

I. Introduction

As the state’s comprehensive strategies plan for land and water resource conservation and development, *the Conservation and Development Policies Plan for Connecticut 2025-30* (C&D Plan) establishes a set of priorities affecting the future of our shared natural, built, and social environments. These priorities, expressed as vision statements, are intended to guide state agencies as they work individually and collaboratively to implement state priorities through their actions.

In response to the 2023 recommendations of the Commission on CT’s Development and Future (CCDF), this C&D Plan is different from previous iterations. It is framed around new priorities. It was developed with greater input from state agencies, legislators, advocates, and other stakeholders. And, it proposes new implementation mechanisms. While these changes address several of the recommendations of the CCDF, this C&D Plan is nevertheless a transitional plan, expected to better position the state for deeper and more holistic planning and greater integration with regional and municipal planning in subsequent iterations.

State agencies operate under numerous federally and state mandated planning and operational requirements. The 2025-30 C&D Plan highlights the intersection of those requirements with the state’s top priorities and focuses on improving interagency collaboration in advancing state priorities. The intention is to help agencies balance sometimes competing priorities and to encourage pro-active long-term planning while also guiding shorter-term decision-making. As a legislatively adopted plan, this C&D Plan also seeks to better align legislative and administrative priorities to ensure limited resources are used to optimal effect. Finally, the new implementation mechanisms proposed in this C&D Plan will improve transparency in agency decision-making processes and encourage the state’s partners and other conservation and development agents to consider the balance of priorities in their own actions.

II. Planning Process – TO BE WRITTEN LATER

- A. CCDF recommendations and statutes
- B. ORG/OPM work with Agencies
- C. ORG/OPM work with Continuing Committee
- D. Public outreach
- E. Hearings and adoption

III. Guiding Principles

The following four Guiding Principles are values that underlie all aspects of the C&D Plan and unify the priorities, policies, and implementation plan. These Principles look beyond land and water resources to recognize the interrelationships of economic, social, and cultural factors with conservation and development. The Guiding Principles act as “lenses” through which to view each priority, policy, and implementation measure, to ensure that the C&D Plan contributes to a future Connecticut that is thriving with healthy and robust natural environments and ample opportunity for all residents.

The four Guiding Principles are:

- A. Sustainable – We will balance the ecological, social, and economic dimensions of conservation and development to meet current needs without compromising the future.
- B. Equitable – We will ensure a high quality of life and opportunity for people of any income, race, ethnicity, gender, ability, or age.
- C. Vibrant – We will create and maintain diverse communities and an innovative, thriving economy, while also preserving unique historic, natural, and cultural features.
- D. Resilient – We will develop and maintain the capacity to prepare for, recover from, adapt to, and thrive in changing and disruptive conditions.

