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ROBERT J. CHATFIELD, MAYOR
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Erin Lewis
Coordinator, Northeast Regional Programs
1133 15th Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005
May 26, 2021

RE: Save the Sound's Long Island Sound Futures Fund proposal

Dear Ms. Lewis,

This letter indicates the Town of Prospect's support for Save the Sound's (STS) proposal to the Long Island Sound Futures Fund entitled, "Assessing Road-Stream Crossings for Diadromous Fish Passage in the Naugatuck Watershed and Beyond." The Road-Stream Crossing Management Plan this project will produce for our town will be a great help to us in our efforts to maintain safe roadways while keeping our streams healthy for fish and wildlife. Resources for managing our bridges and culverts are limited, so we welcome any opportunity to think strategically about how we can best allocate our attention and funding when planning replacement projects.

Naugatuck, Quinnipiac, and Mill River tributaries in Prospect were historically home to several species of diadromous fish, which migrated between our waters and Long Island Sound. Construction of dams along these rivers cut off access to the streams of Prospect for these species. With the restoration of fish passage at the Kinneytown and Tingue Dams on the Naugatuck River, as well as the removal of three dams and restoration of fish passage at the Haakonsen Dam on the Quinnipiac River, diadromous fish can once again reach the mouths of our streams. It is our understanding that many of the same road-stream crossings that are maintenance issues for us are also barriers to diadromous fish, limiting access to upstream habitats in our town. We welcome the opportunity to address issues of ecological connectivity and community resilience at important road/stream crossings through this project.

In addition to our general support of this proposal, this letter is also an indication of our intent to participate in its implementation with the commitment of staff time as appropriate to assist in planning field assessments, prioritization of stream crossings for replacement and the

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development of conceptual plans for stream crossing replacement. We expect this in-kind contribution of staff time to be worth approximately \$3,500 over the two-year grant period.

We look forward to the opportunity that this project presents for the Town of Prospect, and Save the Sound has our full support for this endeavor. Please contact me if you would like to discuss our support for this project in more detail.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Chatfield

Mayor

Prospect

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