

**CRCOG Transportation Committee-Special Meeting**  
**\*Acting on behalf of the Policy Board\***

**Monday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**12 Noon**

***Meeting held remotely via Zoom***

**Name**

Eric Anderson  
Larry Baril  
Chris Edge  
Jon Colman  
Patrice Carson  
Neil Pade  
Todd Penney  
Doug Wilson  
Len Norton  
Timothy Webb  
Donald Nunes  
Russ Arnold  
Daniel Pennington  
Kirk Severance  
Frank Dellaripa  
Kevin Kelly  
Jeff LaMalva  
Peter Hughes  
Rob Trottier  
Gary Fuerstenberg  
John Bossi  
Jim Sollmi  
Todd Rolland  
Tom Roy  
Annette Turnquist  
Jeffrey Doolittle  
Devin Cowperthwaite  
Bill Hawkins  
Duane Martin  
Derrick Gregor  
Troy Sposato  
Adam Kessler  
Jen Rodriguez  
Jennifer Cassidy

**Organization**

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

**DRAFT until  
Endorsed  
by the  
Committee**

**Guests**

Grayson Wright

CTDOT

Snow Peng	CTDOT
Karen Riemer	CTDOT
Kimado Simpson	CTDOT
Jennifer Carrier	FHWA
Vicki Shotland	GHTD
Mike Fisher	BL Companies
Charles Harlow	Fuss & O'Neill
James Kulpa	VHB

**Staff**

Frank Adarkwa	
Robert Aloise	CRCOG
Mike Cipriano	CRCOG
Roger Krahn	CRCOG
Ryan Faulkner	CRCOG
Devon Lechtenberg	CRCOG
Tim Malone	CRCOG
Pramod Pandey	CRCOG
Cara Radzins	CRCOG
Sotoria Montanari	CRCOG
Erik Snowden	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	CRCOG
Terri Thompson	CRCOG
Dr. Lyle Wray	CRCOG

- 1. Roll Call** – Alphabetically by Member Municipality, then others. The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by the Chair Jon Colman.
- 2. Public Forum** – No one choose to speak.
- 3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – A motion was made by Jim Sollmi from the Town of Rocky Hill, seconded by Jeff Doolittle from the Town of South Windsor to approve the August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting minutes. This motion was passed unanimously, with three (3) abstentions from Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin, Len Norton from the Town of East Windsor, and Annette Turnquist from the Town of Southington.
- 4. Staff Reports**
  - Transportation Committee meeting Announcement Protocol – Ms. Cara Radzins reviewed the Transportation Committee Meeting Announcement Protocol. Ms. Radzins reminded Committee members that each Transportation Committee meeting has unique Zoom log-in credentials and that each meeting announcement includes an .ics file so that meeting information can be added directly to Outlook calendars. Ms. Radzins mentioned that the CRCOG Staff is considering e-mailing the meeting announcements seven days prior to the Meeting (Monday morning) instead of ten days (Friday afternoon). The change is compliant with CRCOG policies and is being considered due to Friday afternoon emails sometimes

overlooked. The Transportation Committee had no problem with the change. Beginning in the Month of October, the Transportation Meeting announcement will go out on Monday mornings.

