9, 2018, to appoint the firm of LeClairRyan as labor and employment counsel for the Town of Simsbury through December 2, 2019, with the understanding that staff has the option to conduct an RFQ for labor and employment counsel after June 30, 2018. Furthermore, to authorize Town Manager Maria E. Capriola to execute the engagement letter as presented. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

**a) Resignation of Lori P. Fernand from Recycling Committee**

Ms. Cook made a motion to accept the resignation of Lori P. Fernand from the Recycling Committee retroactive to March 19, 2018 with our thanks. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**b) Resignation of Jonathan Laschever from Design Review Board and Historic District Commission**

Ms. Cook made a motion to accept the resignation of Jonathan Laschever as a regular member of the Design Review Board retroactive March 30, 2018 with our thanks. Mr. Paine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Askham made a motion to accept the resignation of Jonathan Laschever as a regular member of the Historic District Commission retroactive to March 16, 2018 with our thanks. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

**a) Regular Meeting of March 26, 2018**

There were no changes to the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2018 and, therefore, the minutes were adopted.

**b) Special Meeting of April 2, 2018**

There were no changes to the Special Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2018 and, therefore, the minutes were adopted.

**SELECTMEN LIAISON AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) **Personnel** – no report at this time.
- b) **Finance** – no report at this time.
- c) **Welfare** – no report at this time.
- d) **Public Safety** – no report at this time.
- e) **Board of Education** – no report at this time.

Mr. Paine said the Board received a letter from the Conservation Commission and it is part of their packet.

Mr. Askham asked residents to come out and vote at the referendum. It is extremely important for the Board to see what the residents want.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no discussions at this time.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Radocchio  
Clerk

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY**  
**Resolutions of the Board of Selectmen**

**RESOLVED**, upon motion duly made, seconded and adopted, the reading into the minutes of the full text of the resolutions set out below is waived, copies of the resolutions having been made available to those in attendance, and recorded in these records immediately preceding these minutes.

**RESOLVED**, That the Board of Selectmen recommends and approves the following:

**CIP #      General Purpose Projects (Cash)**

Greenway Improvements	\$     275,000
Highway Pavement Management	\$     845,000
Sidewalk Resurfacing	\$     250,000
Ash Borer Tree Mitigation	\$     85,000

**School Projects (Cash)**

School Facilities Master Planning/Reconfiguration Study	\$     200,000
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**General Purpose Projects (Grants)**

Multi-Use Trails Simsbury-Bloomfield	\$1,020,000
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**Sewer Use Fund (Cash)**

Tariffville Sewer Rehabilitation	\$     100,000
Primary Clarifier Rehabilitation	\$     75,000
Plant Water System Rehabilitation	\$     80,000
Jet Flusher Truck Replacement	\$    175,000

**School Projects (Bonds):**

District Network Infrastructure	\$400,000
HJMS Renovation Phase 3	\$23,965,620
Latimer Lane Boiler Replacement	\$900,000
School Security Improvements	\$850,000

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE GENERAL FUND \$275,000 FOR GREENWAY IMPROVEMENTS**

RESOLVED, That the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the General Fund TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$275,000) for costs of improvements to the Greenway, including resurfacing, fencing, new signage, intersection warning systems, pavement markings, tree work, installation of root barriers, drainage improvements and related work. The appropriation may be spent for planning, engineering and construction costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE GENERAL FUND \$845,000 FOR THE HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

RESOLVED, That the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the General Fund EIGHT HUNDRED FOURTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$845,000) for repaving, repair and rehabilitation of the Town roadways pursuant to the town's pavement management program. The appropriation may be spent for construction costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE GENERAL FUND \$250,000 FOR SIDEWALK RESURFACING AND RECONSTRUCTION**

RESOLVED, That the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the General Fund TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) for sidewalk resurfacing and reconstruction, drainage and ADA accessibility improvements. The appropriation may be spent for planning, engineering, equipment, construction costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE GENERAL FUND \$85,000 FOR ASH TREE BORER MITIGATION**

RESOLVED, That the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the General Fund EIGHTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$85,000) for the inventory, evaluation and removal of trees located on Town property. The appropriation may be spent for consultant fees, tree removal, stump grinding, equipment, training, management costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM STATE GRANT RECIEPTS \$1,020,000 FOR A PORTION OF THE MULTI-USE TRAIL FROM TARIFFVILLE TO BLOOMFILED**

RESOLVED, That the Town of Simsbury appropriate from State grant receipts ONE MILLION TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,020,000) for the construction of a portion of the multi-use trail from Tariffville to the Town of Bloomfield. The appropriation may be spent for consultant fees, design and construction costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE SEWER USE FUND \$100,000 FOR TARRIFFVILLE SEWER REHABILITATION**

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Sewer Use Fund ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000) for costs in connection with the repair through replacement, lining and/or inserts of sewers in the Tarriffville area. The appropriation may be spent for investigations, design, equipment, engineering, construction and materials, and other expenses related to the project. The Water Pollution Control Authority may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE SEWER USE FUND \$75,000 FOR PRIMARY CLARIFIER REHABILITATION**

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Sewer Use Fund SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$75,000) for costs in connection with primary clarifier rehabilitation at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. The appropriation may be spent for investigations, design, and engineering costs, construction and materials, and other expenses related to the project. The Water Pollution Control Authority may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE SEWER USE FUND \$80,000 FOR PLANT WATER SYSTEM REHABILITATION**

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Sewer Use Fund EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$80,000) for costs in connection with plant water system rehabilitation at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. The appropriation may be spent for investigations, design, and engineering costs, construction and materials, and other expenses related to the project. The Water Pollution Control Authority may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE SEWER USE FUND \$175,000 FOR JET FLUSHER TRUCK REPLACEMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the Sewer Use Fund ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$175,000) for replacement of the jet flusher truck. The appropriation may be spent for acquisition costs and other expenses related to the project.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FROM THE GENERAL FUND \$200,000 FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES MASTER PLANNING/RECONFIGURATION STUDY**

RESOLVED, That the Town of Simsbury appropriate from the General Fund TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000) for the costs of a school facilities master planning/reconfiguration study. The appropriation may be spent for design, engineering and other consultants' fees, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Education may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$400,000 FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$400,000) for school district network infrastructure improvements. The appropriation may be spent for engineering and other consultants' fees, equipment costs, design and construction costs, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$400,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Sections 7-369 and 10-289 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$400,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Town Manager, the Treasurer, the Board of Education and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.



**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$23,965,620 FOR RENOVATIONS TO THE HENRY JAMES MEMORIAL SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION**

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate TWENTY-THREE MILLION NINE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$23,965,620) for renovations to the Henry James Memorial School including the addition of a library media center, science classrooms and STEM focus areas, addition of an auditorium, and renovations of the Technology Education/Family and Consumer Science wing, classroom renovations and completion of the fire suppression system. The Town anticipates receipt of grants to defray, in part, the appropriation. The appropriation may be spent for design, engineering and other consultants' fees, construction and equipment costs, materials, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Education may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation; and that the Town issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$23,965,620 to finance the appropriation.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed TWENTY-THREE MILLION NINE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$23,965,620) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Sections 7-369 and 10-289 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed fifteen years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not TWENTY-THREE MILLION NINE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$23,965,620). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.
- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Town Manager, the Treasurer, the board of Education and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

FURTHER RESOLVED,

- (a) that pursuant to the Charter, the resolution above shall be submitted to the voters in the manner provided by Section 406 thereof on May 1, 2018, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.
- (b) The resolution shall be placed upon the voting machines or paper ballots under the following heading:

“SHALL THE TOWN OF SIMSBURY APPROPRIATE \$23,965,620 FOR RENOVATIONS TO THE HENRY JAMES MEMORIAL SCHOOL; AND AUTHORIZE BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION?”

Voters approving said resolution will vote “Yes” and those opposing said resolution shall vote “No”.

Electors and persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors will vote at the following polling place:

Henry James Memorial Junior High School Gymnasium  
155 Firetown Road, Simsbury, Connecticut

Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk’s office.

- (c) Notice of the referendum shall be given by the Town Clerk.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$900,000 FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE BOILER AT LATIMER LANE SCHOOL; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$900,000) for replacement of the boiler at Latimer Lane School. The appropriation may be spent for engineering and other consultants' fees, equipment costs, design and construction costs, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$900,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Sections 7-369 and 10-289 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$900,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Town Manager, the Treasurer, the Board of Education and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$850,000 FOR SCHOOL SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS; AND AUTHORIZING BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town of Simsbury appropriate EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$850,000) for school security improvements. The appropriation may be spent for engineering and other consultants' fees, equipment costs, design and construction costs, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Selectmen may determine the particulars, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project.
- (b) That the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$850,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Sections 7-369 and 10-289 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The term of the bonds or notes shall not exceed ten years.
- (c) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$850,000). The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and shall be secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.
- (d) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds or notes. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.
- (e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

- (f) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.
- (g) That the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Town Manager, the Treasurer, the Board of Education and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 8:31 a.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were: Deputy First Selectman Christopher Kelly; Board members Sean Askham, Michael Paine, Cheryl Cook, and Chris Peterson (by phone). First Selectman Eric Wellman was absent. Others in attendance included: Town Manager Maria Capriola, Deputy Town Manager Melissa Appleby, Finance Director/Treasurer Sean Kimball, Director of Parks and Recreation Gerard Toner, Culture, Parks and Recreation Director Gerard Toner; Director of Planning and Community Development Jamie Rabbitt; Interim Police Chief Nick Boulter; Human Resources Coordinator Eric Gomes; IT Manager Rick Bazzano; Police Commission member Mike Long; and other interested parties.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **PUBLIC AUDIENCE**

None

## **SELECTMEN ACTION**

### **a) Proposed FY 18/19 Budget Mailer**

The Board reviewed the draft budget mailer. Mr. Kelly noted that this is the same format that has been used in prior years.

Mr. Askham made a motion effective April 13, 2018, to approve and authorize issuance of the FY 18/19 budget mailer as presented. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

### **b) Recommended Appointment of Police Chief**

Ms. Capriola provided an overview of the recruitment process that took place following former Chief Ingvertsen's retirement announcement in January. She said that Interim Chief Nick Boulter rose to the top of a competitive pool of applicants, and that she is very pleased to recommend him as her preferred candidate. She noted Mr. Boulter's high level of integrity and professionalism, and said that he was also unanimously recommended by the Police Commission.

Mr. Askham made a motion to make a conditional offer of employment to Nicholas (Nick) J. Boulter for the position of Police Chief and to appoint Mr. Boulter to the position effective April 15, 2018, with an annual starting salary of \$134,900 and employment-related benefits assigned to that position. Ms. Cook seconded the motion. Mr. Askham said that the recruitment process was very well done, and that the community will be well served with Mr. Boulter in this position. Mr. Kelly said that he was very pleased to support this recommendation, and that he is impressed with Mr. Boulter's passion and commitment to the profession. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Boulter thanked everyone for their support, and said that he is looking forward to serving in this role. Mr. Kelly recognized the Police Commission for their role in the recruitment process.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Askham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Paine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager



# Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth

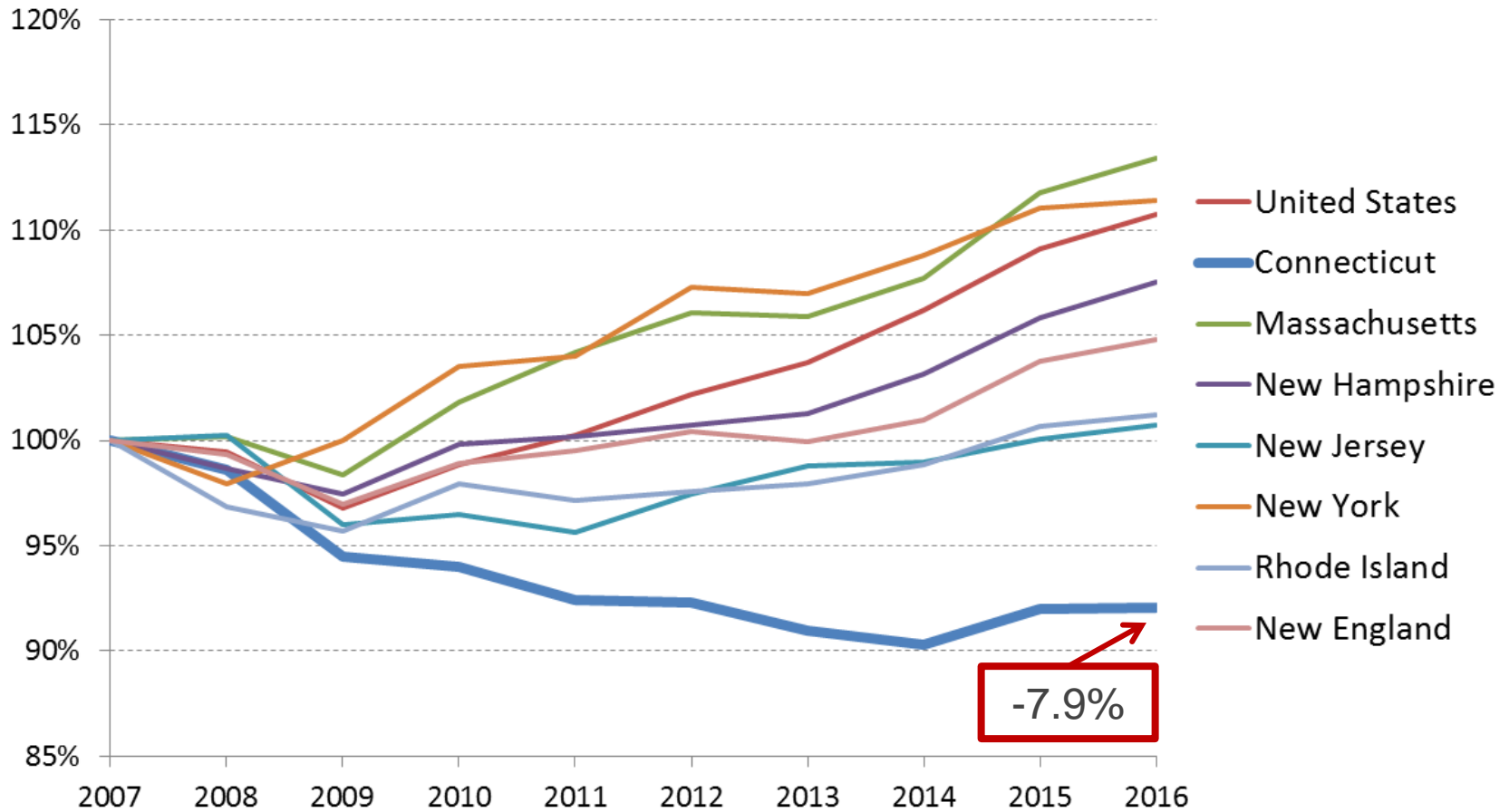
# Connecticut's Burning Platform

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Commission on Fiscal Stability and  
Economic Development

