Scope of Work

The following Scope describes the work that will be completed to evaluate the feasibility of providing a bicycle and pedestrian facility that connects the proposed pedestrian walkway on the Route 3 Putnam Bridge to the local roadway systems in Wethersfield and Glastonbury, CT. The primary purpose of the pedestrian walkway and its associated multimodal trail connections is to provide a safe, convenient, and functional transportation link across the Connecticut River for pedestrians and bicyclists who seek to utilize non-motorized modes of transportation to meet their regular travel needs.

Under this Scope, CTDOT and the consultant, Clough Harbour & Associates (CHA), will work with an Advisory Committee to develop and assess the feasibility of various alternatives that will satisfy the stated purpose of the walkway and its multimodal trail connections. The approximate study area is illustrated in attached Figure 1.

The Scope is organized into the following tasks:

- Task 1. Project Coordination
- Task 2. Data Collection and Research
- Task 3. Alternatives Development and Evaluation
- Task 4. Documentation

Task 1 | Project Coordination

Objective: This task defines the study development and stakeholder/community involvement process.

Coordination Meetings
CTDOT and CHA will meet with other involved agencies (such as FHWA, CRCOG, CTDEEP, ACOE) as required to coordinate progress; discuss documentation requirements; resolve potential issues; review study products; etc.

Advisory Committee Meetings
An Advisory Committee (AC) will be established and will be actively involved in the development of the study and its products. The AC will be composed of stakeholders and representatives from CTDOT, FHWA, and CRCOG; Towns of Wethersfield, Glastonbury, and East Hartford; state and federal regulatory agencies; Goodwin College; and local bicycle and pedestrian advocacy groups. It is anticipated that three AC meetings (or more, as required) will be conducted at key study milestones:

- **Study Kick-off.** Objective will be to present and discuss study scope, objectives, schedule, and conceptual design parameters.
- **Development of Preliminary Alternatives.** Objective will be to present and discuss the feasibility of preliminary alternatives developed under Task 3; and to select one or more alternatives for in-depth evaluation.
- **Evaluation of Alternatives.** Objective will be to present and discuss the in-depth evaluation of alternatives and to select a preferred alternative for presentation in the final report.

Public Information Meeting
A Public Information Meeting will be conducted during Task 3 to provide the public a forum to learn about, openly discuss, and provide input on the study findings and alternatives development. The meeting may include an “open house” period, a technical presentation, and a formal question and answer period.

Task 2 | Data Collection and Research

Objective: This task provides for the collection, compilation, review, and documentation of existing information that will be used in the development and assessment of alternatives under Task 3.

Existing Multimodal Accommodations and Services

This task includes researching, evaluating, and documenting the location and condition of existing pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit accommodations and services in the study area including, but not limited to: sidewalks; pedestrian crossings; existing and available paved shoulder widths; signed bike routes; Park and Ride lots; and CTTransit bus routes and bus stops. Observation of pedestrian and bicycle activity and travel patterns is also included. This information will be used to identify logical termini and potential multimodal improvements associated with the multimodal trail connections to the local roadway networks in Wethersfield and Glastonbury.

Plans, Reports, and Studies

This task includes reviewing available plans, reports, and studies that outline strategies or define projects associated with improving the local, regional, and state network of pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit facilities in the study area. Relevant documents could include: plans for the Route 3 Putnam Bridge project; Plans of Conservation and Development for Wethersfield and Glastonbury; trail plans for Goodwin College; CRCOG's Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan; and 2009 Connecticut Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan; among others.

Aerial Orthophotos

CTDOT's 2012 color aerial orthophotos of the study area will be used as the primary base mapping for study documents and alternatives development.

Digital GIS/CADD Data

This task includes researching and obtaining relevant GIS and CADD data layers for the study area. The GIS/CADD data will be used to supplement the orthophoto base mapping and will illustrate environmental resources (wetlands/wetland soils, waterbodies, floodplains, stream channel encroachment lines, high tide lines, natural diversity database areas, critical habitats, open space); topographical features and constraints; two-foot contours; approximate rights-of-way; and approximate property lines and property information, among other relevant items.

Other Data

Data that is not readily available in digital GIS or CADD format will be digitized to assess the potential constraints, impacts, and other conceptual design considerations associated with various alternatives. Data in this category could include record plans; threatened and endangered species habitats; locations of historic and archaeological resources provided by the State Historic Preservation Office; places of local significance; FEMA flood maps; trail maps; and private or municipal development plans, among other information.

Site Visits

Site visits will be conducted as required to review existing site conditions; verify GIS and mapping information; identify physical constraints; explore feasible alternatives; assess potential impacts; and assess constructability issues, among other tasks.

Task 3 | Alternatives Development and Evaluation

Objective: This task provides for the identification, development, and evaluation of alternative multimodal trail connections. This task also provides for the evaluation and selection of a preferred alternative. It is assumed that the future trail connections will be designed as shared-use paths.

Conceptual Design Parameters

This task includes developing conceptual design parameters for review and concurrence by CTDOT and the AC prior to the development of preliminary alternatives. The design parameters will define:

- Minimum and desirable geometric values for the trail connections based on the latest FHWA and CTDOT design guidelines for shared-use paths.
- Preferred location for the proposed walkway on the Putnam Bridge. This effort will include a cursory assessment of opportunities and constraints associated with the location of the walkway on either the northbound or southbound side of the bridge.
- Logical termini for the trail connections. This effort will include a cursory assessment of the opportunities and constraints associated with where the trail connections could terminate at the local roadway networks in Wethersfield and Glastonbury.

