



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5603

LCO No. 2607



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:
(PD)

AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 8-23 of the 2016 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

4 (d) In preparing such plan, the commission or any special
5 committee shall consider the following: (1) The community
6 development action plan of the municipality, if any, (2) the need for
7 affordable housing, (3) the need for protection of existing and potential
8 public surface and ground drinking water supplies, (4) the use of
9 cluster development and other development patterns to the extent
10 consistent with soil types, terrain and infrastructure capacity within
11 the municipality, (5) the state plan of conservation and development
12 adopted pursuant to chapter 297, (6) the regional plan of conservation
13 and development adopted pursuant to section 8-35a, as amended by
14 this act, (7) physical, social, economic and governmental conditions
15 and trends, (8) the needs of the municipality including, but not limited

16 to, human resources, education, health, housing, recreation, social
17 services, public utilities, public protection, transportation and
18 circulation and cultural and interpersonal communications, (9) the
19 objectives of energy-efficient patterns of development, the use of solar
20 and other renewable forms of energy and energy conservation, (10)
21 protection and preservation of agriculture, [and] (11) sea level change
22 scenarios published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
23 Administration in Technical Report OAR CPO-1, and (12) the
24 application and use of technology to enhance efficiencies, foster
25 collaboration, increase transparency and access to information and
26 reduce costs.

27 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 8-35a of the general statutes is
28 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
29 *October 1, 2016*):

30 (a) At least once every ten years, each regional council of
31 governments shall make a plan of conservation and development for
32 its area of operation, showing its recommendations for the general use
33 of the area including land use, housing, principal highways and
34 freeways, bridges, airports, parks, playgrounds, recreational areas,
35 schools, public institutions, public utilities, agriculture and such other
36 matters as, in the opinion of the council, will be beneficial to the area.
37 Any regional plan so developed shall be based on studies of physical,
38 social, economic and governmental conditions and trends and shall be
39 designed to promote with the greatest efficiency and economy the
40 coordinated development of its area of operation and the general
41 welfare and prosperity of its people. Such plan may encourage energy-
42 efficient patterns of development, the use of solar and other renewable
43 forms of energy, and energy conservation. Such plan shall be designed
44 to promote abatement of the pollution of the waters and air of the
45 region. Such plan shall consider the application and use of technology
46 to enhance efficiencies, foster collaboration, increase transparency and
47 access to information and reduce costs. The regional plan shall identify
48 areas where it is feasible and prudent (1) to have compact, transit

49 accessible, pedestrian-oriented mixed use development patterns and
50 land reuse, and (2) to promote such development patterns and land
51 reuse and shall note any inconsistencies with the following growth
52 management principles: (A) Redevelopment and revitalization of
53 regional centers and areas of mixed land uses with existing or planned
54 physical infrastructure; (B) expansion of housing opportunities and
55 design choices to accommodate a variety of household types and
56 needs; (C) concentration of development around transportation nodes
57 and along major transportation corridors to support the viability of
58 transportation options and land reuse; (D) conservation and
59 restoration of the natural environment, cultural and historical
60 resources and traditional rural lands; (E) protection of environmental
61 assets critical to public health and safety; and (F) integration of
62 planning across all levels of government to address issues on a local,
63 regional and state-wide basis. The plan of each region contiguous to
64 Long Island Sound shall be designed to reduce hypoxia, pathogens,
65 toxic contaminants and floatable debris in Long Island Sound.

66 Sec. 3. Section 16a-27 of the general statutes is repealed and the
67 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

68 (a) The secretary, after consultation with all appropriate state,
69 regional and local agencies and other appropriate persons, shall, prior
70 to March 1, 2012, complete a revision of the existing plan and enlarge it
71 to include, but not be limited to, policies relating to transportation,
72 energy and air. Any revision made after July 1, 1995, shall take into
73 consideration the conservation and development of greenways that
74 have been designated by municipalities and shall recommend that
75 state agencies coordinate their efforts to support the development of a
76 state-wide greenways system. The Commissioner of Energy and
77 Environmental Protection shall identify state-owned land for inclusion
78 in the plan as potential components of a state greenways system.

