CRCOG REGIONAL HOUSING POLICY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The Capitol Region Council of Governments and its member municipalities support the following principles and agree that they shall serve as the central core of the Regional Housing Policy.
1. It is good for communities to have economic diversity. All communities should strive for this, which will mean increasing housing opportunities for moderate income populations in some municipalities, and increasing housing opportunities for low and very low income populations in others.
2. Economic development is an important part of community development and stability. Jobs provide income which increases individuals’ housing choices. Strategies for job creation and job readiness training must be part of any community development and housing plan.
3. Municipal and regional housing strategies should provide opportunities for people to move from subsidized housing to non-subsidized housing, and from rental housing to home ownership. It must be acknowledged, however, that a segment of the population may always need to or choose to rent their home.
4. Currently high vacancy rates in ownership and rental housing call for strategies which will fully utilize the existing housing stock. Full use of the existing housing stock is preferable to new construction.
5. Deterioration of housing in some communities will require us to focus on revitalization of the existing housing stock and surrounding neighborhoods. Opportunities exist to selectively demolish housing in urban neighborhoods to reduce overall density in support of community revitalization without destroying the unique character of these neighborhoods. Stabilization of declining neighborhoods should be a key component of the new regional housing policy.
6. Housing and community development policies of Capitol Region municipalities should be complementary to and supportive of housing and community development policies of neighboring communities. These policies must address the necessary links between housing, jobs, transportation and social services.

GOALS STATEMENT
The overall goals of the Regional Housing Policy of the Capitol Region Council of Governments support the Guiding Principles. The overall goals are:
-- To increase the range of choice in housing for persons of all incomes and all ages, but especially for those who have the least choice in achieving their locational preference.
-- To maximize the opportunity for decent housing in a healthy environment to serve the housing needs of the Region’s population on a nondiscriminatory basis.
-- To pursue housing strategies within the context of the current housing market and as part of an overall community development plan. Housing strategies must consider the necessary interrelationship between housing, economic development, transportation and social services.

Not all strategies will be appropriate in each community. While striving to make the fullest possible use of the existing regional housing stock in meeting these goals, it is acknowledged that individual municipalities will examine their local housing needs in light of the regional housing market, and develop local strategies which may include one or more of the following elements:
-- Strategies to expand low and moderate income housing opportunities through new construction.

Incorporated into The Plan of Development for the Capitol Region of Connecticut,
January 28, 1998
-- Strategies to revitalize deteriorated neighborhoods through the demolition of abandoned or substandard housing stock.
CRCOG REGIONAL HOUSING POLICY

-- Strategies to expand low and moderate income housing opportunities through rehabilitation of the substandard housing stock. The decision to focus on new construction, housing rehabilitation, selective demolition or all three will be based on the characteristics of the municipal housing stock and its relationship to the regional housing stock.

ADDITION
The Regional Housing Policy will be considered and adopted by Capitol Region municipalities by the following process.
1. Housing Committee refers Draft Regional Housing Policy to Policy Board for acceptance. The Draft Regional Housing Policy was accepted by the Policy Board on November 20, 1996.
2. At direction of Policy Board, Housing Committee conducts Regional Public Meeting on Draft Regional Housing Policy. A Regional Public Meeting was held on January 29, 1997.
3. Housing Committee makes final revisions to Draft Policy based on Regional Public Meeting comment.
4. Policy Board refers Draft Regional Housing Policy to municipal Town Councils and Boards of Selectman for adoption. Three-month deadline for action. Affirmative vote of two-thirds of Town Councils/Boards of Selectmen required for Regional Housing Policy to take effect and be incorporated into the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development.
5. Policy Board refers Draft Regional Housing Policy to members of Capitol Region Partnership for endorsement by their respective boards and pledge of cooperation.
6. Once two-thirds affirmative municipal vote is achieved, Regional Housing Policy takes effect and is incorporated into the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development.

IMPLEMENTATION
-- The Regional Housing Policy will remain in effect for a five-year term. It will replace the Capitol Region Fair Housing Compact on Affordable Housing.
-- Implementation will require action on the part of municipalities, CRCOG, state and federal agencies and the private sector.
-- Progress will be monitored on an annual basis by the Capitol Region Council of Governments using the performance measures included in this document.

STRATEGIES
The following 11 strategies will help the region carry out the Guiding Principles and Overall Goals.

STRATEGY #1
Support land use policies which allow for a diversity of housing types and costs in all communities.