# Connecticut real gross state product still remains 8% below 2007 levels; lagging neighboring states and national averages

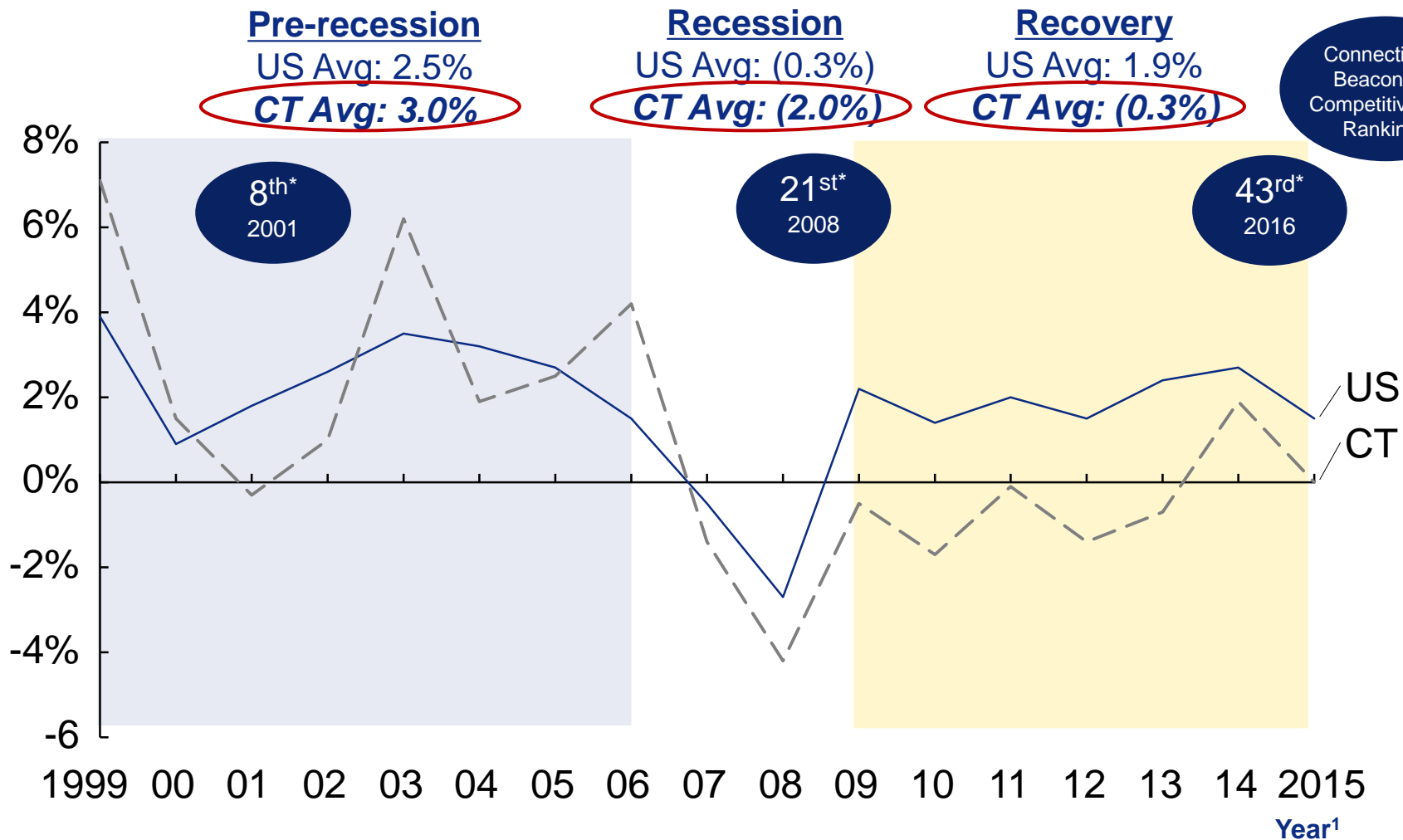
Indexed Real GDP by state (millions of chained 2007 dollars)



# Our growth has slowed as our competitiveness has diminished

## CT GDP growth rate

% change from preceding period



Connecticut's  
Beacon Hill  
Competitiveness  
Rankings

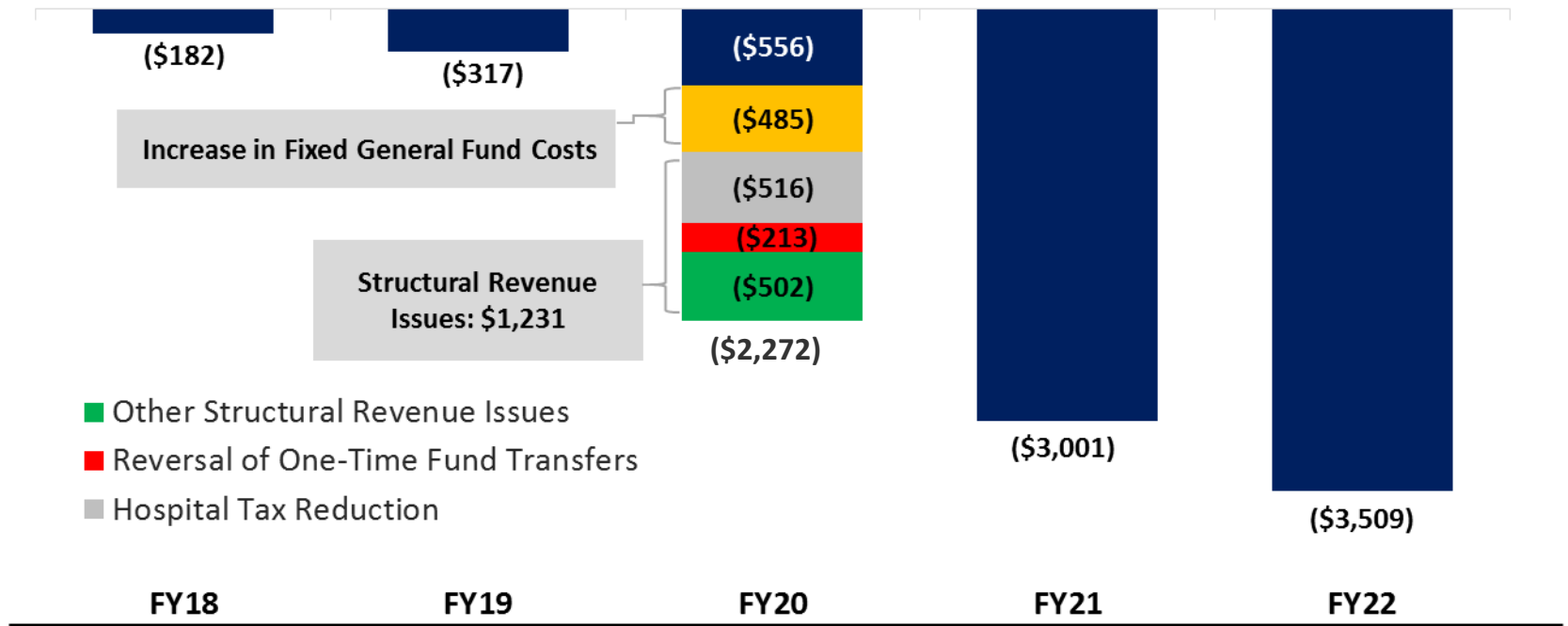
<sup>1</sup> Each year represents the calculation between two years. For example, "1999" was calculated between "1999-2000"

SOURCE: Bureau of Economic Analysis

\* Beacon Hill Competitiveness Rankings

# Despite achieving a bipartisan budget, significant out year deficits remain

Connecticut State Forecasted Budget Balances (\$ in millions)<sup>1</sup>



(1) Source: FY18-19 Biennial Budget, January 2018 Consensus Revenue Estimates, January 2018 OPM Budget Estimates, OFA Out Year Estimates

# Fixed expenditure growth is accelerating and is crowding out important spending and investment

## Projected General Fund Expenditure Growth<sup>1</sup>

Category (\$ in millions)	Actual FY06 <sup>2</sup>	FY17 <sup>3</sup>	Projected FY20	Annual Growth	
				'06 to '20	'17 to '20
Pension	\$884	\$2,161	\$2,640	8.1%	6.9%
Retiree Healthcare	\$411	\$751	\$1,077	7.1%	12.8%
Debt Service	\$1,306	\$2,076	\$2,410	4.5%	5.1%
Entitlement Programs <sup>4</sup>	\$2,813	\$3,787	\$4,322	3.1%	4.5%
<b>General Fund Fixed Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,420</b>	<b>\$8,796</b>	<b>\$10,458</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>

**Projected average annual fixed expenditure increases of 5.9% from FY 2017 to 2020**

Source: OFA Fiscal Accountability Report FY17 – FY 20. Connecticut CAFR. 2017 Annual Report of the State Comptroller. OFA Fiscal Note to Enacted Biennium Budget. OPM and OFA January 16, 2018 Consensus Revenue Estimates. OPM January 19, 2018 Budget Letter.

(1) Fixed cost data from OFA Fiscal Accountability Report dated Nov 15, 2016 and is not reflective of enacted budget and projections.

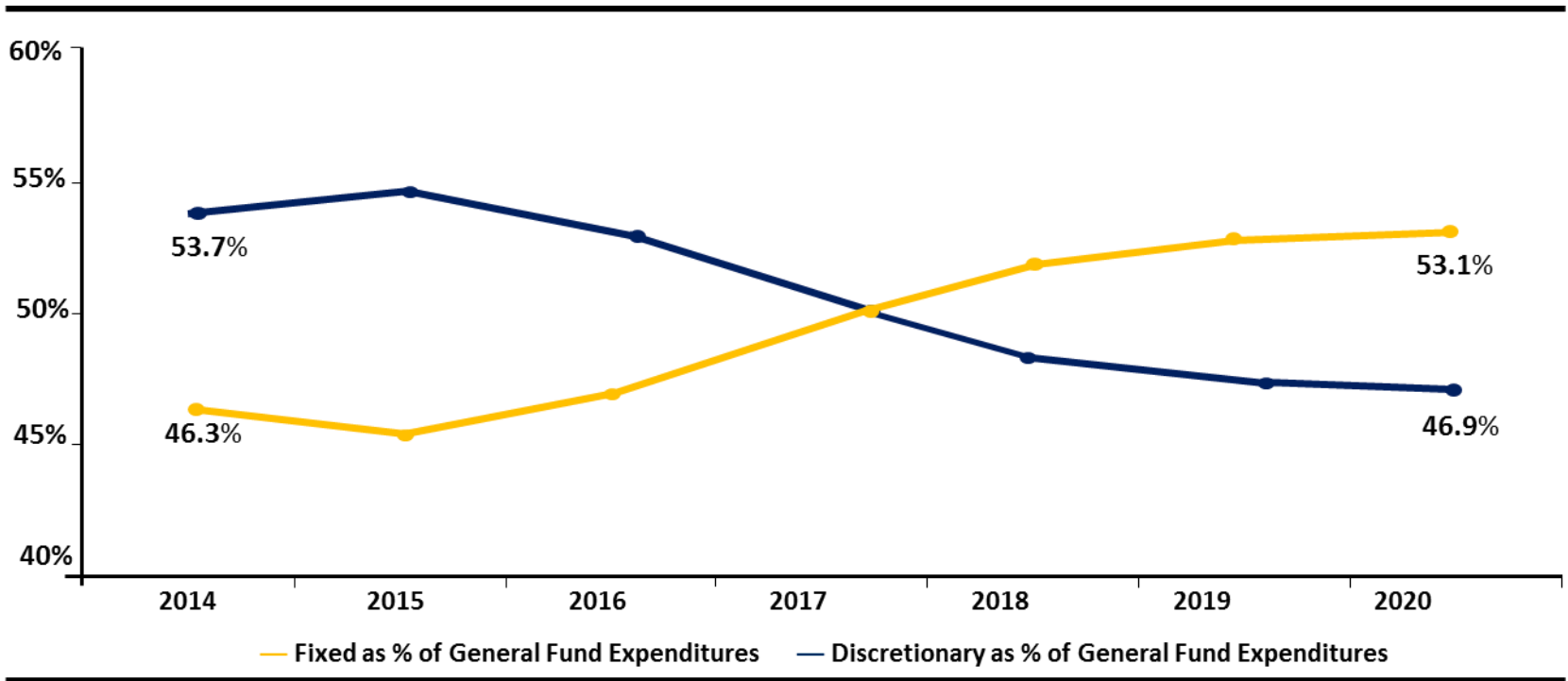
(2) FY06 General Fund revenues and expenditures based on gross funding of Medicaid (includes both federal and local portion).

(3) FY17 General Fund fixed expenditures per OFA Fiscal Accountability Report FY17 – FY20. FY17 total General Fund expenditures and revenues per 2017 State Comptroller's Annual Report.

(4) Includes Medicaid and other services provided by the Department of Social Services, Department of Children and Families, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Office of Early Childhood.

# Fixed costs have grown to over 50% of the general fund

## General Fund Fixed vs. Discretionary Costs (% of General Fund Expenditures)



## Expenses growing much faster than revenues

- Growth in fixed expenses is overwhelming commendable progress in discretionary expenditures controls, and revenue growth is slowing

### Projected General Fund Expenditure and Revenue Growth<sup>1</sup>

Category (\$ in millions)	Actual FY06 <sup>2</sup>	FY17 <sup>3</sup>	Projected FY20	Annual Growth	
				'06 to '20	'17 to '20
<b>General Fund Fixed Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,420</b>	<b>\$8,796</b>	<b>\$10,458</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>
Discretionary Expenditures	\$9,080	\$8,967	\$9,251	0.1%	1.0%
<b>Total General Fund Expenditures</b>	<b>\$14,500</b>	<b>\$17,763</b>	<b>\$19,709</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>
<b>General Fund Revenues</b>	<b>\$14,999</b>	<b>\$17,703</b>	<b>\$17,510</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>

**A 3% expense / revenue delta increases the deficit by over \$500M annually**

Source: OFA Fiscal Accountability Report FY17 – FY 20. Connecticut CAFR. 2017 Annual Report of the State Comptroller. OFA Fiscal Note to Enacted Biennium Budget. OPM and OFA January 16, 2018 Consensus Revenue Estimates. OPM January 19, 2018 Budget Letter.

