



The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation United States Department of Transportation  
12000 New Jersey Avenue  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Connecticut Commuter Rail Council, we strongly support the Connecticut Department of Transportation's (CTDOT) application submitted for consideration under the FY 2021 Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant program for the Enfield Station Track Improvements Project in Enfield, Connecticut.

The CTDOT is requesting \$13.86 million for the Enfield Station Track Improvements Project to accommodate an increase in service as part of the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) Rail Program. Specifically, the project includes:

- Construction of a new Enfield Station with high-level, ADA-accessible platforms, traveler amenities, and security items such as cameras and blue light phones
- Associated track and signal improvements to support the station and platforms
- Improvements to the Main Street bridge that will add increased under-bridge clearance; and
- Connectivity for a future Intermodal Center on the west side of the tracks.

As an independent advocacy group that advocates for rail commuters, we believe that this project merits your full consideration. In addition to removing cars from the roads, reducing congestion, and helping offset our carbon emissions, this improvement will spur economic development by further linking up the Hartford, New Haven, New York City and Springfield regions. This in turn will make it easier for people to do business in those regions, commute to those regions and help transport potential consumers and employees to their places of destination.

We cannot stress enough that the increased passenger rail service on the Hartford Line will provide important transportation, economic development and environmental benefits for local communities and the entire region. As such, we urge your full support.

Jim Gildea  
Connecticut Commuter rail Council Chair