

Welcome Policy Board

We have muted attendees upon entrance. We will unmute people either individually or for everyone depending on the situation.

Kindly have your Zoom name to reflect your name and affiliation. e.g., Matt Hart, CRCOG

Speakers must identify themselves with their name and town. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes.

If you are abstaining or objecting to an action item, please state your name and town.

You may also submit questions & comments to the chat which will be directed to the host only.

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>



Connecticut River from Connecticut River Conservancy

November 20, 2024

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes from [October 23, 2024](#)
4. Staff Reports
5. Legislative Update

ACTION ITEMS

6. [Resolution to Adopt the 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development \(POCD\) for the Capitol Region](#) (Posted)
 - [11 2024 OPM Consistency Determination & Comments](#)
 - POCD Presentation
7. [Authorizing Resolution for the Execution of an Agreement with Goman + York for the CRCOG Regional Housing Strategy](#) (Posted)
8. [Resolution to Establish a Fellowship at the University of Connecticut in Honor of Dr. Lyle Wray](#) (Posted)

9. [Resolution Authorizing CRCOG Executive Director to Apply for and Accept Certain Grants and Contracts](#) (Posted)
10. [2025 Meeting Calendars for Policy Board and Executive Committee](#) (Posted)

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ITEMS

11. [TIP Amendments](#) (Posted)

INFORMATION/OPPORTUNITY/RESOURCE ITEMS

12. Correspondence / Handouts
 - Letter of Support: [Revisions to the Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems](#)
13. Municipal Information Sharing
14. Other Business
15. Adjournment

2. Public Comment

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>



3. Approval of Minutes from 10/23/2024

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>

CRCOG POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

12:00 NOON

This was a virtual meeting.

For more information, email info@crcog.org or call 860-724-4283.

Attendance

Erik Anderson
Brandon Roberston
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Alvin Schwapp
Taryn Schragger
Mark Walter
Lisa Thomas
Jason Bowsza
Lori Spielman
Matt Reed
Joseph Capodiferro
Jonathan Luiz
Mike Walsh
Ryan Aylesworth
Andrew Tierney
Steve Stephanou
Antonia Moran
Ryan Aylesworth
David Porter
Erin Stewart
Jonathan Altshul
Mike Paulhus
Marc Nelson
Alex Ricciardone
Shari Cantor
Rick Ledwith
Ken Lesser

Town/Organization

Andover
Avon
Berin
Bloomfield
Bloomfield
Canton
Columbia
Coventry
E. Windsor
Ellington
Ellington
Farmington
Glastonbury
Granby
Mansfield
Hebron
Manchester
Mansfield
Mansfield
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Plainville
Simsbury
Southington
W. Hartford
W. Hartford
Wethersfield

4. Staff Reports

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>

General Announcements

- ❑ \$291M for the Northeast Corridor, including \$113M for the Hartford Line!
- ❑ We're experimenting with a new agenda item – “Municipal Information Sharing.”
- ❑ Our thanks to the Capitol Region Incident Management Team for its response to the Hawthorne fire.
- ❑ CRCOG & Novus Insight will hold Cybersecurity Training Workshops.

4. Staff Reports

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>

Cooperative Purchasing & Funding Opportunities

- ❑ Check out the [October Edition](#) of CRCOG's **Funding Opportunities Newsletter**.
- ❑ CRPC issued Gasoline Bid on **Nov. 14**.
- ❑ **CT DEEP** grants: 1) [Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program](#) and 2) [Urban Green and Community Garden Grant Program](#). Applications due **Dec. 2**.
- ❑ **RAISE** grants: resubmissions from **Round 1 due Dec. 2 & Round 2 by Jan. 30, 2025**. [Learn more](#).
- ❑ **PROTECT** grants: applications due **Feb. 24, 2025**. [Learn more](#).

4. Staff Reports

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>

Project & Departmental Updates

- ❑ Kudos to Kyle Shiel & other COG staff for hosting successful statewide “ColleCTive Climate Action Forum.”
- ❑ Towns interested in our Regional Stormwater Authority Feasibility Study should contact Heidi Samokar at hsamokar@crcog.org.
- ❑ Towns interested in our Regional Micromobility Program should contact Mike Cipriano at mcipriano@crcog.org.
- ❑ Staff planning to bid Berlin Turnpike Corridor Planning Study in early 2025.
- ❑ Most Towns have adopted Regional natural Hazard Mitigation and Climate Action Plan. Please contact Heidi Samokar at hsamokar@crcog.org if you need assistance.
- ❑ Contact Mike Cipriano at mcipriano@crcog.org if you’re interested in our Walk Audit program.

