

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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**Mark D. Boughton**  
Senior Advisor  
to the Governor - IJJA

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: **Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments**  
**CONSERVE8: Connecting Neighborhoods to Stimulate Economic Revitalization, Vitality, and Equity across Connecticut Route 8**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

In support of the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments' (NVCOG), I write to share my support of request for federal funding from the USDOT's Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program. The proposed Connecting Neighborhoods to Stimulate Economic Revitalization, Vitality, and Equity across Route 8 (CONSERVE8) study has the potential to make a significant impact on the residents of our community, especially those who suffer the most from the existing transportation system.

The Route 8 expressway has made travel through the valley easier for motorists but has done so at the expense of the towns and cities that it divides. Along the length of the Naugatuck River, the highway cuts through once vibrant downtowns, separates residential neighborhoods, and divides municipalities like Ansonia and Oxford. We look forward to working with the NVCOG on this project, providing input and support as mitigation strategies are brought forward to ensure they fit the needs of residents of Naugatuck Valley and the region.

The NVCOG study aims to identify cost-effective, feasible actions and strategies to mitigate the impacts the highway has on residents of our communities, and for that reason we are happy to provide our support. Projects such as CONSERVE8 are a critical step toward improving the quality of life within the Naugatuck Valley, all while supporting the goals of improving mobility for all, transportation equity, and increasing the vitality of our cities and towns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark D. Boughton".

Mark Boughton  
Senior Advisor to the Governor for Infrastructure  
CT Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Team  
State of Connecticut

## INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT JOBS ACT



*Building Connecticut's Future*