



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546



Office of the
Commissioner

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Public Hearing – March 6, 2015 Planning and Development Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Jim Redeker Department of Transportation

H.B. 6851 – An Act Establishing the Connecticut Transit Corridor Development Authority.

The Department of Transportation (CTDOT) strongly supports Governor Malloy's proposal to establish the Connecticut Transit Corridor Development Authority (CTDA) in H.B. 6851.

Promoting Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) at our transit stations is an important goal for the Department, and we are working closely with other state agencies to support municipalities in their efforts to plan and implement TOD projects in community centers served by transit. The proposed CTDA would provide critical additional powers and capabilities including financial, lending, bonding, and technical resources needed for TOD projects to be successful.

In addition, the Department supports the proposal because the establishment of the Authority will promote and implement transit-oriented development around the transit stations and services that the Department owns and operates. This type of carefully planned mixed use development around our stations will boost ridership, make more effective use of our major transit systems, and support economic development in our city and town centers.

This proposal will further support energy efficiency and livable community goals typical of compact mixed-use development that occurs in existing community centers. These centers already have good public infrastructure, and they typically have easy walking access to jobs, housing, and services such as stores and restaurants. The ease of walking and access to transit result in a reduced number of vehicle trips and fuel consumption, and therefore reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Finally, an Authority that has the necessary powers, expertise, and staff that can serve communities throughout the state will be an invaluable resource for municipalities to manage complex development projects.

For further information or questions, please contact Pam Sucato (pamela.sucato@ct.gov) or CJ Strand (carl.strand@ct.gov) at the Department of Transportation, (860) 594-3013.