4. Staff Reports

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>

Committee Updates

- ❑ Vision Zero Task Force planning “Vision Zero Workshop & Forum” for early 2025.
- ❑ Municipal Services Committee: 12PM on Dec. 10.
- ❑ DEMHS Region 3 Cybersecurity Task Force: 10AM on Dec. 12. Contact esnowden@crcog.org.
- ❑ Human Services Coordinating Council: 10AM on Dec. 17. Contact rnichols@crcog.org.

4. Staff Reports

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>

Meetings & Events

- ❑ CRCOG partnering with UConn School of Public Policy to host “Untapped Talent” panel discussion on Dec. 11. Watch for an invitation.
- ❑ Attorney General William Tong will attend Dec. 18 Policy Board Meeting.

5. Legislative Update

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>



6. Resolution to Adopt the 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) for the Capitol Region



860.522.2217 | 350 Church St. 3rd Fl., Hartford, CT 06103 | crcog.org

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board

From: Heidi Samokar, Principal Planner

CC: Matt Hart, Executive Director; Caitlin Palmer, Director of Regional Planning and Development

Meeting Date: November 20, 2024

Subject: Resolution to Adopt the 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) for the Capitol Region

Background: Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-35a requires councils of governments to develop a regional Plan of Conservation and Development at least once every ten years. The current Plan was adopted in 2014. With the guidance from our Technical Advisory Committee comprised of staff from 13 member municipalities, our team worked over the past 18 months to update the Plan. We did incorporate a robust public input process as part of this project.

Staff presented an initial draft to the Policy Board in May 2024 and incorporated the Board's feedback into the Plan. We made additional minor edits to the Plan based on feedback and additional staff review. Most edits were minor (e.g. corrections, adding caveats to maps, clarifying language, etc.). One notable revision we made was to add a new strategy in the economic development theme to address continued support and resources for brownfield redevelopment.

The state's Office of Policy & Management (OPM) has reviewed the draft and provided its findings to CRCOG. Our Regional Planning Commission (RPC) held a public hearing at its September 19, 2024 meeting and voted to approve the Plan and forward it to the Policy Board for its adoption. The [proposed plan](#) is posted on CRCOG's website.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG: The Plan includes many goals, strategies, and actions that would benefit our member towns when implemented. The Plan is also used by CRCOG staff when conducting statutory land use referrals from towns and when municipalities request letters of support when applying for grants. The Plan also includes data and information that towns may find useful when updating local Plans or when having conversations about important issues such as economic development, open space preservation, transportation, and housing.

Financial/Operational Impact: There are no financial implications to adopting the Plan. In terms of CRCOG operations, we anticipate that staff time will be allocated to implementation efforts. Staff intends to develop a separate implementation component.

Project Schedule: Aside from post-adoption administrative tasks required by Connecticut General Statutes, we will complete the plan update process upon adoption by the Policy Board.

Recommendation: We believe that our process has produced a quality Plan to help guide CRCOG's projects and initiatives over the next 10-year cycle. Based on the RPC's endorsement, we respectfully request the Board's approval of the Resolution to Adopt the 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development for the Capitol Region.

Attachments:

- o Determination letter from the CT Office of Policy and Management
- o Proposed Resolution

Andover | Avon | Berlin | Bloomfield | Bolton | Canton | Columbia | Coventry | East Granby | East Hartford | East Windsor | Ellington | Enfield | Farmington | Glastonbury | Granby | Hartford | Hebron | Manchester | Mansfield | Marlborough | New Britain | Newington | Plainville | Rocky Hill | Simsbury | Somers | South Windsor | Southington | Stafford | Suffield | Tolland | Vernon | West Hartford | Wethersfield | Willington | Windsor | Windsor Locks



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RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2024 PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (POCD) FOR THE CAPITOL REGION

