



# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW

This Environmental Assessment Review (EAR) is intended to provide the sponsoring agency and the project team with baseline environmental information and to assist in determining what effects, if any, the proposed project/action may have on the environment. This review is conducted using readily available information and is based on qualitative assessments. The EAR may be used to assess potential issues that may or may not require additional environmental review or study. **This EAR, however, does not replace any A/E Consultant's obligation to continually assess what permits, certifications, or approvals the project may require as the project progresses or from submitting OPM's Checklist for Permits, Certifications, and Approvals with each phase of the project.**

Is this a revised EAR  Yes  No If yes, date of previous EAR:  
Are multiple sites involved?  Yes  No If yes, how many:

## SECTION A: PROJECT/ACTION INFORMATION

<b>Project Title:</b>	Whiting Street Improvement Project
<b>Project Address:</b>	Whiting Street in Winsted, from Main St. (Route 44) to Holabird Ave.
<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Office of Policy and Management
<b>Agency Contact:</b>	Matthew Pafford
<b>OPM Project Manager:</b>	Matthew Pafford

### PROPOSED ACTION/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:

OPM is proposing to provide Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development Grant funding to the Town of Winchester for the technical design and construction of improvements to Whiting Street between Main Street (Route 44) and Holabird Avenue in order to resolve issues related to chronic flooding, poor road conditions, poor pedestrian connectivity, parking issues and to calm traffic.

Specific project activities include drainage improvements, roadway repaving, new sidewalks and lighting, invasive plant removal and replanting of native species, and Low-Impact Development (LID) components. The Town is also considering the benefits of converting Whiting Street to a one-way street.

### SITE INFORMATION:

- State owned property  New Site  
 Private property  Located in Coastal Boundary

Was a site visit conducted?  Yes  No If yes, date conducted:

Existing land use: Public, municipally-owned roadway

Surrounding land uses: Single family homes, apartments, small scale commercial, on-street parking

Other site information: Roadway runs adjacent to the Still River.

### STATE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES PLAN LOCATIONAL GUIDE MAP CRITERIA:

	<u>Present</u>		<u>Present</u>
Urban Area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Critical Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sewer Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	100-yr Flood	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hurricane Inundation Zone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Near Transit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wetland Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Bus Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	Potential Water Source	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Conservation Factor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water Supply Source Area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquifer Protection Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Core Forest	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Ag Lands	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SECTION B: POTENTIALLY IMPACTED RESOURCES

Check all resource categories to determine if the proposed project/action may or may not have the potential to directly or indirectly affect the following resources:

Resources	Potential Impacts			Comments
	Yes	No	Unknown	
Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Final engineering to determine if wetlands exist
Water bodies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proposed project should result in positive impacts to water quality
Water quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Groundwater resources (Aquifer Protection Areas & wells)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Floodplains (100-year)*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Floodways*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Base flood elevation is      ft. (NGVD).
Stream channel encroachment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floodway elevation is      ft. (NGVD).
Fish habitats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Wildlife habitats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Endangered, threatened, and special concern species and habitats (NDDB)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Coastal resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Agricultural lands and/or soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Historic sites and districts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Archeologically sensitive areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Aesthetic / scenic resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Designated open space and recreational uses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Surrounding land uses / neighborhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Utilities and Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

\* Based on the community's Flood Insurance Study

Comments or remarks:

## SECTION C: DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE

Using the information in Sections A and B as a guide in determining environmental significance, qualitatively assess the potential level of significance of the proposed project/action taking into account the direct and indirect effect on the environment.

