Capitol Region Council of Governments
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106
Transportation Committee Meeting
CRRA Trash Museum, Hartford
Monday April 20th, 2015

Name
Jon Colman
Larry Baril
Patrice Carson
Tess Milkove
Billy Taylor
Russ Arnold
Daniel Pennington
Kirk Severance
Kevin Kelly
Mark Carlino
Derek Dilaj
Peter Hughes
Mark Moriarty
Chris Greenlaw
John Bossi
Tom Roy
Keith Hayden
Jeffrey Doolittle
David Smith
Greg Sommer
Bob Jarvis
Gilbert Hayes

Organization
Bloomfield
Avon
Bolton
East Hartford
Enfield
Farmington
Glastonbury
Granby
Hebron
Manchester
Mansfield
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Plainville
Simsbury
Southington
South Windsor
Tolland
West Hartford
Windsor
GHTD

Guests
Sandy Fry
Grayson Wright
Tom Borden
Sebastian Cannameua
Pete Talarico
Charlie Carson
Mike Fisher

CTDOT
CTDOT-DOT Project Devt. Unit
CTDOT-CE Design
CTDOT
CTTransit
BL Companies

Staff
Lyle Wray
Jennifer Carrier
Rob Aloise
Mike Cipirano
Tim Malone
Cara Radzins
Erik Snowden
Karen Stewartson

CRCOG
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Draft Meeting
Resolution Minutes
(Full Draft Meeting Minutes will be posted within 7 days of meeting)

DRAFT until
Endorsed by the Committee

A voluntary Council of Governments formed to initiate and implement regional programs of benefit to the towns and the region
1. **Roll Call** – Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

2. **Public Forum** – No one choose to speak at this time

3. **Adoption of Minutes** – A motion was made by Ms. Patrice Carson, seconded by Mr. Daniel Pennington to adopt the meeting minutes form the March 23rd, 2015 meeting. This motion was passed unanimously.

4. **Staff Reports**
   - Bicycle-Pedestrian update – Ms. Jennifer Carrier gave an update on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Addendum 2015. The purpose of this addendum is to present where the region is today by reporting on some of the key changes in Pedestrian and Bicycle planning and implementation since 2008. Ms. Carrier said an endorsement on the addendum will be considered at the May Committee meeting. Comments can be directed to Emily Hultquist at ehultquist@crcog.org or 860-522-2217 x219.
   - Interstate 84 Viaduct Design Studio – Ms. Jennifer Carrier gave a brief update on the I-84 Hartford Open Planning Studio. The sessions will be held from Monday, April 27th through Saturday, May 2nd at the Christ Church Cathedral Auditorium, 45 Church Street Hartford, CT 06103. More information can be found at www.i84hartford.com
   - Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed some major issues on pages 4-7 of the Draft CRCOG UPWP for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017. Some of the issues are new, and some are a continuation of activities initiated in previous years. Ms. Carrier said an endorsement will be considered at the May Committee meeting.
   - 2015 TIGER Grant Program Information – Mr. Tim Malone provided an overview of the FY2015 solicitation issued by the U.S. DOT for TIGER grants. He reported that $500 million was available for capital projects with a minimum award size of $10 million in urban areas and $1 million in rural areas. Pre-applications are due May 4, 2015 and final applications are due June 5, 2015. Mr. Malone gave an overview of the application process and noted that a full Cost-Benefit Analysis will be required. He went over the selection criteria which include: state of good repair, economic competitiveness, quality of life, environmental sustainability, safety, innovation, and partnership. Mr. Malone also mentioned that “Ladders of Opportunity” will be an area of emphasis this year. Mr. Gilbert Hayes asked if CT DOT would be likely to support a rural transit project. CRCOG staff responded that they could look into it.
   - Previous LOTCIP/STP-Urban Solicitation Overview – Mr. Rob Aloise provided an overview of the Subcommittee meeting that occurred prior to Transportation Committee. The meeting addressed the LOTCIP program in preparation of an upcoming solicitation. Mr. Aloise indicated that the LOTCIP program is currently burning off backlog, and with additional LOTCIP funds anticipated to be approved in July there will be a need for a solicitation soon. The subcommittee reviewed and discussed CRCOG and CCRPA project solicitation policies as a base for upcoming LOTCIP policy. Direction was given to staff to draft proposed revisions to these policies with the following comments in mind:
     - Consider increasing the award amount limit from $2.5 million to $3 million for reconstruction projects, and $1 million for all other projects.
     - Reconsider the current higher project cost limits for cities.
- Combine and simplify categories and policies where appropriate (such as potentially combining stand-alone sidewalk project and bike/ped project categories).

