



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6645**

January Session, 2021



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 16a-25 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 As used in this chapter:

4 (1) "Process" means the procedure for adopting, amending, revising  
5 and implementing a state plan of conservation and development;

6 (2) "Existing plan" means the plan promulgated by Executive Order  
7 No. 28, September 27, 1974;

8 (3) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
9 Management;

10 (4) "Committee" means the continuing legislative committee on state  
11 planning and development established pursuant to section 4-60d;

12 (5) "Adoption year" means the calendar year [which is no later than  
13 five years subsequent to the year in which the plan was last adopted in  
14 accordance with the process established in this chapter] in which the  
15 General Assembly adopts the plan as the plan of conservation and

16 development for the state;

17 (6) "Revision year" means the calendar year immediately preceding  
18 the expected adoption year;

19 (7) "Prerevision year" means the calendar year immediately  
20 preceding the revision year;

21 (8) "State agency" means any state department, institution, board,  
22 commission or official; and

23 (9) "Plan", when referring to the state plan for conservation and  
24 development, means the text of such plan and any accompanying  
25 locational guide map.

26 Sec. 2. Section 16a-27 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
27 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

28 (a) The secretary, after consultation with all appropriate state,  
29 regional and local agencies and other appropriate persons, shall, prior  
30 to March 1, 2012, complete a revision of the existing plan and enlarge it  
31 to include, but not be limited to, policies relating to transportation,  
32 energy and air. Any revision made after July 1, 1995, shall take into  
33 consideration the conservation and development of greenways that  
34 have been designated by municipalities and shall recommend that state  
35 agencies coordinate their efforts to support the development of a state-  
36 wide greenways system. The Commissioner of Energy and  
37 Environmental Protection shall identify state-owned land for inclusion  
38 in the plan as potential components of a state greenways system.

39 (b) Any revision made after August 20, 2003, shall take into account  
40 (1) economic and community development needs and patterns of  
41 commerce, and (2) linkages of affordable housing objectives and land  
42 use objectives with transportation systems.

43 (c) Any revision made after March 1, 2006, shall (1) take into  
44 consideration risks associated with natural hazards, including, but not

45 limited to, flooding, high winds and wildfires; (2) identify the potential  
46 impacts of natural hazards on infrastructure and property; and (3) make  
47 recommendations for the siting of future infrastructure and property  
48 development to minimize the use of areas prone to natural hazards,  
49 including, but not limited to, flooding, high winds and wildfires.

50 (d) Any revision made after July 1, 2005, shall describe the progress  
51 towards achievement of the goals and objectives established in the  
52 previously adopted state plan of conservation and development and  
53 shall identify (1) areas where it is prudent and feasible (A) to have  
54 compact, transit accessible, pedestrian-oriented mixed-use  
55 development patterns and land reuse, and (B) to promote such  
56 development patterns and land reuse, (2) priority funding areas  
57 designated under section 16a-35c, and (3) corridor management areas  
58 on either side of a limited access highway or a rail line. In designating  
59 corridor management areas, the secretary shall make recommendations  
60 that (A) promote land use and transportation options to reduce the  
61 growth of traffic congestion; (B) connect infrastructure and other  
62 development decisions; (C) promote development that minimizes the  
63 cost of new infrastructure facilities and maximizes the use of existing  
64 infrastructure facilities; and (D) increase intermunicipal and regional  
65 cooperation.

66 (e) Any revision made after October 1, 2008, shall (1) for each policy  
67 recommended (A) assign a priority; (B) estimate funding for  
68 implementation and identify potential funding sources; (C) identify  
69 each entity responsible for implementation; and (D) establish a schedule  
70 for implementation; and (2) for each growth management principle,  
71 determine three benchmarks to measure progress in implementation of  
72 the principles, one of which shall be a financial benchmark.

73 (f) Any revision made after October 1, 2009, shall take into  
74 consideration the protection and preservation of Connecticut Heritage  
75 Areas.

76 (g) Any revision made after December 1, 2011, shall take into

77 consideration (1) the state water supply and resource policies  
78 established in sections 22a-380 and 25-33c, and (2) the list prepared by  
79 the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 25-33q.

80 (h) Any revision made after October 1, 2019, shall (1) take into  
81 consideration risks associated with increased coastal flooding and  
82 erosion, depending on site topography, as anticipated in the most recent  
83 sea level change scenario updated pursuant to subsection (b) of section  
84 25-68o, (2) identify the impacts of such increased flooding and erosion  
85 on infrastructure and natural resources, (3) make recommendations for  
86 the siting of future infrastructure and property development to  
87 minimize the use of areas prone to such flooding and erosion, and (4)  
88 take into consideration the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals  
89 established pursuant to section 22a-200a.

90 (i) Any revision made after October 1, 2016, shall take into  
91 consideration the need for technology infrastructure in the  
92 municipality.

93 (j) Thereafter on or before March first in each revision year the  
94 secretary shall complete a revision of the plan of conservation and  
95 development, provided no revision year may be later than four years  
96 subsequent to the year in which the plan was last adopted in accordance  
97 with the process established in this chapter.

98 Sec. 3. Section 16a-28 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
99 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

100 (a) The secretary shall present a draft of the revised plan of  
101 conservation and development for preliminary review to the continuing  
102 legislative committee on state planning and development prior to  
103 September first in [2011] 2022 and prior to September first in each  
104 prerevision year thereafter.

105 (b) After December first in [2011] 2022 and after December first in  
106 each prerevision year thereafter the secretary shall proceed with such  
107 further revisions of the draft of the revised plan of conservation and

108 development as he deems appropriate. The secretary shall, by whatever  
109 means he deems advisable, publish said plan and disseminate it to the  
110 public on or before March first in revision years. The secretary shall post  
111 the plan on the Internet web site of the state.

112 (c) Not later than five months after publication of said revised plan  
113 the secretary shall hold public hearings, in cooperation with regional  
114 councils of governments, to solicit comments on said plan.

115 Sec. 4. Section 16a-29 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
116 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

117 The secretary shall consider the comments received at the public  
118 hearings and shall make any necessary or desirable revisions to said  
119 plan and within three months of completion of the public hearings  
120 submit the plan to the continuing legislative committee on state  
121 planning and development for its approval, revision or disapproval, in  
122 whole or in part. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the  
123 secretary shall submit the state Conservation and Development Policies  
124 Plan, [2013-2018] 2024-2029, to said committee on or before December 1,  
125 [2012] 2023.

126 Sec. 5. Section 16a-30 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
127 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

128 (a) (1) The continuing legislative committee on state planning and  
129 development shall not later than forty-five days after the convening of  
130 the next regularly scheduled session of the General Assembly conduct a  
131 public hearing on the plan. Not later than forty-five days after  
132 completion of such public hearing, the committee shall submit the plan  
133 with its recommendation for approval or disapproval to the General  
134 Assembly. The plan shall become effective when adopted by the General  
135 Assembly as the plan of conservation and development for the state.

136 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, the plan entitled  
137 "Conservation and Development Policies: The Plan for Connecticut,  
138 2018-2023", when adopted by the General Assembly as the plan of

