



Capitol Region Council
of Governments

CRCOG News

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Serving the 30 Communities of Connecticut's Capital Region
241 Main Street 4th Floor
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Two Mile Multi-Use Trail Opens in Collinsville



On July 28, 2011 Governor Dannel P. Malloy cut the ribbon in Canton on a two mile trail to expand the regional multi use path system. Canton First Selectman Richard Barlow hosted the event. CRCOG Chair and Simsbury First Selectman Mary Glassman (white and green t-shirt to right of Governor) joined the event. It is now possible to ride on the trail from the southern end of the Farmington Canal Heritage trail in Farmington (at Red Oak Hill Road) all the way to Westfield, Massachusetts. Now bikers can loop off of the Canal Trail to explore the villages of Unionville Collinsville, and Canton Center. This latest trail construction was funded with American

Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA or stimulus) funding programmed through CRCOG. The town of Canton did major work to get the project underway, and brought it in well under budget.

CRCOG Annual Meeting Hears from CT DEEP Commissioner Esty



The CRCOG Annual Meeting & Luncheon was held at the Boathouse at Riverfront Recapture on June 9, 2011. Almost 90 people attended the event on the Connecticut River. CRCOG Chairman and Simsbury First Selectman Mary Glassman served as the Master of Ceremonies. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Commissioner Daniel C. Esty delivered the keynote address, highlighting his background,

DEEP's strengths and current and future partnership opportunities with CRCOG. The event also featured Hartford Mayor Pedro Segarra highlighting the 375th Anniversary of the City of Hartford. A special thanks to all of the local businesses who donated door prizes.

CRCOG Welcomes William Austin



Former West Hartford Fire Chief William Austin has recently joined CRCOG to serve as a Homeland Security Coordinator contractor in the Department of Public Safety and Homeland Security. Chief Austin brings sixteen years of experience as the Fire Chief in West Hartford and seven years as the Chairman of the Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee (CREPC). Chief Austin will be working on managing ESF-5 (Emergency Management), moving CREPC forward and investigating future grant opportunities.

Capitol Region Hosts FHWA on Traffic Signals



On June 22nd, The Capitol Region welcomed Federal Highway Administration and ConnDOT officials for an engaging discussion on traffic signal equipment, operations and maintenance. The full-day session began with tours of the Manchester and Hartford Traffic Operations Centers, followed by a discussion on West Hartford's system. FHWA officials presented best practices, identified measures to improve system efficiency, and provided ideas for future planning and collaboration. Participants agreed that the

discussion among town engineers regarding their respective current practices and strategies for improvement was very beneficial.

CRCOG Intern News



Matt Daskal, (at left above) a graduate of Syracuse University's MPA program interned at CRCOG for 6 months and has accepted a position as Town Manager for the town of Westminster in Vermont. We thank Matt for his hard work during his time here and wish him the best of luck as Town Manager. CRCOG welcomes office summer intern, **Annamarie Clarke** (center above). Annmarie is currently finishing her Bachelor of Science in Business Management and Communications. Annmarie will be taking on various projects within the office, including database updates and bus routes testing. In June 2011 **Eric Dorsey** (shown at right) joined CRCOG as Transportation intern to assist with CRCOG's Travel Forecast Model Update. Eric is a graduate Civil Engineer from the University of Connecticut and is currently pursuing his master's degree in Transportation Engineering. As part of Eric's graduate thesis, he is conducting research on transit oriented development and light rail in Denver, Colorado.

CRCOG Welcomes Young Readers and Planners



Once again CRCOG staff participated in the Everybody Wins! CT lunchtime reading program. Throughout the school year eight staff members partnered with students from Betances Elementary School on Charter Oak Avenue in Hartford to read, share stories, talk about books, enhance students' self-esteem and encourage success by providing consistent, weekly attention.

At the end of the school year, CRCOG hosted the students for a celebration and lesson in planning.



The students were fascinated with aerial photos of their school and neighborhood and also enjoyed planning their very own city, The One of a Kind City, complete with a school, fire station, parks, housing and amusement parks! Cheryl Assis and Sandy Fry serve on the EBW! CT Volunteer Council, providing input and direction to program staff, strategies, and future programs.

Metropolitan Region 7th Healthiest in US

The Hartford, Tolland and Middlesex county region made the top ten list of healthiest regions in the country. This region ranked 7 as indicated in Shape Magazine citing both top-notch medical centers and tons of hiking and biking trails. The region has the highest number of farmers' markets per capita and one of the lowest obesity rates in the country, plus its residents rank second on the list when it comes to being active on a regular basis. (Source: <http://www.shape.com/fitness/top-10-fittest-cities-in-america?slide=31658>).

Upcoming Meeting Dates

CT River Assembly – September 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., Wethersfield Town Hall

Executive Committee – September 7, 2011, Noon, CRCOG

Municipal Services – September 20, 2011, Noon, CRCOG

Capitol Region Jobs Access Task Force – September 15, 2011, 9:30 a.m., CRCOG

CREPC – September 15, 2011, 9:30 a.m., South Church

Regional Planning Commission – September 25, 2011, 7:00 p.m., West Hartford Town Hall

Transportation Committee – September 26, 2011, Noon, CRRA

CRCOG Policy Board – September 28, 2011, Noon, CRRA

Bike/Pedestrian Committee – September 13, 2011, Noon, Riverfront Boathouse

Public Safety Council – September 8, 2011, Noon, South Church

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