

Capitol Region Council of Governments
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106
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Policy Board Special Meeting
CRCOG Offices, 241 Main Street, 3rd Floor Board Room, Hartford, CT 06106
Wednesday, December 18, 2019
12:00 pm
DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

Members and Alternates

Eric Anderson
Chris Edge
Sandra Pierog
Jon Colman
Robert Bessel
John Elsesser
Jim Hayden
Jason Bowsza
Lori Spielman
John Ward
Vas Srivastava
Scott Shanley
Robert Lee
Lisa Marotta
John Mehr
Rob Phillips
Bill Hawkins
Michael Rosen
Shari Cantor
Peter Souza
Chris Kervick

Town/Organization

Andover
Berlin
Bolton
Bloomfield
Canton
Coventry
East Granby
East Windsor
Ellington
Granby
Hartford
Manchester
Plainville
Rocky Hill
Rocky Hill
Southington
Suffield
Tolland
West Hartford
Windsor
Windsor Locks

Staff

Rob Aloise
Cheryl Assis
Winsome Barnaby
Kimberly Bona
Emily Hultquist
Lyle Wray
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG
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CRCOG

Guests

Courtney Hendricson
Maureen Lawrence
Mark Massaro

CERC
CTDOT
Eversource

Andra Ingalls
Kathie Lutz

Plainville Intern
Rome Smith Lutz

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Mayor Marcia Leclerc called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

2. Public Comment:

None.

3. Approval of Minutes from November 20, 2019:

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc requested a motion to adopt the minutes.

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the Policy Board Meeting minutes from November 20, 2019. Robert Lee seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Correspondence/Handouts:

- [HBJ Article re: As Lamont's workforce council convenes, Metro Hartford visionaries roll out regional economic plan](#)

Mayor Leclerc requested a list of the towns who have submitted their endorsement letters to CRCOG in support of the economic development district. Kim Bona will send this information to the board.

5. MONTHLY REPORTS:

a. Chair and Executive Director

Dr. Wray stated a meeting was held last week with Mayor Leclerc and John Emra from AT&T, to discuss 5G. He explained that CRCOG may create a master agreement template in the future for municipalities to work from.

Dr. Wray expressed the importance of coordinating state and regional innovation dashboards, stating we must know what it is we are striving for and have a picture in mind of what it is we want.

Dr. Wray stated that he will be meeting with newly elected officials and administrative staff beginning in January.

Dr. Wray asked the Board if there were any questions on the monthly report. There were none.

b. Opportunities and Resources

Dr. Wray stated on February 28th, there will be a forum on retaining college graduates and other talent at the LOB in Room 3B from 8:30 am- 10:30 am.

c. Municipal Services and Purchasing Council

Peter Souza provided the following update to the board:

- CRCOG is issuing an RFP for on call Human Resources consultant services.
- Bid updates: the following bids opened 12/12/19: gasoline, traffic guidelines, stormwater monitoring services, catch basin cleaning & disposal services, and portable toilets
- We will be issuing bids for Grass Seed and Fertilizer in early January
- We are requesting quantities for fuel oil and recycling bins
- CRCOG staff is conducting a baseline Regional Assessment benchmark study. A survey was sent on 12/16/19 as part of the study.

Later in the meeting, there are two action items related to MSC:

- A Resolution to apply for 4 Regional Performance Incentive Program Grants.
- Action to approve the report to OPM evaluations of PSAPs and Assessments in the region and regional services priority areas for CRCOG.

d. Policy and Planning

Emily Hultquist provided the following update to the board:

- FEMA gave us final approval of CRNHMP on November 7th. The plan is good until November 6, 2024. With plan in effect, towns and cities can apply to DEMHS for FEMA mitigation grants. We will be printing a few copies for each town and distributing them soon.
- CRCOG has submitted an application for a \$300,000 Brownfields Assessment grant. The grant proposal highlighted several sites along the CTfastrak and CTrail Corridors, most of which are in or near opportunity zones which were a priority of EPA in this round of funding. If this grant is awarded to CRCOG, all towns in the region have the opportunity to apply for these funds.
- There will be a Corridor Advisory Committee Meeting on January 14th at the CRCOG offices in the 3rd floor Board Room – 8:30 AM networking & light refreshments, 9 AM – 10:30 meeting.
- CRCOG is working with the CT Chapter of the American Planning Association to put on a January 15th forum at the LOB, Room 1 B – 10 AM to 12 Noon on bringing an accredited urban planning graduate degree to one or more

