

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board

From: Pauline Yoder, Chief Operating Officer

CC: M. Hart, Executive Director

Meeting Date: February 28, 2024

Subject: DEEP Recreational Trail Grants Match

Background:

The towns of Andover, Coventry, Ellington, Glastonbury, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, South Windsor, Vernon, and Wethersfield have expressed interest in partnering to apply for the DEEP Recreational Trail Grant for maintenance equipment for trails. CRCOG would submit the application with the partner communities. The grant requires a 20% match for the funding. Participating towns would contribute 10% and staff is requesting that the Policy Board approve use of the CRCOG Regional Fund for the additional 10% match.

Participating towns would sign MOUs to share the equipment between towns, including maintenance costs. Some equipment would be shared by a sub-set of participating towns and more unique equipment would be shared across all participating towns.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG:

Equipment used for trail maintenance is quite expensive and unique and challenging for towns to purchase individually when usage is limited to brief periods in a year. This initiative would enable participating towns to share unique equipment and to maintain, enhance and improve trails more effectively.

Financial/Operational Impact:

The current estimate of the costs for all equipment is being negotiated across participating towns, but could be up to \$1,000,000. CRCOG staff is requesting a 10% match from CRCOG Regional Fund, not to exceed \$100,000. Participating towns would contribute an additional 10% match and the remaining funds would come from the DEEP grant. CRCOG's Regional Fund Balance is currently \$1,835,049.

Project Schedule:

March 11 – Grant Due

May – Awards announced

Fall 2024 – MOU's finalized and executed, equipment purchased and put into use

Recommendation:

Staff is pleased to support this application and recommends approval of the attached Resolution Authorizing Submittal of the DEEP Recreational Trail Grant and to Provide Match from the CRCOG Regional Fund.

Attachments:

- Proposed Resolution

Resolution Authorizing Submittal of the DEEP Recreational Trail Grant and to Provide Match from the CRCOG Regional Fund

WHEREAS, a number of CRCOG member towns wish to jointly apply through CRCOG for the DEEP Recreational Trail Grant for trail maintenance equipment; and

WHEREAS, the grant requires a 20% match; 10% of which will be provided for by the participating municipalities; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG wishes to encourage equipment sharing and efficiencies across towns;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, CRCOG’s Executive Director, or the individual authorized to act in that capacity, is authorized to act on behalf of the Capitol Region Council of Governments in submitting the DEEP Recreational Trail Grant on behalf of the participating towns and to contribute up to \$100,000 towards the grant’s required local match, or 10%, whichever is less from the CRCOG Regional Fund, and to commit CRCOG to act as the recipient for any related funding award.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned duly qualified CRCOG Board Member certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the voting members of the CRCOG Policy Board on February 28, 2024.

BY: _____ DATE: _____

Jason Bowsza, Secretary