

# Capitol Region Council of Governments

241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106  
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**Policy Board Meeting**  
**West Hartford Town Hall, Room 400**  
**Wednesday, January 18, 2017**  
**12:00 p.m.**

## **Members and Alternates**

Alex Beaudoin  
Chair Chip Beckett  
Shari Cantor  
John Elsesser  
Lisa Heavner  
Scott Kaupin  
Dave Kilbon  
Marcia Leclerc  
Robert Lee  
Christina Maihos  
Denise McNair  
Dave Nagel  
Nancy Nickerson  
Lisa Pellegrini  
Scott Shanley  
Robert Skinner  
Joyce Stille  
Ron Van Winkle  
John Ward  
Steve Werbner

## **Town/Organization**

Hartford  
Glastonbury  
West Hartford  
Coventry  
Simsbury  
Enfield  
East Granby  
East Hartford  
Plainville  
Willington  
Berlin  
Newington  
Farmington  
Somers  
Manchester  
Canton  
Bolton  
West Hartford  
Vernon  
Tolland

## **Staff**

Cheryl Assis  
Winsome Barnaby  
Jennifer Carrier  
Mike Cipriano  
Maureen Goulet  
Mary Ellen Kowalewski  
Brittany Stephenson  
Lyle Wray  
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG  
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## **Guests**

Alex Johnson

CWP

Cal Hauburger  
Jess Leclair  
Mike Muszynski  
Ken Shooshan-Stoller  
Nelson Tereso  
Kathie Lutz  
Grayson Wright

Plainville  
ISE  
CCM  
FHWA  
CT DECD  
RSL  
CTDOT

## **Roll Call**

**1. Call to Order:** With a quorum present, Chair Chip Beckett called the meeting to order at 12:17pm.

## **2. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

## **3. Adoption of Minutes from December 7, 2016 Policy Board Meeting**

Chair Chip Beckett requested a motion to adopt the minutes.

**Scott Shanley made a motion to adopt the minutes of the December 7, 2016 Policy Board meeting. Nancy Nickerson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **4. Monthly Reports**

### **a. Chair and Executive Director Report**

Chairperson Chip Beckett requested a motion to add the editorial, A Response to Equitable Sharing of Connecticut School Aid Critical, to the agenda for discussion.

**Scott Kaupin made a motion to add the editorial to the agenda for discussion. Denise McNair seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Executive Director Lyle Wray reminded the Board of the upcoming legislative dialogue on the morning of January 31, 2017 and encouraged members to invite their legislators. He mentioned that the CCM report can be expected to be released on January 25<sup>th</sup>. He shared with the Board information about the Build America conference he attended as a CRCOG representative at US DOT. He will share highlights from this meeting as well. The National Association of Regional Council will be meeting next month in Washington D.C. Lastly, he highlighted the monthly report shared with the Board and outlined agenda items. There were no questions.

### **b. Capital Workforce Partners**

Alex Johnson provided this update to the Board. He wanted to highlight the legislative priorities of Capital Workforce Partners. He distributed the **State Funding for Employment and Training Programs** handout (<http://crcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/CWPAgendaLetter.pdf>). There were no questions.

**c. Opportunities and Resources**

Chairperson recognized Nelson Tereso. The Director at the Department of Economic & Community Development Office of Capital Projects (OCP), he distributed a handout introducing the Board to his organization and how it serves the community (<http://crcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/DECDLetter.pdf>). He offered the assistance of his organization to the Board and highlighted past/present projects.

**d. Policy and Planning Department**

Mary Ellen provided this update to the Board. She invited the Board to attend the in-depth presentation on Sustainable CT at the January 19<sup>th</sup> Regional Planning Commission meeting. She updated the Board on the status of the Bike-Pedestrian Count stating tabulations are near completion and would be available very soon. The Complete Streets bid has recently been sent out and the study should be available soon. Lastly, she met with the Municipal Services committee to gauge interest on a Department of Energy grant application. This opportunity has been brought to CRCOG's attention from the City of Hartford who has been selected to participate. There appears to be interest in pursuing the grant application, however, there is a six partner communities requirement in order to participate. There were no questions.

**e. Municipal Services and Purchasing Council**

Pauline Yoder provided this update to the Board. She referenced the ezIQC resolution on the agenda which has been revised since the December meeting. There was a Municipal Services committee meeting held on January 17<sup>th</sup> which included a discussion on shared services. Infographics have been collected and developed to highlight which towns are sharing and what is being shared. This will be distributed next week. She also invited the Board to attend the upcoming SOS Municipal and Educational Showcase. There were no questions.

**f. Public Safety and Homeland Security**

Joyce Stille provided this update to the Board. There will be a CREPC meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup> which will include a crisis leadership seminar. The guest speaker will be Richard Serino and Lyle Wray will give the introduction. DEHMS will be hosting a Best Practices forum beginning next week. There were no questions.

**g. Transportation Committee**

Jennifer Carrier provided this update to the Board. She referenced two action items on the agenda as well as the informational items. There were no questions.

