



# Capitol Region Update

## December 2006

Capitol Region Council of Governments

[www.crcog.org](http://www.crcog.org)



**Happy Holidays from All of Us at CRCOG!**

### Natural Gas Program Locks Prices for 2007-2008



The Natural Gas Program recently locked in a very competitive price for its consortium members. With the Natural Gas Procurement Committee, CRCOG has negotiated a significantly reduced mark-up, a competitive basis and locked in a lower NYMEX than the previous year. CNG customers in the program will be paying \$1.2765 per CCF for 2007-2008, a 12.5% decrease from 2006-2007. Yankee customers will be paying \$1.2433 per CCF for 2007-2008 a 13%

decrease from 2006-2007. We are currently recruiting for the next phase of the Natural Gas Program. Please email Jennifer March-Wackers, Municipal Services Coordinator, at [jwackers@crcog.org](mailto:jwackers@crcog.org) by January 19, 2007 if you would like to participate!

### Service Sharing Symposium: Sign Up Now!



Sign up now for "Service Sharing in Connecticut"! Don't miss out on hearing renowned author David Osborne ("The Price of Government") speak and learn about how service sharing is working in Maine and New Jersey! There is still space available, and pre-registration is open until December 27th. Information is

on the CRCOG webpage at [www.crcog.org](http://www.crcog.org). Not able to pre-register? A limited number of walk-in spaces will be available! Call Maureen to sign up today! (860-522-2217 x37)

### CRCOG Launches Updated Webpage



In late December, CRCOG launched its totally revamped webpage. The webpage is now based on a server at CRCOG and is designed to be easier for users to access needed information. If you have comments or suggestions as you use the new webpage, please send them along to Debby Rihm at CRCOG, [drihm@crcog.org](mailto:drihm@crcog.org) or 860 522 2217 extension 13 so that we can continue to improve the site.

## ***e-Procurement: Online Purchasing Advances***



The Capitol Region Purchasing Council Executive Committee has selected RFP Depot for its e-Procurement software system. This online system will increase automation at CRPC and allow for more streamlined bid solicitation as well as expose our bids to a national vendor database. The new software will also provide all CRPC members with value-added services. A meeting to explain the new software and opportunities for CRPC towns and cities to use it for their own bids will be scheduled for early February

2007.

## ***Agriculture Community Listening Sessions***



Community Development staff held three listening sessions with the regional agricultural community this month, as a part of CRCOG's Agriculture Viability grant project to develop model agricultural land use regulations. The meetings were geared to a variety of agricultural businesses, from wholesalers and retailers to agri-tourism businesses. Thirty-six producers representing 29 farm businesses from around the Region attended and provided valuable

input on how municipalities can improve their farm-friendliness. For further information on the project, contact Rebecca Augur at 860-522-2217 ext. 29.

## ***Human Services Transportation Planning: Input Welcome***



The federal transportation bill that was passed in 2005, SAFETEA-LU, requires that regions prepare locally coordinated human services transportation plans (dubbed LOCHSTP in Connecticut.) Working with our colleagues at Midstate Regional Planning Agency and Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency, CRCOG staff has convened meetings, conducted a survey, and held a public meeting. We are reaching out to traditional partners, including town dial a ride operators and

regional transit providers. In addition, we are involving non-traditional partners, including social service agencies and state agencies. The plan must address the transportation needs of senior citizens, individuals with low income, and individuals with disabilities. At this point, service needs are being evaluated so that a plan to meet the needs can be developed. Input to the process is welcome. Contact Sandy Fry ([sfry@crcog.org](mailto:sfry@crcog.org), 522-2217, X20) if you would like to provide input or get involved.

## ***CRCOG 2007 Meeting Calendar***

With the New Year just around the corner, the following Committees/Boards have put together their meeting schedules for 2007.

The **CRCOG Policy Board** will meet on the following dates at noon at the CRRA Recycling Center and Trash Museum at 211 Murphy Road in Hartford: January 31, (fifth Wednesday), February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, September 26, November 14, and December 12.

The **CRCOG Executive Committee** will meet at the CRCOG Offices, 241 Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hartford, on the following dates at noon: January 10, March 14, May 9, August 8, and October 10.

The **CRCOG Transportation Committee** will meet at the CRRA Recycling Center on the following dates at noon: January 22, February 26, March 26, April 23, May 21, June 25, July 23, September 24, November 5, and December 10.

The **CRCOG Community Development Committee** will meet at the South Congregational Church on the following dates at noon: February 8, April 12, June 14, September 13, and November 8.

The **CRCOG Municipal Services Committee** will meet at CRRA on the following dates at noon: January 16, February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, September 18, October 16, November 20, and December 18.

The **Regional Planning Commission** will meet in Room 300 of the West Hartford Town Hall on the following dates at 7:00 p.m.: January 18, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, September 20, October 18, and November 15.

The **Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Committee** will meet at CRRA Recycling Center on the following dates at noon: March 13, June 12, September 11, and December 11.

### ***Upcoming CRCOG Meetings***

Executive Committee, Wednesday, January 10, Noon, CRCOG Office

Municipal Services Committee, Tuesday, January 16, Noon, CRRA

Jobs Access, Thursday, January 18, 9:30 a.m., Greater Hartford Transit District

Regional Planning Commission, January 18, 7:00 p.m., West Hartford Town Hall

Transportation Committee, Monday, January 22, Noon, CRRA

CRCOG Policy Board, Wednesday, January 31, Noon, CRRA

Community Development Committee, Thursday, February 8, Noon, South Church

Public Safety Council, Thursday, March 8, 2007, Noon, South Church

Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Committee, March 13, Noon, CRRA

**Capitol Region Update** is a monthly publication of the Capitol Region Council of Governments ([www.crcog.org](http://www.crcog.org)). CRCOG was formed January 28, 1976 and organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut. Member municipalities of CRCOG are: Andover, Avon, Bloomfield, Bolton, Canton, East Granby, East Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby, Hartford, Hebron, Manchester, Marlborough, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, Somers, South Windsor, Suffield, Tolland, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, and Windsor Locks.

The 2006 Officers of the CRCOG Policy Board are: David K. Kilbon, Chair, First Selectman of East Granby, Eddie Perez, Vice Chair, Mayor of Hartford, Linda Roberts, Vice Chair, First Selectman of East Windsor, Mary Tomolonius, Treasurer, First Selectman of Canton, Susan Karp, Secretary, Chair, Glastonbury Town Council. Lyle D. Wray, PhD, Executive Director.



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