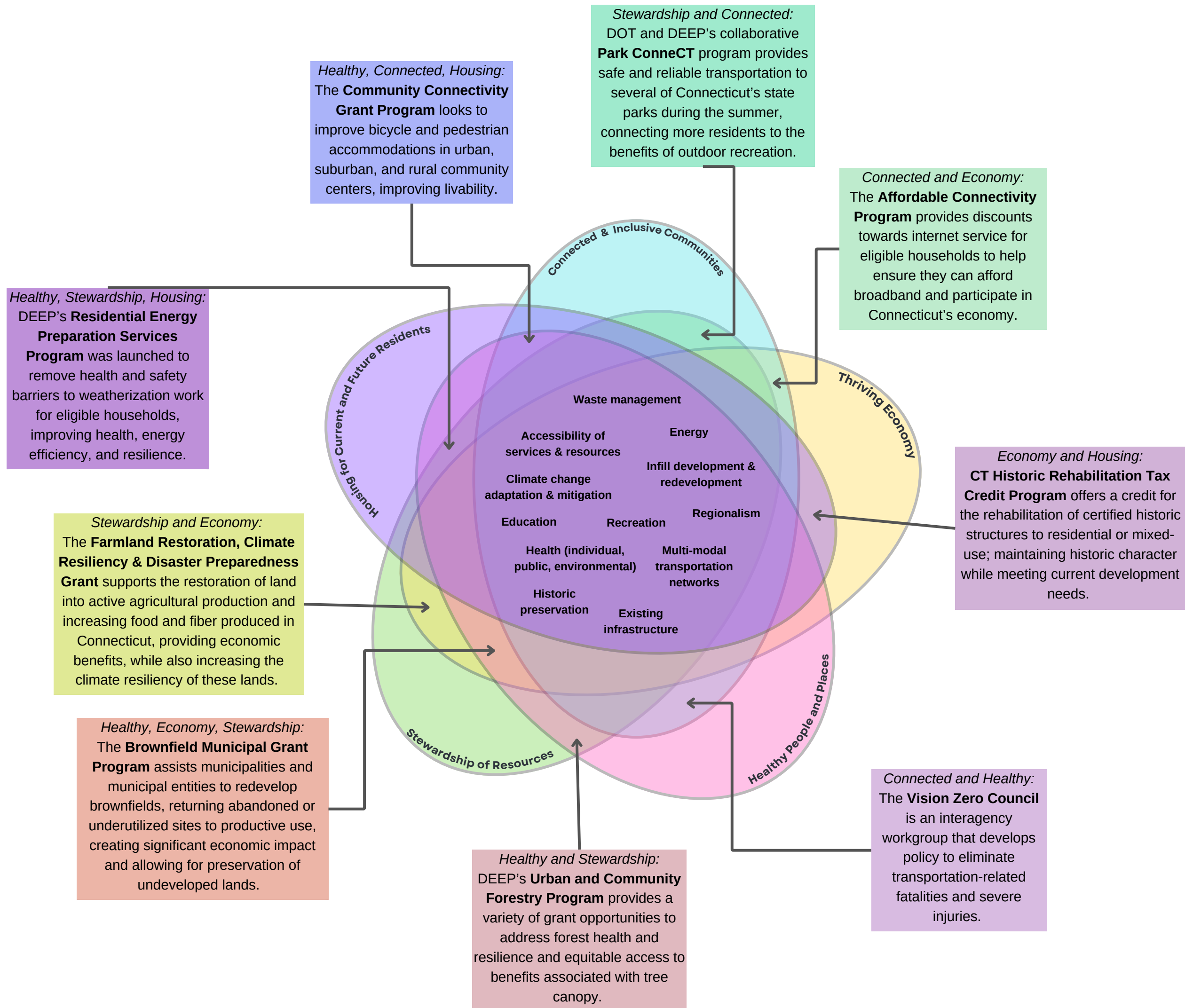
IV. Vision Statements

The five Vision Statements present overarching priorities for the 2025-2030 planning period. They identify some of Connecticut’s current challenges and opportunities that require multi-sector approaches to address. These priorities are expressed as longer-term vision statements to encourage agencies and state partners to consider how their current actions advance or detract from the state’s broader aspirations, even those that fall outside of an agency’s typical mission area.

The vision for Connecticut’s future includes:

- A thriving economy
- Healthy people and places
- Housing for current and future residents
- Stewardship of resources
- Connected and inclusive communities

These visions are further explained in the following pages. To make meaningful progress in making these visions reality will require a holistic consideration of the factors encompassed within each and their interrelationships with each other. The following diagram demonstrates the interdependence of the vision statements, with topics that affect all five highlighted in the center, while overlaps between two or more vision areas offer opportunities to reflect on work that is currently being done that offers multiple benefits, with the hope of encouraging further opportunities for interagency approaches to optimizing the returns on state investments.



Vision for the Future: A Thriving Economy

Connecticut will have a flourishing and diverse economy that leverages our strategic location, existing infrastructure, and natural and cultural assets.