STRATEGY #2
Support broader use of home ownership assistance programs which utilize the existing housing stock and expand housing opportunities for low and moderate income households throughout the region. Work with HUD to promote their Home Ownership Initiatives in the Capitol Region, including use of 203(k) funds to capitalize on purchase/rehabilitation opportunities.

STRATEGY #3
Support broader use of rental assistance programs which utilize the existing housing stock and expand housing opportunities for low and moderate income households throughout the region.
STRATEGY #4
Support the use of and implementation of neighborhood community development plans to revitalize deteriorated neighborhoods.

STRATEGY #5
Work cooperatively with other regional agencies whose primary purpose is to develop and implement strategies for job creation, job retention and job readiness.

STRATEGY #6
Work cooperatively with the Greater Hartford Transit District (elderly and disabled services) and the Connecticut Transit/ConnDOT (fixed route service) to expand the transit network to support links between housing, jobs and social services. Also consider possible alternatives to existing transportation systems. In this way, strive to meet the requirements of all Capitol Region residents, including special needs populations, and thus assist in expanding individuals’ housing choices.

STRATEGY #7
Identify ways for the region to work cooperatively with communities seeking to deconcentrate public housing projects and help families move from subsidized housing to non-subsidized housing.

STRATEGY #8
Use CRCOG Housing Committee as a forum for sharing information on local housing strategies, identifying potential conflicts and developing ways to ensure that local housing plans are complementary to and supportive of each other.

STRATEGY #9
Support local and regional social service, educational and job training programs and initiatives which promote self-sufficiency and independence.

STRATEGY #10
Promote Fair Housing Law to ensure equal access to housing opportunities available throughout the region.

STRATEGY #11
Identify specific funding sources and/or mechanisms required to implement strategies #1 through #10.
GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The Capitol Region Council of Governments and its member municipalities support the following principles and agree that they shall serve as the central core of the Regional Housing Policy.
1. It is good for communities to have economic diversity. All communities should strive for this, which will mean increasing housing opportunities for moderate income populations in some municipalities, and increasing housing opportunities for low and very low income populations in others.
2. Economic development is an important part of community development and stability. Jobs provide income which increases individuals’ housing choices. Strategies for job creation and job readiness training must be part of any community development and housing plan.
3. Municipal and regional housing strategies should provide opportunities for people to move from subsidized housing to non-subsidized housing, and from rental housing to home ownership. It must be acknowledged, however, that a segment of the population may always need to or choose to rent their home.
4. Currently high vacancy rates in ownership and rental housing call for strategies which will fully utilize the existing housing stock. Full use of the existing housing stock is preferable to new construction.
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The overall goals of the Regional Housing Policy of the Capitol Region Council of Governments support the Guiding Principles. The overall goals are:
-- To increase the range of choice in housing for persons of all incomes and all ages, but especially for those who have the least choice in achieving their locational preference.
-- To maximize the opportunity for decent housing in a healthy environment to serve the housing needs of the Region’s population on a nondiscriminatory basis.
-- To pursue housing strategies within the context of the current housing market and as part of an overall community development plan. Housing strategies must consider the necessary interrelationship between housing, economic development, transportation and social services.

Not all strategies will be appropriate in each community. While striving to make the fullest possible use of the existing regional housing stock in meeting these goals, it is acknowledged that individual
municipalities will examine their local housing needs in light of the regional housing market, and develop local strategies which may include one or more of the following elements:

-- Strategies to expand low and moderate income housing opportunities through new construction.
-- Strategies to revitalize deteriorated neighborhoods through the demolition of abandoned or substandard housing stock.
-- Strategies to expand low and moderate income housing opportunities through rehabilitation of the substandard housing stock.

The decision to focus on new construction, housing rehabilitation, selective demolition or all three will be based on the characteristics of the municipal housing stock and its relationship to the regional housing stock.

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IMPLEMENTATION

-- The Regional Housing Policy will remain in effect for a five-year term. It will replace the Capitol Region Fair Housing Compact on Affordable Housing.
-- Implementation will require action on the part of municipalities, CRCOG, state and federal agencies and the private sector.
-- Progress will be monitored on an annual basis by the Capitol Region Council of Governments using the performance measures included in this document.
STRATEGIES
The following 11 strategies will help the region carry out the Guiding Principles and Overall Goals.

STRATEGY #1
Support land use policies which allow for a diversity of housing types and costs in all communities.

MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS
1. Make changes to zoning and subdivision regulations, where appropriate, to permit a greater diversity of housing types and costs. This would include providing home ownership and rental opportunities for households spanning the full range of household sizes and income levels.
2. Make changes to municipal plans of conservation and development, where appropriate, to allow for a diversity of housing types and costs in all communities.
3. Approve housing developments which meet the requirements of local zoning and subdivision regulations and are consistent with the municipal plan of conservation and development.

CRCOG ACTION STEPS
1. Provide technical assistance to municipalities seeking to change zoning and subdivision regulations to permit a greater diversity of housing types and costs through direct technical assistance and forums/workshops.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)
1. Number of zoning and subdivision regulation changes adopted to permit a greater diversity of housing types and costs.
2. Number of municipal plan of conservation and development changes adopted to support a greater diversity of housing types and costs.
3. Number of housing units, of varying types and costs, permitted, sold and rented.

STRATEGY #2
Support broader use of home ownership assistance programs which utilize the existing housing stock and expand housing opportunities for low and moderate income households throughout the region. Work with HUD to promote their home ownership initiatives in the Capitol Region, including use of 203(k) funds to capitalize on purchase/rehabilitation opportunities.

MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS
1. Utilize existing state, federal and private funding sources to establish home ownership assistance programs.
2. Establish multi-town home ownership assistance programs, where appropriate.
3. Incorporate use of 203(k) home purchase/rehabilitation loans in municipal home ownership assistance programs to support municipal home ownership and housing rehabilitation goals.
CRCOG REGIONAL HOUSING POLICY

CRCOG ACTION STEPS

1. Provide technical assistance to municipalities seeking to establish home ownership assistance programs.
2. Meet with state and federal officials (DECD, HUD, CHFA and Fannie Mae) to identify existing programs and new initiatives which support objective of expanding home ownership opportunities for low and moderate income households.
3. Contact federal legislators to support keeping home ownership assistance an eligible activity under the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program and the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program.
4. Have CRCOG Housing Committee convene a meeting, with private mortgage lenders the Connecticut Bankers Association and the State Banking Commission to:
   a. solicit information on existing programs which provide assistance to low and moderate income first-time home buyers;
   b. obtain their input on actions and strategies which could help the region achieve its objective of increasing the levels of home ownership; and
   c. encourage private mortgage lenders to undertake new initiatives in the Capitol Region.
5. Develop a resource manual for use by municipal housing contacts/town planners/community development coordinators which lists public and private home ownership assistance programs/products and contact people.
6. Support property tax relief to municipalities, and other strategies which will encourage home ownership in communities with home ownership rates lower than the regional average (East Hartford, East Windsor, Hartford, Manchester and Vernon).
7. Meet with HUD to identify how the 203(k) Program can be used to assist in the purchase and rehabilitation of homes affordable to low and moderate income buyers.
8. Assist Capitol Region municipalities to incorporate the use of the HUD 203(k) and CHFA rehab/purchase programs in municipal home ownership assistance and housing rehabilitation programs. These programs can be used to assist in the renovation and purchase of one to four unit structures, an important part of the housing stock of urbanized communities.
9. Share information on lenders participating in the 203(k) Program with Capitol Region municipalities.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)

1. Number of public and private home ownership assistance programs created and number of towns participating in these programs.
2. Number of homes sold to low and moderate income households through municipal, state (CHFA) and federal (FmHA) programs.
3. Number of homes sold to upper income households in communities with a higher share of low and moderate income housing units than the regional average (East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Hartford, Manchester, Rocky Hill, Vernon and Windsor Locks).
4. Number of 203(k) purchase/rehabilitation loans issued in Capitol Region municipalities.
STRATEGY #3

Support broader use of rental assistance programs which utilize the existing housing stock and expand housing opportunities for low and moderate income households throughout the region. (Note: This strategy is related to Strategy #7)

MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS
1. Encourage administering agencies to inform certificate holders of the broadest possible choice of rental units available in the region.
2. Support adoption of “locality schedules” which establish fair market rents (FMR) that are up to 20% higher than the published, metro-wide FMR.
3. Have chief elected officials of communities with high Section 8 usage and low Section 8 usage meet to discuss how they might work cooperatively to expand the number of towns involved in the program.
4. Support an expansion of mobility counseling in the region to assist more Section 8 tenants realize the full range of rental opportunities open to them.
5. To the fullest extent possible, utilize self-sufficiency programs in conjunction with the issuance of Section 8 certificates.