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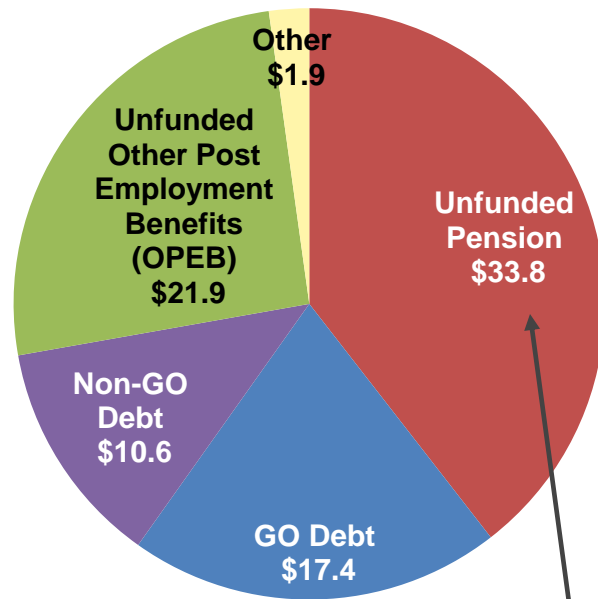


# CT's legacy liabilities are precariously high and trending higher

- The State's \$86 billion of total liabilities would increase to nearly \$100 billion if the State's pension systems reduced their investment return assumption to 6%<sup>1</sup>

## Total Liabilities<sup>2</sup> (\$ billions)

\$85.5B as of 6/16



State Employees	\$20.4
Teachers	13.1
Judicial	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$33.8</b>

- Debt service to revenue ratio of 13.3% is **highest in the US<sup>3</sup>**
  - 3.0x US mean / 3.2x US median
- Moody's adjusted net pension liability (ANPL) is 20.4% of GDP, **3<sup>rd</sup> highest in the US<sup>3</sup>**
  - 2.8x US mean / 4.2x US median
- Pension contributions and debt service at 26.5% of revenue is **highest in the US<sup>3</sup>**
  - 3.0x US mean / 3.6x US median
- Net tax supported debt as a % of personal income is 9.7%, **3<sup>rd</sup> highest in the US<sup>3</sup>**

(1) Sensitivity analysis of pension liabilities per The Pew Charitable Trusts.

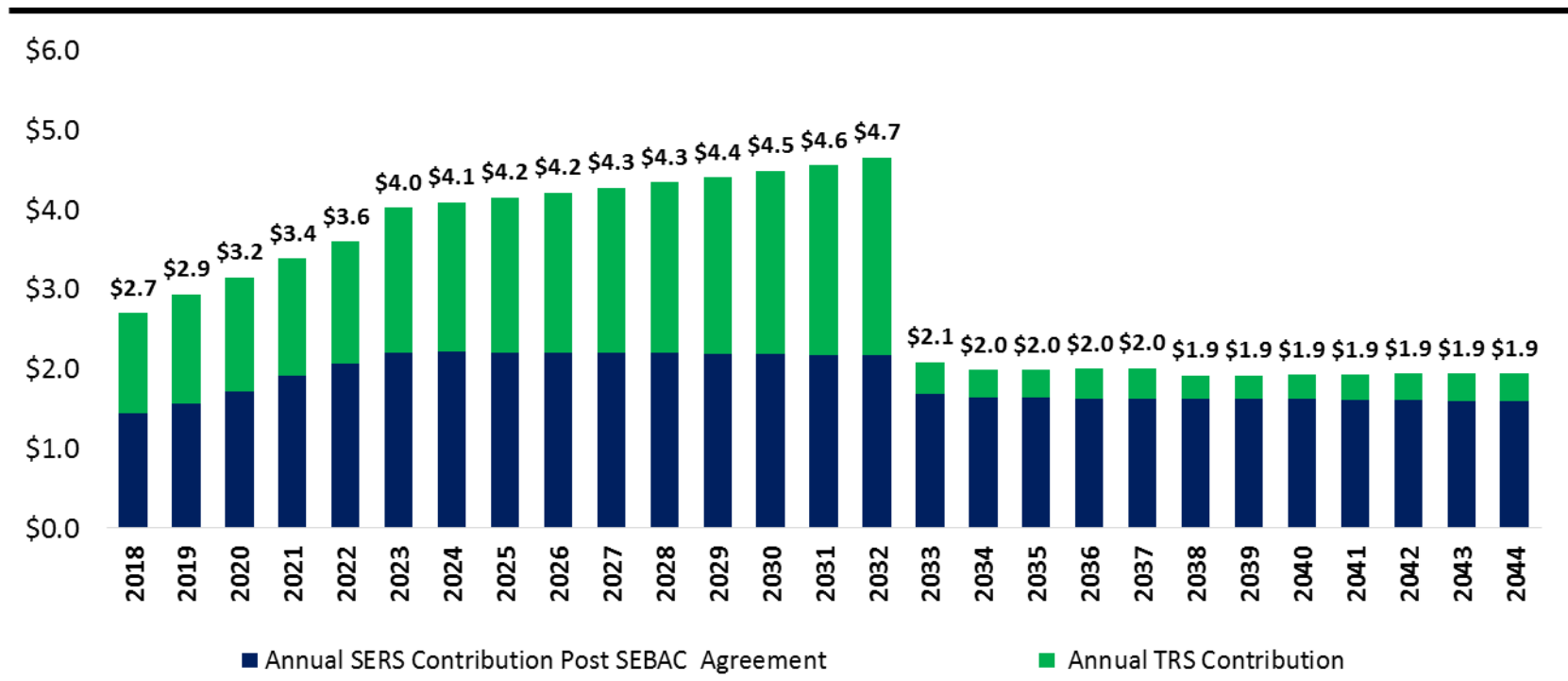
(2) State of Connecticut Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, 2016. Debt includes component units. Unfunded pension and OPEB liabilities represent unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities ("UAAL") based on actuarial reports for the State's pension and OPEB systems.

(3) Moody's Investor Service. These ratios have been calculated based on Moody's definitions of debt, pension liabilities, debt service, contributions and own-source governmental revenues (revenues less federal funding), and in most cases will differ from a state's own published calculations or the calculations of other institutions.

# Escalating required pension contributions, especially for TRS, exacerbate the State's fiscal challenges

- Utilizing the current discount rate of 8% for TRS, total annual contributions reach \$4.7B in 2032

**Projected Annual Pension Contributions (excl. JRS) (\$ in billions)<sup>1</sup>**

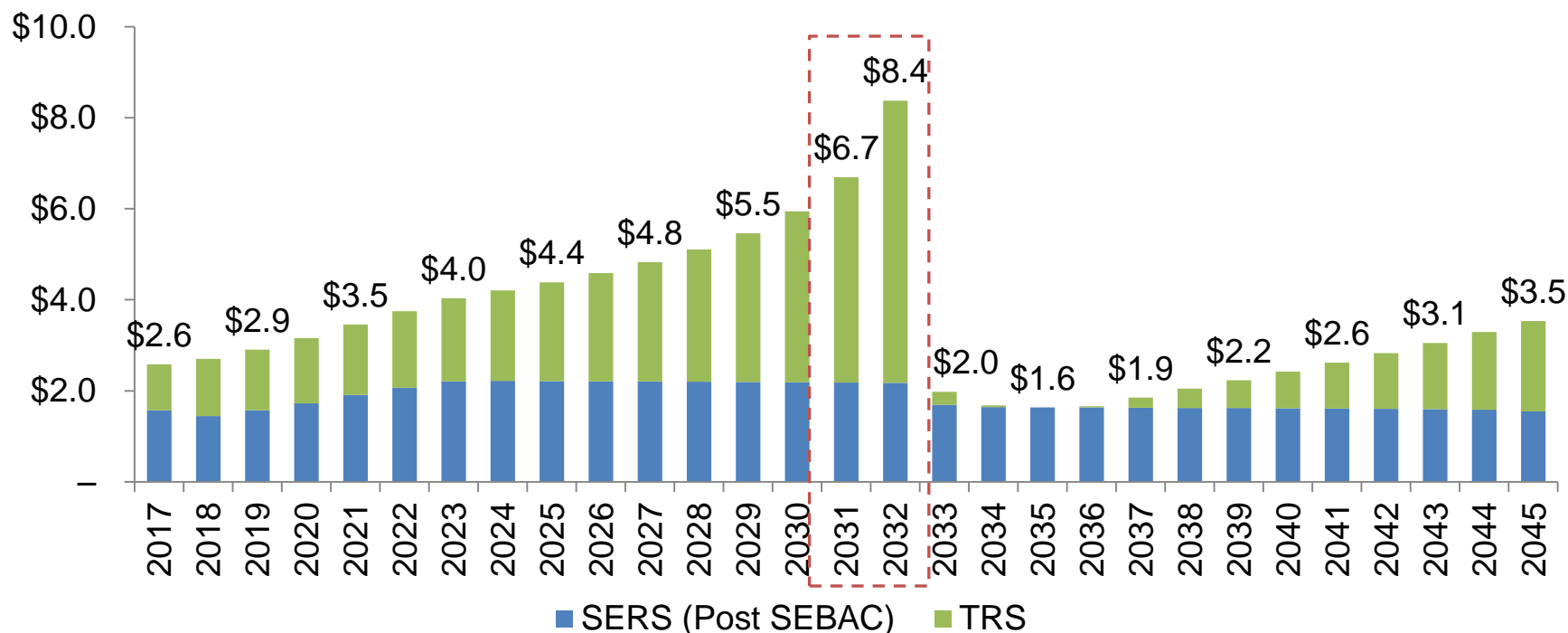


(1) The Pew Charitable Trusts, State Office Policy Management, May 2017 SEBAC Agreement

## However if you adopt a more realistic discount rate of 5.5%, the 2032 contributions would be \$8.4 billion

- General Fund revenues would need to grow by 8% annually to maintain the FY 2017 ratio of pension contributions to General Fund revenues<sup>1,2</sup>

**Projected Annual Pension Contributions (excl. JRS) (\$ in billions)<sup>2</sup>**



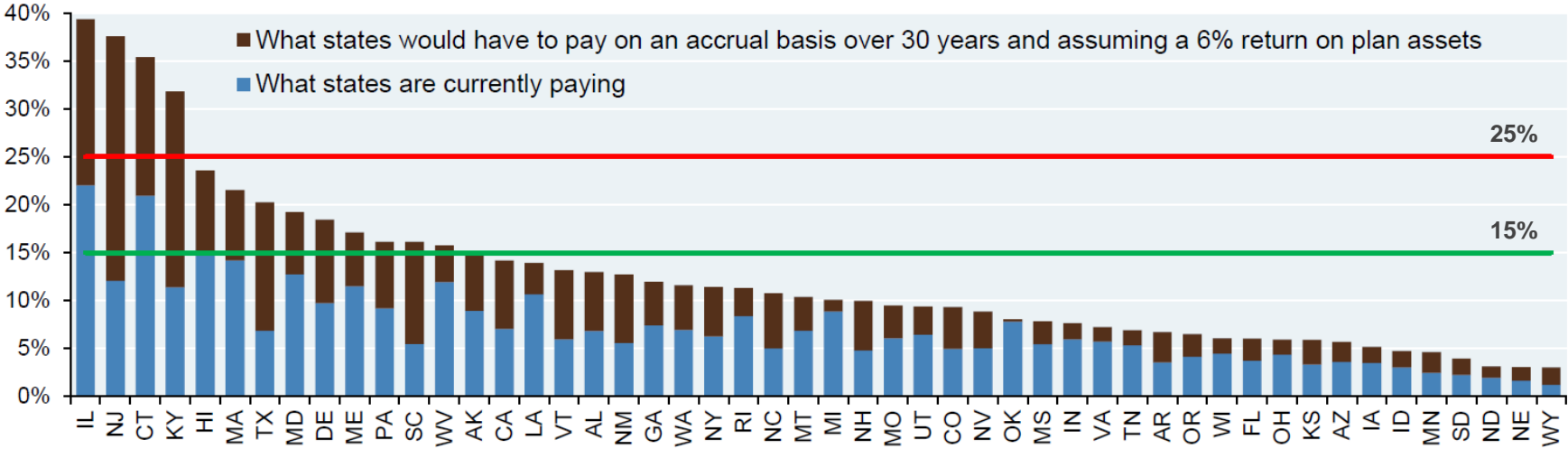
(1) Excludes JRS. 2016 CT CAFR, CT SERS, TRS 2016 Actuarial Valuation Report.

(2) JRS projected contributions unavailable. TRS contributions assume a 5.5% investment return per Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, State Office of Policy and Management. SERS contributions per May 2017 SEBAC Agreement.

