

Cost Review Sub-Committee Meeting
CRCOG, 241 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT 06106
Monday December 16th, 2019
11:00 AM

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Larry Baril	Avon
Chris Edge	Berlin
Jon Colman	Bloomfield
Patrice Carson	Bolton
Doug Wilson	East Hartford
Donald Nunes	Enfield
Russ Arnold	Farmington
Kirk Severance	Granby
Sandy Fry	Hartford
Jeff LaMalva	Manchester
Peter Hughes	Marlborough
Rob Trottier	New Britain
Jim Sollmi	Rocky Hill
Tom Roy	Simsbury
Jeffrey Doolittle	South Windsor
Devin Cowperthwaite	Stafford
David Smith	Vernon
Greg Sommer	West Hartford
Bob Jarvis	Windsor
Jen Rodriguez	Windsor Locks

DRAFT until
Endorsed by
the
Committee

<u>Guests</u>	
Jonathan Thiesse	Bloomfield

<u>Staff</u>	
Robert Aloise	CRCOG
Roger Krahn	CRCOG
Sotoria Montanari	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	CRCOG

1. **Roll Call** – Mr. Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 11:00 am
2. **Public Forum** – There was no public comment.
3. **Adoption of October 21, 2019 Subcommittee Meeting Minutes** – A motion was made by Jim Sollmi from the Town of Rocky Hill, seconded by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington to accept the October 21st, Subcommittee Meeting Minutes. This motion was passed unanimously.
4. **LOTICIP Project Funding Increase Requests**
 - **Vernon Dart Hill Road Bridge Replacement** - Ms. Sotoria Montanari gave an overview of the Town of Vernon Funding Increase Request. Ms. Montanari mentioned

that this project was approved under the 2017 LOTCIP Bridge Solicitation (Phase 1) and was currently in the preliminary design phase. Based on the most recent engineering estimate, the Town of Vernon is requesting a LOTCIP funding increase of \$494,400 from \$2,014,800 to \$2,509,200 (24.5% increase). Ms. Montanari mentioned that the increase to cost was to address bridge geometry and improvements in hydraulic capacity. Specifically, Ms. Montanari stated the bridge width was being expanded by (4) four feet. As a result of the expansion, the span length had to be increased by (20) twenty feet. Ms. Montanari stated that the hydraulic capacity was improved from 31% of the 100-year Hockanum River discharge to 88%. With these additional costs combined with increases to percentage based estimating items (such as minor items, inflation, incidentals, contingencies, etc. resulted in the total estimated cost increase of \$494,400. Mr. Dave Smith of the Town of Vernon pointed out to the committee members that the bridge is located over the sharp bend of the river. To address the geometric limitations this poses, the bridge design will be expanded in width and subsequently in span length. Ms. Montanari said to incorporate necessary bridge modifications and to improve hydraulic capacity, staff recommends committee approval of an additional \$494,400 of LOTCIP funding for the Vernon (L146-0002) project increasing the funding approval from \$2,014,800 to \$2,509,200. A motion was made by Bob Jarvis from the Town of Windsor, seconded by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin to approve this cost increase request. This motion was passed unanimously.