As Viewed Through the Guiding Principles

Sustainable - Reducing economic disparities and supporting long-term economic growth provides the foundation for addressing all of Connecticut's development and conservation priorities

Equitable - Ensuring high quality opportunities to participate in Connecticut's economy are available for all residents will help reduce economic disparities

Vibrant – Creating and maintaining a diverse mix of economic activities supports a diverse population

Resilient – Diverse and thriving businesses can position Connecticut to better withstand rapidly changing or disruptive conditions

Strengths that position Connecticut for economic growth

- Significant recent and ongoing federal and state investments in infrastructure
- Strategic location in the Northeast Megaregion provides ready access to major markets and financial centers
- Robust education systems and one of the most educated workforces in the country
- Abundance of natural resources and historic, cultural, and creative assets provide a high quality of life

Challenges that hinder economic growth prospects

- Aging and stagnant population
- High cost of living and lack of affordable housing
- Very high income inequality – 3rd highest in nation
 - (Black and Hispanic households, young households, and single-parent households had the highest rates below the ALICE Thresholds per [CT United Way](#))
 - <https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/income-inequality-by-state>
 - <https://www.epi.org/multimedia/unequal-states-of-america/#/Connecticut>
 - “These disparities exist due to historical and ongoing systemic racism including discriminatory federal and local housing and urban development policies that drive the concentration of Black and Latino residents into lower-opportunity communities. Indeed, Connecticut is one of the most racially segregated states in the nation.” – [CTData](#)

Ongoing Initiatives and Resources

Department of Economic and Community Development

- [Economic Action Plan](#) – outlines strategies for “driving inclusive growth” in CT
- [Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development](#) – providing technical and financial assistance for brownfield redevelopment to return these abandoned or underutilized sites to “productive re-use, including mixed-use, residential, commercial, industrial, retail, and open space uses.”
- [Connecticut Office of the Arts Strategic Plan 2022-27](#) – A cultural strategy that informs the Connecticut Office of the Arts as they work to “enhance, support, and empower the Arts for every resident.”
- [Connecticut Office of Tourism FY23 Strategic Plan](#) – presents strategies to position Connecticut as a tourism destination and increase awareness of our state’s tourism assets.
- [Connecticut’s Manufacturing Strategic Plan](#) – the first Manufacturing Strategic Plan aimed at developing Connecticut into an internationally recognized leader in manufacturing.

Governor’s Workforce Council

- [Workforce Strategic Plan 2020](#) – plan developed by the GWC to make “strategic recommendations to improve the state’s workforce and employment system.”

Department of Labor

- [Office of Apprenticeship Training](#) – administers apprenticeship programs in the state.

Department of Agriculture

- [CT Grown Program](#) – identifies agriculture and aquaculture products grown in state.

Vision for the Future: Healthy People and Places

Connecticut will offer healthy communities that enable the health and well-being for residents of all incomes, races, genders, ethnicities, abilities, and ages.

As Viewed Through the Guiding Principles

Sustainable – A healthy population is necessary to support all of Connecticut’s conservation and development objectives over the long-term

Equitable - Meaningfully addressing the social determinants of public health will reduce inequities in personal health outcomes and the health of neighborhoods

Vibrant - Creating healthy communities supports our natural resources, economy and overall quality of life

Resilient - Reducing public health vulnerabilities strengthens the state’s capacity to respond and adapt to disruptions

Strengths in Connecticut’s protecting and enhancing environmental and public health

- “Connecticut overall meets most national targets for health and has better health outcomes for many indicators, including smoking and obesity prevalence, infectious disease incidence, teen birth rates, and health insurance coverage.” – [Healthy Connecticut 2020 Part 1: State Health Assessment](#)
- [Ongoing efforts](#) through the Governor’s Council on Climate Change have identified actions for addressing equity and environmental justice, working and natural lands and public health and safety as related to climate change
- The Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality regularly [monitors and reports](#) on environmental quality.