79 (b) Any revision made after August 20, 2003, shall take into account
80 (1) economic and community development needs and patterns of

81 commerce, and (2) linkages of affordable housing objectives and land
82 use objectives with transportation systems.

83 (c) Any revision made after March 1, 2006, shall (1) take into
84 consideration risks associated with natural hazards, including, but not
85 limited to, flooding, high winds and wildfires; (2) identify the potential
86 impacts of natural hazards on infrastructure and property; and (3)
87 make recommendations for the siting of future infrastructure and
88 property development to minimize the use of areas prone to natural
89 hazards, including, but not limited to, flooding, high winds and
90 wildfires.

91 (d) Any revision made after July 1, 2005, shall describe the progress
92 towards achievement of the goals and objectives established in the
93 previously adopted state plan of conservation and development and
94 shall identify (1) areas where it is prudent and feasible (A) to have
95 compact, transit accessible, pedestrian-oriented mixed-use
96 development patterns and land reuse, and (B) to promote such
97 development patterns and land reuse, (2) priority funding areas
98 designated under section 16a-35c, and (3) corridor management areas
99 on either side of a limited access highway or a rail line. In designating
100 corridor management areas, the secretary shall make
101 recommendations that (A) promote land use and transportation
102 options to reduce the growth of traffic congestion; (B) connect
103 infrastructure and other development decisions; (C) promote
104 development that minimizes the cost of new infrastructure facilities
105 and maximizes the use of existing infrastructure facilities; and (D)
106 increase intermunicipal and regional cooperation.

107 (e) Any revision made after October 1, 2008, shall (1) for each policy
108 recommended (A) assign a priority; (B) estimate funding for
109 implementation and identify potential funding sources; (C) identify
110 each entity responsible for implementation; and (D) establish a
111 schedule for implementation; and (2) for each growth management
112 principle, determine three benchmarks to measure progress in

113 implementation of the principles, one of which shall be a financial
114 benchmark.

115 (f) Any revision made after October 1, 2009, shall take into
116 consideration the protection and preservation of Connecticut Heritage
117 Areas.

118 (g) Any revision made after December 1, 2011, shall take into
119 consideration (1) the state water supply and resource policies
120 established in sections 22a-380 and 25-33c, and (2) the list prepared by
121 the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 25-33q.

122 (h) Any revision made after October 1, 2013, shall (1) take into
123 consideration risks associated with increased coastal erosion,
124 depending on site topography, as anticipated in sea level change
125 scenarios published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
126 Administration in Technical Report OAR CPO-1, (2) identify the
127 impacts of such increased erosion on infrastructure and natural
128 resources, and (3) make recommendations for the siting of future
129 infrastructure and property development to minimize the use of areas
130 prone to such erosion.

131 (i) Any revision made after October 1, 2016, shall take into
132 consideration the application and use of technology to enhance
133 efficiencies, foster collaboration, increase transparency and access to
134 information and reduce costs.

135 [(i)] (j) Thereafter on or before March first in each revision year the
136 secretary shall complete a revision of the plan of conservation and
137 development.

138 Sec. 4. Section 4-124s of the general statutes is repealed and the
139 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

140 (a) For purposes of this section:

141 (1) "Regional council of governments" means any such council

142 organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive;

143 (2) "Municipality" means a town, city or consolidated town and
144 borough;

145 (3) "Legislative body" means the board of selectmen, town council,
146 city council, board of alderman, board of directors, board of
147 representatives or board of the warden and burgesses of a
148 municipality; and

149 (4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
150 Management or the designee of the secretary.