# Connecticut would need to spend 35 cents of every dollar of revenue to fund obligations amortized over 30 years

- Connecticut spent ~21% of state revenues to fund debt, pension and OPEB liabilities in FY 2015
- 35% of revenue needed to fund debt and legacy pension and OPEB liabilities on an accrual basis over 30 years, assuming an illustrative 6% return on plan assets<sup>1</sup>

## Percent of state revenue collections required to pay the sum of interest on bonds, the state's share of unfunded pension and retiree healthcare liabilities, and defined contribution plan payments



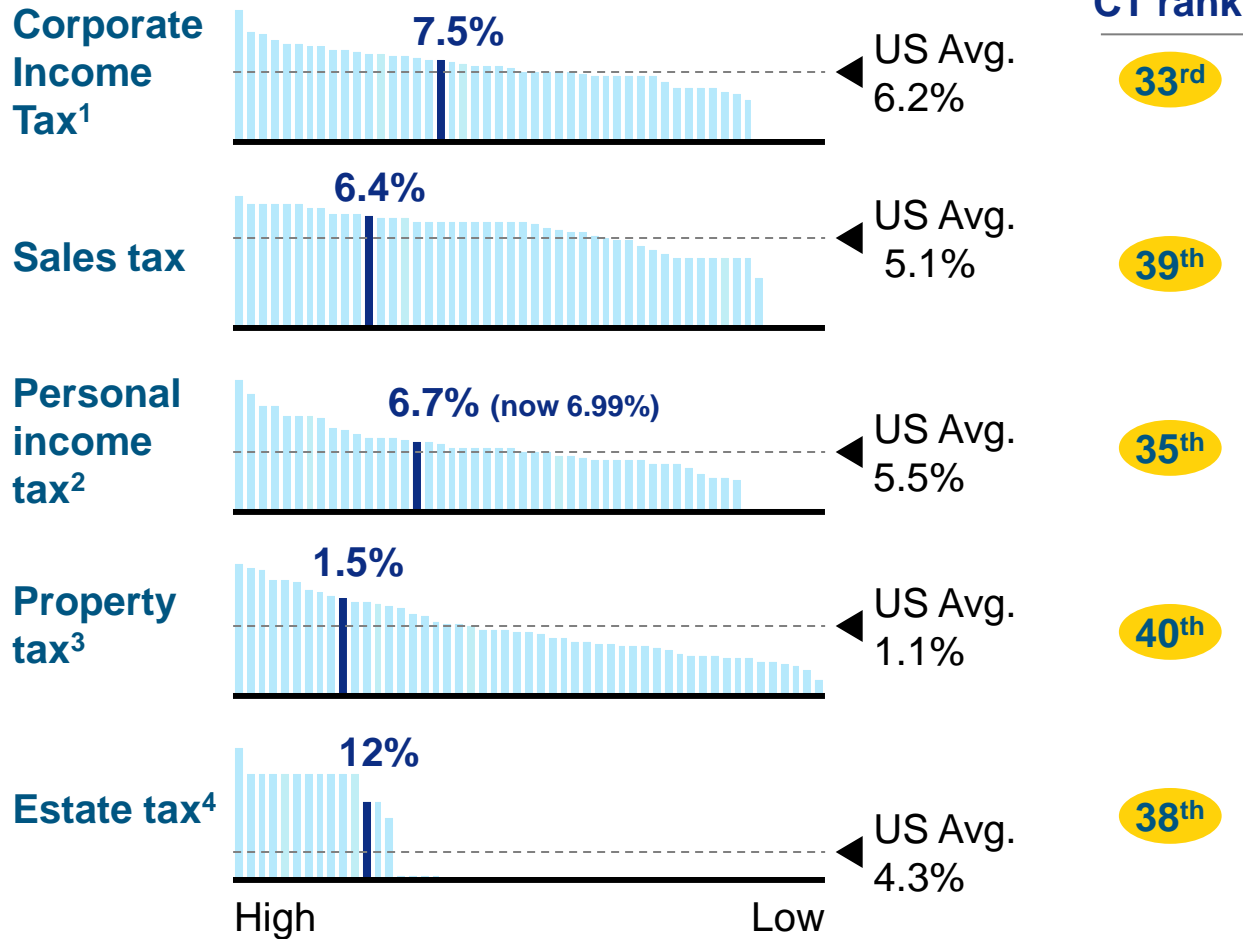
Source: The ARC and the Covenants 2.0, J.P. Morgan Asset Management; State/Pension Plan Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports; Census; Loop Capital Markets. FY 2015.

(1) Accrual basis expenditures include payments of benefits that have accrued even if cash payment for such benefits is not yet due.

# Connecticut's taxes are higher than US averages

XX% CT rate ■ Connecticut ■ All other states

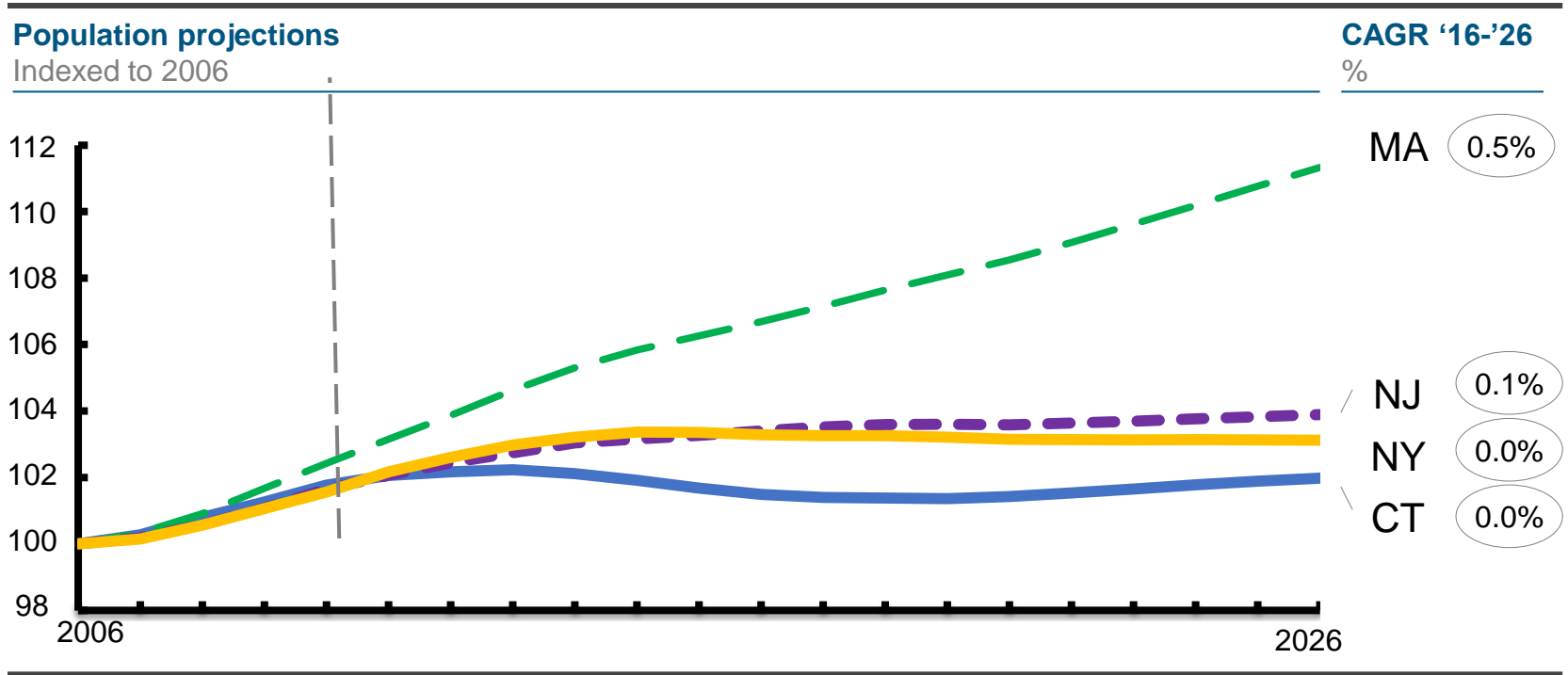
## Tax rates by state, 2015, Statutory rate, %



“...CT aggregate state tax burden is the 5<sup>th</sup> highest in the country...”  
 – Tax Policy Center<sup>5</sup> (2015)

<sup>1</sup> Represents the highest marginal corporate tax rate  
<sup>2</sup> State and Local Sales Tax Rates in 2017, Tax Foundation  
<sup>3</sup> State Individual Income Tax Rates and Brackets for 2017, Tax Foundation (Highest Marginal Tax Bracket)  
<sup>4</sup> Mean Effective Property Taxes on Owner-Occupied Housing, Tax Foundation 2015  
<sup>5</sup> Tax Foundation data

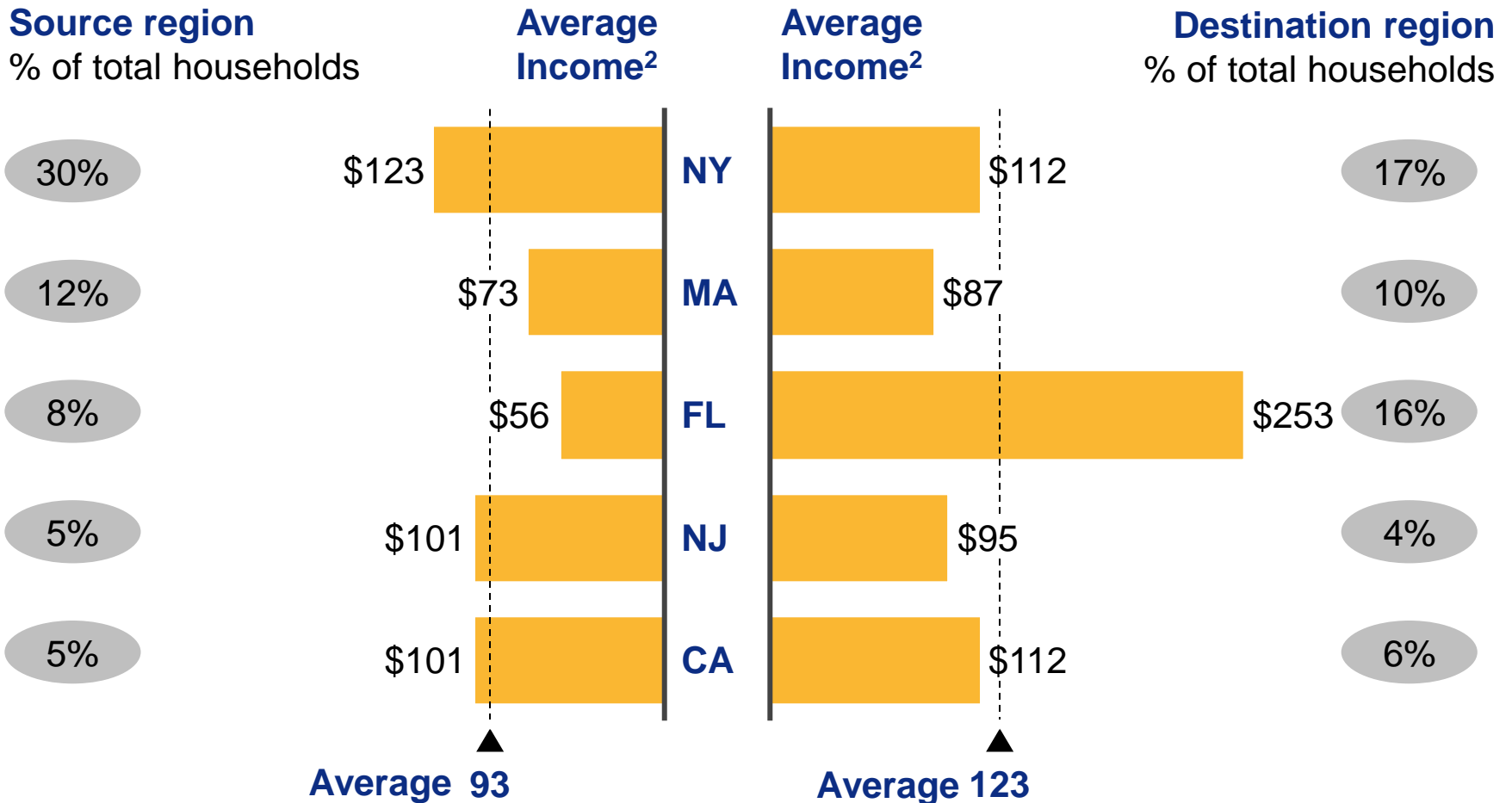
# Connecticut's Population Growth Remains Flat



# Migrants to CT earn less than those who leave CT

Households<sup>1</sup> moving to Connecticut earn \$93,000/year...

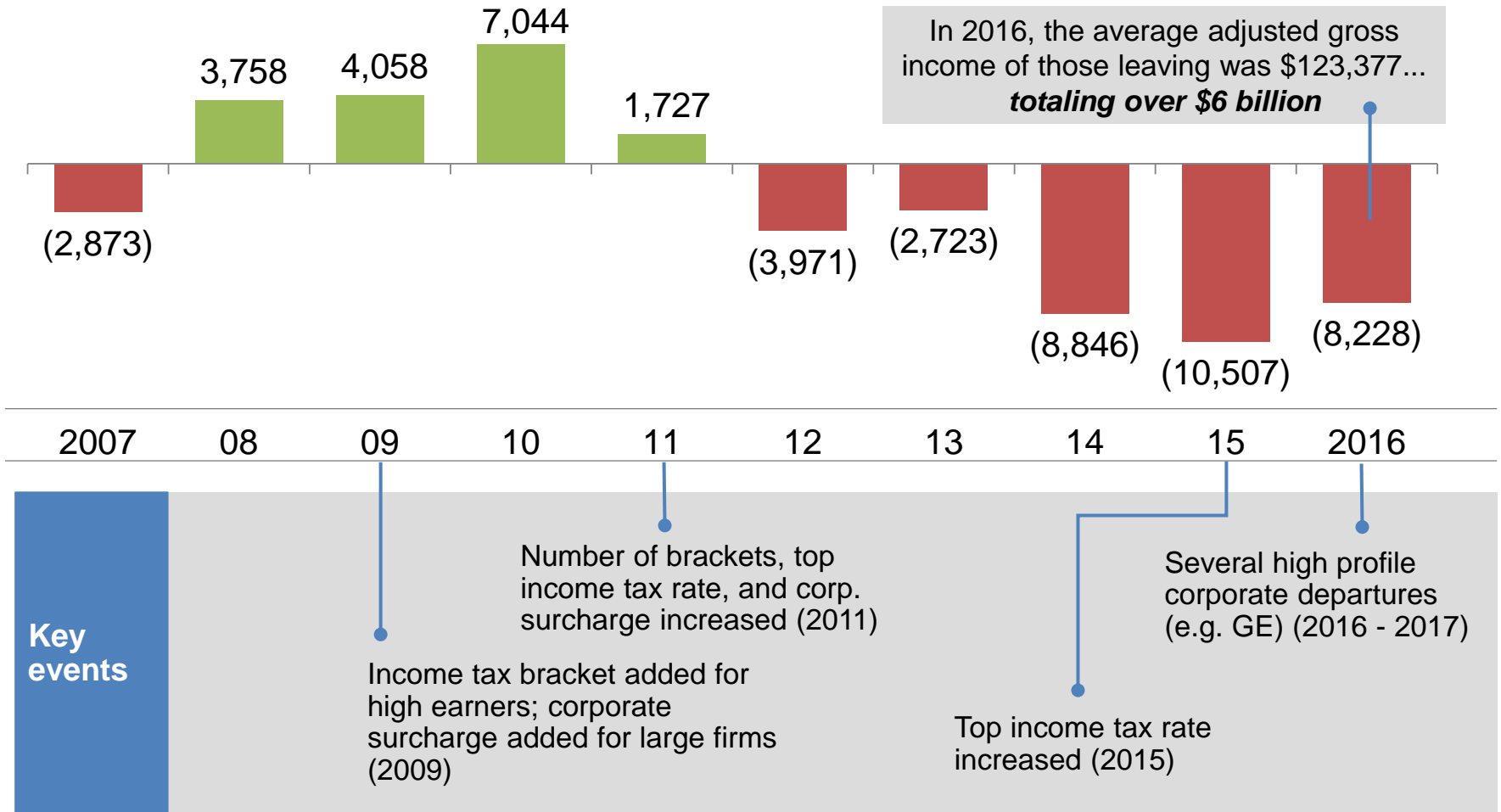
...while CT residents moving away earn more – averaging \$123,000/year



