

Transportation Committee
CRCOG, 241 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06106
Monday, November 5, 2018
12 Noon

Name

Larry Baril
Chris Edge
Patrice Carson
Jon Colman
Todd Penney
Doug Wilson
Timothy Webb
Donald Nunes
Russ Arnold
Daniel Pennington
Jim Ford
Sandra Fry
Kevin Kelly
Jeff LaMalva
John Carrington
Peter Hughes
Rob Trottier
Gary Fuerstenberg
John Bossi
Jim Sollmi
Keith Hayden
Jeffrey Doolittle
Bill Hawkins
Duane Martin
Derrick Gregor
Bob Jarvis
Jennifer Cassidy
Lashaunda Drake

Guests

Grayson Wright
Joe Ouellette
Caitlin O'Donnell
Kerrice Reynolds
Ed Perzanowski
Roy Seelye
Bridget Boucaud
Theresa Schwartz

Organization

Avon
Berlin
Bolton
Bloomfield
Coventry
East Hartford
Ellington
Enfield
Farmington
Glastonbury
Hartford
Hartford
Hebron
Manchester
Mansfield
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Plainville
Rocky Hill
Southington
South Windsor
Suffield
West Hartford
Wethersfield
Windsor
GHTD
GHTD

CTDOT
CTDOT-Traffic Engineering
CTrides
CTrides
CTrides
Beta Group
VN Engineers
UCONN T2 Center

DRAFT until
Endorsed
by the
Committee

Staff

Rob Aloise	CRCOG
Kim Bona	CRCOG
Mike Cipriano	CRCOG
Emily Hultquist	CRCOG
Devon Lechtenberg	CRCOG
Tim Malone	CRCOG
Sotoria Montanari	CRCOG
Terri Thompson	CRCOG
Dr. Lyle Wray	CRCOG

1. **Roll Call** – Mr. Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
2. **Public Forum** – There was no public comment.

Jon Colman asked for the Committee’s feedback on the new lunch layout. Consensus of the members is that they are in favor.

3. **Adoption of Meeting Minutes from October 15th, 2018** – A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton to accept the October 15th, 2018 meeting minutes, Tim Webb from the Town of Ellington seconded the motion. This motion was passed unanimously.
4. **Staff Report**
 - **Eversource Utility Relocation Policy**

Ms. Montanari explained that it has come to CRCOG and several towns attention that Eversource is interpreting the state statute sec 13a-98f differently, which states that the privately owned utility company will readjust, relocate or remove its utility facility at its own expense for construction of a transportation project. Eversource is taking the position that a town must pay for relocation of its distribution facilities associated with a town project. Eversource is levying costs for utility relocation work for infrastructure improvement projects.

This is an issue that has come up recently in several towns and has been interpreted by Eversource’s legal department and policy administrators that the work being requested is not for a road widening or construction project but a repair. Ms. Montanari cited one example for a bridge replacement project. The Eversource poles (Eversource claimed) were not currently in the way of nor would be in the way of the bridge after the repair is made. Eversource indicated that since the town is requesting this equipment to be relocated solely for the contractor to use a crane for completion of this work, that the costs were not reimbursable and should be paid for by the town.

The town may request a reimbursement from Eversource if they think it was erroneously decided.

Conversely, in another example of a road widening where drainage was relocated, Eversource used an interpretation of a different statute Sec 22a-470. This states that in an instance of a relocation or removal of public service facilities as necessary for construction of municipal sewer or pollution abatement facilities, the town would be charged for the relocation work. In this specific example, the town was completing drainage work in a road widening construction project, not a municipal sewer.

Ms. Montanari stated that Coventry's town manager, has notified CCM and COST and CTDOT has been notified and indicated the towns should push back against Eversource with regional planning agencies. She explained that CRCOG will continue to monitor this.

Tim Webb from the Town of Ellington feels there must be a legislative fix on this issue.

Jon Colman suggested reaching out to Hedy Ayers to see if she can recommend where we should start in terms of contacting Eversource regarding this issue. Dr. Lyle Wray suggested a good idea may be to start with source of where the emails were generated from.

Daniel Pennington from the Town of Glastonbury feels that if this is what the policy is going to be going forward, we should look into how to legally contest it.

Discussion followed.