Challenges to Connecticut’s public, individual, and environmental health

- Income, environmental health, safety inequalities resulting in individual and neighborhood health disparities – [America’s Health Rankings](#) ranks CT 45th in the nation in income inequalities
- Chronic diseases (heart disease, cancer, stroke, chronic lower respiratory disease) are leading causes of death in the state
- Food insecurity
 - <https://uconnruddcenter.org/research/foodsecurity/>
 - <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2020/overall/connecticut>
- Climate change impacts on natural resources and public health

Ongoing Initiatives and Resources

Department of Public Health

- [State Health Improvement Plan](#) – roadmap for improving Connecticut’s health.
- [Connecticut Asthma Program](#) – program with the goal of reducing asthma-associated morbidity and mortality and decreasing asthma disparities.
- [Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program](#) – program with the goal of preventing lead poisoning and promoting wellness.

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

- [Greenhouse Gas Inventory Reports](#) – tracking progress towards meeting greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.
- [Integrated Water Quality Report](#) – mapping, report, and priority list for action plan
- [CT State Water Plan](#) and [Water Planning Council](#) – a plan for the state’s drinking water supply
- [Urban Green and Community Gardens Grant Program](#) – available to distressed municipalities to provide funding assistance for the development or enhancement of urban green spaces.
- [Clean Water Fund Priority List](#) – highlights state and federal funding assistance programs for municipal water pollution control projects.
- [Connecticut Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan](#) – provides guidance for state and municipal officials developing and expanding outdoor recreation opportunities.

Department of Transportation

- [Vision Zero Council](#) – interagency workgroup that develops policy to eliminate transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries.

Department of Housing/ Office of Early Childhood

- [Head Start on Housing](#) program – housing voucher program for families of children enrolled in Head Start early learning and development services

Department of Social Services

- [SNAP](#) – food assistance program

Department of Agriculture

- [Farmers Market Nutrition Program](#)

Vision for the Future: Housing for Current and Future Residents

Connecticut will have a diversity of housing types across the state that are able to meet residents' needs at all income levels and all stages of life.

As Viewed Through the Guiding Principles

Sustainable – Adequate, safe housing is foundational to achieving long-term health and viability of the state

Equitable – Ensuring true housing choice enables a diverse population and workforce

Vibrant – A securely housed population contributes to a stable and thriving economy

Resilient – A diverse, safe housing supply supports the state's ability to respond and adapt to disruption

Strengths in Connecticut's ability to address housing needs

- [Recent budgets and state bonding activities](#) have increased funding opportunities for housing development and preservation
- Recent strong [residential permitting trends](#), particularly for multi-family

Challenges to the state's ability to address housing needs

- Lack of housing construction for the past two decades
- COVID-19 related shift in housing market and increased housing costs
- Insufficient supply of affordable housing for various income levels and household cost burdens
 - [2023 CHFA Housing Needs Assessment](#)
 - [2020 CT Housing Needs Assessment](#)
 - <https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state/connecticut>

Ongoing Initiatives and Resources

Department of Housing

- [2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development](#) – outlines the state's goals and objectives for the use of state and federal resources for addressing affordable housing, public housing, homelessness, etc.
- [2022-2023 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development](#) – annual implementation plan for the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development

- [Land Bank and Land Trust Program](#) – provides eligible applicants with grants, loans, and deferred loans for acquiring and managing land to be developed for low- and moderate-income housing.

Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA)

- [CHFA](#) offers a variety of programs for homebuyers, developers, and lenders

Department of Economic and Community Development

- Provides a variety of [Housing Data](#)
- [Community Investment Fund 2030](#) – competitive grant program that funds a variety of projects, including residential development
- [CT Communities Challenge Grant Program](#) – competitive matching grant program that funds a variety of projects, including those to support housing affordability and accessibility
- [Brownfields remediation and development](#) program offers resources for redevelopment
- [Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit](#) program offers a credit for the rehabilitation of a certified historic structure to residential or mixed use

Vision for the Future: Stewardship of Resources

Connecticut's natural, cultural, social, historical, and economic resources will be well-stewarded to bolster their ability to withstand disruptions and ensure long-term health and viability.

