

**Capitol Region Council of Governments**  
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106  
Phone: (860) 522-2217 FAX: (860) 724-1274

**Policy Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 16, 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-23/>**

**Members and Alternates**

Brandon Robertson  
John Elsesser  
Jim Hayden  
Marcia Leclerc  
Lori Spielman  
C.J. Thomas  
Chip Beckett  
Scott Shanley  
Toni Moran  
Brock Weber  
Robert Lee  
Melissa Appleby  
Mark Sciota  
Mike Maniscalco  
Mike Rosen  
Matt Hart  
Shari Cantor  
Erika Wiecewski  
Peter Souza  
Chris Kervick

**Town/Organization**

Avon  
Coventry  
East Granby  
East Hartford  
Ellington  
Farmington  
Glastonbury  
Manchester  
Mansfield  
New Britain  
Plainville  
Simsbury  
Southington  
South Windsor  
Tolland  
West Hartford  
West Hartford  
Willington  
Windsor  
Windsor Locks

**Staff**

Rob Aloise  
Cheryl Assis  
Winsome Barnaby  
Kimberly Bona  
Mike Cipriano  
Tim Malone  
Cara Radzins  
Terri Thompson  
Lyle Wray  
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG  
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**Guests**

Ellen Graham	Sen. Blumenthal's Office
Alex Johnson	Capital Workforce Partners
Brian O'Conner	CCM
CTDOT Deputy Commissioner Garrett Eucalitto	CTDOT
Maureen Lawrence	CTDOT
Kimberly Lesay	CTDOT
Marybeth Wojenski	CTDOT
Grayson Wright	CTDOT
Vicki Shotland	GHTD
Jonathan Ferrigno	Eversource
Mark Massaro	Eversource
Gene Goddard	MetroHartford Alliance
Becky Nolan	MetroHartford Alliance
Kathie Lutz	Rome Smith Lutz

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chairperson Mayor Marcia Leclerc called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

Kim Bona conducted roll call.

**2. Public Comment:**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes from May 27, 2020:**

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc requested a motion to adopt the minutes.

**Erika Wiecenski made a motion to approve the Policy Board Meeting minutes from May 27, 2020. Lori Spielman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**4. Correspondence/Handouts:**

**5. MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**a. Chair and Executive Director**

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc asked if there were any questions on the CRCOG monthly reports. There were none.

Dr. Wray thanked Tim Malone and Pauline Yoder for their work on getting the FY 2021-2020 statewide Economic Development Administration (EDA) Grant in the amount of 9.3 million dollars submitted to the federal government. Still working with CT OPM on

2020 funding for COVID activities. He will keep the board apprised of the progress with the grant.

Dr. Wray stated that ACIR is currently working on several policy studies for the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations including one on accelerating use of information technology for state and local services.

**b. Opportunities and Resources**

Dr. Wray explained that the US EDA grant that has been submitted is composed of two different pieces. One submission is on behalf of all nine CT Councils of Government, and the second submission is on behalf of the Global Resistance Institute (GRI).

**c. Municipal Services and Purchasing Council**

**d. Policy and Planning**

**e. Public Safety and Homeland Security**

**f. Transportation Committee**

**g. MetroHartford Alliance**

Gene Goddard provided an update to the board. He stated that MHA continues to stay quite active with various projects, and continues to promote the region with trades shows, although they are held virtually.

The new regional marketing initiative has been named “All Hart”. This initiative will focus on pulling together all of MHA resources that are available for the metropolitan region in terms of attracting and retaining talent.

Mayor Leclerc asked if MHA could prepare a summary and presentation for the next board meeting in October. Gene Goddard concurred and requested CRCOG staff reach out to him two weeks prior to the meeting so he has ample time to prepare.

Gene Goddard will also provide the board with dates for the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) Annual Conference.

**h. Capital Workforce Partners**

Alex Johnson provided an update to the board on the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYELP).

CWP began planning a SYELP redesign in April with the onset of COVID-19 in order to adapt the program to the pandemic so that we could commit to the youth in our communities. The process was to imagine what a remote employment and learning program could look like, and what resources, partnerships, and program design elements would need to be in place for it to be a valuable experience. A few key understandings were paramount to the design of the summer program:

1. Mental health supports had to be available for all youth during a time when not only was the world dealing with a pandemic, but the country was in a state of unrest.
2. Virtual learning would be a core component of SYELP and a strong curriculum and program design would be needed so that youth had a valuable experience.
3. Connection was more important than ever. For our participants that had been out of school since March, it was important that, even for those in virtual learning, we could give the experience of connection to peers and community organizations.
4. Work experience would look different in our “new normal” but the task of preparing our participants through SYELP was no less important than in years passed.

