

Capitol Region Council of Governments

Ad-Hoc Committee on Crumbling Foundations

January 25, 2023

1:30 PM

This was a remote meeting.

Recording of the meeting is posted on www.crcog.org

Attendees and Guests

Lori Spielman, Ellington

Erica Wiczenski, Willington

John Elsesser, Coventry

Lena Holleran, Connecticut Department of Housing

Meghan O'Sullivan Ruvinski, Rep. Courtney's office

Michael Santoro, Connecticut Department of Housing

Terri Templeton, CFSIC

Michael Maglaras, CFSIC

Jim Mahoney, UCONN

Deb MacCoy

Meridith

Ralph Tulis

Tom MacGrath

NBC Connecticut

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1. Call to Order

Chair Lori Spielman called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM.

2. Approval of November 16, 2022 Minutes

Erica Wiczenski motioned and Ms. Spielman seconded the motion to approve the minutes and the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. CFSIC Update

Michael Maglaras gave an update on CFSIC activities. The entire presentation can be found at https://crcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/CFSIC_CRCOG_Update_PPT_012523.pdf

In addition to the update on residential homes remediated, Mr. Maglaras gave an overview of the Public Use Building Foundations Report. The entire report is available

at https://www.dropbox.com/s/oi3n375bvmd27wm/CFSIC_Non-Residential_Foundations_Report_122122PDF.pdf?dl=0. CFSIC's concluded that there is not a widespread crisis in public use buildings due to the type of construction and concrete quality control.

Mr. Maglaras recommends legislative action to expand quality control in concrete for residential homes, specifically requiring purchase of aggregate only from quarries and incorporate key quality control features already in use in commercial concrete.

A follow-up question for Mr. Maglaras included the number of homes that still had the issue. Mr. Maglaras stated that CFSIC estimates between 3500-4000 homes remaining.

4. Update from Department of Housing

Michael Santoro gave an update on behalf of the Department of Housing (DOH). He stated that the Vernon testing program, which includes an income requirement. There are a number of households on the waiting list and they are looking for homeowners who are below the income threshold.

Jim Mahoney stated that UCONN is looking for homes to test and because the testing is not income limited for those on the waiting list have the option of using the UCONN. Meghan O'Sullivan Ruvinsky asked if this was information that could be advertised and Mr. Mahoney confirmed.

Mr. Santoro also stated that there are a number of legislative proposals DOH is monitoring and DOH will update CRCOG with any concerns or needs.

5. Staff Reports

Pauline Yoder gave a brief update on the Founding Testing Reimbursement Program which was extended by Department of Housing this past December. CRCOG has received 3641 applications and paid 3318. CRCOG continues to receive reimbursement requests.

Ms. Yoder stated that CRCOG is still waiting on Housing of Urban Development (HUD) for the \$2 million Community Funding from Congressman Courtney's office. Ms. O'Sullivan Ruvinsky stated that all of HUD's Community Funding grants are backlogged.

Mr. Santoro stated that the grant requires an environmental review and Ms. Yoder stated that CRCOG is working with Mr. Rivera in DOH to complete that review.

6. Other Business/Discussion

- **Estimate of people left with bad foundations**
- **How to help the people who are remaining**
- **Other Discussion Items**

Deborah MacCoy gave an update on discussions she has been having with other homeowners and legislators regarding potential legislation and legislative proposals, including the possibility of including pyrite in the remediation scheme.

Discussion followed regarding a potential spring public session for affected homeowners. John Elsesser suggested having someone who has gone through the remediation process present on lessons learned.

Mr. Elsesser also asked if there was a backlog for contractors. Ms. MacCoy stated that some contractors are backlogged while others are not.

Ms. Spielman asked about qualified contractors and if there were issues with contractor. Ms Yoder stated that CRCOG has the qualified contractor list which is reviewed by building officials, but that the qualifications is a high level paper review. Ms. MacCoy stated that it is important for the homeowners to do their due diligence and sometimes contractors do have issues, but overall the contractors are of high quality.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 PM.

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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@crcog.org

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