As Viewed Through the Guiding Principles

Sustainable – Ensuring the integrity and wise use of Connecticut's natural, cultural, social, historical, and economic resources enables future generations to enjoy a high quality of life

Equitable – Providing a more fair and just distribution of the benefits of Connecticut's resources helps achieve other health and economic priorities

Vibrant – Protecting and enhancing Connecticut's rich resources contributes to a thriving economy

Resilient – Increasing the ability of Connecticut's vulnerable natural, cultural, social, historic, and economic resources to withstand rapidly changing conditions is necessary for their long-term protection

Strengths in Connecticut's current stewardship of resources

- Diversity of habitats, landscapes, plants, and wildlife that provide many benefits and ecosystem services
- 110 state parks and 32 state forests that offer a variety of activities, including recreation, museums, nature centers, etc.
- Long Island Sound – [“Connecticut's largest and most important natural resource”](#)
 - Activities along the Sound (tourism, swimming, boating, fishing) are a major contributor to the regional economy
- “...more than 52,000 properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 63 National Historic Landmarks, and more than 75,000 properties listed on the State Register of Historic Places” - [Statewide Historic Preservation Plan](#) (contributes to rich culture and history)
- Significant progress in key energy-related areas over the past decade per the [2018 Comprehensive Energy Strategy](#):
 - Rapidly expanded renewable energy programs at all project scales
 - Built critical infrastructure and enabled customer choice
 - Catalyzed residential and commercial investments in energy efficiency across the state
- [“Agriculture](#) is one of Connecticut's most vital economic sectors, and at its heart is the state's extraordinary farmland.”

Challenges to the long-term health and viability of Connecticut resources and assets

- Climate change
- Biodiversity crisis
- Conversion of farmland
- Transitioning to a fossil-fuel free energy system (capacity, affordability, meeting goals)

- “The preservation community is shrinking” – [State Historic Preservation Plan](#)

Ongoing Initiatives and Resources

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

- [Climate Resilience Fund](#) – competitive grant program to plan and develop climate resiliency projects
- [Greenhouse Gas Inventory Reports](#) – tracking progress towards meeting greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.
- [Integrated Water Quality Report](#) – mapping, report, and priority list for action plan
- [CT State Water Plan](#) and [Water Planning Council](#) – a plan for the state’s drinking water supply
- [Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program](#) – provides financial assistance to municipalities and nonprofit land conservation organizations to acquire land for open space and water companies to acquire Class I or Class II water supply property
- [Energy Action Plan](#) – Connecticut’s long-term strategy to improve energy affordability and reliability by reducing dependence on fossil fuel.
- [Long Island Sound Blue Plan](#) – marine spatial plan developed to facilitate the effective management of Long Island Sound’s public trust waters.
- [CT Green Plan](#) – a plan for land conservation
- [Connecticut Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan](#) – outlines strategies to address nonpoint source pollution and protect water quality through improved management practices.

Department of Agriculture

- [Traditional Farmland Preservation Program](#) – the primary preservation program administered by DoAg.
- [Farm Transition Grant](#) – supports the diversification of existing farm operations, transitioning to value-added agricultural production and sales, etc.
- [Farmland Restoration, Climate Resiliency & Disaster Preparedness Grant](#) – supports the restoration of lands into active agricultural production and increasing their climate resiliency.
- [Connecticut Shellfish Restoration Guide](#) – Connecticut’s first and most comprehensive plan for shellfish restoration to achieve environmental, economic, and societal benefits.

Department of Economic and Community Development

- [Shared Stewardship: 2018 2023 Statewide Historic Preservation Plan](#) – strategies for shared stewardship of Connecticut’s cultural and historic resources.

Vision for the Future: Connected and Inclusive Communities

Connecticut will host unique, diverse and inclusive communities that are well connected with each other and the larger northeast region.