#### **5. Presentation on Sustainable CT by the Institute for Sustainable Energy**

Jessica LeClair gave this presentation to the Board with updates on Sustainable CT. Sustainable CT has been under development for a year and has another year until completion. She highlighted the vision and program framework of the efforts as well as goals and how Board members could get involved. A copy of her presentation is available at [http://crcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/CRCOG\\_1\\_18\\_17.pdf](http://crcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/CRCOG_1_18_17.pdf).

#### **6. Action: Resolution Authorizing Four EZIQC Regional Contract Awards-Road and Bridge Maintenance**

Maureen Goulet presented this item to the Board. This resolution has been revised since the December 7th meeting. The Gordian Group and CRCOG staff performed a competitive bidding process and have four recommended contractors to serve the program for the next two years. The resolution authorizes CRCOG Executive Director to act on behalf of the organization in negotiating and executing contractual instruments of the on-call construction services under the agency's eziQC program with up to three preferred contractors.

**Scott Shanley moved approve this resolution. Nancy Nickerson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **7. Action: TIP Amendments**

Jennifer Carrier presented this item to the Board. There is one amendment which is the Rehab Bridge in Windsor Locks. The Transportation Committee has previously endorsed the amendment.

**Scott Kaupin moved to adopt the amendment. Joyce Stille seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **8. Action: Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Contingency Projects**

Jennifer Carrier presented this item to the Board. At the December 7<sup>th</sup> Policy Board meeting, there were four CTDOT project applications approved for the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set Aside program funding. The previously approved projects represent the region's "priority" projects. As a part of the solicitation process, CTDOT also requires four additional contingency projects. CRCOG has received two completed applications (Glastonbury and Southington) which have been endorsed by the Transportation Committee and expects to receive two additional applications (Columbia and East Hartford) soon.

**John Elsesser moved to add language to include Coventry as it relates to Columbia. Joyce Stille seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Joyce Stille moved to approve all of the contingency projects. Scott Kaupin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **9. Action: Resolution to Hire Marketing and Communications for Crumbling Foundations**

Pauline Yoder presented this item to the Board. There is a crumbling concrete epidemic affecting many homeowners east of the CT River. The committee, in conjunction with NECOG, would benefit from a marketing and communications individual dedicated to spreading awareness and relief efforts. The resolution allows for a budget not exceed a \$10,000 expenditure.

**John Elsesser moved to approve this resolution. Joyce Stille seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **10. Action: Editorial: A Response to Equitable Sharing of Connecticut School Aid Critical**

Chairperson Chip Beckett presented this item to the Board. This letter was drafted in response to an opinion piece in the Hartford Courant on January 15, 2017. The Board is interested in becoming a part of the solution regarding equitable sharing of school aid. The Board would like to take a non-partisan position, highlighting the positives of cooperative conversation. The Board agreed to edit the draft response to incorporate language reflective of the comments added during the discussion.

### **11. Final MPO Coordination Rule**

Lyle Wray presented this update to the Board. There was a proposed new rule regarding MPOs and requirements. CRCOG opposed the rule for several reasons. The final US DOT rule was released in December 2016. The timeline has been pushed to 2024. As a result, CRCOG recommends delaying action to observe results and activity. The only issue is action at the state level in a near term, affecting the planning processes.

### **12. CRCOG Public Participation Plan**

Jennifer Carrier presented this informational item to the Board. The current public participation plan is from 2007 and needs to be updated. The new draft plan has been prepared and is subject to a 45-day public comment period. Upcoming meetings are included in the draft. Adoption of the plan, once comment period ends, will be presented at the April 26th Policy Board meeting.

**13. FFY 2016 Federal Obligated or Grant Projects**

Jennifer Carrier presented this informational item to the Board. Federal regulations requires MPOs to annually publish or otherwise make available for public review projects that have had federal funds obligated to them during federal fiscal year 2016.

**14. Northeast Corridor Future Final EIS**

Jennifer Carrier presented this informational item to the Board. NEC Future is a comprehensive planning effort regarding future investments. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was released in December 2016. There will be a holding period through January 31, 2017. More information is available on the project website at [www.necfuture.com/get\\_involved](http://www.necfuture.com/get_involved) .

**15. Public Health District Update**

Lyle Wray presented this informational item to the Board. CT DPH Commissioner Pino has revised his proposed health district plan. CRCOG, along with various towns and COGs, submitted a letter in opposition of the initial proposal. The proposal will be bookmarked this legislative session but will resurface in the future. There are currently 13 public health districts in CRCOG. A conversation is necessary to discuss action and how to move forward.

**16. SOS Municipal and Educational Showcase**

Pauline Yoder presented this informational item to the Board. Board members are invited to attend this free event on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**17. Sustainable CT Regional Forums**

This informational item is an invitation to attend one of the January 2017 Regional Forums. Forums are free and are organized by the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University.

**18. CRCOG and Legislators Dialogue**

Lyle Wray presented this informational item to the Board. Board members and respective legislators are invited to attend this dialogue. An agenda is forthcoming which will include CRCOG's 2017 legislative priorities.

**19. Other Business**

Kathie Lutz provided an update on the current legislative session. There is very little concrete information to share as this session is running behind schedule.

**20. Adjournment**

With no further discussion items, Chair Chip Beckett requested a motion to adjourn. **Scott Kaupin moved to adjourn meeting. Nancy Nickerson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.**

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