

Capitol Region Council of Governments

241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: (860) 522-2217 FAX: (860) 724-1274

Policy Board Meeting
Former MIRA Trash Museum, 211 Murphy Road, Hartford, CT
Wednesday, February 22, 2017
12:00 p.m.

Members and Alternates

Chair Chip Beckett
Jeff Bridges
Luke Bronin
Garry Brumback
Jon Colman
Thomas Cooke
John Elsesser
Matthew Galligan
Matthew Hart
Scott Kaupin
Chris Kervick
Dave Kilbon
Marcia Leclerc
Robert Lee
Christina Maihos
Dave Nagel
Nancy Nickerson
Brandon Robertson
Scott Shanley
Ron Van Winkle
John Ward
Steve Werbner

Town/Organization

Glastonbury
Wethersfield
Hartford
Southington
Bloomfield
Simsbury
Coventry
South Windsor
Mansfield
Enfield
Windsor Locks
East Granby
East Hartford
Plainville
Willington
Newington
Farmington
Avon
Manchester
West Hartford
Vernon
Tolland

Staff

Cheryl Assis
Jennifer Carrier
Brittany Stephenson
Lyle Wray
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG

Guests

Chris George
Ellen Graham
Cal Hauburger

IRIS
Office of Senator Blumenthal
Plainville

Kathie Lutz
Rebecca Nolan
Rick Zulick

RSL
Metro Hartford Alliance
Stafford

Roll Call

1. Call to Order: With a quorum present, Chair Chip Beckett called the meeting to order at 12:07pm.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. Adoption of Minutes from January 18, 2017 Policy Board Meeting

Chair Chip Beckett requested a motion to adopt the minutes.

Jon Colman made a motion to adopt the minutes of the January 18, 2017 Policy Board meeting. Dave Kilbon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Monthly Reports

a. Chair and Executive Director Report

Executive Director Lyle Wray provided this update to the Board. Several CRCOG members attended the NARC conference in February and it was an informative event. , He also outlined the agenda and shared positive updates related to the region.

b. Metro Hartford Alliance

Rebecca Nolan provided this update to the Board. She discussed the organization's recent global initiatives as it continues to focus efforts on countries connected to Connecticut. On March 28th and 29th, the Alliance will partner with CRCOG to host the German delegation. Germany is the biggest producer of jobs in the state of Connecticut. On June 7th, the Alliance will partner with CREC to host an Israeli showcase which will also include Brazilian companies. Export week will be April 24th-28th. The Alliance would like to include the municipalities on these endeavors to ensure the needs of the towns are being met.

c. Opportunities and Resources

Lyle Wray provided this update to the Board. CRCOG is pursuing an economic development grant to assist in funding the next regional Comprehensive Economic Development plan with hopes to take action this calendar year.

d. Municipal Services and Purchasing Council

Pauline Yoder provided this update to the Board. The SOS Municipal and Educational Showcase was well attended and well received. The orthoimagery flight has been completed and will be available to the municipalities in early March. Once the GIS portion is done, Connecticut will have the best GIS system in the country with 3 inch resolution. CRCOG handled the contract for the state and is the first state to have statewide level precision and resolution. A workshop to highlight this accomplishment was suggested. There will be a meeting in South Windsor on March 2nd regarding eziQC. The HR Portal with model documents will be launching in a few weeks.

e. Public Safety and Homeland Security

Cheryl Assis provided this update to the Board. The State Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security has submitted an application for the new CCTA (Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks) grant program. CRCOG assisted with preparing the application and if successful funds would be sub granted for training purposes. CRCOG is sponsoring a Virtual Operations Support Team training session at Goodwin College this Friday and Saturday. The session is for Medical Reserve Corps members to learn to support local incident command teams with monitoring of social media during emergencies. CRCOG is assisting with a weeklong SWAT School to be held in April for new members of nine regional SWAT teams and with a Human Trafficking Awareness seminar being held at Bradley next Tuesday. She distributed intake pamphlets for shelters for people with functional or language needs.

f. Transportation Committee

Jon Colman provided this update to the Board. He highlighted transportation agenda items. The Transportation Committee has been moving forward and held its monthly meeting on February 21st. The Committee agreed to do a LOTCIP solicitation on bridges. Staff will develop criteria by the March meeting with plans for roll out in April. The solicitation will help CRCOG fully utilize LOTCIP funding.

