

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

*Tuesday, December 9, 2008*

### **CONTACT**

*Regional Plan Association  
David Kooris, 203-356-0390*

## **Groups Call for Transit, Bike, and Pedestrian Prioritization in Local Stimulus Projects**

Advocates for bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users will join Representative Thomas Kehoe and Senator Andrew Roraback in calling for the inclusion of “shovel ready” bike, pedestrian, and transit projects in local communities’ use of federal infrastructure dollars. “We have a unique opportunity to leverage the federal economic stimulus funding to jumpstart shovel ready bike, pedestrian and transit projects in communities across Connecticut. Now is the time to make the changes that matter to the health and well-being of the state’s residents and businesses, to insure that newly funded transportation projects will serve our communities now and in the future.” stated Representative Thomas Kehoe, D, Glastonbury.

Advocates have been working hard to make the case for a balanced transportation system with more choices for walkers and bikers and transit users. “ We envision a state where residents have the option to get out of their cars and have a choice to walk ,bike, or use transit to get to work, school, and for recreation,” states Senator Roraback, R, greater Litchfield.

Commissioner Marie has demonstrated a new direction for ConnDOT that emphasizes projects that encourage biking, walking and the use of transit. These are healthy, green and economical alternatives that can break our dependence upon cars and foreign oil while also creating many jobs. With nearly 25% of the federal transportation stimulus being allocated to local projects, we need to ensure that “shovel ready” and transit-supportive bike and pedestrian projects are prioritized, rewarding those communities moving the state towards a balanced mobility system and encouraging others to follow suit. Even repaving projects which provide immediate jobs can include traffic calming and other transit and pedestrian amenities and safety enhancements.

The advocates will present their case at a press conference on January 29 at 11 am in Room 2E of the Legislative Office Building, Hartford.

**1000 Friends of Connecticut**  
**Central CT Bike Alliance**  
**CT Association for Community Transportation**  
**CT Bike Coalition**  
**CT Commission on Children**  
**CT Fund for the Environment**  
**CT Greenways Association**  
**CT Livable Streets Campaign**  
**Elm City Cycling**  
**RailTEC**  
**Regional Plan Association**  
**Transit for Connecticut**  
**Tri-State Transportation Campaign**