



January 29, 2007

Dear Participant:

Thank you for your interest in today's conference on Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). On behalf of our organizations, Capitol Region Council of Governments (CROG), Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) and Regional Plan Association (RPA), we welcome you to this event.

We applaud the bold action taken by Governor M. Jodi Rell this past fall in announcing Executive Order No. 15, Connecticut Growing Green, a statewide initiative toward responsible growth. With last year's commitment on the part of both the Governor and the General Assembly to enhance the state's transportation system and this year's commitment to provide a strategic growth framework for the state through the new Office of Responsible Growth, there is no better time to encourage and incorporate the innovative techniques of TOD in public transit planning. Our hope is that the presentations and the interactions by the panelists today will lead to continued discourse among local and state leadership on ways to encourage TOD. We are honored that Senate President Pro Tempore Donald Williams and Speaker of the House of Representatives James Amann, along with other legislative leaders, municipal leaders and others have agreed to participate in this discussion.

This conference has been divided into two parts. In the first half Steven Kliger, Executive Director of the Center for Public Policy and Social Research at CCSU, will moderate a panel of experts who represent different perspectives in the TOD process, including the state, municipalities, developers and designers. The second half of the conference, moderated by John Atkin, Vice President and Connecticut Director of Regional Plan Association, will be a conversation on the way forward for Transit-Oriented Development in Connecticut and will include key legislators, mayors and other municipal leaders, and first selectpersons from Connecticut municipalities, as well as legislative and state leadership in the areas of transportation and funding. We hope you will review the white paper included in your packet and share it with others you think may be interested in supporting TOD.

Sincerely,

**Lyle Wray**  
Capitol Region Council of Governments

**Gian-Carl Casa**  
CT Conference of Municipalities

**Maria Simao**  
Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy, CCSU

**John Atkin**  
Regional Plan Association