

Transportation Committee Meeting
MIRA, 211 Murphy Road, Hartford, CT
Monday May 22nd, 2017
12 Noon

Name

Larry Baril
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Patrice Carson
Todd Penney
Tim Bockus
Timothy Webb
John Cabibbo
Russ Arnold
Daniel Pennington
Gil Hayes
Kirk Severance
Jim Ford
Sandy Fry
Jeff LaMalva
Derek Dilaj
Peter Hughes
Rob Trottier
Craig Minor
Jim Sollmi
Tom Roy
Jeff Bord
Keith Hayden
Jeffrey Doolittle
Rick Zulick
Bill Hawkins
David Smith
Greg Sommer
Derrick Gregor
Gilbert Hayes

Guests

Grayson Wright
Mary Poesse
Keri Enright-Kato
Charlie Carson

Organization

Avon
Berlin
Bloomfield
Bolton
Coventry
East Hartford
Ellington
Enfield
Farmington
Glastonbury
GHTD
Granby
Hartford
Hartford
Manchester
Mansfield
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
Somers
Southington
South Windsor
Stafford
Suffield
Vernon
West Hartford
Wethersfield
GHTD

**DRAFT until
Endorsed
by the
Committee**

Staff

Rob Aloise	CRCOG
Jennifer Carrier	CRCOG
Mike Cipriano	CRCOG
Emily Hultquist	CRCOG
Maryellen Kowalewski	CRCOG
Tim Malone	CRCOG
Pramod Pandey	CRCOG
Cara Radzins	CRCOG
Sotoria Montanari	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	CRCOG
Lyle Wray	CRCOG

1. **Roll Call** – Mr. Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM.
2. **Public Forum** – No one choose to speak.
3. **Adoption of Meeting Minutes from April 24th, 2017** – A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Tom Roy from the Town of Simsbury, to adopt the meeting minutes from the April 24th, 2017 meeting. This motion was passed unanimously.
4. **Staff Reports**
 - Jon Colman informed the committee that there was an incident at a GHTD meeting last week where a member of the public had been arrested for breach of peace and assault. This member of the public attends some CRCOG meetings where GHTD is in attendance and GHTD is finalizing a restraining order against this individual. CRCOG will work to ensure police / security is in place to make GHTD and meeting attendees feel comfortable and safe while attending CRCOG meetings.
 - **Congestion Management** – Mr. Pramod Pandey gave a brief update on the Congestion Management report. Mr. Pandey stated that the report is a result of ongoing CMP efforts and aims to build on the past Hartford TMA CMP efforts undertaken CRCOG, Midstate, and CCRPA. He also stated that CRCOG is in the midst of multiple comprehensive transit initiatives which will affect CMP reporting, and thus revisions to prior CMP transit reporting are awaiting the outcomes of these efforts.
 - **LOTICIP Bridge Solicitation RFP** – Rob Aloise briefed the Committee on the 2017 LOTCIP Solicitation, including a \$10 million Phase 1 solicitation for Bridge Improvement Projects. The Request for Proposals was issued on May 5th, 2017 via e-mail and is posted on CRCOG’s website. Proposals are due on Tuesday June 13th, 2017 and therefore communities with candidate projects are encouraged to start assembling/collecting the necessary data, including any bridge inspection reports. Mr. Aloise indicated that the RFP contains information

on how to obtain inspection reports for bridges that CTDOT has recently inspected. Also, it was indicated that Phase 2 of this solicitation will be a traditional solicitation, however an RFP is not anticipated to be issued until the summer, following approval of the state budget including a sufficiently budgeted amount for the LOTCIP program.

