

CRCOG Transportation Committee Meeting
Monday, February 14, 2022
12:00 PM
Meeting held remotely via Zoom

Name

Larry Baril
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Patrice Carson
Neil Pade
Todd Penney
Doug Wilson
Donald Nunes
Russell Arnold
Daniel Pennington
Kirk Severance
Frank Dellaripa
Kevin Kelly
Jeff LaMalva
John Carrington
Peter Hughes
Rob Trottier
Gary Fuerstenberg
John Bossi
Stephen Sopolak
Tom Roy
Todd Rolland
Annette Turnquist
Jeffrey Doolittle
Devin Cowperthwaite
Karen Isherwood
David Smith
Duane Martin
Derrick Gregor
Troy Sposato
Adam Kessler
Paul McNamara

Organization

Avon
Berlin
Bloomfield
Bolton
Canton
Coventry
East Hartford
Enfield
Farmington
Glastonbury
Granby
Hartford
Hebron
Manchester
Mansfield
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Plainville
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
Somers
Southington
South Windsor
Stafford
Suffield
Vernon
West Hartford
Wethersfield
Willington
Windsor
GHTD

DRAFT until
Endorsed by
the Committee

Guests

Michael Ahern
Michael Fisher
Alvin Bingham
Jim Murray
Grayson Wright
Kerrice Reynolds
Nelson Tereso
Jennifer Carrier
David Tompkins

Berlin
BL Companies
CHRO
CHRO
CTDOT
CTrides
Enfield
FHWA
Gannett Fleming

LaShaunda Drake
Joseph Balskus

GHTD
VHB

CRCOG Staff

Rob Aloise, Ryan Faulkner, Norell Ferguson, Roger Krahn, Tim Malone, Aaliyah Miller, Sotoria Montanari, Caitlin Palmer, Karen Stewartson, Pauline Yoder

The record below includes a brief description of each agenda item as well as the timestamp of the beginning of that discussion. The audio recording for this meeting is available at: <https://crcog.org/event/transportation-committee-meeting-54/>

- 1. Roll Call – 0:00** – The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm by the Chair Jon Colman from the Town of Bloomfield. Ms. Karen Stewartson conducted the roll call.
- 2. Public Forum – 3:23** – No one chose to speak.
- 3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes – 3:34** – A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin, to accept the minutes from the Transportation Committee meeting on January 24, 2022. This motion was passed unanimously with two (2) abstentions by Frank Dellaripa from the City of Hartford and Stephen Sopolak from the Town of Rocky Hill.
- 4. Staff Report**
 - **60 Seconds for Safety – 4:24** – Mr. Roger Krahn gave a brief overview of the Greater Hartford Traffic Incident Management Coalition’s newsletter for February 2022. The Coalition, led by Terri Thompson (tthompson@crcog.org) is an excellent resource for information and support related to traffic incident management.
 - **LOTICIP Solicitation and RFQ Update – 6:38** – Ms. Sotoria Montanari gave an update on the recent LOTICIP Solicitation. Ms. Montanari stated that staff will seek approval of recommended projects from the Transportation Committee in April and the Policy Board in May. Ms. Montanari also discussed the recently released LOTICIP On-Call Consultant RFQ, which closes on March 1, 2022. Ms. Montanari stated she is seeking more Town volunteers for the Selection Panel.
 - **CTrides Quarterly Report – 10:22** – Mr. Ryan Faulkner provided highlights from the CTrides Quarterly Report from October through December of 2021.
 - **Introducing Resilient Connecticut 2.0 – 12:00** – Mr. Tim Malone shared that the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) has expanded Resilient Connecticut statewide. Mr. Malone mentioned that CIRCA plans to meet with the municipalities of CRCOG, SCCOG, and RiverCOG starting in February and March 2022. Towns should designate a point person to communicate with CIRCA, provide information, and attend meetings.
 - **RAISE Grants – 14:08** – Mr. Tim Malone shared that \$1.5 billion in RAISE Grants (formally TIGER) is available, and the application deadline is April 14, 2022. A question was raised about minimum project size, and Mr. Malone stated that the minimum award is \$1 million for rural projects and \$5 million for other projects.
 - **Federal Certification Review Findings – 16:23** – Mr. Robert Aloise shared that CRCOG received the findings from its October 2021 Federal Certification Review. The findings include five (5) commendations as well as some recommendations for ways to improve and enhance the planning process. Mr. Aloise and Mr. Jon Colman thanked the CRCOG staff for a job well done.