CRCOG staff was directed to prepare the draft detailed policy revisions for consideration at the May Subcommittee meeting. Also, as solicitation efforts progress, staff will monitor the proposed LOTCIP legislation in an effort to help determine the appropriate solicitation schedule and size.

- CTDOT Update – Mr. Grayson Wright told the Committee that a meeting will be scheduled with FTA and FHWA in regards to the UPWP.
- Other – Ms. Jennifer Carrier brought to the Committee’s attention a letter that was sent from the CRCOG Policy Board Chair to the CTDOT Commissioner regarding suggested projects to use a portion of the $18.7 million of STP-Urban carry-over funding. Ms. Carrier indicated that the department has been receptive to many of the recommendations, and that two (2) of the projects are to be acted on at this meeting as TIP amendments. The two projects are the Asylum Street Transit Corridor Project (Hartford) and the Regional Comprehensive Transit Route Analysis Project.

5. TIP amendments – Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the TIP amendments as presented. Mr. Billy Taylor asked if the data regarding the statewide installation of roadway weather information systems could be shared with the towns. Ms. Carrier responded by saying she would try to arrange for someone to give a project presentation to the Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Mark Carlino, seconded by Mr. Jeffrey Doolittle, to accept the TIP amendments. This motion was passed unanimously.
   - Hartford Intermodal Triangle, Asylum Street transit Improvements
   - On-board travel survey & regional model calibration for I-84 Viaduct project
   - Rocky Hill, rehab bridges on Rt 160 over I-91
   - Statewide, install roadway weather info systems
   - Various, delete lighting replacement project, funded with 100% State funds
   - Various, Statewide Bridge Inspection (underwater)

6. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program Applications – Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Applications. Ms. Carrier told the Committee that CTDOT provided an opportunity for towns to compete for a funding allocation of $10 million (federal) statewide annually, with $20 million available through the current solicitation (two years of funding). Ms. Carrier said four applicants submitted five projects in response to this solicitation. The applicants were the City of Hartford, the Town of Windsor, the Town of West Hartford, and the Town of Mansfield. The three projects that CRCOG staff rated highest for Committee consideration to forward to CTDOT were:
   - Regional Traffic Signal Coordinator, CRCOG and the City of Hartford
   - Day Hill Road Adaptive Traffic Control Project, Windsor
   - Albany Avenue/West Mountain Road Intersection Improvements, West Hartford

A motion was made by Ms. Patrice Carlson, and seconded by Mr. Dan Pennington to approve submittal of these three projects to CTDOT as the region’s CMAQ candidates. The motion passed unanimously.
7. **Long Range Transportation Plan Minor Update** – Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the status of the DRAFT Long Range Transportation Plan. A public hearing was held prior to the Transportation Committee meeting at 11:00 am. A motion was made by Ms. Patrice Carson, seconded by Mr. Billy Taylor to adopt the 2015-2040 Regional Transportation Plan.

8. **Air Quality Conformity** – Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the Air Quality Conformity Analysis (AQCA). Ms. Carrier said the AQCA can be found on CRCOG’s website. A motion was made by Ms. Patrice Carson, seconded by Mr. Billy Taylor to accept the AQCA analysis. This motion was passed unanimously.

9. **Presentation: I-91/Charter Oak Bridge Interchange Improvement project, Tom Borden, CTDOT** – Mr. Tom Borden gave a presentation on the I-91/Charter Oak Bridge Interchange Improvement project. Mr. Borden said this project’s construction is estimated at $181 million with a scheduled completed date of Spring 2019.

10. **Other Business** – Mr. Michael Turner asked for a brief update on the CTfastrak ridership. Mr. Lyle Wray responded by saying that currently ridership is approximately 10,300 per day.

11. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.