

MEMORANDUM

To: Policy Board

From: Matt Hart, Executive Director

CC: CRCOG Staff

Meeting Date: November 16, 2022

Subject: Staff Reports

Below please find a summary report from staff for the Board's information. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

- *Policy Board Tour of WORK-SPACE* – We are looking forward to our tour of WORK_SPACE in Manchester at 4:00PM today, followed by a social outing at Urban Lodge Brewing. Come learn how the Town of Manchester worked with the various stakeholders to bring a collective vision to reality. WORK_SPACE is located at 903 Main St. in Manchester and you still have time to join today's tour. My thanks to Mayor Jay Moran and General Manager Steve Stephanou for hosting us!
- *Crumbling Foundations* – Last week I attended the annual meeting of the CT Foundation Solutions Indemnity Company, where Steve Werbner was re-elected as president, and I was elected vice-president of the board of directors. CFSIC continues to make good progress having successfully remediated 642 homes. I will attend today's meeting of our Crumbling Concrete Foundations Ad hoc Committee to report on CFSIC activities.
- *CRCOG Legislative Committee* – Our ad hoc Legislative Committee will meet again at 10:00AM on November 18 to continue its work to prepare a proposed Legislative Agenda for the Policy Board's consideration.
- *Municipal Services Committee* – The Municipal Services Committee will hold a special meeting at 12:00PM on November 28 to discuss regional options for stormwater management. Any interested Policy Board or Municipal Services Committee member is invited to attend this meeting.
- *Personnel & Finance Committee* – Our Personnel & Finance Committee met on November 3 and reviewed a proposed performance review process and a set of goals for me. Staff also provided the committee with an update on our classification study and other HR topics. The classification study and my recommended goals will be on the Policy Board's agenda for the December meeting.
- *NAPA Fall Meeting* – The UConn's School of Public Policy, Capitol Workforce Partners, and CRCOG collaborated to host a public sector workforce summit at the National Academy of Public Administration's (NAPA) fall meeting on November 4 held at the Hartford Public Library. Our event featured two panels with a variety of speakers from state and local government, and other experts, along with a keynote address from the US Department of Labor. This event should serve as a springboard to help build the public sector pipeline in our state and in our region. My thanks to our partners and attendees, Mayor Luke Bronin

for his participation, and to our own Elizabeth Sanderson for her great work to plan this important conference along with her colleagues at UConn and CWP.

- *Next Policy Board Meeting* – We will hold the next Policy Board meeting at noon on December 21. I wish you and all those close to you a safe and Happy Thanksgiving holiday!

BIL/IIJA Update

- CRCOG staff have reviewed several recent Notice of Funding Opportunities, and updated the BIL/IIJA Featured webpage to add information about the following programs:
 - Thriving Communities by U.S. DOT
 - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) by FEMA
 - Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) by FEMA
 - Climate Resilience Fund by CT DEEP
 - National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program (Culvert AOP Program) by U.S. DOT FHWA
 - Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) Program by U.S. DOT
 - Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program by U.S. DOT
- CRCOG staff are collaborating with representatives from multiple state agencies and departments, including BILT, DOT, DEEP, and DEMHS to review funding opportunities and/or coordinate efforts.
- Future BIL/IIJA Programs to keep in mind as budget season approaches:
 - RAISE - FY2023
 - Safe Streets and Roads for All – Round 2/FY2023
 - Bridge Investment Program – Round 2/FY2023
 - Workforce Development Programs

Municipal Services

- Gasoline and Traffic Guideline bids will be issued on November 15th.
- Interviews/demos for Fire/EMS Records Management Systems (RMS) Software will be held on November 18th.
- Reported to DECD on EDA CARES projects in Long Term Disaster Recovery, CEDS, Digital Transition Technical Assistance and Entrepreneurial Webinars and Networking.
- Beginning the application process for assessment funds for the East Hartford Brownfields project at United Steel; met with the CT Hospital Association about a potential application for RLF funds from the City of Norwich under review by fund manager.
- The CRCOG Solid Waste Steering Committee received a [presentation](#) of the [Phase 1 of the Solid Waste Facility Inventory and System Assessment](#) prepared by RRS and Tetra Tech. The System Assessment identified strengths and gaps in six (6) Best Practice Areas and opportunities for improvement, including Collection, Processing, End Markets, Supporting Policies, Education/Outreach and Public/Private Partnerships. Additional opportunities exist for residential and commercial food waste diversion and recyclable collection. The consulting

team is now working on Phase II of the project which will include short-term (1 to 5 year) waste disposal and waste diversion options for the region. The Steering Committee will hold its next meeting on December 16, 2022.

