CRCOG Policy Board Members Recognized

The November election resulted in 12 turnovers in the Policy Board members. Pictured here are four of the out-going members: Bruce Chudwick, Farmington, Stephen Cassano, CRCOG Chair, Manchester, Jeff Ives, Windsor Locks and Richard Hines, Avon. The members were recognized at the November Policy Board meeting for their outstanding service and dedication over the years.

CT Transportation Summit Held November 14

CRCOG together with CCSU, the Regional Plan Association and CCM sponsored a 2005 Transportation Finance Summit from at Central Connecticut University featuring state leadership and national experts on innovations in financing transportation and transit. CRCOC Chair Stephen Cassano acted as master of ceremonies for the Summit.

CCSU Professor Anthony Milano, TSB Chair Kelleher, OPM Secretary Genuario and ConnDOT Commissioner Korta participated on a panel. The White paper prepared for the conference may be found at: http://www.crcog.org/Publications/Transportation/transsummitwhitepapernov92005.pdf and the resource paper at: http://www.crcog.org/Publications/Transportation/ResourceReportSummaries1.pdf
CRCOG’s Public Safety Council Ten-Year Anniversary

CRCOG’s Public Safety Council celebrated its ten-year anniversary at the Hartford Marriott on November 9, 2005. The luncheon was attended by close to 100 people, representing all public safety disciplines, municipal and state government, and nonprofit and community organizations. CRCOG Executive Director Lyle Wray made welcoming remarks. Lee Erdmann, Chair of the Public Safety Council, spoke about the history of the Council, its committees, and initiatives underway. Commissioner James “Skip” Thomas provided an overview of the new Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security agency and its priorities.

Photos: Upper left: Steve Thal, Betty Morris, Gary Allyn and Keith Victor; Upper Right: Ken Loock, Don Janelle and Chief Carr; Lower left: Chairman Lee Erdmann and Bob DiBella; and Lower right: Captain David Bourque, Chief James Berry, Lt. Barry Prawl, Chief Michael Manzi

CRCOG Recognized for Bicycle Planning

At the November 15th, First Annual Dinner of the Central Connecticut Bicycle Alliance (CCBA), CRCOG and Sandy Fry were recognized for their continuing support of the regional bike to work program and their assistance in the development of the CCBA. Photo: Sandy Fry receiving recognition on behalf of CRCOG. The CCBA is dedicated to promoting bicycling, improving the bicycling environment in central CT, and educating motorists and bicyclists about
their respective rights and responsibilities. These goals mesh nicely with the adopted CRCOG Bicycle Plan and we expect that the presence of a group like the CCBA will help with the implementation of the Plan. DEP Commissioner Gina McCarthy spoke at the dinner and emphasized the importance of biking as part of the region’s transportation mix.

**Capitol Region Public Safety Council Views Data Sharing Systems**

Members of the Capitol Region Public Safety Council were invited to Columbus Ohio to view their Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG) system and the Ohio Local Law Enforcement Information-Sharing Network (OLLEISN). Photo: Chief Gary Vest, Powell, Ohio; Commander John Murphy, East Hartford; Chief Richard Mulhall, Newington; Cheryl Assis, CRCOG; Academy Commander Major Peyton Watts; James Donnelly, New Britain and Lt. Dianna White, Ohio Trooper pose at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy.

Both systems were designed to share data amongst various law enforcement agencies to prevent and solve crimes and promote open communication and cooperation. The trip was a good way to view best practices as CRCOG is about to embark upon a Data Sharing project through 2005 Homeland Security funds.

**Annual Purchasing Council Meeting Held**

The Capitol Region Purchasing Council (CRPC) held its annual meeting this year on Monday, November 7th and drew purchasing professionals from across the State to The Lyceum Resource and Conference Center in Hartford. Presentations covering the Council’s membership drive (which has yielded 15 new towns since last year), the results of a comprehensive strategic planning effort, reverse auctions, professional development opportunities and the merits of on-call contracting systems rounded out the afternoon program.

A guest speaker from the Gordion Group flew in from Texas to walk the membership through the company’s Job Order Contracting system—a procurement technology that earned the City of Miami Beach NIGP’s prestigious Best of the Best Award for 2005. Much interest was expressed in bringing this construction procurement methodology to the Capitol Region, and a project subcommittee will be created to help flesh out the scope of a possible pilot initiative.

Meeting materials will be posted shortly to the Purchasing Council’s web page, located at [www.crcog.org/purchasing.htm](http://www.crcog.org/purchasing.htm).
**CRPC Hosts Cooperative Purchasing Webinar**

As part of its ongoing commitment to support professional development within the procurement field, the Purchasing Council hosted its first webinar through the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing’s Distance Learning Program on November 17th. Cathy Muse, Director of the Department of Purchasing and Supply Management for Fairfax County, Virginia, led the 90-minute workshop entitled Incorporating Cooperative Purchasing into Your Agency. A group of CRPC members attended the session and were able to ask questions and interact with the presenter as well as other participants from across the country, all while earning continuing education credits.

**Upcoming CRCOG Meetings**

- **CRCOG New Policy Board Member Welcome**, Tuesday, December 13, 10:30 am to 12 Noon
- **CRCOG Policy Board**, Tuesday, December 13, 12:00 Noon
- **Municipal Services Committee**, Tuesday, December 20, 2005, 12 Noon
- **Regional Planning Commission**, Thursday, December 15, 2005, 7:00 p.m.
- **Public Safety Council**: To be announced.
- **Executive Committee**, Wednesday, January 11, 2006, 12 Noon
- **Transportation Committee**, Monday, January 23, 2006, 12 Noon
- **Community Development Committee**: To be announced.

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