- **Marlborough South Street Phase 2 pavement Rehabilitation** - Ms. Sotoria gave an overview of the Town of Marlborough Cost Increase Request. Ms. Montanari mentioned that this project was approved under the 2018 LOTCIP Solicitation (Phase 2) and is currently advancing to the 90% design phase. Based on the most recent engineering estimate, the Town of Marlborough is requesting a LOTCIP funding increase of \$280,800 from \$993,600 to \$1,274,400 (28.2% increase). The increase to the overall project cost is to address drainage improvements and to extend the roadway terminus by 175 feet. Ms. Montanari mentioned specifically, the current design proposes drainage improvements that include the installation of five (5) new headwalls and end walls. This installation will also improve drainage in the shoulder by grading swales and replacing new catch basins at a total cost of approximately \$189,000. The drainage improvements identified will match up with the over \$500,000 in drainage improvements the Town invested in (non-participating cost) during the summer/fall. Additionally, the current design proposes a project extension of 175 feet because the roadway improvements originally identified for Phase 2 were completed in LOTCIP South Main Street Phase 1 (L078-0001). The additional costs for the mill and paving amount to \$21,000. These additional costs combined with increases to percentage based estimating items (such as minor items, inflation, incidentals, contingencies, etc. resulted in the total estimated cost increase of \$280,800. Mr. Peter Hughes of Marlborough reiterated that the drainage improvements are an extension of the improvements made by the Town during the summer and fall and the Town invested over \$500,000. Ms. Montanari said to incorporate necessary revisions, staff recommends committee approval of an additional \$280,800 of LOTCIP funding for the L078-0002 project, increasing the funding approval from \$993,600 to \$1,274,400. A motion was made by Jim Sollmi from the Town of Rocky Hill, seconded by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington. This motion was passed unanimously.

- 5. Draft 2020 LOTCIP Project Solicitation** – Mr. Rob Aloise began the discussion regarding the proposed 2020 LOTCIP Solicitation. He indicated that although the state budget has not been approved, CRCOG is continuing to advance by preparing for the solicitation. Mr. Aloise indicated that other COG projects are overprogrammed and the recommendation from CTDOT is to continue to solicit and advance projects. Mr. Aloise stated that the CRCOG LOTCIP budget is anticipated to be \$37M over the next two years and he indicated the Solicitation totals were based on that amount.

Additionally, Ms. Sotoria Montanari and Mr. Roger Krahn gave a brief update on the DRAFT 2020 LOTCIP Project Solicitation. Ms. Montanari indicated that the Draft Project Selection Policy was subject to review by the committee this month and proposed to be approved for the January committee meeting. Comments suggesting various minor document edits and clarifications were provided and additional comments can be provided via email to either Roger Krahn or Sotoria Montanari prior to the January posting. Ms. Montanari mentioned that the Solicitation as proposed will be for \$35.5M and she reviewed the time frame for deliverables provided in the memo. Ms. Montanari stated the specific project category amounts were also listed. She explained that the pavement rehabilitation /stand-alone sidewalk projects may amount to not more than 15% of the Solicitation per CTDOT guidelines. The bicycle/pedestrian project maximum was increased from \$700,000 to \$1M based on historical data. Also, Ms. Montanari pointed out the rural set-aside was increased because it is 10% of the total.

Mr. Roger Krahn explained the project rating criteria changes that were made compared to the prior 2017 Solicitation. Changes in the Reconstruction project category include, 1) increasing Traffic Safety & Operations by 1 point from 15 to 16, 2) decreasing Environmental by 3 points, from 15 to 12; and 3) increasing Complete Streets by 2 points from 14 to 16. Changes in the Pavement Rehabilitation & Stand Alone-Sidewalk categories include, 1) decreasing Traffic Volume or Transit Ridership by 5 points from 15 to 10, and 2) adding a Complete Streets category with 5 points. No changes are suggested to the prior Bicycle & Pedestrian category. Committee members noted an error in the Memo for the 2017 Bicycle & Pedestrian Category - Serving Vulnerable Users was incorrectly shown as 0 instead of 5.

There were several policy questions regarding CTDOT's LOTCIP guidelines:

- Is the pavement rehabilitation 15% amount set in stone by CTDOT?
- Can Towns have projects that encompass ADA improvements only?
- Will CTDOT approve projects that replace or repair existing sidewalks?

Mr. Aloise indicated CRCOG had a meeting scheduled with CTDOT and would advocate for and ask for clarification on the questions.

Mr. Jon Colman mentioned action would be taken at the January 13th, 2020 Cost Review Sub-Committee meeting.

- 6. Other Business** - Mr. Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough informed the committee of continuing issues regarding unmerited Eversource charges for utility relocations associated with town bridge and roadway projects. Mr. Rob Aloise stated CRCOG staff would follow up and keep the committee informed of updates.
- 7. Adjourn**-The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am