

**Capitol Region Council of Governments**  
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106

**Transportation Committee Meeting**  
**Monday March 23, 2009**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Jon Colman	Bloomfield
Larry Baril	Avon
John Pagini	Bolton
Neil Pade	Canton
Bill Taylor	East Hartford
Leonard Norton	East Windsor
Robert Phillips	Ellington
Piya Hawkes	Enfield
Russ Arnold	Farmington
Daniel Pennington	Glastonbury
James Klase	Granby
Jennifer Cassidy	Hartford
John McGrane	Hartford
Peter Hughes	Marlborough
Tony Ferraro	Newington
Jim Sollmi	Rocky Hill
Rich Sawitzke	Simsbury
Patrice Carson	Somers
Marcia Banach	South Windsor
Bill Hawkins	Suffield
David Smith	Tolland
Terry McCarthy	Vernon
Steve Weitz	West Hartford
Mike Turner	Wethersfield
Tom Lenehan	Windsor
Steve Wawruck	Windsor Locks
Gilbert Hayes	GHTD
<b>Guests</b>	
Jonathan Thiesse	Bloomfield
DJ Gonzalez	GHTD
Vicki Shotland	GHTD
Grayson Wright	ConnDOT
<b>Staff</b>	
Tom Maziarz	CRCOG
Jennifer Carrier	CRCOG
Lia Huang	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	CRCOG

**Public Attendees**

No one from the public attended

**1. Roll Call**

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

## **2. Public Forum**

There were no public comments.

## **3. Adoption of Minutes**

A motion was made by Marcia Banach, seconded by John Pagini, to accept the minutes of the following meetings:

- February 23, 2009 Transportation Committee meeting as written
- March 4, 2009 ARRA Subcommittee meeting as written
- March 12, 2009 ARRA Subcommittee meeting as written
- March 18, 2009 ARRA Subcommittee meeting as written

This motion was passed unanimously.

## **4. Staff Report**

No business to report.

## **5. Authorizing Resolutions for Route 10 and Route 3 studies**

Tom Maziarz explained that the resolutions authorized CRCOG's Chairperson or Executive Director to execute an agreement with ConnDOT for funds to conduct the Route 10 and Route 3 studies.

A motion was made by Peter Hughes, seconded by Bill Taylor, to approve the authorizing resolutions for the Route 10 and Route 3 studies as written. This motion was passed unanimously.

## **6. Biennial Transportation Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Discussion was postponed to the next Transportation Committee meeting.

## **7. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)**

Tom Maziarz provided an overview of the ARRA Subcommittee project selection process and results. Below is a summary of the discussion that followed:

- Jim Sollmi noted that ARRA funding for Enhancement projects is determined by the State and inquired about the status of State programming of these funds. Mr. Maziarz announced that the Governor's Office published a list of Enhancement projects earlier today and the two CRCOG candidates for Enhancement funds (Farmington River Trail Phase III in Canton and Resurfacing of Existing Canal Trail in Windsor Locks) were not listed. It is unclear whether this list represents the final project selections. More information will be obtained and disseminated as soon as possible.
- Tom Maziarz suggested that the Committee approve \$700,000 of STP-Urban funds to replace the Enhancement funding we had hoped to receive. Peter Hughes offered the possibilities of either reducing the project scope or requiring Canton to fund the remaining balance. John McGrane felt that scaling the project back may not be desirable because it may result in an incomplete trail with no connectivity. Neil Pade stated that the project is complicated and further discussion with the Canton Town Engineer about options is necessary.
- Jim Sollmi questioned whether the Windsor Locks project would also potentially obtain funds from the STP Urban program. Tom Maziarz felt that a recommendation could not be made without further information and discussion. Mr. Maziarz further stated that the Windsor Locks project was recommended for ARRA funding although other projects were given higher ratings because it was eligible for Enhancement funding.

A motion was made by Peter Hughes, seconded by Marcia Banach, to approve the ARRA recommended project list prepared by staff based on the project ratings done by the ARRA subcommittee. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **8. STP Urban Program for FY2009**

Jennifer Carrier reviewed the status of the STP Urban program. The following summarizes the discussion:

- Due to several projects not being able to scheduled obligation dates in FY2009, we could have an unspent balance of \$4-6 million in FY2009. The Committee discussed the possibility of using the balance to fund projects on the ARRA list.
- Tom Maziarz noted that the Suffield Street bridge reconstruction project is eligible for another federally funded local bridge program (80% federal, 20% local) and may not achieve the greatest benefit for the region by funding it as a FY2009 backup project through the STP Urban program. Additionally, the pending DEP permit could cause delays.
- Mr. Maziarz explained that ConnDOT is aware of the potential backup projects. These projects must be ready within ~90 days; it is uncertain whether these projects will be approved for FY2009 monies.

The Committee agreed with the programming approach, but did not take any action on this item.

#### **9. TIP Amendments**

Tom Maziarz reviewed the TIP amendments for the Committee. The following summarizes the discussion:

- Steve Wawruck questioned the cost increase for the Windsor Locks Canal Trail Resurfacing project. Mr. Maziarz stated that ConnDOT recently released this new estimate based on constructability of the project.

A motion was made by Rich Sawitzke, seconded by Marcia Banach, to approve the TIP amendments as written. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **10. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

#### **11. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 PM.