

**Capitol Region Council of Governments**  
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106  
[www.crcog.org](http://www.crcog.org)

**Special Policy Board Meeting on Transportation**  
**CRRA Trash Museum**  
**Noon**  
**Monday, June 22, 2009**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Organization</u></b>
Jon Colman	Bloomfield
Dick Hines	Avon
Larry Baril (alternate)	Avon
John Pagini	Bolton
Neil Pade	Canton
Mark Mitchell	CCEJ
Dave Kilbon	East Granby
Melody A. Currey	East Hartford
Bill Taylor (alternate)	East Hartford
Len Norton	East Windsor
Robert Phillips	Ellington
Piya Hawkes	Enfield
Matt Blume	Farmington
Daniel Pennington	Glastonbury
James Klase	Granby
Jennifer Cassidy	Hartford
John McGrane	Hartford
Kevin Burnham	Hartford
Mark Carlino	Manchester
Peter Hughes	Marlborough
Tony Ferraro	Newington
Barbara Gilbert	Rocky Hill
Jim Sollmi (alternate)	Rocky Hill
Rich Sawitzke	Simsbury
David Pinney	Somers
Patrice Carson (alternate)	Somers
Marcia Banach	South Windsor
Bill Hawkins	Suffield
David Smith	Tolland
Terry McCarthy	Vernon
Dave Kraus	West Hartford
Bonnie Therrien	Wethersfield
Peter Souza	Windsor
Steve Wawruck	Windsor Locks

**Guests**

Jim Abromaitis	CCEDA
Grayson Wright	ConnDOT
Matt Fleury	CT Science Center
DJ Gonzalez	GHTD
Mike Mehigen	OPM

**Public Attendees**

Bradshaw Smith	Windsor
Tom Gutman	AARP

**Staff**

Jennifer Carrier	CRCOG
Sandy Fry	CRCOG
Lia Huang	CRCOG
Tom Maziarz	CRCOG
Erik Snowden	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	CRCOG
Lyle Wray	CRCOG

**1. Roll Call**

Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM.

**2. Public Forum**

Tom Gutman mentioned that AARP was interested in getting involved with the promotion of complete streets and voiced concern over the safety for all users of Route 44 over Avon Mountain.

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

A motion was made by Ms. Banach, seconded by Ms. Carson, to accept the minutes of the Transportation Committee May 18, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Staff Report**

Mr. Maziarz announced the upcoming MPO certification scheduled for July 14, 2009. Policy Board and Transportation Committee member participation is encouraged.

Mr. Snowden updated the Committee on the air photo service sharing initiative. This project is funded through the OPM Regional Performance Incentive Grant. The OrthoFlight was completed in April. Preliminary results are favorable however some towns have volunteered to check twelve sample tiles for accuracy and color balance in the coming weeks. The final results are expected in February 2010. If the Committee is interested, a more in-depth presentation may be scheduled for a future Transportation Committee meeting.

Mr. Wray summarized the latest events relating to the Transportation Reauthorization Bill. The House of Representatives has proposed a \$500 billion reauthorization bill. The White House proposed an 18-month extension to reauthorize the transportation bill. The Senate has discussed a livable communities grant involving housing and urban development and transit-oriented development.

## **5. STP-Urban Program**

- a. Representatives from the CCEDA, OPM and the CT Science Center made a presentation on the new Grove Street Connector. The pedestrian bridge will tie the Plaza Level of the Connecticut Science Center with the Connecticut Convention Center creating unimpeded access to all of Adriaen's Landing. The CCEDA requested financial assistance to fund the design and construction of a snow melt system as well as functional yet decorative lighting.

Mr. Pagini made a motion to approve funding a total cost of \$392,000 of STP Urban monies for the snow melt system and decorative lighting for the Grove Street Connector. Mr. Wawruck seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Ms. Carrier reviewed the cost increase for the Newington Church Street/Kelsey Street project. Mr. Ferraro explained that the project is in the final design stage and is on schedule to advertise next month.

Mr. Sollmi made a motion to approve the cost increase, resulting in a total cost of \$1,151,700 (\$921,360 federal). Ms. Carson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- c. Mr. Maziarz summarized the Bradley Gateway Project programmed to receive STP Urban monies. Mr. Maziarz explained the proposed modifications to the original plans involving the connection of the Route 20 ramp from Route 75 to the new service road. These modifications are not expected to have any immediate financial impact on the STP Urban program. Mr. Wawruck described the project further providing information on potential future development.

Mr. Phillips made a motion, seconded by Ms. Therrien, to approve the proposed modifications to the Bradley Gateway Project. The motion passed unanimously.

## **6. TIP Amendments**

Ms. Carrier reviewed the TIP amendments.

Mr. Gonzalez explained that the vehicles that will be replaced have 300,000 miles on them, bringing the fleet up to date for this year.

Mr. Mitchell questioned the details related to the ITS Paratransit Management System and commented on his preference to provide bus patrons, on fixed routes, with real-time information such as how long it may be before the next bus arrives whenever possible.

Mr. Maziarz mentioned that CT Transit has made progress on Intelligent Transportation System integration with the regular fixed route system. More information related to Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) equipment will be provided at the next Transportation Committee meeting.

Mr. Pennington described the Glastonbury project and announced that the public and Town Council meetings have already been held.

Mr. Burnham questioned why maintenance of State roads and highways is being funded with municipal ARRA funds. Mr. Colman stated that the State has taken more latitude than CRCOG was able to take in the use of ARRA funds.

Mr. Kilbon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Carson, to accept the TIP amendments as written. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Process for developing and approving new TIP**

Mr. Maziarz reviewed the expected schedule for development and approval of the new TIP.

**8. Update on Regional Bus Shelter Policy & Program**

Ms. Fry updated the Committee on the Regional Bus Shelter Program. The City of Hartford and seven other towns have decided to participate to date. CT Transit and ConnDOT are expecting to release the RFP in early July and select a contractor in the fall. The installation of shelters is expected to be completed in Spring 2010.

**Public Comment**

Bradshaw Smith commented that when the program was first proposed, there was some concern over the type of advertising that will be placed on these shelters. Ms. Fry assured him that towns have the ability to opt in or opt out of the program and that all bus shelters proposed to have advertising will be approved by the participating towns. Additionally, the program will follow CT Transit's advertisement screening policy, which has not encountered issues in the past.

**9. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**10. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.