Connecticut colleges or universities. The event will feature a keynote presentation from the President of the National Planning Accreditation Board.

e. Public Safety and Homeland Security

Lori Spielman provided the following update to the board:

- The second Governor’s EPPI Exercise for our region scheduled for yesterday had to be postponed again and they are working on a date for January. All towns are strongly encouraged to participate.
- We have a quarterly Capitol Region Emergency Planning Council meeting on January 16th. The Bradley Fire Department is scheduled to present on the October plane crash. All are welcome to attend.

f. Transportation Committee

Jon Colman provided the following update to the Board:

- **I-84 Hartford Project (Viaduct Project)** - CTDOT is no longer seeking resolution of the NEPA process for this project. Instead it is being replaced by the Greater Hartford Mobility Study, which considers a larger geographic area (most of Hartford and the west side of East Hartford) and more transportation modes.
- **December Bond Commission** – December Transportation bond commission met today. Requests were only to keep projects moving that were previously approved and budgeted and will fund the Department of Transportation through the next couple months. CTDOT hopes to bring their major FY2020 funding ask in front of the bond commission in January (or February) pending a resolution of the transportation revenue & budget issues.
- **DRAFT LOTCIP Solicitation** – A LOTCIP solicitation will be made available soon, which is being prepared for and progressed assuming funding is eminent.

g. Capital Workforce Partners

The Annual Consortium of CEO’s was held at 11:00 am prior to the start of the Policy Board meeting.

6. PRESENTATION / UPDATES:

None.

ACTION ITEMS:

7. ACTION: Resolution to Move CRCOG Nominating Committee report from December to January

Jon Colman made a motion to accept the Resolution to Move CRCOG Nominating Committee report from December to January as presented. John Elsesser seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

8. ACTION: 2020 CRCOG Legislative Agenda

John Elsesser made a motion to approve the 2020 CRCOG Legislative Agenda as presented. Jon Colman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9. ACTION: Resolution Authorizing CRCOG Executive Director to Sign for OPM RPIP Grants on Behalf of a Number of Capitol Region Towns

Chris Kervick made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing CRCOG Executive Director to Sign for OPM RPIP Grants on Behalf of a Number of Capitol Region Towns. Jon Colman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

10. ACTION: Approval to Endorse OPM Report re: Priority Regional Opportunities for CRCOG

Jon Colman made a motion to endorse the OPM Report re: Priority Regional Opportunities from CRCOG as presented. Robert Lee seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Items:

11. ACTION: TIP Amendments

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the TIP amendments as presented. Robert Lee seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

12. ACTION: Resolution Supporting Targets for Five Safety Performance Measures Established by CTDOT

Jon Colman made a motion to accept the Resolution Supporting Targets for Five Safety Performance Measures Established by CTDOT as presented. Robert Lee seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

INFORMATION/OPPORTUNITY/RESOURCE ITEMS

13. [ACIR Report](#)

14. [Letter from US EDA re: CEDS](#)

15. Legislative update

Kathie Lutz provided the following update to the board:

The bond commission met this morning for the last meeting of the year.

While Governor Lamont is still holding up some bonding, a surprising number of requests were approved.

Both CT House and Senate are scheduled for today to address two holdover issues from the regular session. Tipped restaurant workers and a hospital settlement that goes back to the last administration.

16. Other Business

Mayor Leclerc stated Jon Colman will take the lead in forming an adhoc committee to discuss a strategic direction regarding the upcoming search for CRCOG's next Executive Director, as Dr. Wray stated he will be retiring in 2020. Any board members interested in serving on this committee, please let Mayor Leclerc, Jon Colman or Kim Bona know.

17. Adjournment

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

Jon Colman moved to adjourn the meeting. Robert Lee seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:07 pm.