- **LOTICIP On-Call Consultants Update** – Ms. Sotoria Montanari gave a brief update on the LOTICIP On-Call Consultants. Ms. Montanari provided a hand-out of the updated CRCOG website listing reflecting the On-Call 1, 2 and 3 consultant listing recently selected by interview panelists. Ms. Montanari indicated that interviews with six firms were conducted during the last two weeks in April for each of the On-Call 1 and 2 lists (Municipal Engineering Design and Construction Testing) and four firms were interviewed for the On-Call 3 list. Four firms for each of the On-Call 1 and 2 lists were selected and they will be posted on CRCOG’s website beginning June 1, 2017. Ms. Montanari also mentioned one firm was chosen for the On-Call 3 list for CRCOG Program Management. The consultant terms are for 24 months with an option to renew.
- **STBG Program Summary** – Mr. Rob Aloise provided a Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Summary for CRCOG. STBG is the new title for the funding source previously referred to as STP-Urban. Mr. Aloise stated that the purpose of the summary is to show details for obligated and planned STBG project expenditures within CRCOG in Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) 2017, 2018 and 2019. Mr. Aloise highlighted key elements of the summary including:
 - Almost all of the anticipated FFY17 projects have already been obligated.
 - West Hartford’s Park Road project is scheduled to be obligated as soon as possible pending a recently requested increase of \$1.3 million (federal). This project was initially submitted by the town through a regional solicitation. The cost increase is primarily the result of unforeseen MDC utility impacts, design efforts resulting in the need for a larger than anticipated retaining wall, and associated larger than expected construction inspection costs.
 - FFY17 STBG expenditures of at least **\$20.3 million** are anticipated, including exceeding the regional target of \$15.9 million by approximately \$4.4 million. The region has been assured that there is sufficient funding (including carryforward) to cover these expenditures
 - Anticipated FFY18 STBG expenditures of between **\$13.3 and \$17.5 million**, which are in the range of the regional target of \$16.2 million
 - Anticipated expenditures of STBG projects scheduled to be obligated in and after FFY19 amount to between **\$20.1 and \$25.2 million**, representing between 1.2 and 1.5 years of regional funding.
- **CTrides Quarterly Report** – Ms. Cara Radzins gave a brief update on the CT**rides** quarterly report for Q1 (January-March) of 2017. This quarter featured February’s CT**rides** Transportation Showcase, which included a panel discussion by Travelers, Yale, Mohegan Sun, CTDOT, and WNPR as well as breakout

sessions covering vanpooling, teleworking, and other transportation topics. Q1 was also spent planning for Earth Week and CT **rides** Week, which will be detailed in next quarter's report. Ms. Radzins noted that CT **rides** added 10 new partners this quarter including the Connecticut Office of the Attorney General and Job Corps in Hartford. In addition, CT **rides** responded to 4,748 inquiries and added 1,650 new members to its Ridematch and Reward program.

- **Bike Month/Bike to Work** – Ms. Emily Hultquist briefed the Committee on Bike Month and Bike to Work Day. CRCOG staff participated in events in New Britain and Hartford, and Ms. Hultquist noted that CRCOG would be happy to assist with other town's events in future years.
 - **Local Road Accident Reduction** – Ms. Cara Radzins gave a brief update on the Local Road Accident Reduction Program for 2017. CRCOG has released a request for proposals related to this solicitation, which is similar to those from previous years. This program is designed to support the funding of systematic improvements aimed at addressing local roadway sections with significant lane departure potential. Eligible projects should be between \$50,000 and \$500,000. Projects that exceed \$500,000 may be considered if their benefit/cost analysis is over one. Applications must include a crash history, project costs, and conceptual plans. Proposals are due to CRCOG by noon on Friday, June 30, 2017. At that point, CRCOG will conduct an initial screening of proposals and identify those which will be forwarded to CTDOT. Each planning region is limited to two project submissions. We are discussing with CTDOT the possibility of increasing the number of candidate project submissions from CRCOG.
5. **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** – Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the UPWP Work Program. Ms. Carrier stated that the program is a 2 year program from 2018-2019. The complete draft document can be found on CRCOG's web-site at <http://crcog.org/> under "Featured". A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin. This motion was passed unanimously.
 6. **Annual Urban Planning Certification Resolution** – A motion was made by Timothy Webb from the Town of Ellington, seconded by Jim Sollmi from the Town of Rocky Hill to accept the Resolution on Annual Urban Planning Certification. This motion was passed unanimously.
 7. **FY2018-2019 Planning Agreement Resolution** – A motion was made by Timothy Webb from the town of Ellington, seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton to accept the Resolution authorizing Execution of Agreement with the Connecticut Dept. of Transportation for CRCOG's FY 2018 and 2019 Transportation Planning Program. This motion was passed unanimously.
 8. **Hartford Transportation Management Area MOU Authorizing Resolution** – A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Timothy

Webb from the Town of Ellington to accept the MOU on Transportation Planning & Funding in the Hartford Urbanized area. This motion was passed unanimously.

9. Resolution Authorizing Transportation Committee to act as the Policy Board – a motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Jeffrey Doolittle from the Town of South Windsor to Authorize the Resolution for the CRCOG Transportation Committee to approve Action items on Behalf of the CRCOG Policy Board. This motion was passed unanimously.