- On November 2, 2022, CRCOG re-submitted four applications to OPM's Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPIP) to establish regional programs in animal control, assessment, building inspection, and economic development. We needed to resubmit these applications due to OPM's notification requirements to municipal bargaining units. OPM should make a decision on the applications within the next few months.

Planning: Community Development

- Conducted outreach visits to East Hartford, Windsor, Enfield and Newington. Scheduled visits to South Windsor and Wethersfield.
- Staff continues to wrap up final Bike/Ped counts and complete data entry. More than 30 count and audit locations were completed.
- Staff is finalizing the close out of Year 4 of the State's Physical Activity and Nutrition (SPAN) grant program. Additionally, staff is preparing a meeting of the Active Living Active Transportation Committee and to solicit projects for Year 5 funding.
- Staff continues to advance the Micromobility Feasibility Study (requesting endorsement this month) and is working to facilitate expansion of the system within the region.
- Staff has identified and created an inventory of CRCOG municipalities Affordable Housing Plans, [which is available on our website](#).
- Staff has begun working internally to update the region's 2024 Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD).
 - Will review implementation progress and status of previous plan
 - Identifying composition of POCD steering committee

Planning: Transportation

- Hybrid public meetings for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan will be held on November 16 and 17. More information is available at www.crcog.org/mtp.
- The deadline for CTDOT's Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Assessment has been extended to November 18. For more information, please contact Jacob Knowlton at jknowlton@crcog.org.
- The Transportation Committee meeting for November was cancelled.
- The solicitation for Transportation Rural Improvement Program (TRIP) was distributed to eligible towns on November 4.
- Staff continues to advance the following studies: Capitol Region Roundabout Screening; Routes 190 and 220 Traffic Impact Study, Enfield; Farmington Area Connectivity Study; TOD Roles, Visioning, Viability, and Tools Analysis; Route 20 Corridor Study, Windsor Locks.
- The following studies are in the initiation phase: East Coast Greenway Gap Closure Study; Route 44 Corridor Study, Canton.

Public Safety

- The Capitol Region Emergency Planning Council held a quarterly meeting and elected the following officers: Chairman Dustin Rendock, Deputy Chief Hartford Police Department, First Vice-Chair Harley Graime, Bristol Emergency Management Director, and Second Vice-Chair, Robert McCue, West Hartford Emergency Management Director. Congratulations to all!
- The New Britain EMS Academy trained 19 CRCOG staff members in the HEARTSAVER First Aid/CPR/AED course.
- CRCOG partnered with the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District set up both Covid Booster and Flu Shot clinics onsite for staff members and their families.
- The NACCHO Medical Reserve Corps RISE (Respond, Innovate, Sustain and Equip) grant and the Agreement with Yale New Haven Health System for the purpose of Medical Reserve Corps training were both fully authorized.
- Work on the FY 19 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) is well underway. All open grants include funds for training and exercise, contractual support and sustainment and maintenance of regional equipment. There are set asides for the Hartford Bomb Squad, Capitol Region HAZMAT team and Metropolitan Medical Response System.
- The Capitol Region Regional Incident Communications (I-COMM) Team was activated and provided coverage for Bristol's Dispatch Center in the days directly following the shooting as well as during the funerals. We were able to fill over 80 shifts with dedicated dispatchers from our region and beyond.
- CRCOG is proud to host our first Regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training Class. All teams in our region were given the opportunity to register members. The class graduated on November 3 in an event held at CRCOG and we look forward to organizing the next one!
- CRCOG staff continues to work with Tetra Tech on an After-Action Review of the region's response during the Covid pandemic. The final report will be ready this month.

Administration and Finance

- CRCOG Finance will be sending out information regarding FY 2023-2024 dues in December. Please note, in FY 2023-2024 the per capita will change to the 2020 census for the first year, and most towns will experience minor adjustments. Please contact Pauline Yoder if you have any questions.