WHEREAS, the CRCOG By-Laws charge the Regional Planning Commission with the responsibility for maintaining and keeping the Regional Plan of Conservation Development current; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Commission has prepared the 2024 update of the *Capitol Region Plan of Conservation and Development* in accordance with the requirements of Section 8-35a of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Plan was informed by an extensive public input effort which had an estimated reach of over 1,000 people in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Plan encourages building communities of choice, opportunity, and belonging, and was determined by the CT Office of Policy and Management to be "not inconsistent" with the *2018-2023 Conservation & Development Policies: The Plan for Connecticut* (in effect at this time); and

WHEREAS, CRCOG provided for a 65-day public review and comment period, and provided for municipal notification prior to a public hearing which was held during the Regional Planning Commission's September 19, 2024 meeting; and

WHEREAS, at its September 19, 2024 meeting the CRCOG Regional Planning Commission voted to approve the Plan and forward it to the Policy Board for its adoption;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Capitol Region Council of Governments Policy Board hereby adopts the 2024 Capitol Region Plan of Conservation and Development.

CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting held on November 20, 2024.

BY: _____ DATE: _____

Jason Bowsza, Secretary

Andover | Avon | Berlin | Bloomfield | Bolton | Canton | Columbia | Coventry | East Granby | East Hartford | East Windsor | Ellington | Enfield | Farmington | Glastonbury | Granby | Hartford | Hebron | Manchester | Mansfield | Marlborough | New Britain | Newington | Plainville | Rocky Hill | Simsbury | Somers | South Windsor | Southington | Stafford | Suffield | Tolland | Vernon | West Hartford | Wethersfield | Willington | Windsor | Windsor Locks

Nov. 20, 2024
Policy Board



CONNECT CAPITOL REGION

2024 Plan of Conservation and Development

DRAFT October 30, 2024



Today:

1. Brief Staff Presentation
2. Action requested: Resolution to Adopt the Plan



Brief Background



Regional POCD

State Statutes

- CGS 8-35a
- Prepare at least once every 10 years
- Procedural & notice requirements

CRCOG

- Bylaws:
 - Charge Regional Planning Commission (RPC) with “development and maintenance” of POCD
- RPC refers to Policy Board for Adoption

How We Use It

- Referrals
- Letters of support (grant applications)
- Our own grant applications
- CRCOG workplan