5. Presentation on Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS)

Chris George, Director of the Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS), gave an insightful presentation to the Board. There are 25 million refugees in the world today. His non-profit organization is 1 of 350 in the nation which assists refugee families. He detailed the vetting process as well as highlighted resettlement protocol and requirements. There have been 45 refugee families placed in 2016 through community co-sponsorships of which several CRCOG towns host.

6. Presentation on the Hartford Tunnel I-84 and I-91 Project (Invited)

An invitation to discuss the Hartford Tunnel was extended and due to scheduling conflicts, the presentation did not occur.

7. Action: TIP Amendments

Jennifer Carrier presented this item to the Board. The seven amendments were previously endorsed by the Transportation Committee and submitted to Policy Board for approval.

Jon Colman moved to adopt the amendments. Dave Kilbon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Transportation Finance Panel Findings and Tolling

Jennifer Carrier presented this item to the Board. The Transportation Finance Panel was formed to assist in understanding how to sustainably structure resources to advance the 30-year, \$100 billion vision and create a best-in-class system. The Panel completed a report in January 2016 which identified a number of recommendations to consider. She summarized three of these recommendations as well as advised the Board on how the Panel's findings will allow formulation of policy and framework of funding needs and strategies.

9. LOTCIP

Jon Colman updated the Board on this item. LOTCIP was signed into law in June 2013. He encouraged the Board to review the self-explanatory handout included in the agenda packet.

10. Service Sharing Update

Pauline Yoder updated the Board on this item. Member towns are sharing services across many different areas. Results from a survey conducted tracking shared services are reflected in the infographics included in the agenda packet and also available on the CRCOG website.

11. A Response to Equitable Sharing of Connecticut School Aid Critical

Chip Beckett asked Kathie Lutz to present this informational item to the Board. The response has not been published as of yet and currently in the process of proposal discussions. Kathie Lutz shared with the Board that this, along with other budget concerns, remain an ongoing issue. She discussed the possibility of changes in ECS as well as encouraged the Board to communicate with subcommittees on such important issues. There are a number of concerns regarding the state budget and how it affects local municipalities. The Board would like to have input and be included with regard to providing solutions. The Board will forward ideas and suggestions to Lyle for compilation.

12. Health Integration Proposal Correspondence

Lyle Wray presented this informational item to the Board. The Department of Public Health issued a letter in response to objections to the local health integration proposal. There was a discussion on whether the proposal would be set for legislative hearing as early as next week. Lyle Wray agreed to work with Kathie Lutz to monitor and keep Board updated.

13. Build American Bureau Correspondence

Lyle Wray presented this item to the Board. The workshop at US DOT discussed the I-84 and I-91 freeway tunnel option for Hartford and East Hartford.

14. MassDOT State Rail Plan

Lyle Wray presented this informational item to the Board. Governor Malloy sent a letter to Massachusetts Governor Charles Baker supporting the NNEIRI final report which includes advance planning and engineering of the Inland Route service from Boston to Springfield and south to Connecticut. Governor Malloy believes the link for the Knowledge Corridor will have significant benefits.

15. CT OPM COGS and Mandatory Proportional Voting

Lyle Wray presented this information item to the Board. The Office of Policy and Management issued a response related to COGs and Mandatory Proportional Voting. OPM is currently not supportive of the concept. COGs will have to monitor this issue as it may return in the future.

16. Other Business

Matthew Galligan thanked Pauline Yoder for all of her assistance with the town of South Windsor related to the Crumbling Foundations.

17. Adjournment

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

Jon Colman moved to adjourn meeting. Dave Kilbon seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:25pm.