Capitol Region Council of Governments  
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106  
Transportation Committee Meeting  
MIRA Trash Museum, Hartford  
Monday November 10th, 2014

**Name**  
Jon Colman  
Larry Baril  
Patrice Carson  
Tess Milkove  
Billy Taylor  
Russ Arnold  
Daniel Pennington  
Kirk Severance  
Kevin Kelly  
Mark Carino  
John Carrington  
Peter Hughes  
Chris Greenlaw  
Jim Sollmi  
Jim Grappone  
Tom Roy  
Jeffrey Doolittle  
Bill Hawkins  
David Gooch  
Duane Martin  
Bob Jarvis  
Gilbert Hayes  

**Organization**  
Bloomfield  
Avon  
Bolton  
East Hartford  
Enfield  
Farmington  
Glastonbury  
Granby  
Hebron  
Manchester  
Mansfield  
Marlborough  
Newington  
Rocky Hill  
Southington  
Simsbury  
South Windsor  
Suffield  
Vernon  
West Hartford  
Windsor  

**Guests**  
Sandy Infantino  
Grayson Wright  
Ruby Siegel  
David Carol  
Bradshaw Smith  

**CTDOT-Capital Services**  
**CTDOT-Planning**  
**NEC-Future Team**  

**Staff**  
Lyle Wray  
Jennifer Carrier  
Mike Cipriano  
Maryellen Kowalewski  
Rob Aloise  
Pramod Pandey  
Karen Stewartson  

**CRCOG**

1. **Roll Call** – Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

2. **Public Forum** – No one choose to speak

3. **Adoption of Minutes** – A motion was made by Russ Arnold, seconded by Tom Roy, to accept the minutes from the September 15th, 2014 meeting with one abstention made by Patrice Carson. This motion was passed unanimously.
4. Staff Reports

- **CTDOT Applications for 2014 Planning Studies** - Ms. Jennifer Carrier gave a brief update on the Transportation Planning Study Applications. Ms. Carrier told the Committee that CRCOG recently received notification that CTDOT is now accepting applications from the Regions for Transportation Planning Studies. Ms. Carrier said that applications are due at CRCOG by Monday December 1st, 2014.

- **Road Diet Study-West Hartford** - Ms. Jennifer Carrier told the Committee that CRCOG will be administering a Road Diet Study in West Hartford. Ms. Carrier stated a resolution will be presented to the Policy Board on November 12th, 2014 for approval.

- **Sustainable Knowledge Corridor Update** - Ms. Mary Ellen Kowalewski gave a brief update on the Sustainable Knowledge Corridor. She told the Committee that CRCOG and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission have completed the HUD Sustainable Communities project—we are awaiting print copies of the summary documents, and I will provide the Transportation Committee with a wrap-up report on that project next month.

- **Ms. Mary Ellen Kowalewski shared some information on the OPM TOD Planning Grant Applications** - Ms. Kowalewski stated that under this program, OPM has made available $1.5 million in grant funding to Connecticut municipalities for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) planning projects.
  - Municipalities can apply for up to a $250,000 grant for projects such as station area plans, TOD zoning, development strategies, market analyses, financial assessment and planning related to TOD implementation or evaluation of parking requirements or other projects as deemed appropriate. Applications are due on this Friday—Nov. 14th
  - Applications must include a resolution of a municipality’s Regional Planning Organization/Council of Governments, indicating that the member municipality’s application has regional support.
  - The CRCOG Department of Policy and Planning received requests for resolutions of regional support from five municipalities: Berlin, Enfield, Hartford, New Britain and West Hartford. The projects, which focused on BRT & Rail are:
    - Berlin: TOD Plan for the Berlin Train Station/Kensington Village Area
    - Enfield: TOD Master Plan for Thompsonville
    - Hartford: Union Station Ridership Market Analysis to inform transit oriented development in the station area
    - New Britain: Re-development Planning Study for the three (3) CTfastrak Station areas in New Britain—Downtown, East Street and East Main Street Stations
    - West Hartford: Complete Streets Analysis and Implementation at two (2) CTfastrak Station areas in West Hartford—Elmwood and Flatbush Stations
  
  CRCOG Policy and Planning staff reviewed the five proposed projects for consistency with the regional goals and policies found in:
  - The CRCOG Regional Plan of Conservation and Development
  - The CRCOG Regional Transportation Plan.
  - The TOD Market Analysis prepared for the Knowledge Corridor under the HUD Sustainable Communities grant, Making It Happen: Opportunities and Strategies for TOD in the Knowledge Corridor.

For Berlin and New Britain, we also included reviews of Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency’s Plan of Conservation and Development and Regional Transportation Plan.
Based on our review, staff have recommended that the five proposals be granted resolutions of regional support by the CRCOG Policy Board at its November 12, 2014 meeting:

- Just learned on Friday that Simsbury also intends to file an application, but we have not yet received their proposal.
- We are hopeful that Capitol Region communities will do well in this request for applications.