CRCOG ACTION STEPS
1. Collect information on use of Section 8 certificates, the location of other government-assisted housing and household income by Census tract or block group to determine where concentrations of poverty exist, and how the use of Section 8 certificates may have contributed to these concentrations of poverty. If justified by data, request that HUD convene a community task force to assess the problem and formulate an appropriate solution.
2. Support efforts to expand the number of towns and landlords participating in the Section 8 Program.
3. To assist the process of expanding opportunities, identify towns which have significant numbers of rental units but do not currently have large numbers of Section 8 certificates. Assess why people choose not to locate in these communities (e.g. rents too high, lack of public transportation, distance from jobs and social services, lack of knowledge or fear of community, other). Share information with municipalities seeking to encourage increased usage of Section 8 certificates.
4. Support the expansion of mobility counseling in the region to assist more Section 8 tenants realize the full range of rental opportunities open to them.
5. Through the CRCOG transportation and community development planning programs, work to improve the transportation-jobs-housing links throughout the region, especially with regard to public transportation.
6. Identify ways through which CRCOG can support implementation of welfare to work programs.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)
1. Number of municipalities participating in Section 8 and other rental assistance programs.
2. Number of Section 8 and other rental assistance certificates in use in Capitol Region municipalities, and increase/decrease in certificate use over time.

**STRATEGY #4**

**SUPPORT THE USE OF AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANS TO REVITALIZE DETERIORATED NEIGHBORHOODS.**

**MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS**

1. Establish neighborhood revitalization zones, where appropriate, to coordinate planning and implementation of neighborhood housing, economic development, transportation and service delivery strategies. This can be done under the guidelines of State Statute or as an independent planning process.

2. Combine selective demolition with municipal housing rehabilitation programs, as appropriate, to improve living conditions in neighborhoods.

**CRCOG ACTION STEPS**

1. Work with municipalities to identify issues on which CRCOG can help support neighborhood revitalization efforts. These might include: support for increased State financial assistance or regulatory reform with regard to lead paint abatement; additional funding for municipal housing rehabilitation and neighborhood revitalization programs; identification of state and federal funding programs which could support neighborhood revitalization efforts; and assistance on “Brownfields” clean-up projects.

2. Develop action plan based on identified needs and concerns.

3. Explore options to minimize the cost of disposal of construction and demolition materials (which may contain hazardous materials, such as asbestos and lead paint). Meet with CRRA on this issue.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)**

1. Number of neighborhood revitalization plans developed and implemented.

2. Number of housing units rehabilitated through municipal programs and private efforts.

3. Number of housing units or other deteriorated buildings demolished in support of neighborhood revitalization efforts.

4. Number of businesses retained, new businesses started, jobs retained and created in neighborhood revitalization areas.

5. Reduction in cost of disposing of construction and demolition materials.

**STRATEGY #5**

**WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH OTHER REGIONAL AGENCIES WHOSE PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES FOR JOB CREATION, JOB RETENTION AND JOB READINESS.**

**MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS**

1. Participate as appropriate in the policy development and program implementation of the Capitol Region Partnership which is composed of the following regional organizations: Capitol
Region Education Council, Connecticut Capitol Region Growth Council, Capitol Region Work Force Development Board and the Greater Hartford Transit District. Also, work closely with the Community Renewal Team of Greater Hartford, Inc. which plays a major role in developing and administering regional job training and job readiness programs.

2. Develop and initiate local programs which support the objectives of job creation and job readiness.

**CRCOG ACTION STEPS**

1. Participate as appropriate in the policy development and program implementation of the following regional organizations which make up the Capitol Region Partnership: Capitol Region Education Council, Connecticut Capitol Region Growth Council, Capitol Region Work Force Development Board and the Greater Hartford Transit District. Also, work closely with the Community Renewal Team of Greater Hartford, Inc. which plays a major role in developing and administering regional job training and job readiness programs.

2. Include initiatives which support job creation, job retention and job readiness in the annual CRCOG legislative agenda.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)**

1. Number of individuals who have completed job readiness programs, and obtained jobs.
2. Number of new jobs created in Capitol Region municipalities.
3. Number of legislative proposals related to job creation, job retention and job readiness implemented by the Connecticut General Assembly.