<sup>1</sup> Number of returns filed approximates the number of households that migrated  
<sup>2</sup> Adjusted Gross Income as reported to the IRS  
 SOURCE: Internal Revenue Service (2015-2016)

# At the same time, a series of tax increases has correlated with significant outmigration

Historical Net Migration in Connecticut (# of people)<sup>1</sup>

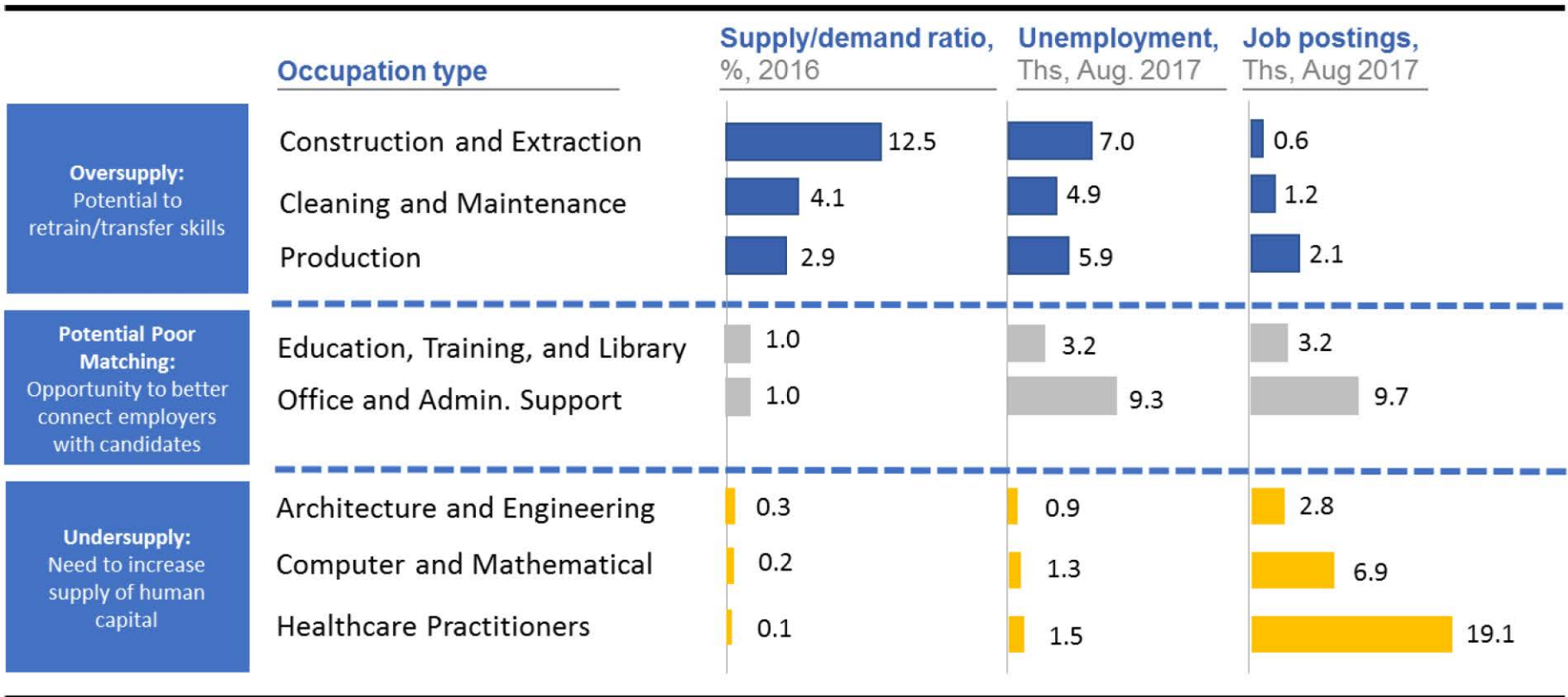


Source: Hartford Courant, January 3, 2018.

(1) FY 2018 – FY 2019 Biennium Economic Report of the Governor



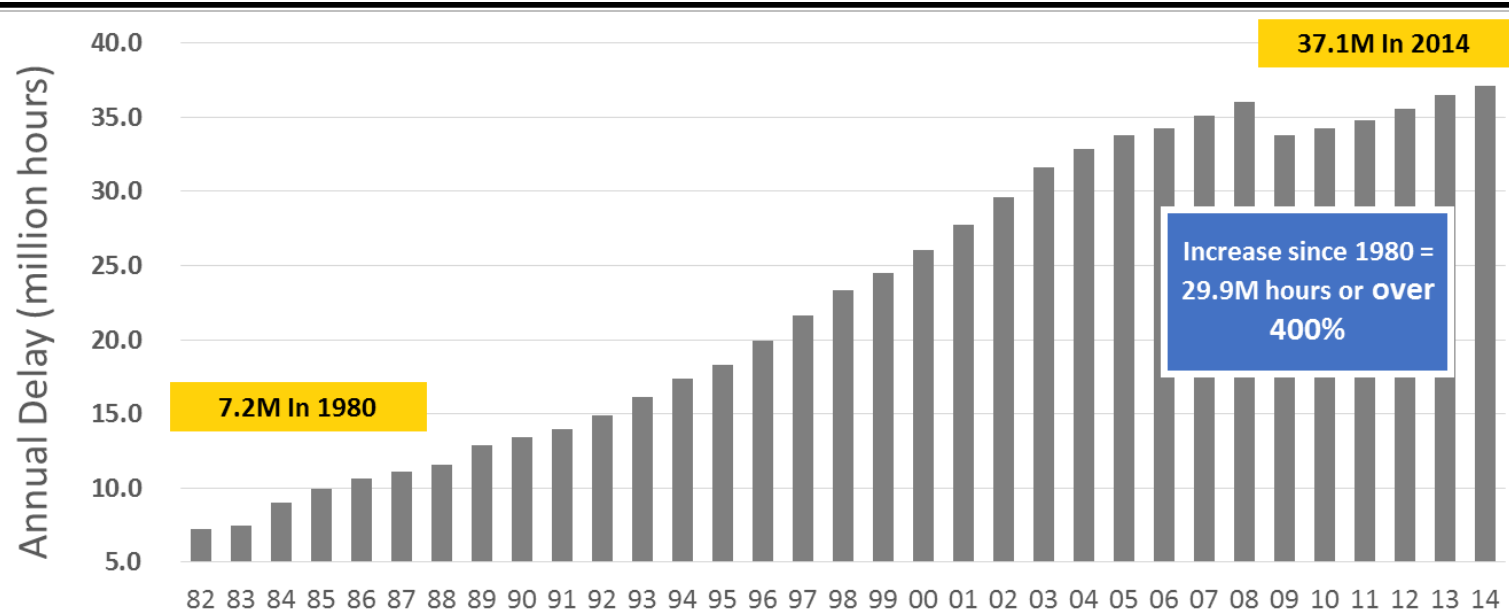
# Connecticut has a Mismatch of Labor Supply and Demand



# The Bridgeport-Stamford Metro Area had 37.1 million hours of traffic delay in 2014, up 400% from 1980

- Highway, airway, rail and port all suffer from underinvestment
- Infrastructure issues cause aggravation and disincentivize business investment
- The backbone of Connecticut's economy needs major capital investment to maintain even current inadequate service levels
- The Special Transpiration Fund (STF) must have a steady, reliable revenue stream in order to commit to longer term investments

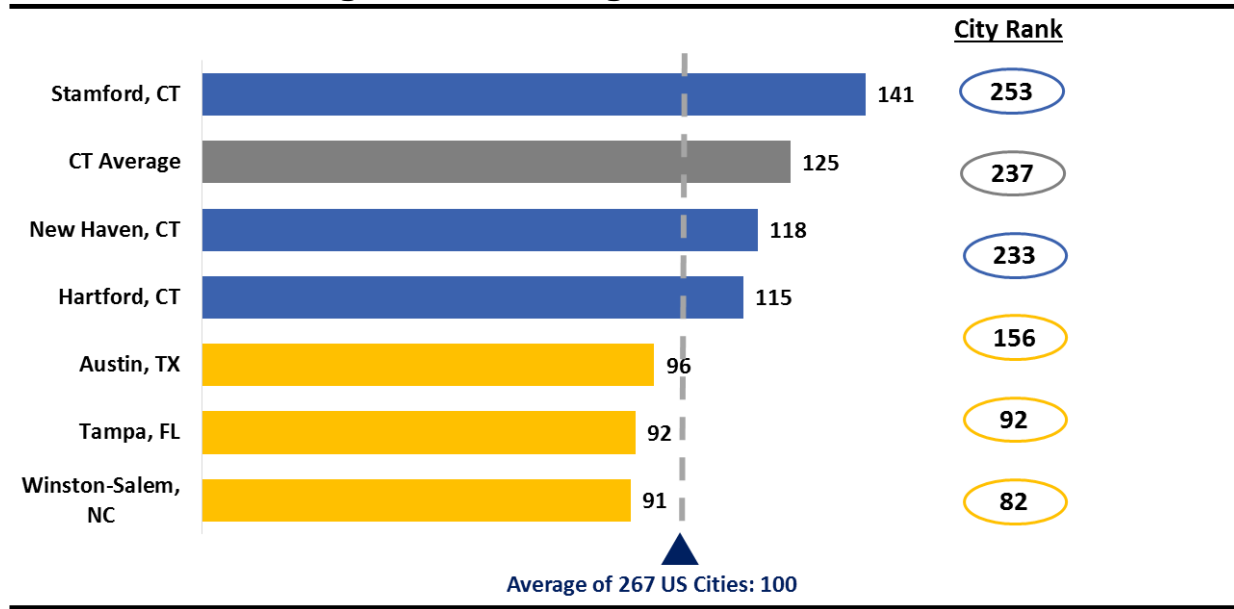
Millions of Hours of Delay Annually: Bridgeport-Stamford Metro Area



# Connecticut cities do not provide the vibrant urban cores that are critical to the state's economic growth and well-being

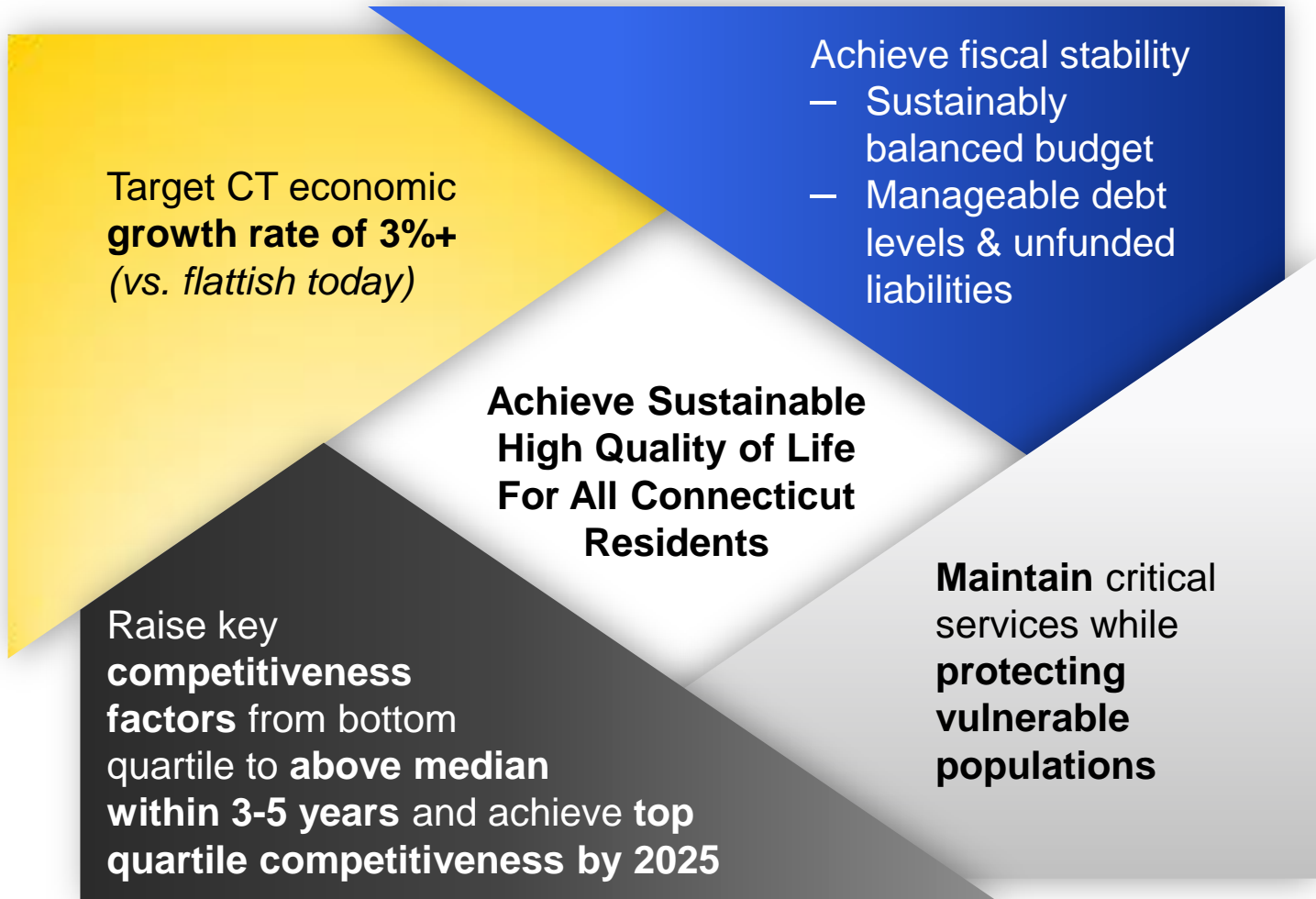
- Our Cities are Challenged by Several Structural Factors:
  - ▶ Relatively small, little regional support
  - ▶ Provide services to the region without sufficient compensation
  - ▶ Uniquely burdened by concentration of tax exempt property
  - ▶ High property taxes, making it hard to compete for businesses and residents

## The Cost of Living in Cities is Higher in Connecticut<sup>1</sup>



# A “strawman” vision for CT

A long-term vision is required to propel our state back to greatness...



