

Transportation Committee
CRCOG, 241 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06106
Monday, February 24th 2020
12 Noon

Name

Eric Anderson
Larry Baril
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Patrice Carson
Todd Penney
Doug Wilson
Tim Webb
Donald Nunes
Russ Arnold
Daniel Pennington
Kirk Severance
Sandra Fry
Frank Dellaripa
Kevin Kelly
Jeff LaMalva
Peter Hughes
Rob Trottier
Gary Fuerstenberg
John Bossi
Jim Sollmi
Tom Roy
Jeffrey Doolittle
Keith Hayden
Jeff Bord
Devin Cowperthwaite
Greg Sommer
Derrick Gregor
Rick Baldwin

Organization

Andover
Avon
Berlin
Bloomfield
Bolton
Coventry
East Hartford
Ellington
Enfield
Farmington
Glastonbury
Granby
Hartford
Hartford
Hebron
Manchester
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Plainville
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
South Windsor
Southington
Somers
Stafford
West Hartford
Wethersfield
CCEJ

**DRAFT until
Endorsed
by the
Committee**

Guests

Kathryn Faraci
Jennifer Carrier
Kurt Salmoiragi
Rich Armstrong
Carl Sferrazza
Mike Fisher
Tess Schwartz

CTDOT
FHWA
FHWA
GM2 Assoc.
Enfield
BL Companies
UConn T2

Staff

Frank Adarkwa	CRCOG
Mike Cipriano	CRCOG
Noah Greer	CRCOG
Emily Hultquist	CRCOG
Roger Krahn	CRCOG
Sotoria Montanari	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.
3. **Adoption of Meeting Minutes-January 13th, 2020** – A motion was made by Tom Roy from the Town of Simsbury, seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton to accept the meeting minutes from the January 13th, 2020 meeting. This motion was passed unanimously with one (1) abstention made by Keith Hayden from the Town of Southington.

4. Staff Report

- **Regional Bikeshare Update**-Ms. Emily Hultquist gave a brief update on the Regional Bikeshare. Ms. Hultquist mentioned that they signed the master agreement with Zagster. Ms. Hultquist mentioned that the following six Towns are participating: City of Hartford, East Hartford, City of New Britain, Manchester, Newington and West Hartford. Zagster will soon be seeking advertising sponsorship of this bikeshare program.
- **T2 Center Workshop and Events: 2020 Schedule**-Mr. Roger Krahn gave a brief update on the T2 2020 CT Training and Technical Assistance Center Workshops and Events. Mr. Krahn noted that the latest schedule of year 2020 training classes offered by the UCONN T2 Center was posted. See the UCONN T2 (Connecticut Training and Technical Assistance) website for more information and registration
- **DRAFT Regional Transportation Safety Plan**-Mr. Roger Krahn explained that draft report is being prepared by VN Engineers under the direction of Joe Ouellette, CTDOT Safety Engineer. CRCOG staff performed a brief review of the draft report last week, and offered comments to VN Engineers. VN Engineers will soon distribute the draft report directly to the Towns for review and comment. The report will list the top 80 crash locations and suggested countermeasures in our region. Documentation of the input received directly from the Towns during individual town meetings will be included as an appendix to the report.
- **Transport Hartford: Multi-Modal Meetup**-Mr. Frank Adarkwa gave a brief update on Transport Hartford: Multi-Modal Meetup. Mr. Adarkwa mentioned there will be a meeting on Transit Equity Day on March 6th at Blue State Coffee, 777 Main Street, Hartford beginning at 7 am until 9:30 am. More information can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/march6transit>.

- **LOTICIP Financials/Bonding Update-** Dr. Lyle Wray mentioned to the Committee that the discussion on tolls has been withdrawn. He also mentioned that the Governor will use bond funding for capital improvements, although the bonding pool is limited. Dr. Wray indicated that a new bond bill is being drafted, and more information will be disseminated as CRCOG is updated.

Mr. Roger Krahn stated that the current balance of bonded funding for CRCOG LOTICIP projects is adequate to advance the 6 projects anticipated to be advertised by June 2020.

- **Transportation Funding: Legislative Update-** Dr. Lyle Wray gave a brief overview on the Legislative Update. He mentioned that Federal Bill is up for authorization in September with the possibility of additional funding when the House and the Senate meet. Dr. Wray says he will keep the Committee posted.
- **Other-**Mr. Jon Colman welcomed Jennifer Carrier to the meeting. She was former CRCOG Director of Transportation, and now works for FHWA.
- **USDOT Opens Up \$1B pool of BUILD GRANTS-** Mr. Roger Krahn mentioned to the Committee that the U.S. Department of Transportation issued a notice of funding opportunity on February 19 for \$1 billion of fiscal year 2020 funds offered through the agency's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant program. Mr. Krahn mentioned that the deadline to submit an application is May 18th. CRCOG offers assistance to Towns interested in pursuing a BUILD grant.
- **Municipal Collaborative on Fleet Electrification-** Mr. Mike Cipriano mentioned to the Committee that a workshop will be held on Thursday March 5th, 2020 from 9:30am until 12:30pm at 79 Elm Street, Hartford CT to discuss the available technology, local readiness studies, electric fleet experience and funding opportunities in Connecticut. Mr. Cipriano says registration can be done at <http://tinyurl.com/vlmjvku>