Preliminary Alternatives Development and Assessment

This task includes developing conceptual-level plan sketches and sections to illustrate potential alignments and configurations for alternative trail connections.

This task also includes assessing and documenting the potential benefits, challenges, relative costs, and relative environmental and property impacts of the preliminary alternatives for consideration by the AC. Based on this information, the AC will select one or more favorable alternatives for in-depth evaluation and refinement.

Alternatives Refinement and Preferred Alternative Selection

This task includes refining the plans for one or more favorable alternatives and completing an in-depth evaluation of the approximate costs and impacts associated with each. This effort will include detailing recommendations for local roadway improvements, as required, to provide safe access at the termini. Approximate costs will be developed in accordance with CTDOT's latest Conceptual Cost Estimating Guidelines. Approximate impacts to environmental resources and private properties will be quantified.

Concept-level plans and graphics and tabular summaries will be developed to describe the benefits and challenges for the refined alternatives. This information will be presented to the AC for consideration. It is assumed that the AC will select a preferred alternative based on this information.

Task 4 | Documentation

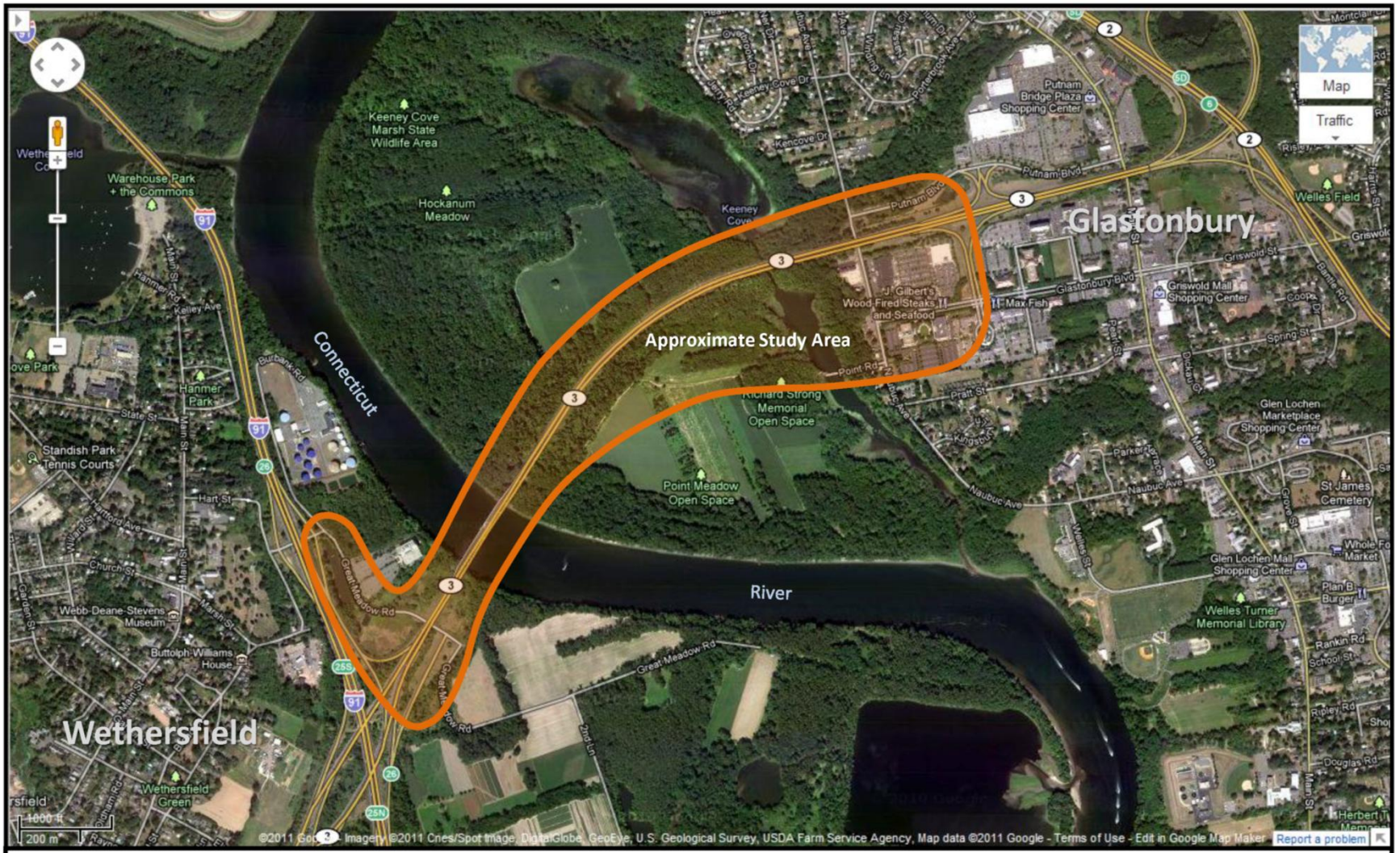
Objective: This task provides for a draft and final report that will document the study process and the development and selection of a preferred alternative.

Draft Report

This task includes developing a draft report for review and comment by CTDOT and the AC. The draft report will document the study process; describe the selection and details of the preferred alternative; and identify the environmental documentation required by NEPA/CEPA for the preferred alternative.

Final Report

This task includes developing a final report that addresses comments received on the draft report. Fifteen hard copies of the final report will be provided with an Adobe PDF copy of the report on CD.



Putnam Bridge Multimodal Trail Connections Feasibility Study
Towns of Wethersfield and Glastonbury
Project No. DOT07119998PL-SP833

Figure 1.
Approximate Study Area