

# Capitol Region Council of Governments

241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106  
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## BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING, December 8, 2009

### ATTENDANCE

Chuck Guarino  
Marian Storch  
Francis Pickering  
Martha Page  
Mike Gallagher  
Jennifer Cassidy  
Dave Balzer  
Rich Sawitzke  
Tim Bockus  
Michele Lipe

### TOWN/ORGANIZATION

Town of West Hartford  
CT Dept of Public Health  
CCRPA  
CCBA/ City of Hartford  
Newington Bike  
City of Hartford  
CTDOT  
Town of Simsbury  
Town of East Hartford  
Town of South Windsor

### STAFF

Sandy Fry  
Brenda Watson

CRCOG  
CRCOG

The meeting was called to order by staff member Sandy Fry at 12:15.

**Approval of Minutes:** Michele Lipe made motion to approve the September meeting minutes, seconded by Dave Balzer. Passed unanimously.

### Bike Ped Plan Implementation, Year 1 review

#### **Rec. 1 - Complete Streets**

- March 2009, Erin Sturgis Pascale presented on Complete Streets/Safe Streets effort in New Haven.
- April 2009, CRCOG made Complete Streets presentations to South Windsor P&Z.
- In July, **Governor M. Jodi Rell signed Senate Bill 735, the Complete Streets bill, into law.** (<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2009/ACT/PA/2009PA-00154-R00SB-00735-PA.htm>)

#### **Rec. 2.1 - Survey document**

- Two guides that might be utilized by town staff or advocates to identify pedestrian infrastructure needs: A Resident's Guide for Creating Safe and Walkable Communities (<http://drusilla.hsrc.unc.edu/cms/downloads/residentsguide.pdf>) and Walkability Checklist (<http://www.walkableamerica.org/checklist-walkability.pdf>)

#### **Rec. 2.3; 3.3 - Data collection**

- December 2008, CRCOG initiated development of bike ped data collection program.
- September 2009, CRCOG region successfully participated in National Bike/Ped Documentation Project, counting at 25 locations throughout the region. The final report on the count project can be accessed here: (<http://www.crcog.org/publications/BicycleDocs/BP-count-report-final.pdf>)
- The committee was asked to give input on how the data collection effort can be improved going forward.

**Rec. 2.5; 3.5 - Safe Routes**

- After holding Safe Routes to Schools workshops in January and February of 2008, CRCOG has decided not to offer the Safe Routes Workshop series again, unless a town requests it. Technical assistance (school walkabouts with traffic engineering recommendations developed) provided by consultant FHI continues to be available.
- March 2009, CRCOG hosted two Safe Routes webinars sponsored by the National Center for Safe Routes.
- July 2009, Safe Routes plans submitted to CRCOG, CRCOG then submitted to DOT.
- November 2009, CRCOG convenes a group of Safe Routes advocates statewide to discuss applying for funding for a State Safe Routes Network organizer. The group decided to make application, with the Central CT Bicycle Alliance (CCBA) as the non profit applicant, with CRCOG assisting to develop the application.

**Rec. 2.6; 3.7 - Funding information**

- June 2009, CRCOG distributed a draft summary of funding sources for bike/ped projects. This is currently being refined.

**Rec. 3.6 - Bike Friendly Community**

- June 2008, distributed Bicycle Friendly Community application which enumerates how towns are evaluated.
- Have initiated discussions with the League of American Bicyclists to bring a Bicycle Friendly Community workshop or seminar to the Capitol region. The Town of Simsbury (through its Bicycle Friendly Community Committee) has contacted the LAB directly and will likely have a ½ day Bicycle Friendly community workshop the second week of January 2010. We will try to hold an additional workshop, or a shorter overview of the program, that same week.

**Rec. 4.1 - East Coast Greenway**

- The Town of Bloomfield has a contract with the Rails to Trails Conservancy for feasibility and design of the section of trail from the terminus of the Griffin rail line to the town line with Simsbury.
- Simsbury has applied for funding to extend the trail from the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail along Route 315.
- Plainville has completed a design study of its section of trail.
- Bolton, East Hartford, and Manchester continue to seek funding for their trail sections.
- In the next year, CRCOG plans to work with Farmington and Hartford to be certain that those sections of trail forward.

**Rec. 6.1 - Bicycle racks**

- June 2008, CRCOG assisted the City of Hartford with developing and distributing a survey of where bicycle racks should go (this is part of a CMAQ grant the City received.)

**Rec. 8.1; 8.2; - Bicycle education**

- August 2008, Road 1 classes offered with 26 participants.
- October 2008, League of American Bicyclists Cycling Instructor (LCI) certification course offered with 16 participants.
- April 2009, bicycling education workshop for PE Instructors offered at Berlin High School.
- July 2009, bicycle education class offered to children at the Asylum Hill Boys and Girls Club. 22 participants
- August 2009, a second round of Road 1 classes is offered.

- October 2009, a second LCI certification course offered with 12 participants.

**Rec. 13.2 – Education – Police**

- CRCOG, with assistance from the CCBA, developed a bicycle enforcement handout that was distributed to patrol officers in a continuing education course offered through the Capitol Region Chief of Police Association (CRCOPA). There are several other classes being offered through CRCOPA that will also distribute this document. We will participate in a discussion next spring with CRCOPA to try to get more education into the continuing education classes.

**Adjournment** 1:20pm

**Next Meeting**

Schedule for 2010: March 9<sup>th</sup>; June 8<sup>th</sup>; September 14<sup>th</sup>