

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 9, 2020  
**TO:** CRCOG Policy Board  
**CC:** Lyle Wray, Executive Director, Rob Aloise Planning Director  
**FROM:** Tim Malone, Community Development Deputy, CRCOG  
**SUBJECT: US EDA Grant Application Procedures**

In December of 2019, the MetroHartford Future report, our region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), was approved by the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Since then, we have applied to become a federally recognized Economic Development District (EDD), though our designation has not yet been approved. The regional CEDS allows municipalities, universities, and non-profits in the region to apply for EDA grants for projects.

As the "keepers of the CEDS", the EDA will be looking to CRCOG to help prioritize grant requests to the EDA by writing letters of support. Furthermore, the EDA would like to see this process be organized on our end, so that only one project sponsor at a time is requesting EDA funding. At the present time, staff have been contacted by three project sponsors in the region looking for support for EDA grant applications.

Normally, an EDD would form a subcommittee to make recommendations about project prioritization. Even though we are not yet an EDD, we will need to start setting up our committee structure in anticipation of designation. We recommend two actions:

- Rename the CEDS Implementation Committee to the CEDS Update and Review Committee;
- Form a CEDS Project Committee

The CEDS Update and Review Committee would be charged with maintaining the broader strategic direction of the CEDS. They would review progress on the CEDS and make recommendations for updates and changes. The CEDS Project Committee would review project support requests and make recommendations to the CRCOG Policy Board (which also serves as the Board for the CRCOG EDD) regarding prioritization.

In the meantime, we recommend that the Policy Board authorize letters of support for the following entities, in the order in which applications are received:

- University of Hartford – Academic Buildings Project: a STEM-based learning environment (application in Quarter 1 of the Federal FY2021)
- East Hartford – Goodwin University Stormwater Drainage (Quarter 2 of Federal FY2021)
- Community Solutions – Swift Factory Hartford Public Library Branch (Quarter 3 of Federal FY2021)

## **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A CEDS UPDATE AND REVIEW COMMITTEE AS WELL AS A CEDS PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, in 2019, the Capitol Region Council of Governments developed the Metro Hartford Future Plan using a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA); **and**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Connecticut and the U.S. EDA have approved the plan; **and**

**WHEREAS**, CRCOG has applied to become an Economic Development District (EDD); **and**

**WHEREAS**, CRCOG will be required to update and evaluate its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) annually; **and**

**WHEREAS**, CRCOG previously formed a CEDS Implementation Committee; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the EDA will look require that projects seeking EDA funding obtain a letter of support from CRCOG;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the **CRCOG Policy Board** authorizes the **CEDS Implementation Committee** to be renamed the **CEDS Update and Review Committee** which will be tasked with reviewing the **CEDS** and making recommendations for changes and updates. Furthermore, the **CRCOG Policy Board** authorizes the formation of the **CEDS Project Review Committee** which will be tasked with reviewing potential **EDA** grant applications and making recommendations regarding letters of support to the **CRCOG Policy Board**.

### **CERTIFICATE**

The undersigned duly qualified Secretary of the Capitol Region Council of Governments certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Capitol Region Council of Governments Policy Board on November 18, 2020.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lori L. Spielman, Secretary