

Client: CTDOT **Job Number:** 171-366

Project Name: Central Connecticut Rail Study

Date: May 1, 2013

Updated Purpose and Need Statement

The purpose of the Central Connecticut Rail Study (CCRS) is to identify opportunities and develop a recommended plan to improve public transportation options for the traveling public in the Central Connecticut Rail Corridor between Waterbury and Berlin, CT.

The CCRS will address several transportation-related concerns in the Study Corridor, identified through technical analysis, public input and agency involvement. The CCRS will examine ways to help meet the following:

- The need to improve intercity transit mobility between Waterbury, Bristol, New Britain, and Hartford and to enhance intermodal connections within, to, and from the Study Corridor;
- The need to reduce roadway congestion in the Study Corridor;
- The need to maintain and improve existing freight service in the Study Corridor in a manner compatible with passenger rail service;
- The need to encourage transit-oriented development (TOD) opportunities within the Study Corridor and, where possible, to identify locations which may offer the most promising potential; and
- The need to identify optimal station locations and the attendant parking needs for rail service alternatives.