***Commission recommends short-term, medium-term and long-term actions that will enable improved competitiveness and higher growth***

# Key Recommendations

---

Commission on Fiscal Stability and  
Economic Development

## Need for a Comprehensive Strategy

- Economic growth and fiscal stability are tightly integrated—must solve for both with a comprehensive plan that deals with structural issues. Re-igniting growth requires
  - ▶ Rebalancing state taxes to be competitive and pro-growth, equitable and protective of lower income populations, and attractive to high income residents, small and medium sized business, and entrepreneurs and job creators of all sizes
  - ▶ Stabilizing budgets going forward
  - ▶ Creating a path for reducing unfunded liabilities
  - ▶ Helping to restore our challenged central cities
  - ▶ Helping municipalities lower costs and diversify revenues
  - ▶ Investing in our aging and underfunded transportation infrastructure
  - ▶ Dealing with workforce skills imbalances (especially STEM)
  - ▶ Refocusing growth initiatives on key sectors and small/medium sized business
- Enacting and implementing such a comprehensive strategy will require the General Assembly to consider our recommendations as a package

## Key Recommendations...

### 1. A pro-growth, revenue neutral rebalancing of state taxes that:

- ▶ Reduces income taxes in every bracket over three years, with increased progressivity (-\$2.1 billion/year)
- ▶ Raises the sales tax from 6.35% to 7.25% (+\$950 million/year)
- ▶ Eliminates 14% of the exemptions and inclusions from all taxes (+\$850 million/year)
- ▶ Raises taxes on business through a tiered 0.8% payroll tax (+\$475 million/year)
- ▶ Eliminates the estate and gift taxes (-\$130 million/year) and the Business Enterprise Tax (-\$20 million/year)

Bracket Before	Bracket After	Annual Income (Single) (A)	Estimated Income Benefit	Estimated Sale Tax Impact	Estimated Net Impact (B)
3.00%	0.00%	\$ 10,000	\$ 300	\$ (30)	\$ 270
5.00%	3.50%	\$ 25,000	\$ 530	\$ (70)	\$ 460
5.00%	3.50%	\$ 40,000	\$ 750	\$ (110)	\$ 640
5.50%	4.50%	\$ 60,000	\$ 1,000	\$ (160)	\$ 840
5.50%	4.50%	\$ 80,000	\$ 1,200	\$ (210)	\$ 990
6.00%	4.50%	\$ 120,000	\$ 1,700	\$ (310)	\$ 1,390
6.90%	5.75%	\$ 250,000	\$ 1,880	\$ (640)	\$ 1,240
6.99%	5.75%	\$ 600,000	\$ 7,440	\$ (1,530)	\$ 5,910

## Key Recommendations...

2. Raise the minimum wage. Go to \$15 / hour by 2022, with possible variations for age, part- or full-time, and/or size of business
3. Create a Joint Budget Committee of the legislature with the power to set limits on revenues and expenses
4. Develop and implement a plan to cut \$1 billion out of annual operating expenses
5. Have the legislature assume the responsibility to define state employee fringe benefits by removing them from collective bargaining for new contracts



## Key Recommendations...

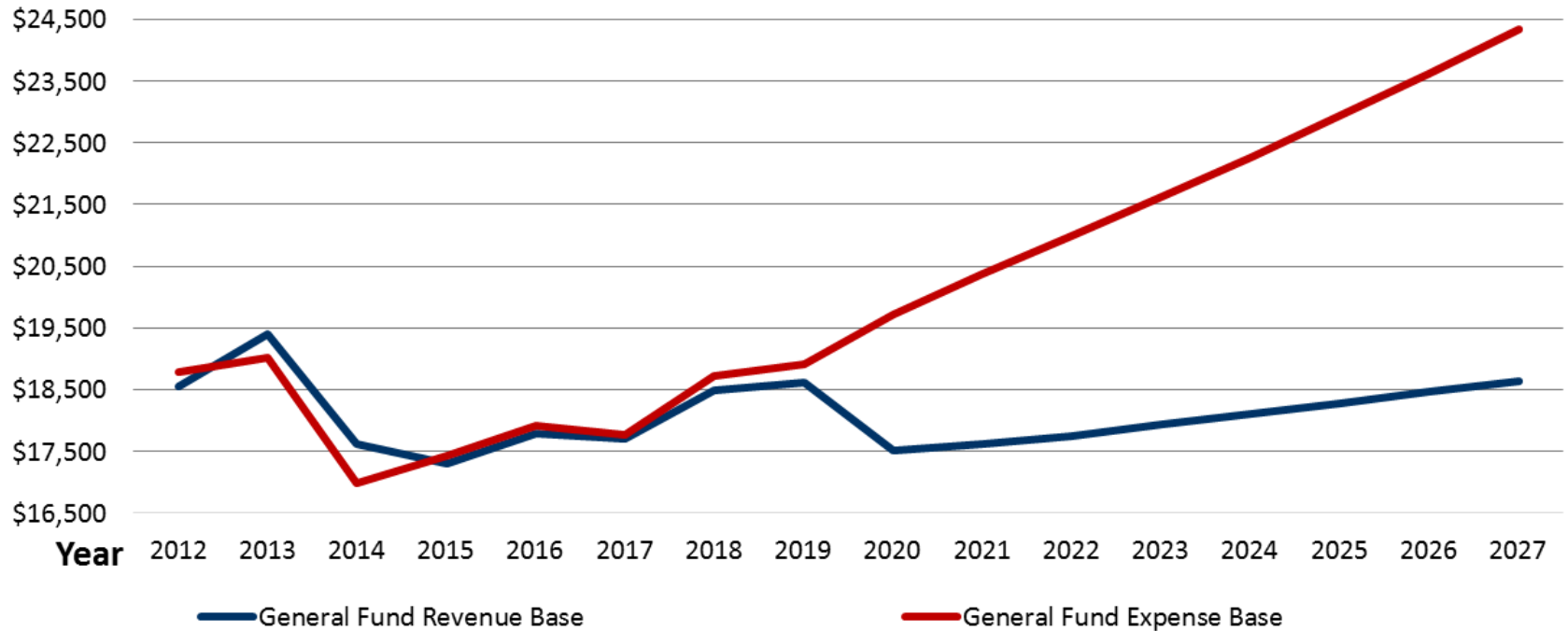
6. Reform the Teachers' Retirement System to lower costs and to make it sustainable by paying down unfunded liabilities by \$7 billion through concession of state Lottery revenues
7. Raise the gas tax by seven cents to fund transportation projects and produce a plan for implementation of electronic tolls. Prioritize projects that impact growth
8. Reinvest in cities – extend CRDA model from Hartford to two other cities, and build a new STEM campus in a city in partnership with a major research university

## Key Recommendations...

9. Undertake a series of growth initiatives, led by the executive branch, with the funding and support from the legislature to:
  - (1) develop and retain the workforce Connecticut needs,
  - (2) support the growth of Connecticut's highest-potential economic sectors,
  - (3) transform the business environment for entrepreneurship and innovation
  
10. Diversify municipal revenue streams beyond the property tax through power to levy fees and fund capital projects through referenda. Authorize COGS to levy 0.5% sales tax only for regional economic development and shared services projects. Amend binding arbitration laws to permit award of compromise outcomes and to facilitate multi-town projects

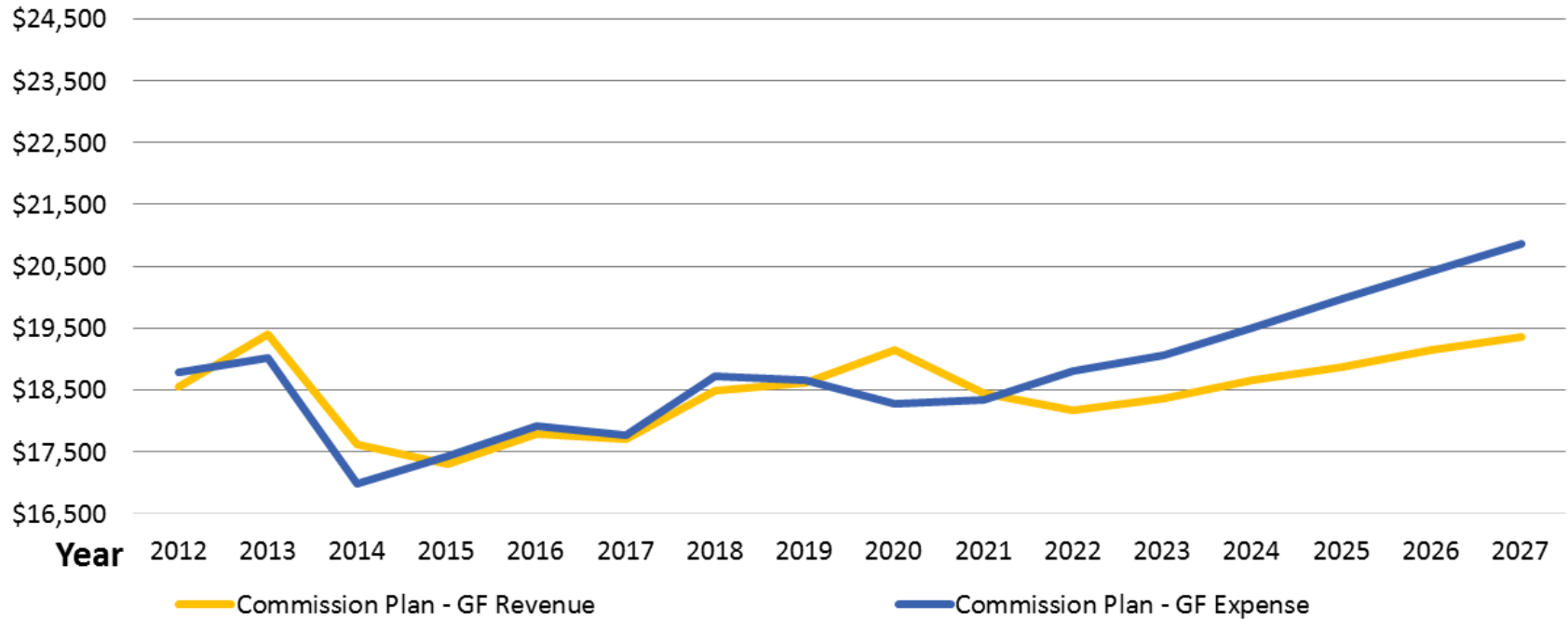
# Current Policy

## General Fund Surplus / Deficit Projections – Current Policy



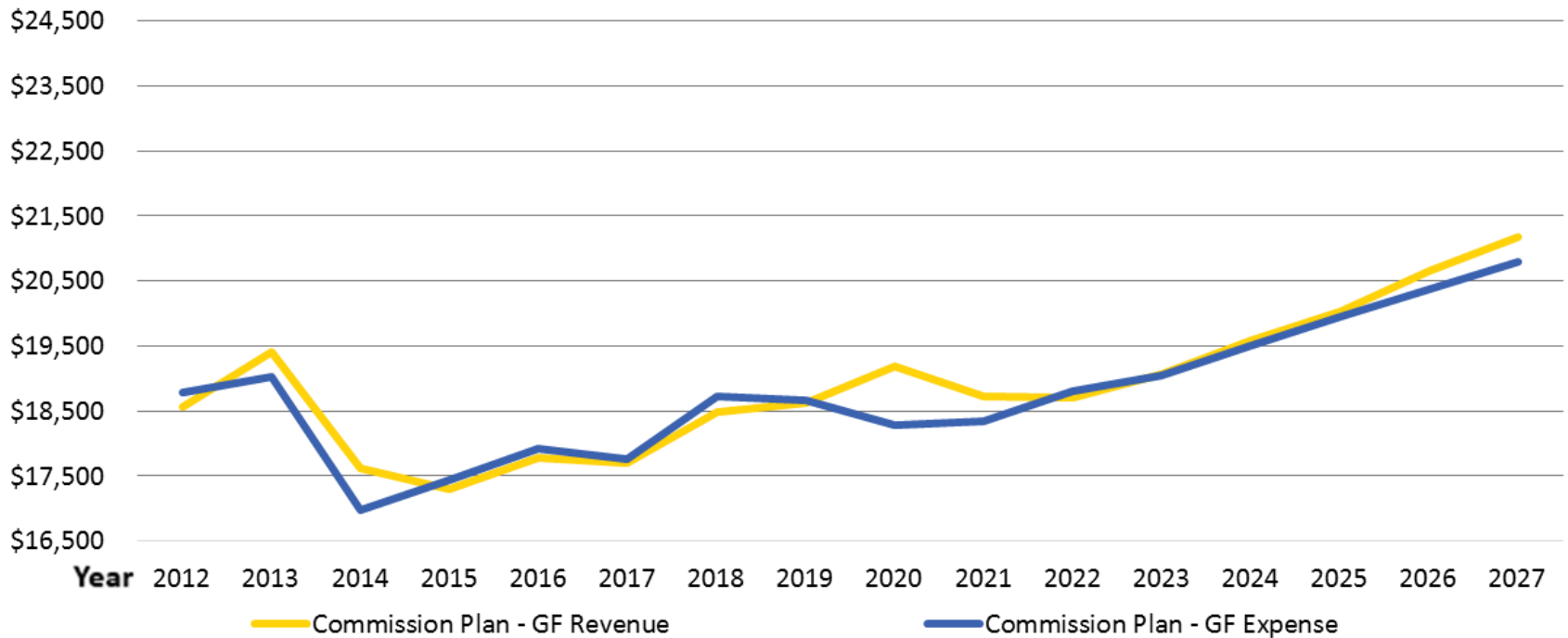
# Commission Plan

## General Fund Surplus / Deficit Projections – Commission Plan

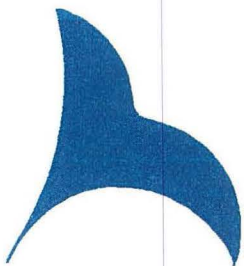


# Commission Plan – Growth Assumption

## General Fund Surplus / Deficit Projections – Commission Plan (Growth Assumption)



Source: Revenues – Comptroller’s Open Budget FY12 – FY17; OPM Consensus Revenue January 2018 | Expenses – OFA Fiscal Accountability Report FY17 – FY20 & October Out Year Estimates; CT Tax Expenditure Report February 2018  
Key Assumptions: All Tax changes are implemented in 2020; | Payroll Tax – OPM Population data; CT SBA Office of Advocacy; Assume the pro-growth tax initiatives enable roughly 3% increased basis growth each year achieving our goal of a 3% – 3.5% Average GSP in 5-10 years



Greater  
Hartford  
Transit District



April 9, 2018

Dear Mayor, Selectperson, and/or Town Manager,

Based on a previous email that was sent to you at the end of February, your municipality will receive a *nine-month pro-rated* subsidy for the Non ADA Dial-A-Ride funds as CTDOT authorized the allocation for FY'18.