As Viewed Through the Guiding Principles

Sustainable – Ensuring a diversity of community types and well-maintained infrastructure to support them enables a diverse population and economy for the long-term

Equitable – Creating inclusive communities and infrastructure helps to address economic disparities

Vibrant – Investing in infrastructure to support conservation and development priorities will support a thriving economy and diverse, active population

Resilient – Inclusive, connected communities are better positioned to respond to and adapt to rapid change and disruption

Strengths in Connecticut’s communities, inclusivity and connections

- Strategic location within the northeast region
- Increasingly diverse communities, and diversity among communities – see [recent demographic trends](#) of the “five Connecticuts” defined by UCONN as rural, suburban, urban core, urban periphery and wealthy communities published by the CT Data Collaborative
- Significant previous investments in infrastructure

Challenges to Connecticut’s inclusivity and connections

- Aging infrastructure - roads, bridges, rail, drinking water and wastewater systems received an overall grade of C, ranging from D+ to B in the [2021 infrastructure report card](#) from the CT and American Societies of Civil Engineers
- Income inequities
- Climate change impacts to vulnerable populations and infrastructure

Ongoing Initiatives and Resources

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

- [Comprehensive Energy Strategy](#) – examines future energy needs and ways to ensure reliable and resilient energy
- [Municipal Wastewater](#) program administers many programs to guide, support and regulate municipal wastewater systems, including administering the [Clean Water Fund](#) which provides funding for municipal wastewater system needs

- [Affordable Connectivity Program](#) – helps households afford broadband by providing discounts towards internet service for eligible households.
- [Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program](#) – supports establishment of beverage container redemption centers in urban centers and environmental justice communities.
- [Electric Vehicle Roadmap for Connecticut](#) – outlines pathways to achieve wide-scale EV deployment.
- [Park ConneCT](#) – collaborative program with DOT to provide safe and reliable transportation to several state parks.

Department of Public Health

- DPH's [Drinking Water](#) section administers many programs to guide, support and regulate drinking water systems, including the [Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund](#)

Department of Transportation

- [Long-Range Transportation Plan](#) – presents a framework for addressing transportation issues and needs in Connecticut.
- [Active Transportation Plan](#) – outlines strategies for meeting the needs of bicyclists and pedestrians in Connecticut.
- [2022-2026 Connecticut State Rail Plan](#) – outlines a vision and goals for future improvements and near- and long-term priorities for passenger and freight rail in Connecticut.
- [Community Connectivity Grant Program](#) – funding to improve accommodations for bicyclists and pedestrians in urban, suburban, and rural communities

V. Policies

The following overarching policies apply to all agency planning, programming and policymaking. They encourage all agencies to take a comprehensive view of their efforts, incorporating the guiding principles and visions of this C&D Plan in their deliberations. They also demonstrate to potential partners in conservation and development the overall approach of state agencies.

- 1. Seek multiple benefits and create efficiencies across agencies to optimize the use of state resources in conservation and development initiatives.*

While there is significant collaboration among state agencies, there remains ample opportunity for more. To accomplish this effectively, agencies should:

- support relationship building across agencies
- collaborate on projects and policies
- encourage potential partners and stakeholders to consider holistic impacts and opportunities of projects

- 2. Leverage federal and private resources to support programs and projects that balance priorities.*

While all agencies seek to maximize their capture and use of federal and private funding, it is important to understand both the opportunities and limitations attached to such funding. Agencies should seek to fit the funding to the most beneficial projects and seek to maximize the benefits towards all conservation and development priorities, and minimize the trade-offs often imposed by funding limitations.

- 3. Support planning among partners in conservation and development to advance high quality projects for potential state investment.*

The recent spate of federal and state funding has focused significantly on shovel-ready projects. That focus can neglect projects potentially offering superior benefits, especially in under-resourced communities, lacking the capacity to invest in due diligence and planning. It is important that the state continue to assist in planning and due diligence to better understand needs and opportunities and to achieve high quality projects that focus on addressing the state's priorities to the extent possible.

- 4. Develop greater capacity to leverage and use existing data.*

Most agencies collect significant amounts of data, and [CT Open Data](#) has helped to centralize and make available statewide data sets. However, there is significant opportunity to better use, share and interpret data; to conduct analyses that help refine priorities and identify cross-sector synergies; and to enable scenario-based planning within and across state agencies.