Potential or Actual Consequences	Potentially Significant with Mitigation	Not Significant with Mitigation	No Anticipated Significant Effects	Effects Undetermined at this time
Impact on air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Impact on ambient noise levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Impact public water supply system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serious effects on groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serious effects on flooding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serious effects on erosion or sedimentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effects on natural land resources and formations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effects on tidal wetlands or other coastal resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effects on inland wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effects on maintenance of in-stream flows	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disruption or alteration of an historic, archeological, cultural, or recreational building, object, district, site or its surroundings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effects on natural communities and critical species of animal or plant and their habitats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interference with fish and wildlife movement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of pesticides, toxic or hazardous materials or any substance in such quantities as to create extensive detrimental environmental impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substantial aesthetic or visual effects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inconsistency with the State Conservation and Development Policies Plan's Growth Management Principles and associated policies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disruption or division of an established community or inconsistency with adopted municipal and regional plans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substantial increase in congestion (traffic, recreational, other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substantial increase in the type or rate of energy use as a direct or indirect result of the action	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create a hazard to human health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other substantial impact on natural, cultural, recreational or scenic resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<b>Potential Impacts</b>	<b>No Anticipated Impacts</b>	<b>Undetermined at this time</b>
<b>Cumulative Impacts</b> (RSCA Section 22a-1a-3[b])		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**MITIGATION MEASURES:**

## SECTION D: POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS, CERTIFICATIONS, OR APPROVALS

In the absence of detailed project information, such as a developed site layout, detailed plans, field verification of resources, etc., the following is a preliminary assessment of potential environmental permits, certifications, or approvals for the proposed project. This assessment does not replace or eliminate the A/E consultant's obligation to identify and obtain any applicable permits, certifications, or approvals necessary as the project progresses.

Agency and Permit Name	Potentially Applicable	Not Applicable	Undetermined at this time
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION</b>			
<b>Air Management</b>			
Title V Operating Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Source Review Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Limit Potential to Emit From Major Stationary Sources of Air Pollution (Title V General Permit)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Radiation Division</b>			
X-Ray and Ionizing Radiation Source Registration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Water Protection and Land Reuse</b>			
Discharge of Domestic Sewage Permit (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Food Preparation Establishment Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Food Processing Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater Directly to Surface Water (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater to Sanitary Sewer (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Hydrostatic Pressure Testing Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Minor Boiler Blowdown Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Minor Non-Contact Cooling and Heat Pump Water (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Minor Photographic Processing Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Minor Printing and Publishing Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Minor Tumbling or Cleaning of Parts Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miscellaneous Discharges of Sewer Compatible (MISC) Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewater Associated with Construction Activities (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Commercial Activity (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Swimming Pool Wastewater From a Public Pool (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Vehicle Maintenance Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge of Water Treatment Wastewater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Inland Water Resources</b>			
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stream Channel Encroachment Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Diversion Permit (Detention/Retention Ponds)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inland 401 Water Quality Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dam Construction Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flood Management Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
De/Retention Pond Review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Authorization for Diversion of Water for Consumptive Use (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dam Safety Repair and Alteration (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Habitat Conservation (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lake, Pond and Basin Dredging (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minor Grading (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minor Structures (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utilities and Drainage (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Authorization for Diversion of Remediation Groundwater (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

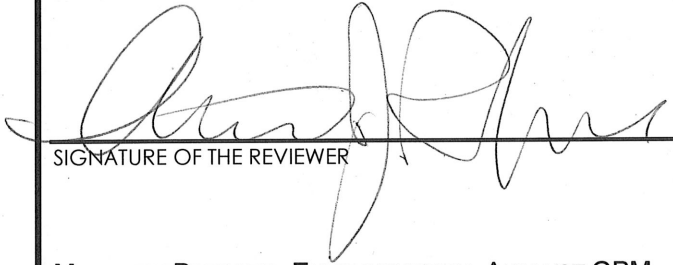
Agency and Permit Name (continued)	Potentially Applicable	Not Applicable	Undetermined at this time
<b>Office of Long Island Sound Programs</b>			
Structures, Dredging & Filling Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tidal Wetlands Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal 401 Water Quality Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Certificate of Permission (Short Permit Process)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consistency with the Coastal Management Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Materials Management and Compliance Assurance</b>			
Wastewater Discharge: Ground Water Discharge Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wastewater Discharge: Surface Water Discharge Permit (NPDES)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wastewater Discharge: Pre-treatment Permit (Sewer Permit) for Discharges to Publicly Owned Treatment Works	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, & Disposal Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solid Waste Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CGS Section 22a-454 Waste Facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Waste or Asbestos Disposal Authorization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Underground Storage Tank Registration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aerial Pesticide Application	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic Pesticide Application	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contaminated Soil and/or Sediment Management (GP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Natural Diversity Database (Endangered Species) Review</b>			
NDDDB Review Request ( <i>endangered, threatened, and special concern species and habitats</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND TOURISM / STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE</b>			
Art in Public Spaces Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Impact to Cultural Resources (three part review: new construction [site work/archeological], rehabilitation, and demolition)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES</b>			
Acquisitions/Takings/Municipal Negotiations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Site Assessment Phase I	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Site Assessment Phase II, III, RAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connecticut Environmental Policy Act	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Environmental Policy Act	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transfer Act Site Assessment (TASA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Underground Storage Tanks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous Material Inspection/Abatement Request (asbestos, lead, or indoor air quality)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</b>			
State Traffic Commission Review Determination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State Traffic Commission Major Traffic Generator Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS</b>			
Individual Permit <i>For new fill/excavation discharges greater than 1 acre</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Programmatic General Permit * with review (5,000 SF - 1 acre) * without review (less than 5,000 SF)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY</b>			
Sole Source Aquifer Review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments or remarks:

