

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board

From: Matt Hart, Executive Director

CC: Pauline Yoder, Chief Operating Officer

Meeting Date: May 22, 2024

Subject: Resolution to Accept Regional Waste Authority (RWA) Grant of \$570,000 from DEEP

Background: In March of 2023, DEEP announced the availability of \$1.5 million in state grant funding through the Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Grant Program to assist municipalities and regional waste authorities with forming new or expanding existing regional waste authorities and engaging in planning activities for diversion programs and infrastructure development. CRCOG submitted a grant proposal requesting funds to expand programs and services offered by its regional waste authority, CCSWA (Central CT Solid Waste Authority), which was formed by statute in 2010 under C.G.S. Sections 7-273aa to 7-273oo, inclusive.

In April 2024, DEEP notified us that CRCOG would receive a RWA Grant (RWA Project) in the amount of \$570,000 to initiate and complete a program to (1) evaluate and identify a governance structure to form a new or expand existing regional waste authorities; and (2) engage in planning activities for diversion programs and infrastructure development.

The RWA Project will include: (1) membership opportunities for CRCOG member municipalities and other municipalities to join CCSWA; and (2) provide waste advisory, support, and other programs, and services available through CCSWA to existing and potential members to identify and analyze existing assets, programs, and initiatives of CRCOG/CCSWA and their member municipalities. CRCOG will also utilize the grant funding to develop the options available to coordinate the various municipal waste operations through CCSWA focusing on a comprehensive regional solution for managing solid waste, food scraps, and recyclables. CRCOG and DEEP are finalizing a contract agreement which includes a three-phase Scope of Work to be completed over the next three (3) years.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG: The grant will enable CRCOG and CCSWA to better serve their member municipalities by enhancing waste management and diversion programs and services, including the potential for infrastructure development and project scaling to realize cost savings and to increase availability of services to unserved, underserved, and environmental justice (EJ) communities.

Financial/Operational Impact: The grant includes funding for technical assistance, legal assistance, administrative and project management (including staffing resources and CRCOG administrative support), and operating costs to assist member municipalities.

Project Schedule: Upon execution of a contract agreement by and between CRCOG and DEEP, CRCOG will accept RWA Project Grant funds and begin Phase I of a three-phase project. Staff expects to complete the Project over the next three years.

Recommendation: For the reasons outlined above, I recommend that that the Policy Board approve the Resolution to Accept the Regional Waste Authority (RWA) Grant.

Attachments: Resolution to Accept the Regional Waste Authority (RWA) Grant

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT REGIONAL WASTE AUTHORITY (RWA) GRANT OF \$570,000 FROM DEEP

WHEREAS, CRCOG’s regional waste authority (CCSWA) was formed provide waste management and diversion opportunities, programs, and services for member municipalities; and

WHEREAS, DEEP issued a grant award to CRCOG in the amount of \$570,000 to provide funds to support CRCOG’s RWA Project; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG and DEEP will collaborate with member municipalities throughout the region to develop and implement comprehensive regional solutions for managing solid waste, food scraps, and recyclables.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that that the CRCOG Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to sign a contract with the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), including, but not limited to any amendments, modifications, addendums, and/or extensions thereto, and accept grant funds for the purposes outlined above.

CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting held on May 22, 2024.

BY: _____
Jason Bowsza, Secretary

DATE: _____