

Transportation Committee
CRCOG, 241 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06106
Monday, September 23rd, 2019
12 Noon

**DRAFT until
Endorsed
by the
Committee**

Name

Larry Baril
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Patrice Carson
Todd Penney
Doug Wilson
Tim Webb
Jeffrey Leonowicz
Russ Arnold
Dan Pennington
Kirk Severance
Sandra Fry
Michael O'Leary
Derek Dilaj
Peter Hughes
Rob Trottier
John Bossi
Jim Sollmi
Tom Roy
Keith Hayden
Jeffrey Doolittle
Bill Hawkins
David Smith
Derrick Gregor
Duane Martin
Adam Kessler

Organization

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

Guests

Karen Isherwood
Mark Moriarty
Nelson Teseso
Mary Deppe
Charles Harlow
David Tompkins
Ken Shooshan-Stoller
Michelle Hilary
Kurt Salmoiraghi
Mike Fisher
Josh Rickman

Bloomfield
New Britain
Enfield
GHTD
Fuss & O'Neill
Gannett Fleming
FHWA-CT
FHWA-CT
FHWA-CT
BL Companies
CTtransit

Staff

Robert Aloise	CRCOG
Frank Adarkwa	CRCOG
Emily Hultquist	CRCOG
Tim Malone	CRCOG
Roger Krahn	CRCOG
Devon Lechtenberg	CRCOG
Sotoria Montanari	CRCOG
Cara Radzins	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	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.
3. **Adoption of Meeting Minutes from July 22nd, 2019** – A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin, to accept the meeting minutes from July 22nd, 2019. This motion was passed unanimously with five (5) abstentions made by: Kirk Severance from the Town of Granby, David Smith from the Town of Vernon, Keith Hayden from the Town of Southington, Jon Colman from the Town of Bloomfield, and Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough.

4. Staff Report

- **Highway Exit Renumbering** – Mr. Roger Krahn explained that per federal guidelines, Connecticut will be re-numbering its highway exits to coincide with mile markers. The distributed memorandum included a schedule, and Mr. Krahn noted that Towns will receive correspondence from CTDOT when renumbering work will be happening in their area.
- **LOTICIP Update:**
 - **On-Call Consultant Fee Schedules** – Mr. Roger Krahn updated the Committee saying that the firms on Lists 1 and 2 are available to CRCOG municipalities to contract with for LOTICIP projects. Mr. Krahn stated that CRCOG reviewed the consultant rates for conformance with Section 6 of the RFQ, and the fee schedules for all selected consultants have been approved.
 - **Budget Update** – Mr. Roger Krahn gave a brief update on the CRCOG LOTICIP funding based on recent meeting with CTDOT. He stated that CTDOT will request an additional \$18 million in bonds for CRCOG LOTICIP at the State Bond Commission meeting expected for mid-November. The available bonding balance for CRCOG LOTICIP is \$19.4 million, and the CTDOT’s budget to the state legislature for CRCOG’s LOTICIP program included \$18.76 million for SFY2020 and \$18.76 million FY2021.
 - **Draft Fund Transfer Procedure** – Mr. Roger Krahn told the Committee that the draft Fund Transfer Procedure memo was reviewed in the Subcommittee

Meeting. CRCOG staff was requested to develop revised guidelines rather than a strict policy or procedure. These guidelines should include information that the Subcommittee will need to evaluate in order to make a decision as well as information that will be needed for staff review.