10. TIP amendments – Ms. Jennifer Carrier Reviewed the TIP amendments. A motion was made by Gilbert Hayes from GHTD, seconded by Timothy Webb from the Town of Ellington to accept the TIP amendments. This motion was passed unanimously.

- *Replace Bridge 01686A over Market St. and bridge 06048 over I-91-Hartford*
- *Rehab or replace bridge 03023 over Capitol Ave. and AMTRAK-Hartford*
- *Rehab bridge 03367 and 03368 over New Park Ave-Hartford*
- *Replace bridge 03163 and 03164 over interstate 91-Rocky Hill*

11. Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program – Rob Aloise informed the committee of related Subcommittee discussions and decisions. Mr. Aloise indicated that region recently solicited for, selected, and submitted four (4) projects shown in the table below to CTDOT to utilize FFY2016-2020 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside funding. Recently the region received CTDOT’s review comments and resulting programming selections. CTDOT has indicated that they received eight (8) TA Set-Aside applications for projects located within the Hartford Urbanized Area (four from CRCOG, three from RiverCOG, and one from Naugatuck Valley COG), but have selected only four of the eight for advancement. Three of the four projects were CRCOG’s top three priority projects (Rocky Hill, Hartford, and New Britain) and the remaining project was submitted by RiverCOG. Ellington’s project was not reviewed or identified for advancement by CTDOT.

CTDOT’s reviews resulted in cost increases for each of the three CRCOG projects, with Hartford’s being the most significant. The Hartford project’s increase which was primarily the result of CTDOT requiring the northern limit of the trail be extended to what they consider a logical terminus. Each municipality was contacted regarding CTDOT’s review, and each indicated to CRCOG that they could obtain the required increased match and would like to advance their project as scoped by CTDOT. CTDOT has requested that CRCOG consider and possibly approve the resulting agreed upon scope/cost changes and associated program funding revisions.

The Ellington project was not reviewed by CTDOT, however, they are very interested in advancing their project. Therefore, CRCOG staff has been considering options that would allow its advancement, including those initially outlined in the subcommittee memo and the new staff recommendations in priority order below:

1. Advance both the New Britain and Hartford projects as scoped by CTDOT, however pursue reallocating the Rocky Hill project's TA Set-Aside monies to the Ellington project, and allocating LOTCIP funding for the Rocky Hill project. However, CTDOT has preliminarily indicated that if monies are freed up due to Rocky Hill dropping out of the TA Set-Aside program, that there is no guarantee that those funds would be allocated to the Ellington project. CTDOT indicated that the Ellington project would need to compete with the other non-selected projects within the TMA, and if another project is selected the monies would go towards that advancing that non-CRCOG project.
2. For in prior option, if no commitment to the Ellington can be obtained from CTDOT, advance the Rocky Hill project with TA Set-Aside funding and either allocate LOTCIP funding to the Ellington project, or reserve funding for Ellington as the region's top priority project under the next TA Set-Aside solicitation.

Under either option the awarded LOTCIP funding would count against that municipality's limit of available projects/funding in the envisioned 2017 LOTCIP solicitation (Phase 2). Due to the numerous unresolved issues, the Subcommittee decided to table the TA Set-Aside action until the June meeting, at which CRCOG and Ellington staff could get more definitive answers from CTDOT and the Town to outstanding questions involving the potential use of LOTCIP funding.

A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Jim Ford from the City of Hartford to table this agenda item until the June meeting. This motion was passed unanimously.

12. Transit Representation on MPO – Ms. Jennifer Carrier told the Committee that federal regulations have been modified to require representation of Public transportation providers on the (MPO). Ms. Carrier also stated that CTDOT has appointed their new CTDOT Transit Administrator to the MPO. It is expected that the CTDOT Transit Administrator will be starting their position in late May and the formal announcement will be coming shortly. Regular attendance at MPO meetings was also requested. CRCOG will be looking for your consideration at the May 24th Policy Board meeting. Ms. Carrier ended by saying in the coming months we will be working to understand if changes to the bylaws are necessary and to offer such changes if needed for Board consideration. A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Tom Roy to accept the Transit Representation on MPO. This motion was passed unanimously.

13. Presentation – Overview of the Governor's Council on Climate Change and an Analysis of the Transportation Sector-Keri Enright-Kato, Director of the office of Climate Change, Technology, & Research, CTDEEP. Ms. Enright-Kato highlighted CT's emission goals, historic emissions and projections, and strategies that may be employed to obtain the goals.

14. Other Business – There was no other business discussed.

15. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.