

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Office of the Commissioner

An Equal Opportunity Employer

November 15, 2011

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy Governor State of Connecticut State Capital 210 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Malloy:

Subject: Transportation Capital Plan: 2012 – 2016

I am pleased to present to you the Department of Transportation's (Department) new five-year capital plan, which identifies our program of highway, transit, and maritime capital projects through 2016. It is the Department's recommendation for allocating federal and state funds to meet the State's most critical and pressing capital needs for the next five years. The Plan reflects substantial progress made over the past two years in reducing the backlog of unfunded projects. This is due, in large measure, to the infusion of state capital funds in the current biennial budget - \$229 million in FY 2012, and \$274 million in FY 2013. The recent addition of \$50 million in Fix-it-First Bridge funding authorized by the Public Act 1 in the October special session also enhances our ability to address critical bridge infrastructure projects. We are grateful for your leadership and to the Legislature for investing in our transportation infrastructure.

The Department has also been able to reallocate funds to new projects due to a very favorable bidding environment. We have focused intently on improved project management and financial practices that are delivering more projects and quickly releasing unspent project funds to other initiatives. The Department's new emphasis on operating more efficiently within a framework of constrained funding expectations is yielding clear benefits, and we will continue to seek innovative ways to streamline project delivery, reduce costs and deliver high quality projects.

While there is significant uncertainty about future federal transportation funding levels, this capital plan is based on the assumption that Connecticut will continue to receive federal funds at the same or similar level as recent years.

The five-year capital plan is an effective management tool for the Department. More importantly, it represents our commitment to transparency and communication about our investment strategy to the Governor's Office, the General Assembly, transportation stakeholders and the public. The capital plan will be posted on our website and updated if there are significant changes to project delivery or funding availability. We hope that you find it informative and that it will facilitate productive dialogue regarding Connecticut's transportation needs and priorities, as well as our transportation investment strategy.

Sincerely,

James Redeker Commissioner

Enclosure