- FY2021-2024 Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Ms. Cara Radzins mentioned to the Committee that the TIP and associated Air Quality Conformity Analysis(AQCA) is available for public comment and is available on the CRCOG website: <http://www.crcog.org/tip>. Ms. Radzins stated that comments will be accepted through October 12<sup>th</sup>, with virtual public meetings being held on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Comments or questions may be submitted to Michael Cipriano at 860-724-4223 or [mcipriano@crcog.org](mailto:mcipriano@crcog.org). Ms. Radzins also said the TIP and AQCA will be brought to the Transportation Committee for endorsement and to the Policy Board for adoption at their meetings in October.
- FY2021-2024 Draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program – Ms. Radzins mentioned that the State of Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Public Involvement Procedures (PIP) are also available for review. Information on the documents and opportunities to provide input are available on CTDOT’s website [www.ct.gov/dot/stip](http://www.ct.gov/dot/stip). Comment are being accepted through October 9<sup>th</sup>, with virtual public meetings schedules for September 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Community Connectivity Grant Program – Mr. Tim Malone shared that funding is available under CTDOT’s Community Connectivity Program (CCGP). Mr. Malone also said CCGP provides construction funding for smaller scale capital improvements that will improve accommodations for bicyclists and pedestrians in urban, suburban and rural community centers. CTDOT is administering the CCGP, and grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, ranging from \$125,000 to \$600,000. Mr. Malone stated that In order to be considered for award of a grant under solicitation, Municipalities that were previously awarded a grant under the Community Connectivity Program must have progressed with their project past the point of submission of Final Design and issued a notice to proceed or Authorization to advertise their project. Guidelines for the program and an electronic application can be found at <http://ctconnectivity.com>. The application deadline is 4:00 pm on Friday October 16<sup>th</sup>. Each Municipality will be allowed to submit one application.
- Webinar on CRCOG Complete Streets Plan and Policy – Mr. Malone shared that an upcoming webinar will feature a presentation on CRCOG’s development of the State’s first Regional Complete Streets Policy and how CRCOG is taking a leadership role in advancing safe streets and active transportation within the region and beyond. The webinar will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 2:30pm and will be eligible for 1.5 AICP CM credits. Registration information is available on the CRCOG website.
- **CTrides** Quarterly Report – Mr. Frank Adarkwa gave a brief update on the **CTrides** Quarterly Report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2020. Mr. Adarkwa noted that website development continued to take priority in the 2nd Quarter with a focus on responsiveness testing and content development. **CTrides** also developed three webinars related to teleworking, and the sessions averaged 81 attendees. Mr. Adarkwa shared that the pilot episode of the “Along the Lines” podcast, featuring Rich Andreski, was released. This episode posed the question “Is public transportation dead?” and covered issues related to on public transportation during the COVID-19 era. Due to the inability of the **CTrides** outreach team to physically

visit worksites, CT**rides** began the development of a “virtual room” to enable them host events remotely for interested partners. The outreach team conducted 151 virtual meetings and events with its worksite partners. At the end of the quarter, CT**rides** had 314 participating organizations.

- T2 Center Speed Management Program – Ms. Terri Thompson provided information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Connecticut’s statistics for 2016-2019. Data shows that fifty percent (50%) of fatal and serious-injury crashes included “exceeded speed limit” or “too fast for conditions” as a contributing factor and occurred on Connecticut’s rural, town-owned roads. Ms. Thompson discussed the CT Training and Technical Assistance Center’s (T2 Center) new Speed Display/Driver Feedback Sign Program being funded through the High Risk Rural Road Safety program. The T2 Center will be providing two (2) signs to each eligible municipality, at no cost, and provide training, oversee installation, connect the signs to the Cloud-based software, and assist with monitoring the signs and data reporting. Additionally, town representatives, and a representative from CRCOG will be invited to attend a free speed management full day training. The program runs for two years, and the T2 Center is in the process of procuring the signs and will contact the eligible municipalities directly. A handout was included with the meeting posting providing further information on speed management countermeasures and listing of eligible towns.
- Other – Dr. Lyle Wray mentioned to the Committee that they are 16 days left of the current Federal Funding Authorization. Dr. Wray said he believes a continuing resolution will be put in place. Dr. Wray also mentioned that a Shared Federal Lobbyist is being retained for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and CRCOG. This arrangement will give direct access to Washington DC for matters relating to transportation funding.