- 5. Promote regional solutions to conservation and development and in the efficient use of limited resources.*

Many priorities identified in this C&D Plan are best addressed at a regional scale because many aspects of our economic, transportation and other systems operate regionally. Decision-making processes for establishing programs and allocating state investments should promote greater regional-level thinking.

6. *Clearly communicate priorities horizontally and vertically within and across agencies.*

The sheer size and complexity of the state agency system does not lend itself easily to cross-sector communications. While there are numerous inter-agency working groups and committees actively collaborating in the areas prioritized by this C&D Plan, there are also significant gaps in knowledge and familiarity with these issues within and among agencies. Ensuring that all levels of management are familiar with the C&D Plan's visions and how individual agencies connect to these priorities can help foster creative ideas and collaborations. Fostering greater interagency communication on intersecting priorities will also allow the state to better leverage resources and carry forth a comprehensive vision.

VI. Implementation

The Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) identify four broad categories of state agency actions that must be consistent with the C&D Plan:

- *The acquisition of real property when the acquisition costs are in excess of two hundred thousand dollars;*
- *The development or improvement of real property when the development costs are in excess of two hundred thousand dollars;*
- *The acquisition of public transportation equipment or facilities when the acquisition costs are in excess of two hundred thousand dollars; and*
- *The authorization of each state grant, any application for which is not pending on July 1, 1991, for an amount in excess of two hundred thousand dollars, for the acquisition or development or improvement of real property or for the acquisition of public transportation equipment or facilities. (CGS Sec. 16a-31)*

The statutes further identify a category of state agency plans that must be prepared with consideration of the C&D Plan and be reviewed for consistency by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management:

Whenever a state agency is required by state or federal law to prepare a plan, it shall consider the state plan of conservation and development in the preparation of such plan. A draft of such plan shall be submitted to the secretary who shall provide for the preparer of the plan an advisory report commenting on the extent to which the proposed plan conforms to the state plan of conservation and development. (CGS Sec. 16a-31)

The statutes do not define what consistency with the C&D Plan means or how to resolve potentially conflicting policies within the Plan. In addition, agencies have not been obligated to document their determinations of C&D Plan consistency on a systematic basis. It has not been uncommon for agencies to cite one or two policies within the C&D Plan that support a particular program, plan or project while remaining silent regarding other C&D Plan policies that might conflict.

Finally, CGS Chapter 297a, Priority Funding Areas, require “growth-related projects” to be located within “priority funding areas” identified on the Locational Guide Map of the C&D Plan, though the chapter provides for several exceptions to this requirement. A guide map of this scale cannot account for local conditions and variations in a meaningful way, especially with growth-related projects defined so broadly as to include everything from a small building in a state park to a new highway interchange. Furthermore, the delineation of priority funding areas detracts from the imperative to balance priorities throughout the State.

This C&D Plan seeks to clarify the process for determining consistency through the following recommended changes:

- a. Amend CGS 16a-31 to increase the value threshold of projects that need to be consistent with the C&D Plan from \$200,00 to \$1,000,000 and require that agencies document and

transmit to OPM their determination of the consistency of such actions relative to the C&D Plans' implementation measures, in a manner to be developed by OPM.

- b. Repeal CGA Chapter 297a.
- c. Establish an *ad hoc* C&D Plan Advisory Committee (C&D Advisory Committee), comprised of staff of state agencies that undertake actions subject to the C&D Plan and who likely have contributed to the development of this C&D Plan. The committee should meet at least semi-annually. Continuing inter-agency engagement during the plan implementation period will enable a more adaptive approach to implementation. The C&D Advisory Committee should review and evaluate individual agency planning, programming and policy development efforts for opportunities to enhance outcomes through combined efforts and integration of resources, and the exploration of potential mitigation measures. Committee meetings should also provide a forum for developing approaches to balance conflicting conservation and development priorities, such as the need for more housing and natural resource protection, or the need for economic growth and the need to maintain and support existing infrastructure. Finally, the C&D Advisory Committee should consult with OPM on the development of documentation for reporting on consistency with the C&D Plan.
- d. Engage the Continuing Committee on State Planning and Development in monitoring implementation of the C&D Plan. In addition to receiving an annual report from OPM, the Committee should consider meeting at least annually to review implementation and the extent to which state actions are consistent with the C&D Plan. Such information can help guide future funding and policy decisions.

