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**To:** CRCOG Policy Board  
**From:** Emily Hultquist  
Director of Policy & Planning  
**Date:** February 20, 2019  
**c:** Lyle Wray, Executive Director  
Rob Aloise, Director of Transportation Planning  
**Subject:** Regional Bikeshare

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In 2014, realizing the success of many other metropolitan areas across the country in the area of bike share programs, CRCOG and the Greater Hartford Transit District led a study to determine the feasibility of Regional Bikeshare for the Capitol Region. The result was the Metro Hartford Region Bikeshare Plan which presented a phased approach to introducing bikeshare docks across the Capitol Region's communities focusing on placing bicycles at key locations near potential users, transit station areas and large public and private institutions.

While the plan garnered a great deal of support from municipalities and other partners, the concept of regional bikeshare never took shape as the administration of such systems proved not only costly, but labor intensive and out of the realm of possibility for the capacity of participating planning partners in 2014.

Bike share in concept and execution has evolved significantly in the past five years. A recent pilot in the City of Hartford was made possible because of new dock-less bikeshare programs which do not carry a capital or operating cost for the host municipality. CRCOG has noted that the interest in bike share amongst Capitol Region communities has been piqued, particularly in the last 12-18 months after the Hartford pilot test.

While the bikeshare pilot in the City of Hartford has recently ended, the experience that the City gained with the most modern version of bikeshare has provided valuable lessons learned and would contribute constructively to the development of a Regional Request for Proposals so that as a region we can specify our expectations, exhibit our interest to suppliers, and potentially move forward with a long term program.

CRCOG will be issuing a call for interested communities to join in the process of developing a regional bikeshare RFP. It is important that all interested communities have a voice in shaping the vision for bikeshare for the Capitol Region.