151 (b) There is established a regional performance incentive program
152 that shall be administered by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
153 Management. On or before December 31, 2011, and annually
154 thereafter, any regional council of governments, any two or more
155 municipalities acting through a regional council of governments, any
156 economic development district or any combination thereof may submit
157 a proposal to the secretary for: (1) The joint provision of any service
158 that one or more participating municipalities of such council or agency
159 currently provide but which is not provided on a regional basis, (2) a
160 planning study regarding the joint provision of any service on a
161 regional basis, or (3) shared information technology services. A copy of
162 said proposal shall be sent to the legislators representing said
163 participating municipalities.

164 (c) (1) A regional council of governments or an economic
165 development district shall submit each proposal in the form and
166 manner the secretary prescribes and shall, at a minimum, provide the
167 following information for each proposal: (A) Service description; (B)
168 the explanation of the need for such service; (C) the method of
169 delivering such service on a regional basis; (D) the organization that
170 would be responsible for regional service delivery; (E) a description of
171 the population that would be served; (F) the manner in which regional
172 service delivery will achieve economies of scale; (G) the amount by

173 which participating municipalities will reduce their mill rates as a
174 result of savings realized; (H) a cost benefit analysis for the provision
175 of the service by each participating municipality and by the entity
176 submitting the proposal; (I) a plan of implementation for delivery of
177 the service on a regional basis; (J) a resolution endorsing such proposal
178 approved by the legislative body of each participating municipality;
179 and (K) an explanation of the potential legal obstacles, if any, to the
180 regional provision of the service.

181 (2) The secretary shall review each proposal and shall award grants
182 for proposals the secretary determines best meet the requirements of
183 this section. In awarding such grants, the secretary shall give priority
184 to a proposal submitted by (A) any entity specified in subsection (a) of
185 this section that includes participation of all of the member
186 municipalities of such entity, and which may increase the purchasing
187 power of participating municipalities or provide a cost savings
188 initiative resulting in a decrease in expenses of such municipalities,
189 allowing such municipalities to lower property taxes, and (B) any
190 economic development district.

191 (d) On or before December 31, 2013, and annually thereafter until
192 December 31, 2017, in addition to any proposal submitted pursuant to
193 this section, any municipality or regional council of governments may
194 apply to the secretary for a grant to fund: (1) Operating costs
195 associated with connecting to the state-wide high speed, flexible
196 network developed pursuant to section 4d-80, including the costs to
197 connect at the same rate as other government entities served by such
198 network; and (2) capital cost associated with connecting to such
199 network, including expenses associated with building out the internal
200 fiber network connections required to connect to such network,
201 provided the secretary shall make any such grant available in
202 accordance with the two-year schedule by which the Bureau of
203 Enterprise Systems and Technology recommends connecting each
204 municipality and regional council of governments to such network.
205 Any municipality or regional council of governments shall submit each

206 application in the form and manner the secretary prescribes.

207 (e) The secretary shall submit to the Governor and the joint standing
208 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
209 relating to finance, revenue and bonding a report on the grants
210 provided pursuant to this section. Each such report shall include
211 information on the amount of each grant, and the potential of each
212 grant for leveraging other public and private investments. The
213 secretary shall submit a report for the fiscal year commencing July 1,
214 2011, not later than February 1, 2012, and shall submit a report for each
215 subsequent fiscal year not later than the first day of March in such
216 fiscal year. Such reports shall include the property tax reductions
217 achieved by means of the program established pursuant to this section.

218 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) Not later than January 1,
219 2017, and annually thereafter, the Department of Administrative
220 Services shall publish on its Internet web site a list of state technology
221 contracts and make such list accessible to municipalities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	8-23(d)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	8-35a(a)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	16a-27
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	4-124s
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To require consideration of the application and use of technology to enhance efficiencies, foster collaboration, increase transparency and access to information and reduce costs, in local, regional and state-wide plans of conservation and development, to discontinue regional performance incentive program grants to municipalities for the purpose of connecting to the Nutmeg Network and to require the Department of Administrative Services to annually publish a list of state technology contracts.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]