

Capitol Region Council of Governments
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106
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Policy Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 22, 2020
12:00 pm
DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

Meeting access is remote only, consistent with provisions specified in Executive Order No. 7B. This meeting will be recorded.

Audio may be found here: <https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-21/>

Join via Web: <https://zoom.us/j/8605222217>

or Phone: +1 646 876 9923; or One tap mobile: +16468769923,, 8605222217#

Members and Alternates

Eric Anderson
Brandon Robertson
Chris Edge
Sandra Pierog
Jon Colman
Bob Bessel
Mark Walter
John Elsesser
Jim Hayden
Marcia Leclerc
Jason Bowza
Lori Spielman
Chip Beckett
John Ward
Toni Moran
Erin Stewart
Robert Lee
John Mehr
Mark Sciota
Mike Rosen
Mike Purcaro
Shari Cantor
Matt Hart
Mike Rell
Erika Wiecewski
Peter Souza
Chris Kervick

Town/Organization

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

Staff

Rob Aloise
Cheryl Assis

CRCOG
CRCOG

Kimberly Bona	CRCOG
Mike Cipriano	CRCOG
Roger Krahn	CRCOG
Tim Malone	CRCOG
Noah Greer	CRCOG Intern
Matthew McCarthy	CRCOG Intern
Sotoria Montanari	CRCOG
Jessica Muirhead	CRCOG
Pramod Pandey	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	CRCOG
Terri Thompson	CRCOG
Lyle Wray	CRCOG
Pauline Yoder	CRCOG

Guests

Richard Blumenthal	United States Senator
Ellen Graham	Sen. Blumenthal's Office
Brittany Foulds	Sen. Murphy's Office
Randy Collins	CCM
Sadie Colcord	CERC
Maureen Lawrence	CTDOT
Grayson Wright	CTDOT
Alex Johnson	Capital Workforce Partners
Mark Massaro	Eversource
Becky Nolan	MetroHartford Alliance
Matt Pafford	OPM
Kathie Lutz	Rome Smith Lutz
Patrice Carson	City of Hartford
Kayleigh Phillips	
Bobby Shipman	

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chairperson Mayor Marcia Leclerc called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm.

Kim Bona conducted roll call.

2. Public Comment:

None.

3. Approval of Minutes from March 25, 2020:

Chairperson Marcia Leclerc requested a motion to adopt the minutes.

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the Policy Board Meeting minutes from March 25, 2020. Dr. Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Correspondence/Handouts:

Dr. Wray spoke to the following handouts:

- [HBJ Article-CT DOT receives \\$2M for federal grant for autonomous bus program](#)
- [COVID-19 Resource \(UConn\)](#)
- [CRCOG Timesheet Waiver](#)
- [COVID-19: Reopening and CRCOG's role](#)
- [Office of Fiscal Analysis \(OFA\) – Federal Stimulus for Connecticut](#)

5. MONTHLY REPORTS:

a. Chair and Executive Director

Dr. Wray asked if there were questions on his [monthly report](#). There were none.

b. Opportunities and Resources

Dr. Wray stated CRCOG six firms submitted responses to the Hartford to Boston rail service Economic Impact Study RFP.

Dr. Wray explained that CRCOG is seeking input from major towns regarding the direction of Bikeshare program in the region.

Dr. Wray stated that CRCOG is working on *MetroHartford One Vision: Four Plans*. He explained that CRCOG will assist with COVID-19 response efforts as much as possible, while continuing to move forward with CRCOG's services in the region.

c. Municipal Services and Purchasing Council

Peter Souza provided the following update to the board:

CRPC will be requesting quantities for the Treated Road Salt in mid-May. No piggybacking is allowed on this bid.

The energy consultant contract has been signed and we will be reaching out to towns as we look towards the next solicitation in the fall.

Emergency on-line procurement options have been made available to municipalities. Please reach out to Jessica Muirhead or Pauline Yoder for assistance.

Cybersecurity Task Force continues to meet. If your town is interested in participating, please contact Erik Snowden.

d. Policy and Planning

Tim Malone provided the following update to the board:

Received responses to the Hartford Line/East-West Rail to Boston Economic Impact Study RFP. Six firms submitted responses. Assembled an RFP review panel for the project.

Scheduled and held planning calls for a talent retention study in three regions modeled on Campus Philly.

Continued reviewing Brownfields funding opportunities.

Investigating additional scenario planning software solutions in collaboration with the Transportation Department.

e. Public Safety and Homeland Security

Cheryl Assis provided the following update to the board:

The Regional Emergency Support Plan was activated on March 18th. The Regional Coordination Center is on a full virtual activation. Coordination is being done by the ESF-5 (Emergency Management) and ESF-8 (Public Health and Medical Services) duty officers.

The Capitol Region Incident Management Team (CT-IMT3) has been activated and developed an Incident Action Plan (IAP) which is being reviewed by local public health leads and reissued weekly. We are currently in our sixth operational period. The CT-IMT3 also is working with CTDPH in managing the Regional Distribution Site.