Additional study, survey, + delineation work is required as part of the development of final engineering plans and shall determine which permits are required. The Town + OPM shall obtain any required permits or certifications + shall incorporate those recommendations into the final plans.

**SECTION E: SIGNATURE**

**THIS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW WAS CONDUCTED BY:**



SIGNATURE OF THE REVIEWER

March 1, 2015

DATE

**MATTHEW PAFFORD, ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYST OPM**

NAME AND TITLE OF REVIEWER

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
Office of Policy and Management

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

**Date:** March 6, 2018

**Municipality:** Winsted

**Staff Contact:** Matthew Pafford

**Project Name:** Whiting Street Improvement Project

**This assessment is being conducted in conformance with the generic Environmental Classification Document for Connecticut State Agencies to determine Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) obligations.**

**Project Description:**

The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) is proposing to provide Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development Grant funding to the Town of Winchester for the technical design and construction of improvements to Whiting Street between Main Street (Route 44) and Holabird Avenue. The purpose and need of this project is to resolve issues related to chronic flooding, poor road conditions, poor pedestrian connectivity, parking issues and to calm traffic.

The conceptual plan for this project includes drainage improvements, roadway repaving, installation of new sidewalks and lighting, invasive plant removal and replanting of native species, and potentially installing a bio swale between the roadway and the river. The Town is also considering the benefits of converting Whiting Street to a one-way street. With the exception of some possible outflow repairs, no excavation work is planned to take place in, or within approximately 10 feet of, the river.

The project was the subject of a Notice of Scoping published to the Environmental Monitor on [January 16, 2018](#). Comments were received from the Farmington River Watershed Association, Inc., the Farmington River Coordinating Committee (FRCC), and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). This assessment takes those comments into consideration and, where appropriate, incorporates them into the recommendations section of this document.

**Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) Section 22a-1a-3 Determination of Environmental Significance (Direct/Indirect):**

*1. Impact on air and water quality or on ambient noise levels*

- a. Air Quality* –No negative impacts are anticipated.
- b. Water Quality* – No negative impacts to water quality are anticipated. The Still River is identified as an impaired waterway, likely attributed to contaminated runoff and high bacteria levels. Several of this project’s goals are to address chronic flooding of the roadway, improve existing drainage, and improve the vegetative buffer along the river, to the benefit of water quality along this section of the river. Low-Impact Development (LID) practices, such as bioswales, pervious pavement, and riparian buffers will be evaluated during the final design process, and implemented as practicable. Upon completion of engineering plans, the Town will obtain a permit from the Winchester





impacts are anticipated.