### STRATEGY #6

**WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH THE GREATER HARTFORD TRANSIT DISTRICT (ELDERLY AND DISABLED SERVICES) AND THE CONNECTICUT TRANSIT/CONNEDOT (FIXED ROUTE SERVICE) TO EXPAND THE TRANSIT NETWORK TO SUPPORT LINKS BETWEEN HOUSING, JOBS AND SOCIAL SERVICES. ALSO CONSIDER POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO EXISTING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS. IN THIS WAY, STRIVE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF ALL CAPITOL REGION RESIDENTS, INCLUDING SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS, AND THUS ASSIST IN EXPANDING INDIVIDUALS’ HOUSING CHOICES.**

**MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS**

1. Participate as appropriate in the policy development and program implementation of the Greater Hartford Transit District.
2. Consider possible alternatives to existing transportation systems.
3. Consider these links in the local municipal planning process and capital improvements process.

**CRCOG ACTION STEPS**

1. Participate as appropriate in the policy development and program implementation of the fixed route system, administered by Connecticut Transit under contract to the Connecticut Department of Transportation, and services for the elderly and disabled, administered by the Greater Hartford Transit District.

2. Address these issues through the CRCOG Long-Range Transportation Plan planning and implementation process and the CRCOG Regional Plan of Conservation and Development.
planning and implementation process. In these processes, consider possible alternatives to existing transportation systems.

3. Consider these links in the allocation of transportation funds in the region.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)
1. Number of changes to local and regional plans which acknowledge the necessary connection between jobs/housing/services and recommend strategies to address these links.
2. Expansion or modification of Greater Hartford Transit services to improve jobs/housing/service links.
3. Expansion or modification of Connecticut Transit services to improve jobs/housing/service links.
4. Number of CRCOG funding allocations which support jobs/housing/service links.

STRATEGY #7
IDENTIFY WAYS FOR THE REGION TO WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH COMMUNITIES SEEKING TO DECONCENTRATE PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS AND HELP FAMILIES MOVE FROM SUBSIDIZED HOUSING TO NON-SUBSIDIZED HOUSING. (NOTE: THIS STRATEGY IS RELATED TO STRATEGY #3)

MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS
1. As appropriate, undertake programs to deconcentrate public housing projects and help families move from subsidized to non-subsidized housing.
2. Ensure that programs which include use of Section 8 certificates to provide alternative housing opportunities are consistent with regional Section 8 policies (see Strategy 3).
3. To the fullest extent possible, utilize self-sufficiency programs in conjunction with any programs established to provide alternative housing opportunities.
4. As appropriate, seek out the assistance of neighboring municipalities and the Capitol Region Council of Governments to develop plans and implement them.

CRCOG ACTION STEPS
1. Compile information on strategies being utilized by municipalities seeking to deconcentrate public housing projects. Share information on strategies, funding sources, successes and problems.
2. Define appropriate CRCOG role, if any, in these projects.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)
1. Number of public housing projects involved in deconcentration efforts.
2. Number of public housing tenants who have moved to improved housing situations.
3. Number of public housing tenants that have moved from subsidized to non-subsidized housing.

STRATEGY #8
USE CRCOG HOUSING COMMITTEE AS A FORUM FOR SHARING INFORMATION ON LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGIES, IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL CONFLICTS AND DEVELOPING WAYS TO ENSURE THAT LOCAL HOUSING PLANS ARE COMPLEMENTARY TO AND SUPPORTIVE OF EACH OTHER.
MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS
1. Maintain active representation on the CRCOG Housing Committee.
2. Play an active role in setting the Housing Committee agenda through sharing information on innovative municipal housing strategies and housing/community development plans which may have intermunicipal impacts.
3. If intermunicipal conflicts between municipal housing strategies and housing/community development plans are identified, commit to working with neighboring community(ies) to resolve conflicts.

CRCOG ACTION STEPS
1. Establish schedule of regular Housing Committee meetings, and invite Local Housing Partnership members to these meetings so that they may benefit from the discussion of regional housing programs and issues.
2. Solicit municipal input on establishment of Housing Committee agendas.
3. On an annual basis, survey member municipalities to: a) obtain information on progress in meeting various performance measures; b) identify current housing strategies and obtain information on progress in implementing strategies; and c) identify local housing and community development plans which may have intermunicipal impacts. Use this information to help set Housing Committee agenda.
4. Upon request, assist municipalities in defining appropriate local housing strategies and coordinating meetings of Local Housing Partnership Committees.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)
1. Number of Capitol Region municipalities actively participating in work of CRCOG Housing Committee.
2. Number of CRCOG Housing Committee meetings conducted on an annual basis which deal with issues of local housing strategies, potential conflicts between municipal housing strategies and ways to resolve these conflicts.
3. Number of intermunicipal cooperative actions and programs undertaken to address local and regional housing and community development issues.

