

Transportation Committee
CRCOG, 241 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06106
Monday, December 16th, 2019
12 Noon

Name

Eric Anderson
Larry Baril
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Patrice Carson
Doug Wilson
Donald Nunes
Russ Arnold
Kirk Severance
Sandra Fry
Jeff LaMalva
Derek Dilaj
Peter Hughes
Rob Trottier
John Bossi
Jim Sollmi
Tom Roy
Jeffrey Doolittle
Devin Cowperthwaite
David Smith
Gregory Sommer
Bob Jarvis
Jennifer Rodriguez

Organization

Andover
Avon
Berlin
Bloomfield
Bolton
East Hartford
Enfield
Farmington
Granby
Hartford
Manchester
Mansfield
Marlborough
New Britain
Plainville
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
South Windsor
Stafford
Vernon
West Hartford
Windsor
Windsor Locks

DRAFT until
Endorsed
by the
Committee

Guests

Charles Harlow
LaShunda Drake

Fuss & O'Neill
GHTD

Staff

Robert Aloise
Frank Adarkwa
Emily Hultquist
Roger Krahn
Sotora Montanari
Cara Radzins
Karen Stewartson
Dr. Lyle Wray

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1. **Roll Call** – Mr. Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
2. **Public Forum** – There was no public comment.
3. **Adoption of Meeting Minutes-November 18th, 2019** – It was noted that the November 18th, 2019 Transportation Committee meeting incorrectly indicated that Mike Perry represented the Town of Enfield at the meeting, and that instead Carl Sferrazza represented the Town of Enfield. Staff indicated that the prior meeting minutes will be revised. A motion was made by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin, seconded by Jim Sollmi from the Town of Rocky Hill, to accept the meeting minutes from November 18th, 2019, with the change noted above. This motion was passed unanimously with one (1) abstention made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton.

4. Staff Report

- **Municipal Confirmation of Transportation Committee Member/Alternate** – Mr. Robert Aloise mentioned to the Committee that CRCOG has contacted the chief elected officials of each municipality requesting confirmation or revisions of their Transportation Committee Representative and Alternate.
- **Elimination of the FFY2019 FAST-ACT Rescission** – Mr. Robert Aloise informed the committee that the FFY2019 FAST-ACT Rescission of carryforward funding has been eliminated. The result is good news for retention of previous funding that has been carried forward, especially for the TA Set-Aside and Federal Local Bridge programs, where a significant amount of funding was at risk.
- **I-84 Hartford PAC Meeting** – Ms. Cara Radzins shared that CRCOG attended the 20th Public Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting of the I-84 Hartford Project on December 13th. At this meeting, it was announced that the NEPA process for this effort, which was originally scheduled for completion in 2021, will be halted, and the project will be combined into a broader planning effort now known as the Greater Hartford Mobility Study. This effort will develop a broader vision for transportation, and will consider numerous interrelated projects, including: I-84 Hartford, the I-84/I-91 interchange, the East Hartford mixmaster, Hartford Line rail, CT *fastrak* expansion, and the East Coast Greenway. The effort will be a “Planning and Environmental Linkage” (PEL), which will allow for the development of independent smaller projects that can then be transitioned to the NEPA process. This effort is scheduled to take 2-3 years, and the next round of outreach is anticipated for Summer 2020. Mr. Jon Colman asked how CRCOG will be involved in this effort. Ms. Radzins responded that CRCOG will continue to serve on the PAC and that historically CRCOG has attended monthly coordination meetings with CTDOT and the City of Hartford. Ms. Sandy Fry added that the City has requested that this coordination meetings continue to be held as the new effort progresses. Ms. Fry also noted that the repairs to the viaduct were more effective than anticipated, which has extended the timeframe for needing to replace the viaduct structure. Dr. Lyle Wray also noted that the change in study scope is not anticipated to lengthen the overall project timeline.

