

Transportation Committee
CRCOG, 241 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06106
Monday, January 13th, 2020
12 Noon

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Eric Anderson	Andover
Larry Baril	Avon
Chris Edge	Berlin
Jon Colman	Bloomfield
Patrice Carson	Bolton
Neil Pade	Canton
Doug Wilson	East Hartford
Donald Nunes	Enfield
Russ Arnold	Farmington
Daniel Pennington	Glastonbury
Sandra Fry	Hartford
Jeff LaMalva	Manchester
Derek Dilaj	Mansfield
Peter Hughes	Marlborough
Rob Trottier	New Britain
John Bossi	Plainville
Jim Sollmi	Rocky Hill
Tom Roy	Simsbury
Jeffrey Doolittle	South Windsor
Devin Cowperthwaite	Stafford
Bill Hawkins	Suffield
Duane Martin	West Hartford
Derrick Gregor	Wethersfield
Troy Sposato	Willington
Bob Jarvis	Windsor
Rick Baldwin	CCEJ
<u>Guests</u>	
Charles Harlow	Fuss & O'Neill
Mark Moriarty	New Britain
Jonathan Thiesse	Bloomfield
Lucien Bessette	Willington
Grayson Wright	CTDOT
<u>Staff</u>	
Robert Aloise	CRCOG
Frank Adarkwa	CRCOG
Emily Hultquist	CRCOG
Devon Lechtenberg	CRCOG
Roger Krahn	CRCOG

DRAFT until
Endorsed
by the
Committee

Sotoria Montanari	CRCOG
Caitlin Palmer	CRCOG
Cara Radzins	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	CRCOG
Dr. Lyle Wray	CRCOG

- 1. Roll Call** – Mr. Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.
- 2. Public Forum** – There was no public comment.

Mr. Jon Colman welcomed Mr. Troy Sposato from the Town of Willington to the Committee.

- 3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes-December 16th, 2019** – A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Derek Dilaj from the Town of Mansfield to accept the meeting minutes from the December 16th, 2019 meeting. This motion was passed unanimously with two (2) abstentions made by Todd Penney from the Town of Coventry and Kevin Kelly from the Town of Hebron.

4. Staff Report

- **CRCOG Complete Street Policy:** Mr. Robert Aloise provided an update on the development of a CRCOG Complete Streets Policy. Previously a Transportation Subcommittee was formed and created a DRAFT Complete Streets policy for Transportation Committee’s consideration at a prior meeting. However, the Transportation Committee raised concerns with the draft, and it was decided that a working group of the prior subcommittee and additional Transportation Committee members would meet to come to a consensus on a policy. The working group met in November and instructed staff to refine the policy. Mr. Aloise informed the Transportation Committee that the working group is scheduled to meet again immediately following this Transportation Committee meeting to further refine and potentially finalize a draft Policy for future adoption by the Policy Board. It was indicated that any Transportation Committee members wishing to participate are welcome to stay for working group meeting.
- **CTDOT Traffic Unit Reorganization:** Mr. Roger Krahn shared that CTDOT has recently reorganized its Division of Traffic Engineering, which was highlighted in a memo included in the mailing. Mr. Krahn stated that all new requests from outside partners should use the e-mail address DOT.TrafficEngineering@ct.gov for initial contact.
- **FFY2019 Federal Funding Project Obligation List:** Mr. Roger Krahn reviewed the FFY2019 Federal Funding Project List, explaining that CRCOG is required by federal regulations to share this list publicly each year. Mr. Krahn noted that the items highlighted in yellow identifies Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects.
- **LOTICIP-Quarterly Reporting:** Ms. Sotoria Montanari indicated that LOTICIP Quarterly Reporting documentation was reviewed at the prior Subcommittee meeting. She reviewed the highlights of the quarter, including:

- CTDOT issued Authorization to Award Letters in the amount of \$7,472,675 for **four (4) projects** (New Britain East Main and Myrtle, Tolland Old Cathole Road, Glastonbury House Street Multi-Use Trail, Manchester Adams Street) in Quarter 2 FY20, making total project expenditures for FY2020 \$10,090,629. CRCOG's projections for Quarter 3 FY20 expenditures are approximately \$9.6 million from six (6) projects. Ms. Montanari asked the municipalities to review their project schedule and to notify CRCOG if there were any changes. The changes would be accounted for in the next reporting.
- CRCOG received **eight (8)** Quarter 2 design submissions and anticipates receipt of **sixteen (16)** design submissions in Quarter 3 of FY2020
- **Thirty-three (33)** projects have been awarded or completed construction since program inception
- CTDOT **received five (5)** Commitment to Fund Letters (CTF) (Wethersfield Wolcott/Franklin, Wethersfield Highland, Berlin Various Roadway improvements, Windsor Archer Road, Enfield Routes 5/514 Bike Improvements). Committee members asked if advancement of CTF letters was improving and Ms. Montanari mentioned that there was improvement.

Ms. Montanari indicated that (4) municipalities were asked at Subcommittee to provide updates to their design submission schedules. The Town of Simsbury had indicated that they will be participating in a meeting with CTDOT, Districts, CRCOG and both Towns on January 14 to review aspects of the project that are prohibiting advancement of the project. The Town of Stafford had indicated they were originally replacing the deck of the bridge, but they will now need to provide support to the bridge buttresses. This addition will result in a funding increase and a required design change delaying the design submission schedule. The Town of Suffield was not available to respond, but Ms. Montanari mentioned the delay was minor. The Town of South Windsor had indicated they were delayed because of utility coordination meetings.

Ms. Montanari thanked the municipalities for their work towards advancing their projects. Ms. Montanari stated that at the next Cost Review Sub-Committee Meeting on February 24th, 2020 there will be a discussion on implementing a procedure for municipalities no longer wanting to pursue a selected LOTCIP project and for LOTCIP projects not advancing in a timely manner.

