

Capitol Region Council of Governments

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES CRCOG Boardroom, 241 Main Street, 4th Floor, Hartford, CT August 10, 2016 Noon

Attendance

Chip Beckett, Chair
Luke Bronin
Jon Colman
Jim Hayden
Marcia Leclerc
Lisa Pellegrini
Brandon Robertson
Scott Shanley
Paul Shapiro
Ron Van Winkle
Steve Werbner

Town/Organization

Glastonbury
Hartford
Bloomfield
East Granby
East Hartford
Somers
Avon
Manchester
Mansfield
West Hartford
Tolland

Staff

Cheryl Assis
Jennifer Carrier
Brittany Stephenson
Lyle Wray
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG

Guests

Dan Champagne
Lisa Heavner
Kinson Perry

Vernon
Simsbury
Rome Smith Lutz

1. Roll Call

With a quorum present, Chairperson Chip Beckett called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

2. Public Comment

No public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes from May 11, 2016

Chairman Beckett requested a motion to adopt the minutes. Jon Colman made a motion to adopt the minutes of the May 11, 2016 Executive Committee meeting. Scott Shanley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Chair and Executive Director Remarks and Report

Lyle Wray discussed the three handouts attached to agenda, including the 2016 Metro Hartford Progress Points, Ctfastrak ridership graphs, and the upcoming New England's Knowledge Corridor Partnership Fall Economic Forum on October 5th. He reviewed his monthly report including the recommendation for fraud risk, online permitting now at 25 towns, and efforts to secure regional economic development status. He discussed the new CRCOG website that has gone live and that the region is now at 33 of 28 towns connected to Nutmeg network with Willington to be added soon. No further discussion.

Chairperson Beckett advised the Board that he invited Mayor Luke Bronin and Mayor Erin Stewart to join the Executive Committee to assure urban perspectives.

5. Action Item: Resolution Authorizing the Steps Necessary to Create an Ad-Hoc Working Group to Address Crumbling Foundations (Handout)

Lyle Wray presented this item to the committee for approval. CRCOG has a number of towns that have been impacted by homes and structures with crumbling concrete foundation. Towns desire to pursue a working group to help towns and homeowners address issues raised by crumbling foundations. He discussed the July 25, 2016 meeting including affected towns and one of the results of the meeting to create an ad-hoc working group that would complement state action. He discussed the goal of the ad hoc group, mentioning upcoming meetings with town assessors for common approaches to valuation, developing lists of qualified contractors and considering possible financial remedies.

Jon Colman moved to approve this resolution. Scott Shanley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Action Item: Approval of CRCOG Comments on Proposed MPO Reform (NPRM) (Handout)

Lyle Wray presented this item to the committee for approval. Stated CRCOG functions as a MPO and is opposed to a proposed rule on MPO Coordination and Planning Area Reform. The rule focuses on redrawing urban service areas (UZAs) and CRCOG

wishes to submit comments which include withdrawal of the rule. Extensions, highlighting of complexities, and suggestions are also included in comments to be submitted.

Jon Colman moved to approve this resolution. Ron Van Winkle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Action Item: Approval of Joint Comments on Proposed MPO Reform (NPRM) (Handout)

Lyle Wray presented this item to the committee for approval. CRCOG wishes to submit joint comments with other Councils of Governments (COGs) and MPOs in the state regarding the proposed rule, generally opposing the rule and requesting local input regarding MPO boundaries and planning.

Jon Colman moved to approve this resolution. Ron Van Winkle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Action Item: Resolution Authorizing the Review and Analysis of Northern New England Intercity Rail Initiative (Handout)

Lyle Wray presented this item to the committee for approval. This resolution would allow a preliminary study to take place to advance rail connection with Springfield and Boston. There currently is no service. The report will be a characterization of benefits, reviewing and analyzing assumptions and results of the study. CRCOG will work with Pioneer Valley Planning jointly and the CRCOG share will be limited to no more than \$4,000. One of the goals of this initiative is to make Connecticut more competitive and a place of increased mobility and millennial retention.

Jon Colman moved to approve this resolution. Lisa Pellegrini seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Lyle Wray added comments on the upcoming Courant editorial board meeting in September, an upcoming CRCOG Foundation conference on attracting and retaining skills millennial workers, and the CRCOG ad hoc economic development committee. He encouraged the Committee to follow the model of several other cities that truly focused on goals, such as Salt Lake City. He stated the region has had very good reports over the past several decades but that implementation was often either slow or lacking. He offered CRCOG to serve as a guarantor to ensure plans were followed through with should the region attempt a steering committee to select key “game changer” action items.

With no further discussion items, Chairperson Beckett requested a motion to adjourn.

Jon Colman moved to adjourn the meeting. Scott Shanley seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:17pm.