The following implementation measures provide a potential yardstick by which consistency with this C&D Plan can be measured. They are particularly geared towards agency actions, as defined by CGS 16a-31, but should also be useful in directing agency planning and program development. It is expected that OPM, in consultation with the *ad hoc* C&D Advisory Committee will develop reporting templates for agencies to use in meeting the proposed new statutory mandate for activities involving \$1,000,000 or more of state or federal resources. The table below highlights the vision statements most applicable to each measure.

Connecticut Conservation and Development Policies Plan 2025-2030 FIRST DRAFT
November 2023

Implementation Measures	Resilient Resources	Thriving Economy	Healthy People and Places	Housing for Current and Future Residents	Connected and Inclusive Communities
Increase and diversify CT's housing supply to include rental and ownership, affordable and market-rate, small and family-sized units in a variety of medium- and high-density development types appropriate to the neighborhood context through new construction, rehabilitation of existing units and adaptive reuse of existing buildings.		X	X	X	
Reduce the number of low- and moderate-income households that are cost-burdened by housing, transportation and energy costs.			X	X	
Promote universal design in new construction or substantial renovation projects.			X		
Maximize use of existing public sewer, water and transportation infrastructure.	X				X
Promote infill, redevelopment and revitalization of neighborhoods that have suffered from prolonged disinvestment.		X	X	X	
Preserve historically, culturally, and architecturally significant sites, structures, landscapes, buildings, and objects.		X	X		
Avoid developing prime farmland soils, wetlands, habitat areas, and core forest.	X				
Avoid new development activities in areas prone to flooding and inundation from sea-level rise or storms.	X	X	X		
Incorporate low-impact development techniques, energy efficiency and resilience, and climate resilience technologies and techniques in development projects.	X		X		
Encourage development project design to consider the applicability of future technologies such as smart city technologies, autonomous vehicles, 5G service, new energy systems, etc.	X	X			
Foster bike, pedestrian and micro-mobility connections between dense residential, commercial and mixed-use development and existing or planned transit.			X	X	X
Support robust community, private partner, advocate and other stakeholder engagement in planning for and improving quality of life at a neighborhood scale.			X		X
Support arts, culture, and entertainment activities in higher density areas with transit access.		X			X
Enhance urban tree canopies and green spaces.	X	X	X		
Improve the climate resilience of existing public infrastructure, and avoid siting new infrastructure in areas prone to flooding and inundation from sea level rise and/or storms.	X				X
Incorporate low-impact development techniques, energy efficiency and resilience, climate resilience technologies and techniques and equity measures in the maintenance and management of state-owned facilities.	X		X		
Develop coordinated capacity and infrastructure for solid waste management that provides efficient, equitable and sustainable systems.	X				X
Locate public-facing government facilities on sites served by transit.		X	X		X
Increase the diversity of CT businesses by size and type, focusing on entrepreneurs who are women, minority and/or immigrants, and support business growth and evolution to maintain businesses within the state.		X			
Increase proximity between childcare, medical, transit, workforce development and employment opportunities to foster more affordable living.		X	X		X
Support innovation, sustainability and economic health in CT's agricultural and aquacultural sectors.	X	X			
Maximize protection, restoration and/or enhancement of biodiversity, ecosystem health and functioning, and the ability of the natural environment to adapt to climate change.	X		X		
Provide equitable access to natural resources and recreation opportunities.			X		X
Invest in strategic open space conservation and management that meaningfully contributes to the state's open space goals, ecosystem health and/or climate change adaptation.	X				