



Making Great Communities Happen

Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association

**Testimony regarding
Raised Bill No. 7209 - AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL
REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.**

CCAPA opposes this Raised Bill as currently drafted, and urges the Committee to amend the Bill. As currently drafted, municipalities with populations of more than 70,000 may opt in to the proposed Redevelopment Authority. Smaller municipalities are apparently automatically subject to the Authority upon applying for Tier III or Tier IV status, which are finance designations that are not directly connected to the function or purpose of this Authority. We believe that municipalities of all sizes should have the option of joining the Authority and should not be required to join or be automatically made members by statute.

The Connecticut Municipal Redevelopment Authority holds the potential to be a powerful tool in a Town's toolbox to proactively encourage good development, particularly in transit-proximate areas. We urge that community input, particularly from the neighborhoods that will be most affected by the proposed redevelopment projects, be incorporated into the processes outlined by the Bill. This will help ensure that the Authority will be an effective tool, not a weapon.

WHO WE ARE

The Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA) has over 420 members who are governmental and consulting planners, land use attorneys, citizen planners, and other professionals engaged in planning and managing land use, economic development, housing, transportation, and conservation for local, regional, and State governments, private businesses and other entities. CCAPA has long been committed to assisting the legislature and State agencies with developing and furthering responsible growth management principles. The APA is an independent, not-for-profit, national educational organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities.

CONTACTS

CCAPA Govt. Relations Committee Co-Chairs
Amanda Kennedy, AICP
John Guskowski, AICP
Phone: (860) 889-2324
ctplannersgovrel@gmail.com

CCAPA President
Michael Piscitelli, AICP
Phone: (203) 946-2867
mpiscite@newhavenct.org