6. *Use of pesticides, toxic or hazardous materials or any other substance in such quantities as to create extensive detrimental environmental impact* –No negative impacts are anticipated.
7. *Substantial aesthetic or visual effects* – No negative impacts are anticipated.
8. *Consistency with the written and/or mapped policies of the Statewide Plan of Conservation and Development and such other plans and policies developed or coordinated by the Office of Policy and Management or other agency* –The project is consistent with the policies of the 2013-2018 State Conservation and Development Policies Plan, specifically Growth Management Principles 1, 3, and 4. The project is intended to improve safety and accessibility for multiple user groups along Whiting Street, as well as improve overall circulation in and around the downtown and among other locally important resources. In addition, this project contains multiple elements intended to improve the water quality of the Still River by repairing the existing drainage system, reducing flooding and erosion, and improving vegetative cover adjacent to the river.
9. *Disruption or division of an established community or inconsistency with adopted municipal and regional plans* – No negative impacts are anticipated. No inconsistencies with adopted municipal or regional plans have been identified.
10. *Displacement or addition of substantial numbers of people* – No negative impacts are anticipated.
11. *Substantial increase in the congestion (traffic, recreational, other)* – This project is intended to improve pedestrian accessibility and calm vehicular traffic. While OPM recognizes that the potential changes to the roadway, and the anticipated increase of other users such as pedestrians and bicyclists may impact current vehicular circulation, no substantial increases in congestion are expected, and no negative impacts are anticipated.
12. *A substantial increase in the type or rate of energy use as a direct or indirect result of this action* – No negative impacts are anticipated.
13. *The creation of a hazard to human health or safety* – This projects intends to correct several existing hazards. No negative impacts are anticipated.
14. *Any other substantial impact on natural, cultural, recreational or scenic resources* – No negative impacts are anticipated.

#### **Summary of comments received during Scoping:**

##### **Farmington River Watershed Association, Inc.**

1. Concerns over increased pollutant runoff into Still River and lack of opportunity for infiltration due to increased impervious surface (paving and parking), steep topography, and limited “green space” between the roadway and the River.
2. Concerns over streambank erosion, and re-colonization of invasive species due to construction activities.
3. Concerns over the proximity of the proposed pathway to the River, and the use of deicing salts

impact's to water quality.

4. Concerns over light pollution and its effect on the nocturnal environment.
5. Project should seek to engage residents, NCCC students, and appropriate groups/organizations to foster sustainable educational and visibility to create a more publicly accessible green space.

#### **Farmington River Coordinating Committee (FRCC)**

1. Encourage the inclusion of the proposed stormwater management components including improvements to existing drainage and, especially, installation of a bioswale.

#### **Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection:**

1. Due to the project's location within a flood zone, OPM must certify the project as being in compliance with the flood and stormwater management standards specified in section 25-68d of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) and section 25-68h-1 through 25-68h-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) and receive approval from DEEP.
2. Erosion and sedimentation control should follow guidelines specified in the 2002 revised edition of DEEP's *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* and the *Low Impact Development Appendix*.
3. The project should preserve and enhance existing streambank vegetation, and every effort should be made to maintain a 100-foot wide riparian buffer in line with DEEP's Riparian Corridor policy.
4. DEEP recommends incorporating LID techniques in the proposed project, especially such techniques that build on previous LID initiatives within the broader area, and those that would address impairments specific to this stretch of the Still River.
5. DEEP recommends a soil scientist perform a reconnaissance of the site to determine if there are any regulated wetland areas or water courses. Additional permitting may be required.
6. Water Quality enhancements as part of this project, will have long-term impacts on the water quality and health of the Upper Farmington Wild and Scenic Area.

#### **Conclusion:**

Based on OPM's environmental assessment of this project, it has been determined that the project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) under CEPA.

#### **Recommendations:**

Based on comments received from the Farmington River Watershed Association, the Farmington River Coordinating Committee (FRCC), and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), OPM will implement the following recommendations:

1. **Erosion and Sedimentation:** The Town shall be responsible for installing and maintaining erosion and sedimentation controls in compliance with the 2002 revised edition of the *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* and current best management practices. These controls will remain in place, and be maintained and inspected regularly throughout the project.
2. **Riparian Vegetation:** The Town shall coordinate the removal of invasive species removal and replanting of native species in order to minimize the risk for erosion, or recolonization of invasive species. Wherever possible, existing trees will be maintained and protected, and

the addition of new native shade trees will be incorporated into the final design as practicable. Other LID options, such as a bioswale and riparian buffer will be evaluated and implemented as practicable.

3. Planning and Coordination: The Town shall work with DEEP and local emergency responders to develop any required plans and/or coordination efforts based on final plans and construction activities. Wherever possible, final plans shall include best management practices for initial construction, as well as for future long-term maintenance.