



# *Town of Colchester, Connecticut*

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Website: [www.colchesterct.gov](http://www.colchesterct.gov)

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To: Colchester Board of Finance

From: Jay Gigliotti, Planning & Zoning Department *JRG*

Date: October 12, 2018

Re: Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection Recreational Trails Program Grant Application for bike/pedestrian connection trail

The Planning and Zoning Department intends to and is preparing to apply for a Recreational Trails Program Grant Application, to the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CT DEEP RTP). This RTP grant application is the second phase to grant previously awarded to the Town of Colchester in 2015. The previous RTP grant application was for the study and design of a Bike/pedestrian trail, which would provide a connection between the 60+ mile Airline Trail and the 26+ mile Richard Goodwin Trail. The connection would result in a contiguous trail network traveling from East Lyme, CT to the Town of Thompson and the Connecticut/Massachusetts border. The current proposed RTP Application is for funding of the connecting trail.

The limits of the proposed project are from the south side of Route 16, at the Babcock Pond Wildlife Management Area, to the west side of Route 149 at the Church Street intersection. The proposed connecting path will travel from Route 16, north/west on Cemetery Rd, before turning north onto Church Street and ending at Route 149.

The grant funding shall be utilized for signage and pavement markings. The RTP is an 80/20 matching grant, and like we did in the 2015 study grant, the matching will be in-kind services (essentially staff time). No actual town funds shall be required for this project.

The proposed bike & pedestrian connection trail project is consistent with the Town & State's POCD, Colchester Open Space Plan, & as well as the SCCOG 2017 Regional Plan of Conservation & Development.

The Planning & Zoning Department conducted a public informational meeting on the proposed RTP grant application on 10/4/18. Comments received at the meeting centered around the speed of motorists on Route 149 & the safety of the crosswalks, trash from trail users, property value questions and projected use volumes.

## **Recommended Motion:**

**The Colchester Board of Finance endorses the Planning & Zoning Department's submission of a trail grant application to the CT DEEP Recreational Trails Program**

Attachments:

Location Map

Pedestrian link trail  
over pavement of  
Cemetery Road & Church Street



Church Street

Cemetery Road

Mapping Prepared  
by the Town of Colchester  
Planning and Zoning  
Department

**Data & Information Notes:**  
This map has been prepared using data obtained from recorded deeds, plats, other public records and data published by the State of CT DEEP. All data and information depicted on this map shall be used solely for Assessment & Planning purposes only. Users should consult the above mentioned sources to verify all data and information shown. The information depicted herein shall not supersede any survey of any kind, in which data has been obtained from field investigation and recordings completed by professional individuals licensed by the State of Connecticut. The Town of Colchester shall not assume any legal responsibility for the data and information that is displayed on this map.

Scale:

1 inch = 225 feet