Our Regional Distribution Site Standard Operating Guide is now being utilized. We began running a Regional Distribution Site at a Public Works Facility in the Town of West Hartford on April 15th and will continue to do so every Wednesday. This will allow us to receive, stage and distribute Medical Countermeasures including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as it becomes available. We are working with the Department of Public Health with PPE for EMS, first responders, Long Term Care facilities and community health organizations. Cheryl Assis thanked West Hartford Mayor Shari Cantor and Town Manager Matt Hart for all the assistance that the Town of West Hartford has provided in the operation of the Regional Distribution Site which is open each Wednesday and located at a Public Works facility. Emergency Management Director Bob McCue, Public Works Director John Philips, Police Chief Vernon Riddick, Assistant Chief Dan Coppinger, Fire Chief Greg Priest and West Hartford Bloomfield

Health Director Aimee Krauss along with their associated staff have been terrific partners.

We have had requests for our Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) tent and Cabana unit which have been delivered to Bristol Health and St. Francis respectively. Medical Reserve Corps members have been deployed throughout the region. CR-MRC has also deployed 26 Field MCI ventilators 5 to Bristol Hospital, 6 to St. Francis and 7 to Hartford Hospital.

The third meeting of the CRCOG Cybersecurity Task Force was held and the group is now planning to host a meeting of all regional leads for coordination purposes.

CT DPH received a Notice of Award for the Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Response: Public Health Crisis Response to support COVID-19 response activities in Connecticut. They have asked the CT Association of Directors of Health to submit a coordinated proposal on behalf of all local public health departments and districts. As one of the five regional fiduciary agents for DPH, CRCOG assisted on this submission.

Discussion followed.

f. Transportation Committee

Jon Colman provided the following update to the board:

State Bonding Update for Transportation - The CT Bond Commission met on April 16th and approved Transportation funding, including for CRCOG LOTCIP construction projects through FY2021, Town Aid Road, the Windsor Locks Rail Station, and additional CTrail cars for the Hartford Line.

CTDOT COVID-19 Update – CTDOT released memos indicating their intent to continue progressing all construction projects, with some schedules potentially accelerated due to reductions in vehicular traffic.

Autonomous Bus Pilot Program Grant - CTDOT received a \$2 million federal grant for implementation of autonomous buses on the CTfastrak guide way.

Job Order Contracting - Staff updated Transportation Committee members on CRCOG's eziQC contracting capabilities for Transportation Projects.

At this time, Chairperson Leclerc addressed the action items on the agenda, entertaining a motion to approve the TIP Amendments, first.

Metropolitan Planning Organization

8. ACTION: TIP Amendments

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

The second action item on the agenda was addressed next.

7. ACTION: Resolution for HR Consulting Services

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the Resolution for HR Consulting Services as presented. Mike Purcaro seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Discussion followed. Pauline Yoder will send additional information to the board once the contract is signed and complete.

At this time, Chairperson Marcia Leclerc welcomed Senator Richard Blumenthal to the meeting, addressing agenda item 6, entitled PRESENTATIONS/UPDATES.

6. PRESENTATIONS/UPDATES

- **COVID-19 update and discussion – Senator Richard Blumenthal or Senator Chris Murphy**

Senator Blumenthal provided an update to the board on the next COVID-19 emergency relief bill, explaining that this bill will help to replenish the Payment Protection Program (PPE). He stated that approximately 370 billion will make loans, (which may be converted to grants), for small businesses possible, as well as allow for more testing and assistance to hospitals. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Leclerc and Dr. Wray sincerely thanked the Senator for his time speaking to the board. Dr. Wray asked if he would be able to return at the May 27, 2020 board meeting. Senator Blumenthal stated he would be willing to do so.

- [COVID-19 discussion by members – current challenges, reopening and recovery](#)

Dr. Wray stated CRCOG has put together a starter memo regarding how to assist towns with planning, reopening and recovery, as COVID-19 continues.

Chairperson Leclerc returned to monthly updates on the agenda and welcomed Alex Johnson to provide an update for Capital Workforce Partners.

g. Capital Workforce Partners.

Alex Johnson provided an update to the board.

At this time, First Vice-Chair, Mayor Erin Stewart, chaired the remainder of the meeting as Mayor Leclerc had to leave.

INFORMATION/OPPORTUNITY/RESOURCE ITEMS

9. Legislative update

Kathie Lutz provided a brief update to the board on the adjournment of the Legislature and possible special session to be scheduled.

10. 2020 CRCOG Annual Meeting

Dr. Wray explained that the CRCOG bylaws state the annual meeting is to be held in June. He has been informed by legal counsel that postponing the meeting to the fall would be acceptable due to the current public health crisis and asked if the board members had any objection to this. There were no objections; board members felt this was a good idea. A resolution to postpone the 2020 CRCOG Annual Meeting will go before the board at the May 27, 2020 meeting, contingent upon the evolving status of COVID-19 emergency.

11. Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Adjournment

With no further discussion items, First Vice-Chair Erin Stewart requested a motion to adjourn.

Jon Colman moved to adjourn the meeting and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:11 pm.