

Hub of Hartford Steering Committee Notes
March 18, 2008
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Attendees: Joe Barber, Kevin Burnham, Jennifer Cassidy, Julio Concepcion, Larry Deutsch, Toni Gold, Tom Kurtz, Mike Marshall, Tom Maziarz, Jack McKinney, Tomas Nenortas, Bob Painter, Mike Zaleski

1. Minutes of 2/20 and 3/4 Meetings: Approved

2. Report on meeting with Deputy Commissioner Martin: Bob, Toni & Tom

- a. Offer from CRCOG to be contracting agent
- b. Invite DOT to join Hub Steering Committee—when?

Tom Maziarz, Bob, and Toni met with Al Martin and Carmine Trotta. The key item from the meeting is that the state, city, and region came to some common agreement on conducting a comprehensive, community-planning study. Everyone agreed that a two-phase approach is appropriate.

The Mayor was very engaged, wants the City to participate, and agreed to fund some part of the study. Although, it is still not clear, it seemed like the Mayor was in for at least \$100,000. The Mayor stated that we should work through Lee Erdmann regarding the funding. Therefore, Bob then talked to Lee and Lee stated that this project would most likely go into the FY 2008-2009 budget. However, if we do need the money beforehand, and if we give him a lot of notice, Lee stated that he could not make any promises but see what he could do.

After that meeting, Bob, Toni, and Tom met again to discuss how to move forward, and Tom put together a proposal, which the Steering Committee will discuss at its next meeting.

In terms of CRCOG being the contracting agent, Toni spoke with Norman Garrick at CTUP, which was going to play this role, and he thought it was fine, as long as this committee remains the client. The Steering Committee thus decided to go with CRCOG, but also agreed that Norman is someone we should have as part of a consultant selection committee because of his understanding of these issues.

The Steering Committee also agreed that we would invite a ConnDOT representative to join the Steering Committee

3. Discuss and edit as needed RFP5, Section III, “Consultant’s Statement of Work”, revised by Toni

Toni presented the next version of the document (thanks to Tom Kurtz and Tom Maziarz for their work on the first draft). Toni recast the goals into four simple categories and walked the Steering Committee through each one:

- ◆ Create alternatives
- ◆ Utilize opportunities
- ◆ Create criteria which would be used to assess the alternatives
- ◆ Inform and guide the DOT long-range design and engineering study that will follow.

As to section B, Toni made this the scope section and presented a first fleshing out of this section. This section is supposed to reflect all the previous work we have done and hence should flow naturally from the goals. If this does not seem to be the case, we need to state as such so we can make the appropriate changes.

Kevin raised the issue that we still need to make more of a point about community transportation and not just access to the highway. Kevin agreed that he would prepare some language on this point for the next draft.

Deliverables section: This was the section about which Toni was the least certain. Before the Steering Committee were the things that she could think of and could be useful for public consumption over a period of time—for example, the type of work Riverfront Recapture did back in its early days before anything visible was happening.

Tom Maziarz stated that deliverables should be concrete products. We probably want two types of reports—technical document for ConnDOT and the executive summary version for public communication.

Toni reiterated the point that we need to remember that Riverfront Recapture had a 20-year vision, which took into account the issue of how to keep people interested in the project over a long period of time. Hence, a series of events were created that would serve to maintain and grow interest in Riverfront Recapture, building membership, and essentially building a constituency for the organization and its larger goals. One of our challenges will be how to maintain interest in this project over the long haul.

Kevin suggested that many of these deliverables may be able to be rolled together, and he agreed to come to the next meeting with a revised set of deliverables.

4. Norquist visit April 15 & 16

- a Walking tour and meeting with the Mayor: Tomas will organize a tour at around 2:00 p.m. and we will invite the City Council as well as the Mayor. After the walking tour, Norquist has a meeting with the Mayor at 3:30 p.m.
- b Public presentation, Tuesday evening--Jackie and Jennifer: We have two choices—train station or Room X at the Hartford Public Library (2007 candidate forums were held there). If we use the library, they would want to be cosponsor and they would want to speak about the library and advertise (we would need to make up the flyer). All agreed that the Hartford Public Library seemed to be our best option.

- c Business breakfast presentation, Wednesday morning--Mike and Julio: Mike passed out a draft flyer for the breakfast. The flyer looked great, but everyone agreed that all references to the word "viaduct" should be eliminated for the sake of clarity. Breakfast is being covered by the Aetna thanks to Mike Marshall, and Northland Investments is donating the space--242 Trumbull Street.
 - d LOB lunch presentation, Wednesday Noon—Bob: Bob talked to Lee and we believe Mayor is going to cover cost. He has made arrangements with Representative McCluskey and Senator DeFronzo about who should be invited. There will be a food area for lunch and then a hearing room for the presentation. The City Council will also be invited to this event
 - e Other: Norman Garrick is going to put something in "Place" about highway teardowns and try to get it in the paper a few days before the Norquist visit.
5. Next meeting—Monday, March 24th at 8:30 a.m.