- **Greater Hartford Mobility Study – 19:35** – Mr. Robert Aloise shared that the Hartford Mobility Study team is seeking feedback on their universe of alternatives. Comments can be made at www.hartfordmobility.com/alternatives-capital.
5. **TIP Amendments – 23:25** – Mr. Robert Aloise reviewed the TIP Amendment. A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin, to accept the TIP Amendment. This motion was passed unanimously.
 - CTfastrak Vehicle-to-Infrastructure Improvement Project
 6. **LOTICIP Funding Increase/Scope Modification Request – 24:55** – Ms. Sotoria Montanari reviewed one (1) LOTICIP funding increase request. Officials from Enfield shared additional information about the request. A motion was made by Doug Wilson from the Town of East Hartford, seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, to approve the increase. This motion was passed unanimously.
 - Enfield Phase 1 Bike Path improvements (L048-0002): Funding increase of \$218, 258 from \$924,800 to \$1,143,058 (23.6% increase)
 7. **Authorizing Resolution: East Coast Greenway Gap Closure Study – 31:14** – Ms. Caitlin Palmer reviewed the authorizing resolution to allow CRCOG to execute an agreement with FHI Studio for the purpose of completing the East Coast Greenway Gap Closure Study. A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Paul McNamara from GHTD, to approve this resolution. This motion was passed unanimously.
 8. **CTDOT Highway Safety Legislative Proposal: Discussion of Potential Support – 32:18** – Mr. Roger Krahn presented CTDOT’s Highway Safety Legislative Proposal for the Connecticut General Assembly’s 2022 legislative session. Mr. Jon Colman led a discussion to determine if the Transportation Committee would support the proposal and recommend a resolution of support be advanced to the Policy Board. The Committee came to the following conclusions:
 - The Transportation Committee supports the prohibition of open alcohol beverage containers in the passenger compartment of motor vehicles.
 - Transportation Committee members had differing opinions regarding requiring all motorcycle operators and passengers to wear protective headgear. The consensus reached was to not recommend to the Policy Board either support or non-support for this proposed legislation.
 - The Transportation Committee does not support restricting parking within 25 feet of a marked crosswalks. Transportation Committee members raised concerns about the loss of parking in town center areas.
 - The Transportation Committee supports CTDOT’s ability to change speed limits on limited access highways during a weather-related event or emergency as long as the traveling public is properly informed at the time it is in effect (e.g., using electronic variable message signs).

A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Devin Cowperthwaite from the Town of Stafford, for CRCOG staff to draft resolutions of support for consideration by the Policy Board, in accordance with the conclusions outlined above. This motion was passed unanimously.

- 9. Presentation: Alvin Bingham, Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) – 45:44** – Mr. Alvin Bingham provided steps and guidelines regarding the LOTCIP Program and CHRO compliance. Mr. Bingham’s presentation will be posted on the CRCOG website. Anyone with questions can reach Mr. Bingham at alvinbingham@ct.gov or 860-514-4709.
- 10. Other Business – 1:07:07** – Mr. Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough raised a question about when additional funding could be available for roads and bridges. Mr. Robert Aloise responded that funds would likely be distributed no earlier than this summer.
- 11. Adjourn – 1:08:51** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:11 p.m. via a motion by Stephen Sopolak from the Town of Rocky Hill, seconded by David Smith from the Town of Vernon.