## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## **COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Keith Ainsworth Acting Chair

September 27, 2023

Alicea Charamut

The Honorable Kevin Seery

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

First Selectman

East Lyme Town Hall Christopher Donnelly 108 Pennsylvania Avenue

Niantic, CT, 06357

David Kalafa

kseery@eltownhall.com

Dear First Selectman Seery,

Kip Kolesinskas

Re: Colony Road Bridge over the Latimer Brook, East Lyme

Matthew Reiser

Denise Rodosevich

Charles Vidich

William Warzecha

Paul Aresta Executive Director The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) received a notice regarding the proposed bridge replacement project for the Colony Road Bridge over the Latimer Brook in East Lyme. The Council notes that the Colony Road Bridge is located within a Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) designated Natural Diversity Database (NDDB) buffer area. Latimer Brook has also been identified as a floodway and the proposed construction site is within a flood hazard zone. Consequently, the Council recommends that 1) the bridge designers/construction company consult with DEEP's Wildlife Division/NDDB for guidance to minimize and mitigate any potential adverse impacts on state-listed species; 2) no materials that are hazardous, flammable, explosive, soluble, expansive, radioactive, and any other materials that could be injurious to human, animal or plant life during a flood, be stored in a flood hazard area during construction, and 3) the East Lyme Inland Wetlands Agency carefully review the proposed project, at the appropriate time, for consistency with the Town's Wetland Regulations.

Thank you for your consideration of the Council's comments.

Sincerely,

Paul Aresta

**Executive Director** 

Joe Bragaw, East Lyme, Director of Public Works Marc Byrnes, DOT, Transportation Supervising Engineer James Barrows, DOT, Transportation Engineer 3 Michelle M. Rame, DOT, Transportation Engineer 3