

CRCOG Cost Review Subcommittee Meeting
Monday, January 25, 2021
11:30 AM
Meeting held remotely via Zoom.

DRAFT until
Endorsed
by the
Committee

Name

Larry Baril
Jon Colman
Patrice Carson
Todd Penney
Doug Wilson
Donald Nunes
Tim Webb
Russ Arnold
Sandy Fry
Frank Dellaripa
Kevin Kelly
Jeff LaMalva
John Carrington
Peter Hughes
Robert Trottier
Todd Rolland
Jeffrey Doolittle
Karen Isherwood
Duane Martin
Derrick Gregor
Adam Kessler
Jen Rodriguez

Organization

Avon
Bloomfield
Bolton
Coventry
East Hartford
Enfield
Ellington
Farmington
Hartford
Hartford
Hebron
Manchester
Mansfield
Marlborough
New Britain
Somers
South Windsor
Suffield
West Hartford
Wethersfield
Windsor
Windsor Locks

Guests

Jonathan Thiesse
CJ Ganza

Bloomfield
New Britain

Staff

Robert Aloise
Mike Cipriano
Ryan Faulkner
Roger Krahn
Sotoria Montanari
Pramod Pandey
Cara Radzins
Karen Stewartson
Terri Thompson

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1. Roll Call – Alphabetically by Member Municipality, then others. The meeting was called to order at 11:31 am by the Chair, Jon Colman from the Town of Bloomfield.

2. Public Forum – No one chose to speak.

3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from November 16, 2020 Subcommittee Meeting – A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Tim Webb from the Town of Ellington to approve the meeting minutes from the November 16th, 2020 meeting. This motion was passed unanimously with two abstentions made by Tim Webb from the Town of Ellington and Donald Nunes from the Town of Enfield.

4. LOTCIP Quarterly Report – Quarter 2 – Ms. Sotoria Montanari reviewed the highlights of the LOTCIP Quarterly Report. She stated that CTDOT issued an Authorization to Award Letter for \$613,894 for Manchester Tolland Turnpike Sidewalks. The anticipated expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year are projected to be \$20,604,320. Ms. Montanari stated that CRCOG received two (2) final design submissions: Southington's Plantsville Intersection Improvements and South Windsor's Avery Street Rehabilitation. Project expenditures for Quarter 3 are anticipated at \$4,115,747. CRCOG received seven (7) Quarter 2 design submissions and anticipates receipt of nineteen (19) design submissions in Quarter 3. Ms. Montanari mentioned that forty (40) projects have been awarded or completed construction since program inception, and CTDOT issued four (4) Commitment to Fund Letters for the following projects: Farmington Colt Highway Roundabout Installation, East Hartford Brewer Street Phase 4 Reconstruction, Berlin Kensington Bridge Replacement, and Rocky Hill Elm Street Sidewalk installation. Rocky Hill was the first Town to receive a Commitment to Fund letter from the 2020 Solicitation. Ms. Montanari provided an update on the 2020 Solicitation application reviews and submittals.

Ms. Montanari noted that six municipalities needed to provide schedule updates. Mr. Jonathan Thiesse stated that Bloomfield's Blue Hills Avenue project had to be rescoped due to a public information meeting, thereby delaying the design submission to January 31, 2021. Mr. Frank Dellaripa stated Hartford Main Street/Boce Barlow added bike lanes at the Mayor's request, which required project rescoping. The final submission is now anticipated for January 31, 2021. Mr. Robert Trottier stated that New Britain's Downtown Complete Streets Project design submission had to re-scheduled due to obtaining ROW. The final design will be submitted by March 1, 2021. Mr. Kevin Kelly stated there were utility relocations that needed to be worked out for Hebron's Wall Street/Main Street Intersection. Final design submission is anticipated for March 1, 2021. Mr. Duane Martin stated that the West Hartford Trout Brook Multi Use Trail is located on land that is owned by the State. The Town is in the process of obtaining signatures from OPM for a maintenance agreement that is integral to acquiring an easement. Although the final design submission was submitted previously, it cannot be submitted to CTDOT without an easement. Submission of the final documents has been re-scheduled to February 15, 2021. Mr. Derrick Gregor stated there was a change of design of Wethersfield's Wolcott/Franklin Project due to feedback from a public information meeting. Final design submission is re-scheduled to January 31, 2021.

5. LOTCIP Funding Increase Request – Ms. Sotoria Montanari gave a brief update on the LOTCIP Funding Increase and Scope Modification Request for the Newington

Complete Streets Project (L093-0001). Ms. Montanari stated that the Town of Newington is requesting a scope modification and LOTCIP funding increase of \$645,000 from \$2,031,000 to \$2,676,00 (31.7% increase). Ms. Montanari stated the project incorporates complete streets improvements along two (2) miles of Robbins Avenue, was approved under the 2018 Solicitation and has progressed through the 90% design phase. The requested scope modifications and funding increase are to address feedback from CTDOT District and Traffic Unit reviews, which included intersection and drainage improvements, mainly at Robbins Avenue intersection with Main Street (SR176). These improvements address public safety concerns, traffic flow, drainage and bike and pedestrian connectivity. Ms. Montanari also mentioned that additionally, improving the right-turning radius will better accommodate larger vehicles. Further improvements include modifying the pedestrian signals and extending bike lanes 350 feet and extending sidewalk 350 feet from Main Street to Walsh Avenue, completing a sidewalk gap. The total intersection improvements amount to a \$250,000. Also, the drainage improvements consist of removing 1,500 feet of corrugated, corroded metal pipe and replacing it with new HDPE pipe. Total drainage improvements amount to \$280,000. Because of the proposed improvements more funding will be allocated for maintenance and protection of traffic during construction at a cost of \$115,000. A motion was made by Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough seconded by Robert Trottier from the City of New Britain to approve the described scope modification, resulting in an additional \$645,000 of LOTCIP funding for the Newington project (L093-0001). This motion was passed unanimously.

- 6. CMAQ Program – Project Rating Criteria** – Mr. Pramod Pandey gave an update on the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program. Mr. Pandey reported that CRCOG staff has developed recommend rating criteria for this Program. He stated that the criteria mirrors that of CTDOT so that selected projects can compete well against projects from other regions. Mr. Pandey reviewed the rating criteria that were outlined in the meeting materials and reminded the group that the deadline for submission is February 19, 2021, with recommended selections being brought to the Committee for discussion and endorsement at the March 22, 2021 meeting. There was some discussion related to project types and number of projects submitted to date. A motion was made by Tim Webb from the Town of Ellington, seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, to accept the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Project Rating Criteria as presented. This motion was passed unanimously. Mr. Pandey also noted that he had received some questions regarding how to account for the impact of COVID-19 on traffic volumes. Mr. Pandey shared the following instruction from CTDOT on this matter: “The data should be based most recent traffic counts and information available, but not during the COVID timeframe. Please note the date of the information supplied for the analysis.”
- 7. Other Business** – The next Cost Review SubCommittee meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2021 at 11:30am.
- 8. Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am via a motion by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Timothy Webb from the Town of Ellington.