

Capitol Region Council of Governments
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106
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Policy Board Meeting
CRCOG Offices, 241 Main Street, 3rd Floor Board Room, Hartford, CT 06106
Wednesday, February 26, 2020
12:00 pm
DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

Members and Alternates

Eric Anderson
Brandon Robertson
Chris Edge
Sandra Pierog
Jon Colman
Bob Bessel
Mark Walter
Jim Hayden
Marcia Leclerc
Lori Spielman
Chip Beckett
Kayla Reasco
Scott Shanley
Toni Moran
Brock Weber (via phone)
Robert Lee
John Mehr
Mark Sciota
Mike Rosen
Matt Hart (via phone)
Erika Wicewski
Chris Kervick

Town/Organization

Andover
Avon
Berlin
Bolton
Bloomfield
Canton
Columbia
East Granby
East Hartford
Ellington
Glastonbury
Hartford
Manchester
Mansfield
New Britain
Plainville
Rocky Hill
Southington
Tolland
West Hartford
Willington
Windsor Locks

Staff

Rob Aloise
Cheryl Assis
Kimberly Bona
Emily Hultquist
Roger Krahn
Lyle Wray
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG
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Guests

Maureen Lawrence
Mark Massaro

CTDOT
Eversource

Jonathan Ferrigno
Britt Foulds
Kathie Lutz
Casey Hardin

Eversource
Office of US Senator Murphy
Rome Smith Lutz
TranSystems

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Mayor Marcia Leclerc called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

2. Public Comment:

None.

3. Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2020:

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc requested a motion to adopt the minutes.

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the Policy Board Meeting minutes from January 22, 2020. Lori Spielman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Correspondence/Handouts:

- **Rep. Richard Neal calls east-west rail a ‘priority’ at House hearing**

Dr. Wray provided an update on the Hartford Springfield east west rail, stating MassDOT is considering a potential 40-mile rail station expansion which would include Connecticut. Advocates are trying to assure that ridership and cost estimates are accurate.

Dr. Wray reviewed the following handouts with the Board:

- [Congressional Delegation – Transportation/Infrastructure Breakfast](#) (March 19th)
- [CTMirror article - Legislators who opposed tolls want transit spending in their districts](#)
- [Fact Sheet – Senate Bill 9: An Act Concerning Jobs CT Tax Rebate Program](#)
- Election safety

5. MONTHLY REPORTS:

a. Chair and Executive Director

Dr. Wray stated that on Friday, February 28th the following event will take place: [Next Generation Workforce: Increasing Retention of College Graduates in Connecticut](#), at the LOB Room 2E. Registration and networking begin at 8:30am, and the program starts at 9am. There is no cost for registration.

b. Opportunities and Resources

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

c. Municipal Services and Purchasing Council

Pauline Yoder provided the following update to the board:

- The RFP for on-call Human Resources consultant services received 13 responses and CRCOG will be conducting interviews with the finalists. If anyone is interested in serving on the interview panel, please let Pauline Yoder know.
- The next Human Services Coordinating Council will be on March 9th at 8:30am at CRCOG, 3rd Floor Board Room. The presentation will be on opioids and will be presented by the Office of Injury and Violence Protection and Office of Emergency Medical Services. (Amy Mirizzi and Rafaella Coler)

d. Policy and Planning

Emily Hultquist provided the following update to the board:

- This week an RFP for an Economic Impact Study of proposed rail improvements in the region and connecting the region to New York and Boston. RFP Responses are due April 1.
- This week CRCOG will send the Economic Development Administration all supporting materials in our request for the region to become a federally recognized Economic Development District.
- CRCOG will be sending an invitation shortly to a March 12th CRCOG Foundation Meeting.
- Staff coordinated and held the second meeting of the Statewide Advisory Committee on Active Living and Active Transportation. The purpose of this meeting was to go over projects for year 3 funding. Should the region continue to receive funding throughout the entire 5-year grant period, the total amount of funding received for complete streets implementation will total approximately \$1 Million.

e. Public Safety and Homeland Security

Lori Spielman provided the following update to the board:

f. Transportation Committee

Jon Colman provided the following update to the board:

- With the recent demise of highway and bridge tolling proposals, it is still unclear how and to what extent the state will fund a Transportation program.

- **Bond Commission** – Following the end of tolling proposals the February Bond Commission meeting has been canceled. It is projected that there is enough LOTCIP funding already bonded to award projects through the end of Fiscal Year 2020. Additional LOTCIP funding has been budgeted but needs additional bonding authority by the bond commission.

- **LOTICP Solicitation** – A solicitation for additional LOTCIP projects is underway. The funding of these projects will be dependent on availability of additional state funding.

g. Capital Workforce Partners

No update.

At this time, Mayor Leclerc addressed the action items on the agenda to ensure that a quorum remains present for votes.

Jon Colman spoke to the following MPO action items first.

Metropolitan Planning Organization Items:

9. Action: TIP Amendments

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

10. Action: Resolution for Endorsement of Silver Lane (SR 502) Corridor Study

Jon Colman made a motion to accept the resolution to endorse the Silver Lane (SR 502) Corridor Study as presented. Dr. Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

11. Action: Resolution for CRCOG to Join Metropolitan Area Planning (MAP) Forum

Jon Colman made a motion to accept the resolution to authorize CRCOG to join MAP Forum as presented. Dr. Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Leclerc addressed the remaining action items.

ACTION ITEMS:

7. Action: Resolution to Enter into an Agreement with Energy Consultant

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the resolution for CRCOG to enter into an agreement with NuEnergen as presented. Dr. Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

8. Action: Resolution to Support Regional Education Service Centers Alliance's RPIP Grant Application for Special Transportation Database

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the resolution to support Regional Education Service Centers Alliance's RPIP Grant Application for Special Transportation Database as presented. Dr. Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Presentations / Updates was addressed next on the agenda.

6. PRESENTATIONS / UPDATES

- **Silver Lane (SR 502) Corridor Study – Emily Hultquist**

Mayor Leclerc stated this has been a lengthy process, but the end result proved worth it. She thanked Emily and others for all the work they put into this study.

Emily Hultquist presented to the board on the Silver Lane Corridor Study. To view the presentation please [click here](#).

INFORMATION/OPPORTUNITY/RESOURCE ITEMS

12. Legislative update

Kathie Lutz provided a brief legislative update to the board. The Governor has officially pulled the plug on the proposal for tolls in Connecticut. Session yesterday but only judges and nominations. Bonding still very much in flux. Very little locked in stone so far.

Dr. Wray spoke about [Bill 271: An Act Concerning the Fiscal Accountability and Sustainable Transportation Reform Plan](#), and requested consent from the board to compose a joint letter testimony on behalf of the COG's regarding a strategy for this reform. Discussion followed.

Jon Colman moved to authorize the Executive Director to compose and submit a letter as requested regarding Bill 271. Dr. Chip Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

13. CRCOG Finance/Personnel Subcommittee 1-22-2020 Meeting Minutes

Robert Lee explained there was a small concern in this year's audit, but it was corrected. There was a clean audit.

14. Other Business

None.

15. Adjournment

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

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