

CRCOG POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

12:00 NOON

This was a hybrid meeting.

For more information, email or call Laura Rosenbluth at 860-724-4283

Attendance

Eric Anderson
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Robert Skinner
Mark Walter
Lisa Thomas
Jason Bowsza
Lori Spielman
Matt Reed
Jonathan Luiz
Steve Stephanou
Ryan Aylesworth
David Porter
Erin Stewart
Jon Trister
Mark Sciota
William Morrison
Brian Foley
Rick Ledwith
Fred Presley
Peter Tanaka
Peter Souza

Town/Organization

Andover
Berlin
Bloomfield
Canton
Columbia
Coventry
East Windsor
Ellington
Ellington
Glastonbury
Manchester
Mansfield
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Southington
Stafford
Tolland
West Hartford
Wethersfield
Willington
Windsor

Staff

Aaliyah Miller
Cara Radzins
Caitlin Palmer
Cheryl Assis
Chris Seeger
Elizabeth Sanderson
Jill Swenson

CRCOG
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Laura Rosenbluth	CRCOG
Lily Schneider	CRCOG
Matt Hart	CRCOG
Maureen Goulet	CRCOG
Heidi Samokar	CRCOG
Pauline Yoder	CRCOG
Rob Aloise	CRCOG
Roger Krahn	CRCOG
Tracey Malenfant	CRCOG

Guests

Congressman Courtney	US Congress
Erin McBride	Congressman Murphy
Greyson Wright	CTDOT
Mark Massaro	Eversource
John Harkins	Rome, Smith, Lutz, Kowalski

1. **Call to Order**

Erin Stewart called meeting to order at 12:03 PM

2. **Public Comment**

No Public comment was offered.

3. **Approval of Minutes from December 20, 2023**

Jon Colman made a motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2024 as presented. Lori Spielman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. **MONTHLY REPORTS**

- a. **Chair and Executive Director** - Mr. Hart provided an overview of his report. Mr. Hart's full report can be found [HERE](#)
- b. BIL/IIJA Update
- c. Municipal Services and Purchasing Council
- d. Planning - Transportation
- e. Public Safety Homeland Security
- f. Planning - Community Development

5. **Legislative Update**

During Matt Hart's recent visit to Washington D.C., Matt met with congressmen and expressed gratitude for the received funds while emphasizing the importance of continued infrastructure funding. Chris Smith noted that the CRCOG region represents about 20% of the state and highlighted strong support for CRCOG's priorities. The appropriations budget hearings have concluded, with ongoing public hearings and

upcoming voting on bills next week. Currently, the we are awaiting the legislature to propose their budget, with key budget items such as fiscal guardrails being considered. Additionally, Matt mentioned that he regularly submits testimony on behalf of the organization.

6. **Presentations**

Begins at one minute in. Congressman Courtney acknowledged the hard work and dedication of all the Connecticut Councils of Governments (COGS), emphasizing their importance and recognition within the government sector. The Congressman commended the COGS for their valuable contributions and partnership in working towards common goals for the benefit of the community, especially in terms of rural health care. Additionally, the congressman discussed federal funding timelines, workforce development, workforce board, job training and answered questions from the board.

ACTION ITEMS

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

Pauline Yoder presented the resolution. The towns of Andover, Coventry, Ellington, Glastonbury, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, South Windsor, Vernon, and Wethersfield have shown interest in collaborating to apply for the DEEP Recreational Trail Grant aimed at acquiring maintenance equipment for trails. Details on the finding Breakdown can be found in the [Agenda Item Summary](#). Jon Colman made a motion to approve, and Lisa Thomas seconded. Motion passed.

8. **Resolution Authorizing Agreement with the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO)**

Cheryl Assis presented, that CRCOG has received Operational Readiness Awards from NACCHO over the years to sustain, train, and equip the Capitol Region Medical Reserve Corps (CRMRC). This award will include funds for the CR-MRC Logistics Unit Leader and Trainer to facilitate a mission ready logistics support team. Jon Colman made a motion to approve, and Lori Spielman seconded. Motion passed.

9. **Resolution Endorsing the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) for the Hartford-East Hartford-Middletown MSA**

Kyle Shiel recommended the Board's approval of the Priority Climate Action Plan and welcomed any feedback the members may have. Jon Colman made a motion to approve, and Lisa Thomas seconded. Motion passed.

10. **TIP Amendments**

Jon Colman made a motion and of the proposed TIP amendments to approve the following project:

1. Southington—I-691 WB—Replace Noise Barrier

Lori Spielman seconded; motion passed.

11. **Correspondence/ Handouts**

Matt Hart reviewed CRCOG's memo on the new office location.

12. **Other Business**

None.

13. **Adjournment**

Jon Colman motioned to adjourn. Mayor Stewart adjourned the meeting at 1:03pm.

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