- **Commuter Parking Lots Update** – Ms. Cara Radzins shared that CRCOG met with CTDOT in early December to discuss concerns regarding insurance agreements in private commuter parking lots. Ms. Radzins noted that while details are still being worked out in Glastonbury, CTDOT has indicated that there is not an overarching effort going on to revisit and revise agreements in other towns.
- **DRAFT LOTCIP Solicitation & Schedule Update** – Ms. Sotoria Montanari gave a brief update on the DRAFT 2020 LOTCIP Project Solicitation. Ms. Montanari indicated that the Draft Project Selection Policy was subject to review by the committee this month and proposed to be approved for the January committee meeting. Comments or changes in the document were discussed at the sub-committee meeting, and additional comments may be sent via email to either Roger Krahn or Sotoria Montanari prior to the January posting. Ms. Montanari mentioned that the Solicitation proposed will be for \$35.5M.
- **Complete Streets Policy Update** – Mr. Robert Aloise gave a brief update on the Complete streets policy. Mr. Aloise stated the draft policy is being revised and will be presented in January to the subset of interested parties from the Transportation Committee that previously met regarding this issue, likely before or after Transportation Committee meeting. Any Transportation Committee members interested in joining the group are welcome and can reach out to Rob Aloise or Tim Malone to be included in invite materials.
- **Special Meeting of Bond Commission** – Mr. Rob Aloise noted that a special bond commission meeting will be held on Wednesday. It is anticipated that this meeting will include a limited measure to cover short-term CTDOT expenses, with a bigger ask anticipated in January or February. This measure will also include a limited amount of LOTCIP funds. A committee member asked if the bond commission delays are related to the issue of tolls. Dr. Lyle Wray responded that this does seem to be the case. Dr. Wray also noted that the revenue yield on truck-only tolls will only be approximately one third of the original plan. No tolling would result in a revenue loss of \$600-\$700 million.

5. **TIP Amendments** – Mr. Robert Aloise reviewed the TIP amendments and informed the committee that the two STP-Urban Construction Phases are shown as placeholders with “FYI” in the obligation year. These two items will need further TIP amendments approved by CRCOG to be finalized. The committee indicated that they may want further movement on LOTCIP prior to acting on subsequent requests to finalize STP funding for these two items. A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Jeffrey Doolittle from the Town of South Windsor to accept the TIP amendments as presented. This motion was passed unanimously.

- CT Ellington-intersection improvements at Burbank Road
- CT 140 Ellington-intersection Realignment & increase Horizontal Curves

6. LOTCIP Project Funding Increase Requests

- **Vernon Dart Hill Road Bridge Replacement** – Ms. Sotoria Montanari gave an overview of the Town of Vernon Cost Increase Request. Ms. Montanari mentioned that this project was approved under the 2017 LOTCIP Bridge Solicitation

(Phase1) and was currently in the preliminary design phase. Based on the most recent engineering estimate, the Town of Vernon is requesting a LOTCIP funding increase of \$494,400 from \$2,014,800 to \$2,509,200 (24.5% increase). Ms. Montanari mentioned that the increase to cost was to address bridge geometry and improvements in hydraulic capacity. Mr. Dave Smith of the Town of Vernon pointed out to the committee members that the bridge is located over the sharp bend of the river. To address the geometric limitations this poses, the bridge design will be expanded in width and subsequently in span length. Ms. Montanari said to incorporate necessary bridge modifications and to improve hydraulic capacity, staff recommends committee approval of an additional \$494,400 of LOTCIP funding for the Vernon (L146-0002) project increasing the funding approval from \$2,014,800 to \$2,509,200. A motion was made by Tom Roy from the Town of Simsbury, seconded by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin to approve an additional \$494,400 of LOTCIP funding for the Vernon (L146-0002) project, increasing the funding approval from \$2,014,800 to \$2,509,200. This motion was passed unanimously.

- Marlborough South Street Phase 2 Pavement Rehabilitation – Ms. Sotoria gave an overview of the Town of Marlborough Cost Increase Request. Ms. Montanari mentioned that this project was approved under the 2018 LOTCIP Solicitation (Phase2) and is currently advancing to the 90% design phase. Based on the most recent engineering estimate, the Town of Marlborough is requesting a LOTCIP funding increase of \$280,800 from \$993,600 to \$1,274,400 (28.2% increase). The increase to the overall project cost is to address drainage improvements and to extend the roadway terminus by 175 feet. Ms. Montanari mentioned specifically, the current design proposes drainage improvements that include the installation of five (5) new headwalls and end walls. Mr. Peter Hughes of Marlborough reiterated that the drainage improvements are an extension of the improvements made by the Town during the summer and fall and the Town invested over \$500,000. Ms. Montanari said to incorporate necessary revisions, staff recommends committee approval of an additional \$280,800 of LOTCIP funding for the L078-0002 project, increasing the funding approval from \$993,600 to \$1,274,400. A motion was made by Bob Jarvis from the Town of Windsor, seconded by Derek Dilaj from the Town of Mansfield to approve an additional \$280,800 of LOTCIP funding for the (L078-0002) project, increasing the funding approval from \$993,600 to \$1,274,400. This motion was passed unanimously.

7. Other Business – Mr. Jon Colman noted that he hopes that all Committee members are reaffirmed to serve on the Committee, as everyone has represented their town in an exemplary fashion. Mr. Colman wished the Committee a Happy Holiday Season and stated it is a privilege to serve with them on the Transportation Committee.

8. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.