

CRCOG 2024 Legislative Agenda (summary)

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is the largest council of governments (COG) in Connecticut and serves 38 municipalities with a population of almost one million residents. Geographically, the region encompasses an area of 1,000 square miles covering most of the historic Hartford and Tolland counties.

- Federal infrastructure funding - assist with Local Match for BIL/IIJA funding to enable municipalities to take full advantage of federal funding opportunities.
- Service sharing - remove remaining statutory barriers and provide incentives to promote service sharing at the local level.
- Regional/intermunicipal fair rent commissions – expressly permit municipalities with a population of 25,000 or more to form intermunicipal or regional fair rent commissions at local option.
- Permitting/siting of large solar installations – enhance the municipal role in the Siting Council’s permitting process for solar installations greater than one megawatt in size.
- Medicaid ambulance reimbursement – index state’s Medicaid ambulance reimbursement rate at the Federal level and pay the full rate for group home transport.
- Motor Vehicle Mill Rate Cap – hold towns harmless from loss of state revenue sharing designed to supplement state’s motor vehicle mill rate cap.
- PILOT funding – fund the state’s payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) programs at statutorily required levels.
- Funding for CFSIC – authorize the issuance of the remaining balance of \$50 million in bond funds allocated under PA 21-120 to enable the CT Foundation Indemnity Solutions Company (CFSIC) to continue its mission to assist homeowners with repairing/replacing crumbling foundations.
- Reciprocity for municipal officials – increase reciprocity to accept certifications from other states for various professional and technical positions.
- Sealed bid requirement – increase statutory threshold (\$25,000) established under C.G.S. §7-148v for municipalities that have adopted an ordinance concerning competitive bidding and build an appropriate index into the statute.

- Affordable housing –promote the construction of affordable housing through tax credits, brownfield restoration tax credits, and the local property tax exemption with state reimbursement.
- Office of Early Childhood Blue Ribbon Panel on Child Care – support the key recommendations set out in December 2023 report of the Office of Early Childhood’s Blue Ribbon Panel, particularly those related to workforce development, providing equitable access to care, and developing a more sustainable funding model.
- Primary Service Area Responder (PSAR) – require municipal approval, as opposed to a recommendation, for any change in the Primary Service Area Responder (PSAR) designation within their community.
- Hartford Line - complete the design and construction of the stations in West Hartford, Newington, and Windsor – as well as full buildouts in Windsor Locks and Enfield – as expeditiously as possible.