

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board

From: Matt Hart, Executive Director

CC: Pauline Yoder, Chief Operating Officer; Kathie Lutz, Rome Smith & Lutz

Meeting Date: December 21, 2022

Subject: Approval of 2023 Legislative Agenda

Background: Attached please find the proposed CRCOG Legislative Agenda for 2023. An ad hoc group of Policy Board members led by First Selectman Jason Bowsza of East Windsor have met diligently over the past few months to prepare this draft for the Policy Board's consideration.

On approved, CRCOG will look to coordinate our Legislative Agenda in collaboration with other state and municipal entities such as the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR), the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), and the Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST). The other COGs around the state have also proven to be good partners on legislative proposals. We have organized the agenda by legislative committee and separated it into two broad categories - *Legislative Proposals to be Introduced by CRCOG* and *Other Legislative Proposals and Initiatives to Support*. CRCOG will prepare a draft statement of purpose for its legislative proposals for submission to the appropriate legislative committee.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG: A major focus of the Agenda is to seek legislation to promote and facilitate service sharing in order to allow our member towns to provide services and maintain infrastructure more efficiently and effectively. Another section of the Agenda requests support for policy initiatives related to key topics such as waste management, affordable housing, and traffic safety.

Project Schedule: Once the Policy Board approves the proposed Agenda, I will work with Kathie Lutz, our lobbyist, and staff to prepare a draft statement of purpose for each of the legislative proposals we are seeking to introduce. We are also planning a virtual meeting with our large state delegation at 12 noon on January 10, 2023, to review our Agenda and to introduce new legislators to CRCOG. We will invite Policy Board members to this meeting.

Recommendation: In order to pursue our legislative initiatives in the upcoming session of the General Assembly, I recommend that the Policy Board approve the proposed 2023 CRCOG Legislative Agenda as presented.

Attachments: Proposed 2023 CRCOG Legislative Agenda