
To: Transportation Committee
From: Rob Aloise, Principal Transportation Engineer
Date: March 10, 2017
Subject: Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Update
and "Contingency Project" Approval

Staff has requested an update on the status of the region's four (4) "priority" TA Set-Aside projects submitted to CTDOT in December for FFY2016-2020 TA Set-Aside funding. CTDOT has indicated that they are currently completing their desktop reviews of all of the applications received from the various regions, including CRCOG. They are planning to meet internally with their "TA committee" (which includes personnel from DOT Engineering, Planning and Finance divisions) to discuss the findings of the reviews and which projects they hope to initially move forward with initiation in accordance with federal regulations governing the program. The TA committee hopes to release additional project scoping information "by late March or thereafter" regarding a first wave of project initiations. CRCOG has provided CTDOT a schedule outlining how quickly each CRCOG municipality could advance their projects, and especially emphasizing the pressing need to initiate Rocky Hill's project as it was originally submitted as part of CRCOG's 2012 Transportation Enhancement solicitation.

As part of the TA Set-Aside solicitation, CTDOT also asked the region to endorse the four "contingency projects" which will only utilize TA funding in the event delivery issues associated with the region's priority projects create a possible funding lapse. To date CRCOG has approved and transmitted three of the four "contingency projects" to CTDOT. CRCOG is expecting to receive a signed application for the following remaining project prior to the March Transportation Committee meeting:

- Columbia, Hop River State Park Trail (which also extends into Coventry)

CRCOG staff plans to seek, and recommends, committee approval of this final "contingency project" at the March Transportation Committee meeting.