

MEMORANDUM

**Date:** January 3, 2018  
**To:** CRCOG Executive Committee  
**From:** Lyle Wray, Executive Director  
**Subject:** **Proposed CRCOG Board Strategic Planning Session February 21, 2018  
10:30 am – Noon (Before Regular Board Meeting)**

Every few years the CRCOG Board reviews the strategic plan for the organization as a guide to major initiatives and operating priorities. Given state and federal developments, staff proposed an initial 90 minute strategic planning session prior to the board meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

The proposed outline of the meeting is as follows:

- **Context and Background Overview.** (15 minutes): Connecticut and the CRCOG region are facing a number of economic challenges. The background and overview will outline broader issues to keep in mind (state deficit, impacts of the federal budget, etc.) for the strategic session.
- **Current Shared Services Overview.** (15 minutes): What does CRCOG do now in regional services and where are potential opportunities within those services? (See handout)
- **Future Shared Services Opportunities.** (20 minutes): A discussion regarding the questionnaire survey results and member wishes for pursuing expansion opportunities and service areas.
- **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).** (20 minutes). CRCOG is currently developing the region's CEDS. This is an opportunity to dovetail the strategic planning with the CEDS to understand potential game changers and the capacity for sustaining those opportunities.
- **Regional Futures Initiative (RFI).** (20 minutes). Last year, CRCOG began working toward a Regional Futures Initiative, considering the opportunity for a longer lasting public private cooperation that could accelerate economic growth in the CRCOG region. Board members will be provided with an update on the current status of the RFI and the membership wishes regarding the RFI.
- **Wrap up.** This will involve a brief distillation of next steps including a possible second strategic planning session to refine the results of the first session.

In advance of the meeting, a PowerPoint will be completed and distributed to Board members with additional detail and background information.