

Capitol Region Council of Governments
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106
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Policy Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 18, 2020
12:00 pm

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

**Meeting access was remote only, consistent with provisions specified in
CT Governor Executive Order No. 7B. This meeting was recorded.
Audio may be found here: <https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-24/>**

Members and Alternates

Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Sandra Pierog
Mark Walter
John Elsesser
Jim Hayden
Marcia Leclerc
Lori Spielman
C.J. Thomas
Vicki Shotland
Chip Beckett
John Ward
Scott Shanley
Brock Weber
Robert Lee
John Mehr
Maria Capriola
Mark Sciota
Matt Hart
Shari Cantor
Michael Rell
Erika Wiczenski
Peter Souza
Chris Kervick

Town/Organization

Berlin
Bloomfield
Bolton
Columbia
Coventry
East Granby
East Hartford
Ellington
Farmington
GHTD
Glastonbury
Granby
Manchester
New Britain
Plainville
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
Southington
West Hartford
West Hartford
Wethersfield
Willington
Windsor
Windsor Locks

Staff

Rob Aloise
Cheryl Assis
Winsome Barnaby
Kimberly Bona
Mike Cipriano
Caitlin Palmer
Lynne Pike Di-Santo
Laura Quintiliani

CRCOG
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Cara Radzins
Lyle Wray
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG
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CRCOG

Guests

Sara Bronin
Doug Suisman
Alex Johnson
Randy Collins
Priscilla Cotta
Grayson Wright
Jonathan Ferrigno
Jennifer Carrier
Kathie Lutz

Capital Workforce Partners
CCM
CTDOT
CTDOT
Eversource
FHWA
Rome Smith Lutz

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chairperson Mayor Marcia Leclerc called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm. Kim Bona conducted roll call.

Dr. Wray stated Kim Bona will moving to other duties at CRCOG going forward. Kim introduced her successor, Laura Quintiliani to the board. Laura will be starting at CRCOG tomorrow. Mayor Leclerc welcomed Laura.

2. Public Comment:

Jonathan Ferrigno of Eversource stated that the enrollment period for the COVID-19 payment plan has been extended from November 1, 2020 to February 9, 2021. This payment plan is for customers who don't qualify for other hardship programs. Customers can apply for this program on the Eversource website under the "Payment Plan" tab or by calling Customer Service.

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc asked if Eversource had considered designing social media clips that CRCOG and towns can share when sought out as a resource for information. Mr. Ferrigno will speak with the social media team at Eversource and update CRCOG.

3. Approval of Minutes from October 28, 2020:

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc requested a motion to adopt the minutes.

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the Policy Board Meeting minutes from October 28, 2020. Chris Edge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Correspondence/Handouts:

None.

5. MONTHLY REPORTS:

a. Chair and [Executive Director](#)

Dr. Wray noted that we are still waiting to hear a decision on the Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant. The grant is for approximately \$10 million with matching funds and was initially expected considered by October 31, 2020 but has been pushed to November 30, 2020. The implementation date is expected to be January 1, 2021.

The Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) is currently conducting six public policy studies of interest to towns. Dr. Wray is involved in two of these studies, the first being Best Practice for Local Governments, which is in a completed draft form. The second is Improved Shared Services Offerings for Towns, also in completed draft form. Both drafts have been sent to ACIR. The Policy Board will be notified when these studies are approved.

Dr. Wray also has received the list of President-Elect Joe Biden’s “Build Back Better” transition teams, which can be found [by clicking here](#).

b. Opportunities and Resources

Chris Kervick has agreed to chair the Legislative Committee. A committee meeting will be held this week and a legislative packet will be provided to Chairperson Marcia Leclerc. The committee is open to members. If you wish to volunteer, please let Laura Quintiliani know and you will be added to the list.

c. [Municipal Services and Purchasing Council](#)

d. [Policy and Planning](#)

e. [Public Safety and Homeland Security](#)

f. [Transportation Committee](#)

g. MetroHartford Alliance

h. Capital Workforce Partners

At this time, Mayor Leclerc addressed the action items on the agenda.

ACTION ITEMS:

7. Action: Memo and Resolution Authorizing the Formation of a CEDS Update and Review Committee and CEDS Project Review Committee

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc recognized Tim Malone. CRCOG’s CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) was completed in 2019 and approved by the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Since then, CRCOG has applied to become an Economic Development District (EDD). The regional CEDS allows

municipalities, nonprofits, and universities to apply for grants from the EDA. The EDA would like CRCOG to help prioritize grant applications and write letters in support of same in the order they were received. Although the EDD has not been approved yet, the CEDS Implementation Committee would like to be renamed to the CEDS Update and Review Committee and then form a separate committee called the CEDS Project Committee to review projects and recommend to the policy board that letters of support be written. The resolution would form the new committee and rename the existing committee.

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Formation of a CEDS Update and Review Committee and CEDS Project Review Committee. Chris Kervick seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Metropolitan Planning Organization

8. Action: TIP Amendments

There were no TIP Amendments.

9. Action: Resolution – Transit Priority Corridors Implementation Strategy

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the Resolution – Transit Priority Corridors Implementation Strategy, authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the consulting firm Nelson\Nygaard. Dr. Chip Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

10. Action: Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program: Confirmation of Project Support

Jon Colman made a motion to confirm support of the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program. Dr. Chip Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

11. Action: Draft FY2021-2025 Capital Plan – CRCOG Staff Comment Letter

No action taken.

At this time, Mayor Leclerc resumed order of the agenda and addressed the presentations.

6. PRESENTATIONS/UPDATES

- **Hartford 400 Initiative, Doug Suisman**

Doug Suisman presented on behalf of the Hartford 400 Initiative. To see his presentation, please see the links below:

[HARTFORD 400 CRCOG presentation 11.18.2020](#)

[VIDEO RIVER ROAD 400 South to North](#)

[VIDEO RIVER ROAD 400 North to South](#)

[VIDEO MIDTOWN 400](#)

- **Desegregate CT, Sara Bronin**

Sara Bronin presented on behalf of Desegregate CT, a coalition of community members and nonprofit organizations. To see her presentation, please see the link below.

[DESEGREGATE CT](#)

At this time, Mayor Leclerc resumed order of the agenda, addressing item 12.

INFORMATION/OPPORTUNITY/RESOURCE ITEMS

12. CRCOG Legislative Committee update and legislative update

Dr. Wray explained that the CRCOG Legislative Committee will hold their first call tomorrow. Updates will follow.

Kathie Lutz provided a brief update to the board. She explained that she is believes the special session will be held remotely due to COVID.

13. Other Business

None.

14. Adjournment

With no further discussion items, Chairperson Mayor Leclerc requested a motion to adjourn.

Jon Colman moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:31pm. Lori Spielman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.