Mr. Rob Aloise gave an update on CTDOT Personnel Changes, noting that the following two new Bureau Chiefs have been appointed: Scott Hill, Chief Engineer and Bureau of Engineering and Construction, and Kimberly Lesay, Bureau Chief for Policy and Planning. Mr. Aloise mentioned that CTDOT Deputy Commissioner Garrett Eucalitto will be speaking at the Policy Board on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Aloise also mentioned that a meeting was held with Mr. Hugh Hayward and his staff regarding the LOTCIP Program. Mr. Aloise said they spoke about schedule lapses due to delayed responses from CTDOT. He stated that the addition of a third reviewer will improve CTDOT response time. Mr. Aloise also noted that they discussed the 15% cap on Pavement Rehab and Stand-Alone Sidewalk projects. Mr. Aloise said CTDOT did not provide much flexibility, as they would like to limit the amount that goes towards maintenance type projects. It was also mentioned that new guidelines will be coming out soon, clarifying bridge service life criteria. Mr. Aloise also mentioned that CTDOT submitted their budget for FY22-23 to OPM, which includes \$67 million for LOTCIP projects. He stated that CTDOT anticipates a difficult budget year, with the STF in poor shape due to reduced revenues as a result of COVID-19. Mr. Jon Colman from the Town of Bloomfield asked how the LOTCIP allocations match up against the STP Urban allocations, noting that they should be equal. Mr. Aloise responded that they should be equal but may begin to lag a bit. Mr. Colman noted that it will be important to fix this issue before the gaps grows large. Mr. Aloise said he will send this comment to CTDOT.

## 5. TIP Amendments

- They were no TIP Amendments for action this month.

**6. LOTCIP Awards** – Ms. Sotoria Montanari indicated that six (6) municipalities were being recognized for their LOTCIP projects. The projects recognized were from the time period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020. She stated that although it is challenging to select specific projects/municipalities to recognize in the LOTCIP program, it is important to at least acknowledge those projects that are “firsts” (in the program) and that expedite the design and delivery process. The recognized projects are as follows:

1. The first to be recognized is the quickest reconstruction project to advance through design and into construction was Windsor’s Day Hill Road. Ms. Montanari said the project is a 4-lane roadway, classified as a minor arterial, encompassing 1,900 linear feet. The roadway connects Interstate 91 and State Route 75. Additionally, Ms. Montanari stated Windsor had the quickest pavement rehabilitation project to advance through design and construction, Kennedy Road. Ms. Montanari said the roadway is classified as collector and the project was on the northbound side, 4,500 linear feet and spanned from I-91 to the Windsor Locks town line.
2. The next project recognized was the second quickest reconstruction project to advance through design and construction: Plainville’s Northwest Drive. Ms. Montanari stated the project spanned 4,300 linear feet, the roadway was classified as an urban minor arterial, and connects Plainville with other communities, I-84, and State Routes 177, 10, and 72.
3. Rocky Hill’s Dividend Road was the second quickest pavement rehabilitation project to advance through design and construction recognized. Ms. Montanari stated it is classified as an urban collector, is 5,870 linear feet, and provides access to I-91 and State Routes 9 and 99.
4. Ms. Montanari also recognized Coventry’s Folly Lane Replacement Bridge as the first bridge to be issued an Authorization to Award Letter. The bridge replaces a functionally obsolete bridge and is currently in construction but was the first bridge out of design.
5. Glastonbury’s House Street Multi-Use Trail is the first trail that completed the design process and is currently in construction. The trail spans 2,800 feet and will resemble another trail that was completed in 2012.
6. Ms. Montanari also recognized Granby’s stand-alone sidewalk project located on State Route 10/202, which is the first such project to complete design and construct 2,200 feet of new sidewalk.

Ms. Montanari and Mr. Jon Colman congratulated all the municipalities recognized for their efforts in expediting the project design advancement.

**7. Presentation: Snow Peng, CTDOT, ADA Planning Initiatives** – Ms. Snow Peng gave a brief update on CTDOT’s ADA Initiatives. Her presentation included a discussion of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), CTDOT’s ADA Transition Plan, and ADA design standards. Ms. Peng also discussed CTDOT’s use of the GIS-based Curb Ramp Collector, noting that it will be used to generate a list of location for projects moving forward. Ms. Peng added that the data can be used to identify accessible routes and that municipalities with ESRI licenses will be able to import and export data. Members

of the Committee discussed the need for CTDOT to conduct field visits and coordinate with municipalities when designing curb ramps. There was also discussion related to the lessening of ADA penalties in instances where municipalities do have an ADA Transition Plan. It was noted that Ms. Peng's contact information and links to the materials she references are available in a handout that was posted on the meeting's event webpage; her presentation is also available there.

**8. Other Business-**There was no other business discussed.

**9. Adjourn-**The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Rob Trottier from the City of New Britain.