- **Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Status** – Ms. Cara Radzins gave a brief update on the FY2021-2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Status. Ms. Radzins noted that following Transportation Committee and Policy Board approval of the project priority list in July, CRCOG Staff worked with RiverCOG and NVCOG to obtain the necessary signatures and application files for the Hartford TMA. These materials were delivered to CTDOT on September 17th, ahead of the September 30th deadline. Ms. Radzins noted that CTDOT will begin reviewing the applications and will reach out to Towns as needed.
- **GoCT Card Mobile App** – Mr. Jon Colman introduced Mr. Frank Adarkwa as the newest CRCOG staff member. Mr. Adarkwa shared brochures and a brief informational video on the GoCT Card, a fare payment card for CT*transit*. Mr. Adarkwa noted that CTDOT has also launched the GoCT mobile App, which allows riders to pay their bus fare, as well as see their account balance and transaction history, directly on their mobile device. Riders must select whether the app or their physical card is their primary form of payment, as only one can be active per account. Mr. Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin asked if the GoCT Card was linked to fares for the Hartford Line rail service. Mr. Josh Rickman from CT*transit* confirmed that at this point the GoCT Card can only be used for bus fares. Dr. Lyle Wray noted that the app did not work for him on a couple CTfastrak buses, but it did work on other local CTtransit vehicles.
- **2019 Consortium for Scenario Planning Conference in Hartford** – Ms. Emily Hultquist briefed the Committee on the 2019 Consortium for Scenario Planning Conference, which will be held in Hartford November 6-8. Ms. Hultquist encouraged everyone to attend, sharing that CRCOG Staff has been working diligently on its scenario planning efforts. Ms. Hultquist also noted that the event will include a CTfastrak tour.
- **DRAFT Complete Streets Policy** – Mr. Tim Malone gave a brief update on the DRAFT Complete Streets Policy. Mr. Malone mentioned that the policy will be presented and discussed at the Transportation Cost-Review Subcommittee meeting in October. Comments may be to tmalone@crcog.org ahead of time. Pending comments and associated revisions, Mr. Malone expects to seek endorsement at the October or November Transportation Committee meeting, followed by adoption by the Policy Board in November or December.
- **Other:**
 - Ms. Emily Hultquist gave a brief update on the Regional Bikeshare RFP, noting that the RFP was released over the summer and the vendor interview process concluded last week. Staff is in the process of obtaining additional information, and Ms. Hultquist expects to share a recommended vendor with the Committee in October.
 - Mr. Robert Aloise noted that future transportation funding remains uncertain, but it seems like a rescission of unused federal funds is likely. Mr. Aloise shared that through mitigation measures, CTDOT cut the anticipated loss from over

- \$100 million to approximately \$15-\$18 million. Impacted programs could include the TA Set-Aside, but Mr. Aloise said that he would keep the Committee informed as more information is available. Mr. Aloise also shared that CTDOT's ask of the Bond Commission in November is anticipated to be \$750-\$800 million, which is lower than their budget authority of \$1 billion. It appears that funding for LOTCIP will remain in the budget, so Mr. Aloise noted that Staff will begin prepping for a solicitation, with initial information to be shared in October.
- Dr. Lyle Wray shared that CRCOG is seeking to complete an economic impact analysis of Hartford-Springfield-Boston rail. Dr. Wray also noted that Staff is looking into less expensive station options that might be more obtainable. Mr. Jon Colman added that the state's reliance on federal dollars for transportation projects has resulted in a challenging budget situation. Large projects will be challenging to complete without a revenue source from within the state. It was also noted that individuals in the Boston area tend to see travel to Connecticut as an overnight trip. Dr. Wray responded that a reliable rail trip would make the trip more attractive, especially as traffic continues to be challenging on the Mass Pike.

5. TIP Amendments – Mr. Robert Aloise reviewed the TIP amendments. There was a discussion about Item 1 and whether training was an eligible expense. Mr. Kurt Salmoiraghi from FHWA confirmed that it was. A motion was made by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin, seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, to accept the TIP amendments. This motion was passed unanimously.

- 1. Motor Fuel Tax Enforcement/Training
- 2. Farmington, CT 177 Bridge Rehab, over Farmington River
- 3. Glastonbury, CT 17 Bridge Rehab
- 4. Hartford, I-84 WB to I-91 NB, Bridge Rehab
- 5. Statewide, Pin and Hangers on Fracture Critical Bridges
- 6. CTDOT District 2, Replace Highway Signs and Supports

6. Hebron: LOTCIP Project Cost Increase Request

- **Wall Street/Main Street (Routes 316 & 66) intersection improvements** – Ms. Sotora Montanari reported on the LOTCIP funding increase request for intersection Improvement Project in Hebron at intersecting state roadways. Ms. Montanari stated that this project was approved under the 2015 LOTCIP Solicitation and is currently in the application phase. Based on the most recent engineering estimate, the Town of Hebron is requesting a LOTCIP funding increase of \$919,000 (31.3% increase). The increase to the overall project cost is a result of additional traffic signalization (\$50,000), extended limits of milling and paving (\$42,000), and an allowance for utility relocations (\$25,000) to address feedback from CTDOT's application review. A motion was made by Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough, seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton to approve an additional \$219,000.00 of LOTCIP funding for the Hebron (L066-0002) project, increasing the funding approval from \$700,000 to \$919,000. This motion was passed unanimously.

- 7. Other Business** – Mr. Robert Aloise mentioned to the Committee that UConn’s T2 Center will be holding upcoming trainings regarding ADA design challenges, rural road departures, and the Center’s equipment loan program. Mr. Aloise also noted that information about Green Snow Pro workshops was distributed prior to the Committee meeting mailing. There was a discussion about concerns surrounding salt contamination of private wells. Committee members noted that water softeners, roadway salt, and salt from commercial parking lots are large contributors to the problem. It was also noted that this is a cumulative issue that will continue to be of concern moving forward.
- 8. Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.