- **2020 Diesel Emission Reduction act (DERA) National Grants:** Ms. Cara Radzins shared information about the 2020 Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) National Grants. Ms. Radzins noted that the purpose of this grant program is to fund projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions and exposure. The program includes \$44 million in funding, and the maximum project size for EPA Region 1 is \$1 million. EPA anticipates awarding between two and eight projects in each region. Ms. Radzins noted that applications are due by February 26th and that EPA will host a webinar regarding the program on January 14th.
- **Other:**

- **Silver Lane (SR 502) Corridor Study-DRAFT Final Report:** Ms. Emily Hultquist told the Committee that the Executive Summary of the Silver Lane Corridor Study's DRAFT Final Report is attached to the memo that was distributed to the Committee. Ms. Hultquist stated that the full Final DRAFT Report and its Appendices will be available for download under "Reports" on the study website at <https://crcog.org/2017/05/silverlanestudy/> by the end of the week. Comments on the DRAFT documents are due to ehultquist@crcog.org by the end of the comment period, anticipated to be no later than February 15th, 2020. Ms. Hultquist remarked that the study was considered successful because the road diet recommendation was implemented through the VIP Pavement Improvement Program. Ms. Hultquist said staff will be looking for endorsement of the Silver Lane Corridor Study's recommendations by the Transportation Committee and the Policy Board at their February meetings.
 - **CMAQ Update:** Mr. Robert Aloise indicated that a solicitation for CMAQ projects was likely in the upcoming months. CRCOG staff is awaiting further guidance from CTDOT prior to releasing a solicitation, however eligibility information is expected to be similar to that of prior solicitations, which can be found on CRCOG's website: <https://crcog.org/2016/05/d-airquality/>
 - **Study Solicitations Update:** Mr. Robert Aloise informed the Committee that CTDOT has indicated that they will not be conducting a corridor study solicitation in 2020. Mr. Jon Colman inquired as to why. Mr. Aloise indicated that CTDOT had stated that there were already more than 20 studies underway and that CTDOT could not take on additional studies at this time. Mr. Colman indicated that he thought CTDOT should let the regions advance studies on their own, without CTDOT's assistance.
 - **Special Transportation Fund:** Dr. Lyle Wray indicated that it appears there are the votes in the Senate to pass truck-only tolls, that truck only tolls would likely be subject to litigation, and that revenues are projected to be substantially (about \$500 million) less than those that would be collected by tolling all vehicles. Dr. Wray indicated that a vote would be likely either in a special session or when the legislature reconvenes in early February.
 - **Transportation Climate Initiative:** Dr. Lyle Wray updated the committee on the Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI), which is a collaboration of a dozen Northeast and mid-Atlantic States to try to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the Transportation sector. Dr. Wray indicated that the Transportation sector makes up about 30-40% of the nation's GHG emissions and that he will be attending a conference in D.C. later this week to discuss the potential for MPO involvement in the initiative.
 - **New CTDOT Deputy Commissioner:** Dr. Lyle Wray informed the Committee that Garrett Eucalitto, formerly of Connecticut OPM, started this month at CTDOT as Co-Deputy Commissioner. Dr. Wray indicated that he was in the process of setting up a meeting with Mr. Eucalitto.
5. **TIP Amendments:** Mr. Robert Aloise reviewed the TIP Amendments that were presented to the Committee. A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town

of Bolton, seconded by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington to accept the TIP amendments. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. **2020 LOTCIP Solicitation-Draft Project Selection Policy:** Ms. Sotoria Montanari indicated that the Subcommittee had reviewed the DRAFT 2020 LOTCIP Project Selection Policy for the upcoming 2020 Solicitation. Ms. Montanari stated that recent revisions based on input at the December Transportation Committee meeting and included the following:
- More detailed explanation of the Ranking of Pavement Rehabilitation and Stand-Alone Sidewalks
 - More detail on eligibility requirements for projects on existing sidewalks (maintenance not eligible, but widening to achieve ADA compliance, it may be eligible, however maintaining existing sidewalks are not.
 - Project proposals are due April 22nd, 2020
 - Additional description of what constitutes receiving points for “not recently secured LOTCIP funding”
 - Ms. Montanari added that if a municipality never secured LOTCIP funding or if they have received an Authorization to Award letter on their projects by the application due date, the application may receive up to 5 additional points.

Ms. Montanari said the solicitation e-mail will be distributed on January 28th and all project proposals are due by **2:00 pm on April 22nd, 2020.**

A motion was made by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington, seconded by Bob Jarvis from the Town of Windsor to accept the Draft 2020 LOTCIP Project Solicitation. This motion was passed unanimously.

7. **Presentation – CRCOG Regional Land Use and Transportation Scenario Planning:** Mr. Robert Aloise and Ms. Emily Hultquist gave a presentation on recent CRCOG Regional Land Use and Transportation Scenario Planning efforts. Dr. Lyle Wray acknowledged the amount of work that Transportation and Policy/Planning staff had put into these initial effort. Dr. Wray noted that scenario planning is a dynamic tool that is most effective for geographies that are larger than an average parcel but smaller than a town. Ms. Hultquist added that there will be opportunities for Towns to work with CRCOG staff to utilize this software for local projects, including building out the region’s transit corridors. Mr. Jon Colman suggested that interested communities should send a letter/email to Ms. Hultquist or Mr. Aloise to express their interest and explain their potential projects. Mr. Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough noted that while scenario planning can have a very data-intensive upstart, the outputs are very useful for communities of all sizes. Ms. Hultquist mentioned that this presentation was also given at the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy’s Scenario Planning Conference which was hosted by CRCOG in Hartford in November 2019.
8. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.