Enclosed with this brief memo is an "Amendment" to the original agreement for signature. The District has not received the designated funds from the State as of this writing, but we now have in hand the Transit Operating Document that provides us with the approval for these specific funds.

The first payment will be distributed once the District receives the signed Amendment back from each of you, and we will provide you with your first payment as soon we receive the actual designated funds.

If you have any questions please contact Kyea Bostick/Senior Accountant at [kbostick@ghtd.org](mailto:kbostick@ghtd.org) or (860) 247-5329 x3007.

Respectfully yours,

Vicki L. Shotland  
Executive Director

Cc: Nhan Vo-Le/GHTD  
DJ Gonzalez/GHTD  
Kyea Bostick/GHTD

## AMENDMENT TO OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT CONTRACT

This **AMENDMENT TO OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT CONTRACT** is made and entered into as of April 1, 2018 by and between the Greater Hartford Transit District (the "District") and the Town of Simsbury, Connecticut (the "Grantee").

### WITNESSETH:

**WHEREAS**, the District and the Grantee entered into an Operating Assistance Grant Contract dated as of July 1, 2017 (the "Contract");

**WHEREAS**, the Contract provides for the undertaking of a mass transit operating assistance project (the "Project") with District financial assistance to the Grantee in the form of an operating grant (the "Grant"), using funds applied for by the District for such purpose under budget addendum 2018-ADA-02 Agreement 10.09-02 (14) between the District and the Connecticut Department of Transportation ("CTDOT") (the "Agreement"), and the terms and conditions upon which such assistance will be provided and the manner in which the Project will be undertaken;

**WHEREAS**, the Contract specifies an estimated Grant amount, the actual determined Grant amount may be significantly different;

**WHEREAS**, the Contract provides for the District to make quarterly payments of the Grant to the Grantee contingent upon the District's receipt of sufficient State funds, such State funds are received by the District on a quarterly basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the District and the Grantee desire to amend the Agreement to conform with the actual amount of the Grant and the timing of the District's payment of the Grant to the Grantee.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the premises and of the giving of consideration for and acceptance of this Amendment to Operating Assistance Grant Contract, the parties hereto agree as follows:

**Section 1. Change to the Operating Assistance Grant Contract.** Section 3 of the Contract is amended to read:

Section 3. The Grant - In order to assist the Grantee in financing the project's eligible operating expenses that are required to be reported under 49 U.S.C. §5335 (herein called "Eligible Project Operation Expenses"), the District will make a Grant in the amount of \$4,741.00, provided such amount shall not exceed 50% (fifty percent) of the Eligible Project Operating Expenses. In no instance shall the Grant exceed the State funds received by the District pursuant to the District's Application and the Agreement with the CTDOT for the Project.

Payments shall be made to the Grantee within 30 days of the District's receipt of funds from the CTDOT, but not in an amount in excess of such funds, provided the Grantee has provided up-to-date quarterly reports and is in compliance with other terms and conditions of this

Contract. The District shall have no obligation to make any payments under this Contract unless the District has received and has available sufficient State funds pursuant to the District's Application and the Agreement with the CTDOT for the Project.

The Grantee shall permit the authorized representatives of the District and/or the CTDOT to inspect and audit all data and records of the Grantee relating to its performance under this Contract.

For purposes of this Contract, "Eligible Project Operating Expenses" must comply with reporting requirements set forth in 49 U.S.C. §5335 and with any guidelines or regulations issued by the District or CTDOT.

The Grantee agrees that it will provide from sources other than State or Federal funds or revenues from the operation of public mass transportation systems, an amount sufficient to assure payment of at least 50% (fifty percent) of all Eligible Project Operating Expenses. The Grantee further agrees that if the amount of the local share provided under this Grant Contract is less than the State share at any time, it will refund to the District an amount necessary to equalize the Total State Share and the Total Local Share.

**Section 2. Defined Terms.** All undefined capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Contract.

**Section 3. Governing Law.** This Amendment to Operating Assistance Grant Contract shall for all purposes be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Connecticut.

**Section 4. Counterparts.** This Amendment to Operating Assistance Grant Contract may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute one instrument.

[next page is the signature page]



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the undersigned has caused these presents to be signed in its name and on its behalf and attested by its duly authorized officers, all as of the date and year first above written.

**GREATER HARTFORD TRANSIT DISTRICT**

[SEAL]

Signed and Sealed in the presence of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vicki L. Shotland, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

[CITY/TOWN] OF Simsbury

[SEAL]

Signed and Sealed in the presence of:

JoAnn Martin  
Witness JoAnn Martin

Maria E. Capriola  
[Name], [Title]  
Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager

Erica L. Butler  
Witness Erica L. Butler

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018

8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL  
10 MONTEITH DRIVE

*sponsored by the Public Works Departments  
of  
Simsbury, Avon, Canton, Granby & Farmington*

## Commonly Accepted Items

flourescent & compact light bulbs  
batteries (rechargeable & car batteries)  
lawn care chemicals, pool chemicals  
thermometers, thermostats  
household cleaners  
antifreeze, bug spray, oil based paint  
wood stain, old gasoline, brake fluid,  
transmission fluid, lighter fluid

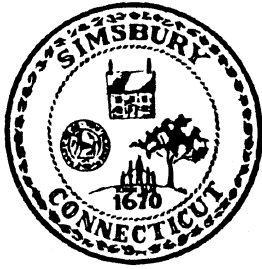
## Electronics Recycling Collection at Farmington Town Hall

From 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

*for further information go to:*

[www.simsbury-ct.gov](http://www.simsbury-ct.gov)





# Town of Simsbury

66 TOWN FOREST ROAD, SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

~ Department of Public Works ~

## Memorandum: Proposed Paving Work 2018

**To:** Board of Selectmen  
**CC:** Maria Capriola, Town Manager  
**From:** Thomas J. Roy, P.E. - Director of Public Works *TJR*  
**Date:** April 6, 2018

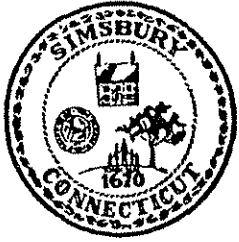
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The following roads are scheduled for paving during the 2018 construction season, based on the proposed FY19 budget:

Brook Ridge	Old Barge Rd.
Canton Rd.	Old Stone Crossing
East Weatogue St. (Riverside to Talcott Mtn.)	Rebecca Lane
Fairfield Ln.	Saddle Ridge Dr.
Great Meadows	Scarborough
Hamden Circle	Tuller Drive
Neal Drive	West Mountain Rd. (Quorn Hunt to Bushy Hill)
Newbury Court	Windham Dr.
Nilas Way	Wintonbury Rd.
North Saddle Ridge	

Adjustments to the schedule may be required depending on weather and other factors influencing our paving work. Letters are being sent to residents of these streets notifying them of our anticipated work.

*P:\operations\highway\paving 2018\paving work 2018memo BOS*



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## Memorandum

**Date:** April 11, 2018

**To:** Sean Kimball, Director of Finance

**From:** Michael Glidden CFM CZEO, Assistant Town Planner

**Re:** CGS 8-24 referral from Board of Selectmen concerning fiscal year 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Plan

**Sean:**

The Planning Commission reviewed the referral pursuant to CGS 8-24 from the Board of Selectmen concerning the fiscal year 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Plan at their April 10, 2018 regular meeting.

The Commission issued a positive referral to the Board of Selectmen for the fiscal year 2018-2019 capital improvement plan. Specifically, the commission found that the activities contained within the plan were consistent with the goals and objectives contained within the 2017 Plan of Conservation and Development.

The meeting minutes are attached to this correspondence for your records. Please consider this letter to serve as an official report from the Planning Commission pursuant to CGS 8-24.

I hope this satisfies your request. If you require any additional information or action of the Planning Commission, please contact me.

**Cc:** Maria E Capriola, Town Manager  
Burke LaClair, Business Manager, Simsbury Public Schools  
Subject File

Telephone (860) 658-3200  
Facsimile (860) 658-9467

An Equal Opportunity Employer  
[www.simsbury-ct.gov](http://www.simsbury-ct.gov)

8:30 - 7:00 Monday  
8:30 - 4:30 Tuesday through Thursday  
8:30 - 1:00 Friday



37 Mr. Rabbitt reviewed CSG 8-24 and the list of activities contained within the Fiscal Year 2018-2019  
38 Capital Improvement Plan with the Commission. Chairman Rice asked that members take a few minutes  
39 to review the documents.

40 Mr. Blume asked staff whether the documents included changes that were made the previous Thursday  
41 by the Board of Finance. M.Glidden stated that the list of activities did not change, the Board of Finance  
42 made changes to the amount of money that was applied to certain activities.

43 Ms. Burt requested clarification to location of the proposed multi-use trail.

44 **Motion:** Chairman Rice made a motion to send a positive referral to the Board of Selectmen for the  
45 Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Plan:

46 *Greenway Improvements, Multi-Use Trail, Town of Simsbury/Bloomfield, Highway Management,*  
47 *Sidewalk Resurfacing, Ash Borer Tree Mitigation, Department of Public Works Dump Truck, Tariffville,*  
48 *Primary Clarifier Rehabilitation, Plant Water System Rehabilitation, 1999 Jet/Flusher Truck*  
49 *Replacement, School Facilities Master Planning/Reconfiguration Study, District Network*  
50 *Infrastructure, Henry James Middle School Renovation – Phase 3 (LMC/STEM focus, auditorium), Boiler*  
51 *Replacement Latimer Lane School, and School Security Improvements.*

52 The Planning Commission finds that these activities are consistent with the goals and objectives  
53 contained within the 2017 Plan of Conservation and Development. Mr. Needham seconded the motion.  
54 The motion passed unanimously.

## 55 VI. GENERAL COMMISSION BUSINESS

### 56 1. Subdivision Regulations

#### 57 a. Special Flood Hazard Area- Michael Glidden

#### 58 b. Discuss potential revisions to Subdivision Regulations

59 Chairman Rice opened the discussion with the members present. He stated that the flood regulations  
60 will proceed but if there are other areas which require update that the commission could group these  
61 activities together in one revision. Chairman Rice asked if there were any particular areas that  
62 Commissioners wish to discuss.

63 Mr. Needham asked to discuss fee in lieu open space requirements. He requested an opinion from staff  
64 on the legality of the fee and regulations.

65 Mr. Rabbitt explained the regulations structure and reviewed the open space options. He stated that a  
66 legal review would be suggested on some aspects of this regulation.

67 Mr. Needham inquired about the alternative payment option. Chairman Rice explained that this was  
68 added to the regulations as way to prevent arguing over value of the land and to speed up the process  
69 when reviewing such requests. Chairman Rice stated that a long conversation was had by the  
70 Commission at that time on coming up with a value to use for the alternative payment option.

71 Ms. Burt asked about the application of the regulation for alternative payments. She asked whether size  
72 of the parcel was considered or is a simple payout.

73 Mr. Blume asked staff how the regulations added up to the neighboring communities. Mr. Rabbitt stated  
74 that the regulations follow statute and therefore regulations were similar to each other.

75 Chairman Rice wanted to next discuss the submittal requirements and whether changes are needed in  
76 this section. He asked staff to provide input on whether the regulations asked for enough.

77 Mr. Rabbitt discussed with the Commission the current submittal requirements.

78 Chairman Rice asked that staff prepare a list of changes which will help outline better to applicants'  
79 submittal requirements.

80 Ms. Burt asked whether the regulations could require information to be provide seven days in advance  
81 of the meeting so that the Commission has time to review the changes. Mr. Rabbitt explained that the  
82 public hearing process is made so that the Commission can take written and verbal testimony. Therefore  
83 the Commission cannot require a deadline for information submission.

84 Chairman Rice wanted to table any action on this item until staff can prepare the list for submittal  
85 requirements and other members were present.

86 **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

87 Motion was made by Mr. Blume seconded by Mr. Needham, to adjourn at 9:05 pm, the motion  
88 passed unanimously.

89

90 Submitted by

91

92

93



Michael Glidden CZEO CFM

94

Assistant Town Planner



Robert M. DeCrescenzo  
(t) 860.548.2625  
(f) 860.548.2680  
rdcrescenzo@uks.com

April 6, 2018

Maria E. Capriola, M.P.A.  
Town Manager  
Town of Simsbury  
933 Hopmeadow Street  
Simsbury, CT 06070

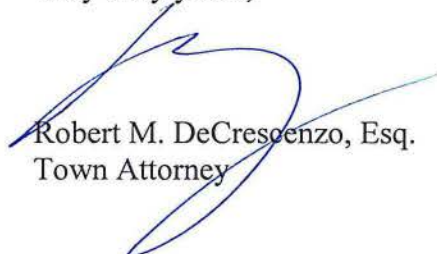
Re: FIC Docket #2017-0225  
Robert Kalechman, Complainant  
Against Board of Selectmen, Town  
of Simsbury and Town of Simsbury

Dear Maria:

Enclosed please find the Freedom of Information's Final Decision in connection with the above matter.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Robert M. DeCrescenzo, Esq.  
Town Attorney

RMDe/psm  
Enclosure

Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.

