

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 13, 2020
TO: CRCOG Policy Board
FROM: Lyle Wray, CRCOG
SUBJECT: Designation of CRCOG as an Economic Development District

Attached please find a resolution authorizing the CRCOG Policy Board Chair to sign a letter requesting that the US Economic Development Administration (EDA) designate CRCOG as an Economic Development District. This follows successful development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), which was recently approved by the EDA and earlier by the state of Connecticut. We have also received support letters from more than half of CRCOG municipalities, as required by US EDA.

The next steps for our EDD designation are straight forward:

- We are required to submit a packet of information, most of which is already compiled.
- The application review process can be lengthy as it involves reviews by multiple departments at EDA, including their legal department.

We will keep you updated as we go through the process. Following designation, we will be able to apply for an annual planning grant, which in previous years has been around \$70,000 per year. The grant requires us to match it on a one-to-one basis. Additional opportunities should arise as a result of this designation as well.

Attachment: Authorizing resolution