Alex Johnson also provided the following update on the CARES Act:

The state of Connecticut received \$15 million for training due to COVID 19. We were invited to apply and will be receiving \$3,769,987 to serve 418 individuals statewide with 358 in the North Central region to be trained and placed in employment including 40 OJT placements. Average cost per participant is \$9,019. We will have 13 training program options with 9 training provider partners. The targeted sectors are Healthcare, IT/Business Services, Financial, Construction, Manufacturing and Transportation. All funds must be expended by December 31, 2020. Targeted populations include workers dislocated as a result of COVID 19 and Opportunity Youth with emphasis on underserved populations including persons of color. Alex identified how many spots would be available in each sector. Alex spoke on the supportive services and childcare as we partner with the CT Office of Early Childhood (OEC) to augment supportive services relating to childcare. CWP in partnership with the CT Workforce Development Council (CWDC) will facilitate the provision of \$500,000 in basic needs support to WTIF program participants in the North Central region. This proposal aims to provide 750 additional childcare slots for trainees across the state. This proposal will benefit both providers and trainees with a potential statewide impact to 1,275 low income CT families.

## **6. PRESENTATION/UPDATES**

- **Introduction of Deputy Transportation Commissioner Garrett Eucalitto**

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc welcomed Deputy Commissioner Eucalitto to the meeting.

Deputy Commissioner Eucalitto presented to the board regarding COVID, Public Transportation Services and the Special Transportation Fund. To view the presentation, please [click here](#).

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**7. Action: Resolution: Accept Notice of Grant Award from OPM CARES for Statewide COVID-19 Long-Term Recovery Planning**

**Scott Shanley made a motion to approve the resolution to Accept Notice of Grant Award from OPM CARES for Statewide COVID-19 Long-Term Recovery Planning as presented. Dr. Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**8. Action: Memo and Resolution Authorizing CRCOG Executive Director to Execute and Amend Contract with Global Resilience Institute (GRI)**

**Dr. Beckett made a motion to approve the resolution to Authorize CRCOG Executive Director to Execute and Amend Contract with Global Resilience Institute (GRI). Lori Spielman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**9. Action: Memo and Resolution Authorizing CRCOG to Participate in the RFP Process for a Federal Legislative and Executive Branch Liaison**

**Dr. Beckett made a motion to approve the resolution Authorizing CRCOG to Participate in the RFP Process for a Federal Legislative and Executive Branch Liaison. Lori Spielman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**10. Action: Resolution Authorizing CRCOG Executive Director to Submit a Spending Plan and Enter into an MOU for the FY 2020 Federal Homeland Security Grant Funding for DEMHS Region 3**

**Dr. Beckett made a motion to approve the resolution Authorizing CRCOG Executive Director to Submit a Spending Plan and Enter into an MOU for the FY 2020 Federal Homeland Security Grant Funding for DEMHS Region 3. John Elsesser seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**Metropolitan Planning Organization**

**11. Action: TIP Amendments**

There were no TIP Amendments.

**12. Action: 2020 LOTCIP Solicitation – Project Selection**

**Matt Hart made a motion to approve the 2020 LOTCIP Project Selection as presented. Lori Spielman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**13. FY 2021-2024 Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and FY 2021-2024 Draft State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)**

Rob Aloise provided an update to the board. He explained that this item is informational at this time and will be brought back to the Policy Board at its October meeting for action.

## **INFORMATION/OPPORTUNITY/RESOURCE ITEMS**

### **14. Legislative update**

Kathie Lutz stated the legislative leaders hope to hold a special session towards the end of the month, possibly September 24<sup>th</sup> or September 25<sup>th</sup> for the Senate, and September 30<sup>th</sup> for the House. She explained that there has been discussion regarding potential small revisions to the Police Accountability Bill. In addition, school construction grants, addressing the electric company rate increases and possibly looking at codifying some of the executive orders may take place. Discussion followed.

Toni Moran requested support from CRCOG regarding bonding for the school construction bill. Discussion followed.

### **15. 2021 DRAFT Policy Board and Executive Committee Meeting Schedules**

Dr. Wray asked the board to review the proposed 2021 CRCOG Policy Board and Executive meeting schedules for any conflicts.

### **16. Other Business**

Matt Hart asked if there are any towns interested in discussing a regional approach to Halloween to provide guidelines and safe practice for the event. Discussion followed. Kathie Lutz will seek input from the governor's office to see if there is anything in place in terms of suggested guidelines for a safe Halloween.

### **17. Adjournment**

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

**Dr. Beckett moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:23pm and the motion carried unanimously.**