

Capitol Region Council of Governments
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106
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Policy Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 28, 2021
12:00 pm

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

**Meeting access was remote only, consistent with provisions specified in
CT Governor Executive Order No. 7B. This meeting was recorded.**

Audio may be found here: <https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-29>

Members and Alternates

Eric Anderson
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Jim Rupert
Mark Walter
John Elsesser
Marcia Leclerc
Lori L. Spielman
Chip Beckett
Randal P. Davis
Andrew Tierney
David Nagel
Robert E. Lee
John Mehr
Maria Capriola
Mark Sciota
Michael Rosen
Shari Cantor
Matt Hart
Erika Wiecenski
Peter Souza
Chris Kervick
Vicki Shotland

Town/Organization

Andover
Berlin
Bloomfield
Bolton
Columbia
Coventry
East Hartford
Ellington
Glastonbury
Hartford
Hebron
Newington
Plainville
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
Southington
Tolland
West Hartford
West Hartford
Willington
Windsor
Windsor Locks
MPO

Staff

Rob Aloise
Cheryl Assis
Kimberly A. Bona
Tim Malone
Aaliyah Miller
Laura Quintiliani
Lynne Pike DiSanto
Lyle Wray
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG
CRCOG
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CRCOG
CRCOG

Guests

Courtney Hendricson
Chris Brewer
Steve Gazillo

AdvanceCT
AECOM
AECOM

Grayson Wright
Rep. Tammy Nuccio
John Ferrigno
Mark Massaro
TJ Magnoli
Kathie Lutz
Britt Foulds
Mike Bisi

CTDOT
CT House of Representatives
Eversource
Eversource
Eversource
Rome Smith Lutz
Office of Senator Murphy
Town of Glastonbury

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chairperson Mayor Marcia Leclerc called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

Chairperson Mayor Leclerc proposed an amendment to the agenda by adding a new category under the Monthly Reports section, "I. Ad Hoc Executive Director Search Committee". An Ad Hoc Executive Director Search Committee has been formed to find a suitable replacement for Dr. Wray following his retirement later this year. Jon Colman will be Chairperson of the new committee which aims to be as transparent as possible with the Policy Board members during its work.

Chairperson Mayor Leclerc requested a motion to adopt the proposed amendment to the agenda.

Dr. Chip Beckett made a motion to approve the proposed amendment to the Policy Board agenda going forward. Jon Colman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Chairperson Mayor Leclerc proposed an additional agenda item, a special letter of support for Hartford 400 Infrastructure, to be discussed under "Other Business."

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the additional agenda item under Other Business. Dr. Chip Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Discussion will follow under "Other Business".

2. Public Comment:

No public comment was offered.

3. Approval of Minutes from March 24, 2021:

Chairperson Mayor Marcia Leclerc requested a motion to adopt the minutes of the March 24, 2021 meeting.

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the Policy Board Meeting minutes from March 24, 2021. Dr. Chip Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Correspondence/Handouts

There was none.

5. MONTHLY REPORTS:

a. Chair and [Executive Director](#)

Dr. Wray provided a brief update to the Policy Board, indicating that CRCOG has secured David Lehman, Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), to keynote the Annual Meeting. Commissioner Lehman will present on Connecticut's economic development in the upcoming year following the pandemic.

On Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 2:00 pm there will be an event supporting the Hartford-Springfield-Boston rail economic impact study. This event will be held at Union Station in Springfield, MA and will be hosted by Congressman Neal and Congressman Larson.

The Governor has issued his recommendations on what should be done with funds received from the Federal Government. A Connecticut Conference Municipalities group will be looking at the best way to utilize those funds in the smaller communities.

The US Treasury Department's memo on the interpretation of the federal funds will be released soon – it is due by May 11, 2021 – and it will provide more guidance on use of the federal Relief funds.

Lastly, we are still waiting on a response to our US Economic Development Administration Grant application in the range of \$400,000.

b. Opportunities and Resources

[c. Municipal Services and Purchasing Council](#)

[d. Policy and Planning](#)

[e. Public Safety and Homeland Security](#)

[f. Transportation Committee](#)

g. MetroHartford Alliance (Tentative)

No report was offered.

h. Capital Workforce Partners (Tentative)

No report was offered.

i. Ad Hoc Executive Director Search Committee

Dr. Wray has indicated his desire to retire later this year, most likely sometime in the fall. He has graciously postponed his retirement for over a year due to the pandemic.

An ad hoc committee has been formed to find his successor. The committee is comprised of CRCOG staff, Policy Board members, and eventually a search firm. Staff was authorized to recruit a search firm at the first Committee meeting. The Committee envisions hiring a firm with both regional and national connections. Staff will conduct administrative work to minimize costs. The goal is to retain a firm by the end of May.

The Committee aims to select an individual for the role of Executive Director by early September to allow for a transition period during which the individual will benefit from Lyle's relationships and connections and wealth of knowledge gained over the years.

The ad hoc Executive Director Search Committee will be as transparent as possible, reporting back periodically and updating the Policy Board on the firm selected as well as the recruiting process. The final decision for a new Executive Director will be made by the Policy Board as a whole.

6. PRESENTATION/UPDATES

Hartford Springfield Boston Rail Service Economic Impact – Steve Gazillo, Chris Brewer

Steve Gazillo and Chris Brewer from AECOM provided an update to the Policy Board on the Hartford-Springfield-Boston Rail Line.

[To view the PowerPoint presentation, please click here.](#)

At this time, Mayor Leclerc took a moment to introduce a new Policy Board member, Jim Rupert. He will be representing the Town of Bolton, replacing Joshua Kelly. Chairperson Mayor Leclerc returned to the presentations on the Agenda.

Central Connecticut Solid Waste Authority (CCSWA) – Mike Bisi, Tom Kirk

Mike Bisi, CCSWA Chairperson, provided an update to the Policy Board on the status of Solid Waste issues in Connecticut as well as the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA).

[To view the PowerPoint presentation, please click here.](#)

ACTION ITEMS:

7. Discussion: Overview of Solid Waste Issue in CT

During the discussion that followed Mike Bisi's presentation on Solid Waste and MIRA, Peter Souza proposed that the Municipal Services Committee review the issue of Solid Waste with MIRA and non-MIRA towns.

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

8. Action: TIP Amendments (tentative)

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the TIP Amendments. Dr. Chip Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

INFORMATION/OPPORTUNITY/RESOURCES

9. Legislative Update

Kathie Lutz provided a brief Legislative Update.

10. Other Business

In November 2020, Doug Suisman presented to the Policy Board on the upcoming Hartford 400 project. The project aims to rejuvenate Hartford, including replacing the current highway system, recapturing the river front, and revitalize developable land. We have since been asked to provide a letter of support for the Hartford 400 project to support the continuation of work that is being done for the benefit of the greater Hartford region.

Chairperson Mayor Leclerc requested a motion to authorize Dr. Wray to send a letter for general support of the Hartford 400 project.

Jon Colman made a motion to authorize Dr. Wray to send a letter supporting the Hartford 400 project. Dr. Chip Beckett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

11. Adjournment

With no further discussion items, Chairperson Mayor Marcia Leclerc requested a motion to adjourn.

Dr. Chip Beckett moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:07. Lori Spielman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.