

Capitol Region Council of Governments

Ad-Hoc Committee on Crumbling Foundations

November 16, 2022

1:00 PM

**This meeting was hybrid
DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED**

Attendees

Thomas Delnicki
John Elssesser
Jaime Foster
Christoph Geiss
Ayanti Grant
Steve Jones
Jim Mahoney
Larry Niland
Chandra Persaud
Stephen Sopelak
Lori Spielman
Erika Wiczenski

CRCOG Staff

Maureen Goulet
Matt Hart
Aaliyah Miller
Pauline Yoder

1. Call to Order

Lori Spielman called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

2. Approval of October 14, 2021 Minutes

Erika Wiczenski made a motion to approve the October 14, 2021 minutes, Christoph Geiss seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. HUD Grant for Assistance to LMI Households

Pauline Yoder stated that thanks to Congressman Courtney's office, CRCOG will be receiving a Community Directed Funding of \$2 MM from HUD to assist low, moderate income households with Crumbling Foundations. CRCOG would work

in conjunction with the CFSIC process. CRCOG submitted its grant information to HUD and is awaiting to hear back. John Elssesser asked if this information should be shared, and Ms. Yoder stated that because the timeline is unknown from HUD, it would be wiser to wait. Ms. Foster asked clarification information regarding the process. Ms. Yoder stated that the applicant would apply through CFSIC and CRCOG and CRCOG's consultant would vet the LMI information.

4. Potential Items for the Legislative Agenda

Matt Hart stated that one item that is on the legislative agenda is the continued support of CFSIC, specifically encouraging the bond commission to continue to fund the \$25 MM. Tom Delnicki asked about the Healthy Homes fund and when it sunsets. Mr. Hart said that would be something that he would follow-up on.

Mr. Elssesser requested looking into a proposal that was put forward last session regarding the an income tax reduction for crumbling foundations losses not covered by remediation. Mr. Delnicki said he would support that legislation and Mr. Hart said that it would be brought to CRCOG's legislative agenda.

Mr. Hart also mentioned that CFSIC was in the midst of its assessment of public buildings

5. Update on Trinity College Research

Dr. Geiss presented on the studies that Trinity has done to date. The summary of the slide is that 527 homes have been analyzed. He stated that their research shows that the amount that doesn't have issues is in line with recently proposed standards for aggregate.

6. Staff Reports

Ms. Yoder reported that the Testing Program contract will be renewed, as there is still money left from the original grant. She stated that CRCOG continues to receive reimbursement requests at about 5 to 10 a week.

7. Other Business

Mr. Elssesser proposed having more frequent meetings and the group will meet quarterly, including a CFSIC update. Mr. Elssesser requested that the Department of Housing Crumbling Foundations Advocate be asked to give an update at the quarterly meetings.

Mr. Elssesser also proposed having a wider public forum at some point. Ms Spielman suggested in the spring. Ayanti Grant stated that Congressman Courtney's office was thinking about a public announcement of various initiatives regarding crumbling foundations and would welcome a wider forum to announce the HUD grant and keep this issue in the public eye.

Jim Mahoney gave a brief presentation / overview of UCONN's research. He stated that they are in need of foundations to test, including foundations that have been replaced. Mr. Elssesser suggested a flyer to be placed in the building

departments to raise awareness and Ms. Yoder offered to make information available on the Crumbling Foundations page

Ms. Foster stated that there were a few additional legislative issues that were brought forward last session that may come back including a consistent standard for waiving of permit fees for associated costs of replacing foundations as well as the duration of tax exemptions for Crumbling Foundations.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Elssesser motioned and Ms. Wicenski seconded and the meeting adjourned at 1:41.

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Esta es una reunión virtual. Para mayor información sobre la conexión, por favor contactar a Laura Quintiliani al correo electrónico: lquintiliani@crcoq.org

To będzie zebranie zdalne. O informacji o odpowiednim linku internetowym poprosimy kontaktować Laura Quintiliani na adres e-mail lquintiliani@crcoq.org lub pod numerem telefonu 860-724-4283