



## Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association

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### ***Connecticut's Need for Effective and Integrated Planning***

Presentation to Planning and Development Committee and Transportation Committee

### **Informational Forum on State Planning and Transportation Issues**

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#### **History of State Planning**

Connecticut had a strong, centralized, and effective planning function beginning in the 1940's, including an Office of State Planning from the 1970's into the 1990's.

A State Planning Board provided effective oversight and guidance to the State's planning efforts into the 1990's.

Currently, State planning functions are managed by a small staff within the Office of Policy and Management with minimal support and limited coordination of planning.

#### **Need for Improved and Coordinated State Planning**

Key planning functions that require a core planning office include:

- Implement recommendations in the State Plan of Conservation and Development.
- Collection, analysis, and dissemination of information to support and coordinate planning and policy making across agencies.
- Provide a unifying framework to enhance consistency of plans and policies among the State, regional planning agencies, and municipalities.
- Integrate planning to guide State investments in transportation, economic development, housing, and open space to ensure maximum efficiency, economy, and coordination.
- Coordinate identification of priority funding areas in accordance with PA 05-205.

#### **Opportunities to Address State Planning Needs**

Establish a State Planning Task Force to evaluate:

- Current fragmentation of planning efforts by State agencies.
- Establishment of a planning office and a planning oversight board.
- Integration of the State's transportation planning and investments, economic development programs, energy programs, facility and capital plans, and government efficiency and accountability efforts.
- Integration of State planning with planning at all levels of government.
- Streamlined functions and responsibilities of Continuing Committee on Planning and Development.