100 Pearl Street ■ PO Box 231277 ■ Hartford, CT 06123 (t) 860.548.2600 (f) 860.548.2680 [www.uks.com](http://www.uks.com)

1814848



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by

NOTICE OF FINAL DECISION

Robert Kalechman,

Complainant

against

Docket #FIC 2017-0225

Board of Selectmen, Town of Simsbury; and  
Town of Simsbury,

Respondents

April 3, 2018

FOR THE COMPLAINANT(S):

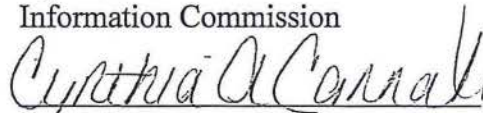
To: Robert Kalechman

FOR THE RESPONDENT(S)

To: Attorney Robert M. DeCrescenzo, for the Respondent(s) Board of Selectmen, Town of  
Simsbury; and Town of Simsbury

This will serve as notice of the Final Decision of the Freedom of Information Commission in  
the above matter as provided by §4-183(c), G.S. The Commission adopted the Final Decision  
in the above-captioned case at its regular meeting of March 28, 2018.

By Order of the Freedom of  
Information Commission



Cynthia A. Cannata  
Acting Clerk of the Commission

## CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Final Decision, dated April 3, 2018, and Final Decision, dated March 28, 2018, was mailed today, April 3, 2018, via certified mail, to the following counsel and party of record:

TO COMPLAINANT(S)

**ROBERT KALECHMAN**, 971 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070

TO RESPONDENT(S)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN, TOWN OF SIMSBURY; AND TOWN OF SIMSBURY**,  
c/o Attorney Robert M. DeCrescenzo, Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C., PO Box 231277,  
100 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT 06123-1277



Cynthia A. Cannata

Acting Clerk of the Commission

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In The Matter of a Complaint by

FINAL DECISION

Robert Kalechman,

Complainant

against

Docket #FIC 2017-0225

Board of Selectmen, Town of Simsbury;  
and Town of Simsbury,

Respondents

March 28, 2018

The above-captioned matter was heard as a contested case on June 1, 2017, at which time the complainant and the respondents appeared, stipulated to certain facts and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint.

After the hearing on this matter, and at the request of the hearing officer over the objections of the complainant at the hearing, the respondents filed two after-filed exhibits. The exhibits are: a video recording of the respondent Board's April 24, 2017 regular meeting on a flash drive; and the affidavit of the chairperson of the respondent Board, Lisa L. Heavner attesting to her statements informing the public of the nature of the meeting that is the subject of this complaint. However, by letters received by this Commission on June 12 and 13, 2017, the complainant reiterated his objections to the admission of the video recording and affidavit as evidence in this matter claiming, in part, that the "meeting tapes can be doctored with and that the tape has not been attested to." The exhibits have been marked for identification purposes only as Respondents Exhibit 6 and Respondents Exhibit 7, respectively.

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found and conclusions of law are reached:

1. The respondents are public agencies within the meaning of §1-200(1), G.S.
2. By letter dated April 24, 2017 and filed on April 26, 2017, the complainant appealed to this Commission alleging that the respondent board, violated the open meetings provisions of the Freedom of Information ("FOI") Act by convening in a back room and holding a meeting that was not open to the public after its April 24, 2017, regular meeting.

3. Section 1-200(2), G.S., provides in relevant part that:

“Meeting” means any hearing or other proceeding of a public agency, any convening or assembly of a quorum of a multimember public agency, and any communication by or to a quorum of a multimember public agency, whether in person or by means of electronic equipment, to discuss or act upon a matter over which the public agency has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power . . . . intended for the purpose of discussing matters relating to official business.

4. Section 1-210(a), G.S., provides in relevant part that “[e]ach such agency shall make, keep and maintain a record of the proceedings of its meetings.”

5. Section 1-225, G.S., provides in relevant part that:

(a) the meetings of all public agencies . . . shall be open to the public . . . .

(c) The agenda of the regular meeting of every public agency. . . shall be available to the public and shall be filed, not less than twenty-four hours before the meeting to which they refer, (1) in such agency’s regular office or place of business, and (2) . . . in the office of the clerk of such subdivision for any public agency of a political subdivision of the state or in the office of the clerk of each municipal member of any multitown district or agency . . . Upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of a public agency present and voting, any subsequent business not included in such filed agendas may be considered and acted upon at such meetings . . . .

(d) Notice of each special meeting of every public agency... shall be given not less than twenty-four hours prior to the time of such meeting by filing a notice of the time and place thereof ...in the office of the clerk of such subdivision for any public agency of a political subdivision of the state.... The...clerk shall cause any notice received under this section to be posted in his office. Such notice shall be given not less than twenty-four hours prior to the time of the special meeting; provided, in case of emergency...any such special meeting may be held without complying with the foregoing requirement for the filing of notice but a copy of the minutes of every such emergency special meeting adequately setting forth the nature of the emergency and the proceedings occurring at such meeting shall be filed with the...the clerk

of such political subdivision...not later than seventy-two hours following the holding of such meeting. The notice shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted.

6. It is found that, in November of 2016, the respondent town voted to have a town manager serve in the position of its chief administrative officer instead of the First Selectman. It is found that the change will become effective on December 4, 2017 and that a town manager will have to be appointed before that date in order to start working in this position on that date.

7. It is found that at the respondent board's regular meeting of February 27, 2017, it appointed all the members of the board, and both the director and deputy director of administrative services, as members of the executive search committee for the town manager position.

8. It is found that, on April 24, 2017, the respondent board held a regular meeting which the complainant attended.

9. It is found that the respondent board voted to adjourn the April 24, 2017 meeting and then convened a meeting of the executive search committee for town manager.

10. It is found that there is conflicting testimony as to whether the chairperson of the respondent board explained that the meeting was an executive search committee for the new town manager position and that it was not a meeting subject to the FOI Act's open meetings requirements. The respondents testified at the hearing on this matter that such a statement was made and that there is a video recording of the meeting that would show it. However, the complainant, at the hearing on this matter, stated that he did not hear any such explanation and contended that the meeting was a secret meeting held in violation of the FOI Act.

11. Section 1-200(2), G.S., provides that "[m]eeting" does not include . . . [a]ny meeting of a personnel search committee for executive level employment candidates . . .

12. Section 1-200(7), G.S., provides that "[p]ersonnel search committee" means a body appointed by a public agency, whose sole purpose is to recommend to the appointing agency a candidate or candidates for an executive-level employment position. Members of a "personnel search committee" shall not be considered in determining whether there is a quorum of the appointing or any other public agency.

13. It is found that the position of town manager is an executive level employment position within the meaning of §1-200(7), G.S.

14. It is also found that the individual members of the respondent board were acting as members of a personnel search committee, within the meaning of §1-200(7),

G.S., and that the committee's discussions at its April 24, 2017 meeting pertained to the development of interview questions to be asked of potential candidates for the town manager position.

15. It is therefore concluded that the meeting following the respondent board's April 24, 2017 regular meeting was a meeting of a personnel search committee within the meaning of §1-200(2), G.S., and was not subject to the provisions found in §1-225(a), G.S.

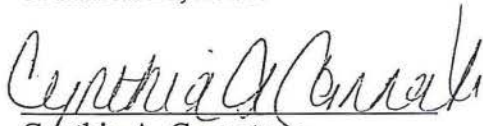
16. Consequently, it is concluded that the respondents did not violate the open meetings provisions of the FOI Act by conducting the meeting outside of the public purview.

17. In addition, there is nothing in the FOI Act that requires notice of, or any other form of an announcement regarding, the meetings of a personnel search committee as such committees are not subject to the notice requirements of §1-225, G.S.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above-captioned complaint:

1. The complaint is hereby dismissed.

Approved by Order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of March 28, 2018.



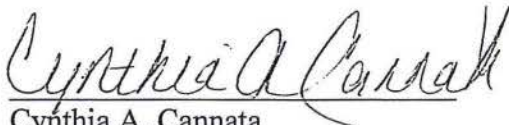
Cynthia A. Cannata  
Acting Clerk of the Commission

PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-180(c), G.S., THE FOLLOWING ARE THE NAMES OF EACH PARTY AND THE MOST RECENT MAILING ADDRESS, PROVIDED TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION, OF THE PARTIES OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE.

THE PARTIES TO THIS CONTESTED CASE ARE:

**ROBERT KALECHMAN**, 971 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN, TOWN OF SIMSBURY; AND TOWN OF SIMSBURY** c/o Attorney Robert M. DeCrescenzo, Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C., PO Box 231277, 100 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT 06123-1277

  
Cynthia A. Cannata  
Acting Clerk of the Commission

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Contact: Melissa A.J. Appleby  
[mappleby@simsbury-ct.gov](mailto:mappleby@simsbury-ct.gov)  
(860) 658-3230

### **Nicholas J. Boulter Selected as Town of Simsbury's Next Police Chief**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 13, 2018:** At a Special Meeting held on Friday, April 13, 2018 the Simsbury Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to make a conditional offer of employment to Nicholas J. Boulter to serve as the Town of Simsbury's next Police Chief. "We are thrilled to appoint Nick to the position of Police Chief," said Town Manager Maria Capriola. "His many years of experience in law enforcement, high level of professionalism and intimate knowledge of our community made him rise to the top of a competitive pool of applicants."

Boulter was hired by the Town of Simsbury as a patrol officer in March 1999. He went on to serve in several roles in the department, including detective, patrol sergeant, training sergeant and lieutenant prior to his appointment as captain in August 2012. "Captain Boulter has served the Town exceptionally over the past 19 years, demonstrating a strong commitment to community policing and playing a major role in maintaining national accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies," said Police Commission Chair Jim Fleming. Selectman Sean Askham, who chairs the Public Safety Committee and currently serves as liaison to the Police Commission, concurred. "Under Nick's leadership, the department will continue to maintain the highest standards of excellence in meeting the needs of our community."

According to the Town Charter, both the Town Manager and the Police Commission make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen regarding a preferred candidate, with final appointing authority for the position resting with the Board. At a meeting on April 9, 2018 the Police Commission unanimously identified Boulter as their preferred candidate for Police Chief.

Following the retirement of Chief Peter Ingvertsen in January, members of the Police Commission formed an executive search committee to find his replacement. First Selectman Wellman, Selectman Askham, and Town Manager Maria Capriola were added to the executive search committee as ex-officio members. A recruitment was conducted, and included interviews with an internal panel of stakeholders, an external panel of current and recently retired Connecticut police chiefs, Town department heads, the Fire Chief, and police department personnel. Writing assignments were also required.

Boulter will assume the role of Police Chief effective April 15, 2018. A ceremonial swearing-in reception will be held on Monday, May 14, 2018 at 4:30pm in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Hall. All are welcome to attend.

###



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Monday, April 2, 2018**

Contact: Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager

O: (860) 658-3230

[mappleby@simsbury-ct.gov](mailto:mappleby@simsbury-ct.gov)

**2018 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Applications Available to Tax Exempt Organizations – Provides Tax Credits to Investors**

SIMSBURY – The State of Connecticut’s Department of Revenue Services has notified municipalities that the 2018 Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program proposal application is available to tax exempt organizations. The NAA Tax Credit Program provides a tax credit to businesses that make cash investments in qualifying community programs conducted by tax exempt or municipal agencies. Qualifying community programs include energy conservation projects, neighborhood assistance, job training, education, community services, crime prevention and many others.

In order to obtain benefits under the program, a tax exempt organization must complete and submit an application to the Town Manager’s Office, 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070, attn.: Melissa Appleby, Deputy Town Manager, on or before the close of business on Monday, May 7, 2018. The Town of Simsbury will hold a Public Hearing on completed applications received on or before May 7, 2018 and the Board of Selectmen will subsequently vote on approval of the applications considered at Public Hearing.

Information about the NAA Tax Credit Program, including an on-line “fillable” application form (Form NAA-01, 2018 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program Proposal) and information about the types of community programs which qualify, is available at the Department of Revenue Services’ website: go to [www.ct.gov/DRS](http://www.ct.gov/DRS) and search for “Neighborhood Assistance Act.”

###



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 18, 2018**

## **Public Input Needed on Dealing with Natural Disasters**

### **Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update Underway**

Local planners are seeking public input on preparing for natural disasters at a series of meetings to be held throughout the greater Hartford area. Floods, high winds, winter storms, drought, and wildfires, impact area residents and businesses every year. These events damage property, cause power outages, block roads, and can cause injury and death. Meetings will be held in Coventry, Ellington, Hartford, Plainville and, Simsbury throughout May to discuss what can be done to minimize risks from natural hazards.

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), along with each of the 38 municipalities in the Capitol Region, is in the process of updating its multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. A Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan is a tool that helps a community understand risks and take specific steps to reduce property damage, injury, and loss of life. This plan discusses the occurrence and consequences of floods, winter storms, tornadoes, hurricanes and tropical storms, wildfires, earthquakes, and dam failure. The plan identifies activities that communities can perform before natural hazards occur in order to minimize property damage, risk of life, and the costs that are shared by all. This update will identify significant changes in risks, vulnerabilities, capabilities, and mitigation actions that have developed since adoption of the previous plan in 2014.

The Council of Governments is offering five opportunities for the public to attend an informational meeting where local residents and workers can learn about the plan, ask questions, and provide input. Members of the public may attend any of the meetings, regardless of which community they are from. The same information will be presented at each meeting.

- Tuesday, May 5 at 7:00 PM at the Ellington Town Hall (55 Main Street)
- Wednesday, May 16 at 7:00 PM at the Coventry Parks and Recreation Facility “Mill Brook Place” (near 1267 Main Street and across from Bidwell Tavern)
- Tuesday, May 22 at 7:00 PM at the Simsbury Public Library (725 Hopmeadow Street)

- Thursday, May 24 at 5:00 PM at the Hartford Public Safety Complex (253 High Street)
- Tuesday, May 29 at 7:00 PM at the Plainville Public Library (56 East Main Street)

Additionally, all are encouraged to share their thoughts through an online survey available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CRCOGNHMP>.

Comments or questions can also be emailed to Lynne Pike DiSanto at [lpikedisanto@crcog.org](mailto:lpikedisanto@crcog.org)

For more information, please contact the Lynne Pike DiSanto of CRCOG at (860) 522-2217, extension 4211.

END

###

If you would like more information about this topic, please call David Murphy, Manager of Water Resources Planning, Milone & MacBroom, Inc. 203.271.1773 x 295

Milone & MacBroom is the project consultant for the plan update.