- CTDOT Update – CTDOT staff did not have any updates.
- Other-ITS Draft Documents-Ms. Jennifer Carrier gave a brief update on the ITS Draft Documents. Ms. Carrier says both documents are available for review on line at http://www.crcog.org/transportation/its.html. Comments on both documents are due on Monday December 8th and a request approval of the Plan and endorsement of the Handbook will be done at the December meeting.

5. LOTCIP and STP-Urban Program updates - Mr. Rob Aloise provided Draft Summary handout of each program’s status and reviewed each document with the committee. Mr. Aloise explained the following:

LOTCIP
- CRCOG has been allocated $20± million of LOTCIP funding for State Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015. An additional $10± million is anticipated to be in CTDOT’s request for State Fiscal Year 2016.
- To date, approximately $32 million worth of projects that were previously approved by CRCOG for STP-Urban funding have been targeted to transition to LOTCIP funding. Of the $32 million, almost $2 million of projects have received LOTCIP funding, an additional $5± million of projects have received “CTDOT Commitment to Fund” letter approvals (and are in the design phase), an additional $14± million of projects have complete LOTCIP applications that are being reviewed (with the goal of receiving “CTDOT Commitment to Fund” letters), and CRCOG is awaiting LOTCIP applications from municipalities for the remaining $11± million of projects.

An inquiry was made as to how to expedite the receipt of outstanding LOTCIP applications. Mr. Aloise indicated that he would e-mail the outstanding municipalities to remind them of transition efforts and timelines.

STP-U
An overview of the next four years (FFY2015-2018) of STP-Urban programming was reviewed. The fiscal year overview categorized projects as municipally or CTDOT initiated, and included recent requests for funding revisions and the addition of new projects. The overview showed the potential to program $17±M in FFY2015; between $14 and $19 million in FFY2016, and $24±M in FFY’s 2017 and 2018. It was noted that these amounts exceed CRCOG annual STP-Urban target of $12±M. At a recent coordination meeting with CTDOT, the department assured the Region that sufficient carryover was available to deliver all of these projects. CTDOT indicated that no project has been delayed due to insufficient funding since 2009 (when unique circumstances arose surrounding AARA legislation). Also it was noted that we are currently operating under a MAP-21 continuing resolution.

Mr. Aloise focused on STP-U FFY2015 in detail and explained the following:
- CRCOG is currently aiming to program just over $7M of municipally initiated projects
• Potential TIP amendments totaling $0.7±M are requested for CTDOT initiated projects that were previously approved by CRCOG
• Potential TIP amendments totaling $9±M are proposed for new projects, as jointly initiated by CRCOG and CTDOT
• As previously mentioned, CTDOT assured the region that sufficient carryover is available to deliver all $17±M of FFY2015 STP-Urban projects

Mr. Aloise indicated that Ms. Carrier would be explaining all the requested TIP amendments in more detail as part of the FFY-2015-2018 TIP Documents agenda item.

6. FFY-2015-2018 TIP Documents
   • Equity Assessment-Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the Equity Assessment.
   • TIP amendments-Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the TIP amendments, reviewing them in categories.
     o A motion was made by Peter Hughes, seconded by Patrice Carson to endorse Items 1-7 (striking item 4), and Items 15 through 17b. There was a discussion about fiscal management, how cost increases can be accommodated on projects and if there are impacts to other projects in the pipeline. The Committee would like clarification on this matter as many items were discussed (e.g. CTDOT having more money than projects, flexing monies between federal and state sources). This motion passed.
     o A motion was made by Peter Hughes, seconded by Patrice Carson to endorse Items 8a-14b with the exception of items 9a, 9b and 9c which would be tabled for the December meeting. This motion was passed unanimously.
   • Resolution endorsing the TIP- A motion was made by Russ Arnold, seconded by Jim Sollmi, to endorse the TIP. This motion was passed unanimously.
   • Resolution regarding Air Quality Conformity-A motion was made by Billy Taylor, seconded by Russ Arnold to accept the resolution on Conformity with The Clean Air Act-Zone. This motion was passed unanimously.
   • Resolution regarding Annual urban Planning Certification-a motion was made by Patrice Carson, seconded by Billy Taylor to accept the Resolution on Annual Urban Planning Certification. This motion was passed unanimously.

7. Presentation- Northeast Corridor (NEC) Future Rail Planning, David Carol, Project Manager, Parsons Brinkeroff-Mr. David Carol gave a presentation on the Northeast Corridor (NEC) Future Rail Planning.

8. Other Business- There was no other business discussed.

9. Adjourn- The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.