STRATEGY #9
SUPPORT LOCAL AND REGIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE, EDUCATIONAL AND JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES WHICH PROMOTE SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND INDEPENDENCE.

MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS
1. As appropriate, initiate or participate in local and regional social service programs and initiatives which promote self-sufficiency and independence.
2. Strive for excellence in educational system.

CRCOG ACTION STEPS
1. As appropriate, support programs and initiatives at the State and federal level which promote self-sufficiency and independence.
2. Participate in policy development on this issue through service on the boards of regional agencies whose missions include promoting self-sufficiency and independence, such as the
Greater Hartford Work Force Development Board, Capitol Region Education Council (both members of the Capitol Region Partnership) and the Community Renewal Team of Greater Hartford, Inc.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)
1. Number of individuals who move from welfare to jobs.
2. Number of individuals who move from welfare to job readiness/job training programs and number of individuals who move from these programs to permanent jobs.
3. Number of individuals who move from subsidized housing to non-subsidized housing.
4. Change in drop-out rates of high schools in the City of Hartford and other Capitol Region municipalities.
5. Change in mastery test scores of students in the City of Hartford and other Capitol Region municipalities.

STRATEGY #10
**PROMOTE FAIR HOUSING LAW TO ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE REGION.**

MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS
1. Renew commitment to municipal Fair Housing Resolutions, Policies or Plans.
2. If municipal Fair Housing Resolution, Policy or Plan does not already exist or is out of date, consider adopting a new or updated Fair Housing Resolution, Policy or Plan which includes a municipal point of contact for fair housing inquiries.
3. Cooperate with regional and state agencies committed increasing understanding of and/or enforcing fair housing law, including: the Housing Education Resource Center, Inc., the Connecticut Fair Housing Center, the Greater Hartford Association of Realtors and the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.
4. Support Fair Housing Law through public statements and educational forums.

CRCOG ACTION STEPS
1. Coordinate a regional educational forum on fair housing issues.
2. Assist municipalities in identifying referral agencies who can assist with enforcement of fair housing law. These referral agencies will include those noted in Municipal Action Steps, Item 3 and CRCOG Action Steps, Item 4.
3. Renew commitment to equal access to housing opportunities throughout the region through including support for fair housing policies and practices in the Plan of Conservation and Development of the Capitol Region and in any regional housing programs which may be initiated.
4. Cooperate with regional and state agencies committed to increasing understanding of and/or enforcing fair housing law, including: the Housing Education Resource Center, Inc., the Fair Housing Center of Connecticut, the Greater Hartford Association of Realtors and the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.
5. Support Fair Housing Law through public statements.
6. As appropriate, support legislative programs and initiatives at the State and federal level which support equal access to housing opportunities.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)
1. Number of municipal actions taken to renew commitment to fair housing law.
2. Number of regional actions taken to renew commitment to fair housing law.
3. Number of housing discrimination complaints filed with CHRO and the Fair Housing Center of Connecticut (positive measure would be decrease in cases over time).
4. Number of housing legislative or programmatic initiatives successfully pursued.

STRATEGY #11
IDENTIFY SPECIFIC FUNDING SOURCES AND/OR MECHANISMS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES #1 THROUGH #10.

MUNICIPAL ACTION STEPS
1. Continue to identify specific funding sources and/or mechanisms required to implement Strategies #1 through #10. Share findings with CRCOG and solicit support of CRCOG and neighboring municipalities, as appropriate.

CRCOG ACTION STEPS
1. Continue to identify specific funding sources and/or mechanisms required to implement Strategies #1 through #10. Work through CRCOG Housing Committee to share findings and build consensus around those worthy of regional support.
2. As appropriate, support programs and initiatives at the State and federal level which will help implement regional strategies.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (MONITOR ANNUALLY)
1. Performance measures associated with Strategies #1 through #10.
2. Number of housing legislative or programmatic initiatives successfully pursued.
## RECORD OF VOTES ON REGIONAL HOUSING POLICY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MUNICIPALITY</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andover</td>
<td>Approved by Board of Selectmen, April 2, 1997</td>
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<td>Avon</td>
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<td>Bloomfield</td>
<td>Approved by Town Council, June 24, 1997</td>
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<td>and Town Meeting, May 28, 1997</td>
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