5. **TIP Amendments-**Mr. Roger Krahn explained that one of the 16 Traffic Signal projects in this CTDOT District 2 TIP amendment, is located in our region, on Route 275 in Mansfield. A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Jim Sollmi from the Town of Rocky hill to accept the TIP amendments. This motion was passed unanimously.

6. LOTICIP Project Funding increase Requests

- **Stafford Leonard Road Bridge Replacement (L134-0002)-** Ms. Sotoria Montanari reviewed the LOTICIP funding increase request for the Town of Stafford. Ms. Montanari mentioned the Town of Stafford is requesting a LOTICIP funding increase of \$1,217,000 from \$1,200.00 to \$2,417,000 (101% increase). The bridge has been closed to vehicular due to its poor load rating and sufficiency rating of 32.8%. To re-open the bridge, this project was initially approved in September 2018 by the Transportation Committee as an emergency rehabilitation project for \$1,200,000.

Ms. Montanari reported that the Town completed a Structure Type Study identifying three structure types, which also incorporated a Geotechnical Study with extensive efforts to investigate subsurface conditions. Ms. Montanari reported that the Structure Type Study determined it was necessary to replace existing superstructure and abutments because the abutments cannot adequately support a new superstructure. One of CRCOG's on-call consultants reviewed the information and substantiated the results.

Mr. Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough, seconded by Jim Sollmi from the Town of Rocky Hill made a motion to consider an additional \$1,217,000 of LOTCIP funding for the Stafford (L134-0002) project, increasing the funding approval from \$1,200,000 to \$2,417,000. This motion was passed unanimously. Due to the project's history and cost increases, as a condition of an approval CRCOG staff suggested that the Town consider the offering concessions in the upcoming LOTCIP solicitation. The Town agreed to reducing the maximum amount of potential LOTCIP funding in the January 2020 Solicitation (\$3,000,000) by an amount equal to this increase (\$1,217,000).

- Farmington Colt Highway South Road Roundabout (L051-0003) - Ms. Sotria Montanari mentioned that this project, currently in the application phase, was approved by the Transportation Committee in July of 2019 as a LOTCIP project funding transfer of \$955,200 from a previously awarded 2015 LOTCIP Solicitation project (Colt Highway Improvements). Based on the most recent engineering estimate, the Town of Farmington is requesting a LOTCIP funding increase of \$565,200 from \$955,200 to \$1,520,400 (59% increase). The increase to the overall project cost incorporates Complete Streets components, granite curbing and channelization as a result of an application review process by the Town's consultant and affirmed by CRCOG's on-board consultant. A motion was made by Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough, seconded by Rob Trotter from the City of New Britain to approve an additional \$565,200 of LOTCIP funding for the Farmington project, increasing the funding approval from \$955,200 to \$1,520,400. This motion was passed unanimously.

7. **Final Report: Silver Lane, East Hartford Corridor Study**-Ms. Emily Hultquist mentioned to the Committee that the Silver Lane Corridor Study Final Report was previously shared with the Transportation and Policy Board Committee at their January meetings. Ms. Hultquist also said that as part of a 30-day public comment period which closed on February 14th, 2020. Ms. Hultquist mentioned that a list of comments were received and CRCOG Staff's responses to these comments as well as the final Study Draft was posted on February 17th, 2020 at <https://crocog.org/2017/05/silverlanestudy/>. A motion was made by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton to authorize Resolution for Endorsement of the Silver Lane (SR 502) Corridor Study. This motion was passed unanimously.

- 8. Presentation: Theresa Schwartz, T2 Center, Traffic Signal Circuit Rider Assistance-**Ms. Tess Schwartz was invited by CRCROG staff to offer a presentation on the services that she can provide as Traffic Signal Circuit Rider. She specifically offers services to assist Towns in the development of Traffic Signal Management Plans. She distributed a 5 page handout, and presented slides that highlighted the 5 elements of a successful Traffic Signal Management Plan. Ms. Schwartz also described the equipment loan program that is offered through UCONN's T2 Traffic Signal Circuit Rider Program.
- 9. Other Business-** Mr. Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough mentioned to the Committee that he will be meeting with State Representatives and Eversource to discuss utility cost reimbursement on local bridge projects. Mr. Hughes says he will keep the Committee informed.
- 10. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.