- **Capitol Region Commuter Parking Lots Inventory**

Mr. Devon Lechtenberg provided a brief overview of the process of counting vehicles occupying spaces in the region's forty-five Park & Ride Commuter lots. He informed the committee that counts had been completed for Fall 2018 and the numbers were similar to previous counts, although there had been a slight overall decline in the number of vehicles occupying the lots. He explained that these counts are a relatively new and ongoing effort to observe Park & Ride lot utilization at regular intervals as one facet of monitoring regional transit usage. It should be noted that ownership of the Park & Ride lots varies, and includes CTDOT, municipalities, and privately owned facilities (e.g. churches).

- **Other**

Rob Aloise reported on the potential upcoming FAST-ACT provisions to rescind FHWA carryforward in various funding categories at the end of FY2019.

CTDOT feels that, due to current political environment, it's unlikely that the rescission will be avoided. Nationally, its estimated that more than \$5B is at risk of rescission, and CTDOT has done some initial analysis and estimates over \$100M could be at risk in the State. CTDOT thinks that it can mitigate rescissions to around \$30M with TIP actions and amendments. Therefore, regions are likely to see requests for TIP actions and amendments over the next few months. CTDOT's Commissioner Redeker has scheduled a conference call on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 from 10am-10:30am to provide additional details. Mr. Aloise referred to the handout, stating there will be a RPO Teleconference Meeting.

The call main be joined through: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/499532757>

Dial 1+408-650-3123 Access Code: 499-532-757 Audio PIN: Shown after joining the meeting. Meeting ID: 499-532-757

5. TIP Amendments

- **I-84 Replace Retaining Wall at South End of Bridge 01765-Hartford**

Mr. Rob Aloise presented the TIP Amendment to the Committee. The amendment involves NHPP funding for a project on I-84 Eastbound in Hartford near Union Station. Jim Ford from the City of Hartford made a motion to approve the TIP amendment as presented. Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. CRCOG LOTCIP DRAFT November 2018 Guideline Revisions

Ms. Sotoria Montanari discussed the CRCOG LOTCIP DRAFT November 2018 Guideline Revisions with the Committee, and explained that CRCOG is seeking approval for the revised guidelines as presented.

She explained the Bridge Guideline revisions to the CRCOG LOTCIP guidelines were posted to the CRCOG website and the revisions were sent out last month to the towns with bridge projects and potential bridge projects. CRCOG had two on-call consultants review and revise the guidelines to reflect bridge submission updates.

CRCOG scheduled a conference call on October 23 with the towns to discuss the revisions and incorporated any changes to the document. Specifically, some of the

items noted were requiring structure type studies, hydraulic and hydrologic studies. Towns wanted those items noted as per town discretion.

Towns indicated, however, they would do due diligence in regards to bridge type, hydrologic studies, etc. depending on the project and bridge.

The document posted reflects any changes that were suggested.

Ms. Sandy Fry from the City of Hartford requested there be more language addressing the “Complete Streets Design” in the revised guidelines. Ms. Montanari and Mr. Aloise will coordinate with Ms. Fry to review components of the “Complete Streets Design” and incorporate suggestions where appropriate and provide to the transportation committee for comments, revisions and approval.

Sandy Fry from the City of Hartford made a motion to approve the CRCOG LOTCIP DRAFT November 2018 Guideline Revisions. Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. Transportation Committee Schedule for 2019

Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton made a motion to approve the 2019 Transportation Committee Schedule as presented. The motion was seconded by Tim Webb from the Town of Ellington. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Long Range Transportation Plan Involvement

Mr. Tim Malone provided an update on the Long Range Transportation Plan. He stated that CRCOG is updating the Long Range Transportation Plan, and is beginning the process of solicitating input from the public and other stakeholders. CRCOG has developed an online survey that asks about big picture priorities, and would really appreciate any help spreading the word.

The survey is available on our LRTP website: <https://crocogconnect2045.com/> .

9. T2 Center’s New Traffic Signal Circuit Rider – Theresa Schwartz, PE, PTOE

Ms. Schwartz spoke about the multiple resources that are available to municipalities regarding the new Traffic Signal Circuit Rider, and explained that UCONN T2 Center is seeking input from towns regarding the services that the program offers.

10. Presentation: CTrides, Ed Perzanowski, Director of Business Engagement and Program Services

Mr. Ed Perzanowski, Caitlin O’Donnell, and Kerrice Reynolds of CT**rides** presented updates to the Committee on the Road Scholar Program, Transportation Leaders

Program, Drive Less Connecticut Competition, and Try-It Days. To view the full presentation, please click [here](#).

11. Other Business- There was no other business.

11. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 pm.