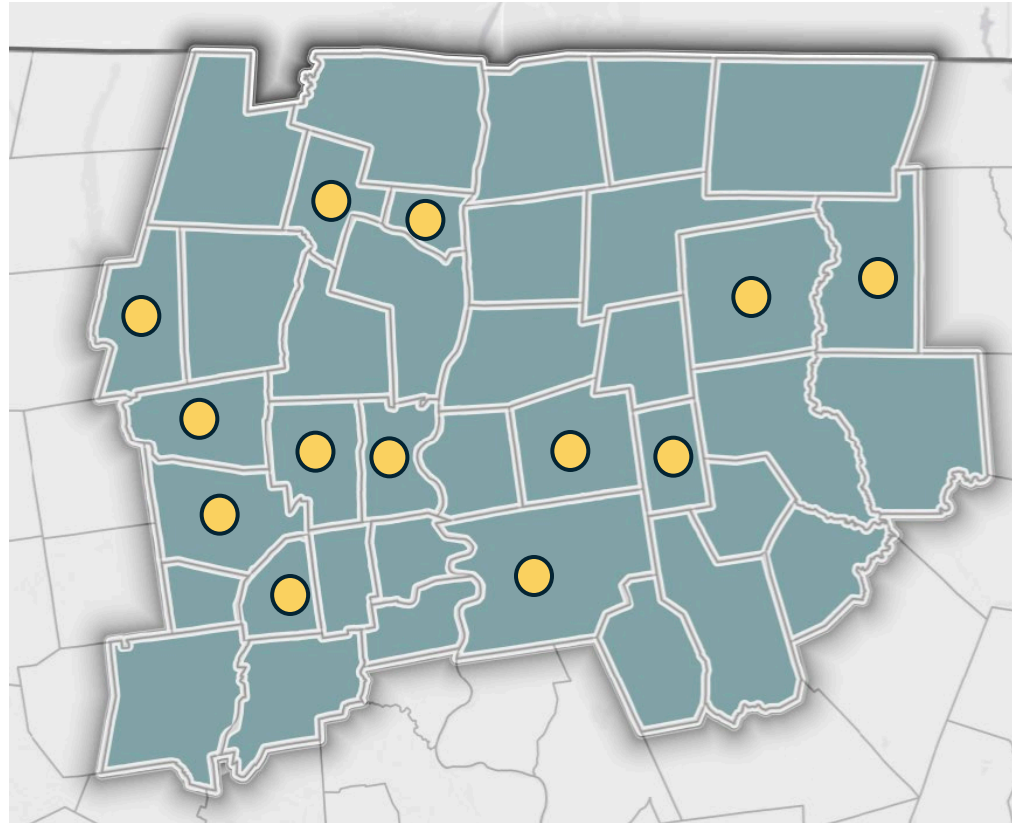
Technical Advisory Committee

Who

- 18 city / town planners
- Representing 13 municipalities

What

- Input and advice
- Review initial themes, goals, and strategies



Public Engagement

- Online Survey
- SWOT at Events
- Table Talk
- Technical Focus Groups
 - Housing
 - Environment
 - Governance
- Public comment period and public hearing
- Details in POCD Appendix



Public Engagement

- **Governance** improvements could strengthen our region.
- **Community** is a regional strength.
- People value **social places**, yet few social spaces exist.
- Residents seek more **things to do**.



Key Findings

- Most are satisfied with local **amenities** and want to live in areas with amenities.
- We've made progress with **public transportation**, but car reliance remains high.
- Many want **walkable, bicycle-friendly** neighborhoods.



- **Sustainability** innovations are important.
- Division over whether we have enough **housing diversity**, yet issue of **affordability** is acknowledged.
- People want to maintain the Region's high **quality of life**.



2024 POCD



Vision

“We all will work together to build communities of **choice, opportunity, and belonging.**”



Themes

Cultivate a Green and Resilient Future

Develop a Competitive and Inclusive Regional Economy

Reform Outdated “Steady Habits” in Our Institutions and Governance

Invest in Transportation Options for Every Journey

Expand and Diversify the Region’s Housing Stock

Chapter 5

Cultivate a Green and Resilient Future

Throughout the last decade, climate change has exacerbated regional environmental issues and exposed vulnerabilities of our built infrastructure. Climate change impacts are linked to increased flooding, higher incidence of invasive species, extended periods of excessive heat, and inconsistent water supply in the region. Flooding from heavy rainfall resulted in a loss of nearly \$21 million in agricultural sales due to damaged crops in 2023. Invasive species jeopardize forest health and native species abundance. Excessive heat contributes to heat-island effects in urban areas, increasing climate-related health risks in vulnerable communities.



Key Considerations

Public outreach identified the environment, sustainability, and open space as key areas of interest...

...and these topics resonate in our cities as well as our small towns and countryside.

New mandates and regulations – opportunities for assistance and regional approaches.

Heightened importance of open space post-pandemic.

Climate change impacts are tangible.

Need for a sustainable regional food system for all people, regardless of income and location.

Cultivate a Green & Resilient Future

Goals

1. Protect our region's natural resources and landscapes and minimize impacts from development and human activity.
2. Cultivate spaces that connect people to nature and their community.
3. Reduce regional gas emissions and adapt to climate change.
4. Improve the resiliency of the region.
5. Support a sustainable and equitable regional food system.



Cultivate a Green & Resilient Future

Sample of Strategies and Actions

- Identify cross-boundary or watershed-level issues and opportunities for collaboration, studies, and projects.
- Help municipalities implement stormwater MS4 requirements.
- Ensure that everyone in the region can access parks and open space.
- Encourage farm-friendly zoning regulations.
- Work with municipalities on reducing the amount of food in the waste stream.

Chapter 6

Develop a Competitive and Inclusive Regional Economy

The region is home to 577,510 jobs and approximately 36,000 employers, ranging from global or national corporations like Aetna (in Hartford) and Jackson Laboratory (in Farmington) to small, locally owned businesses. The region is also home to the state's international airport, which is a significant economic engine.



Key Considerations

We are now an officially designated Economic Development District – an opportunity for proactive economic development work.

Job growth has been stagnant – need to be proactive and capitalize on opportunities.

A strong region needs strong cities, competitive suburbs, and opportunities for economic development in rural areas.

Importance of place-making and third places – especially if we want to retain/attract young adults.

Develop a Competitive & Inclusive Regional Economy

Goals

1. Build regional economic development capacity and support.
2. Create a 24/7 Capital City.
3. Reimagine underutilized commercial districts as vibrant destinations.
4. Invest in the power of “fun,” placemaking, and third places.
5. Support economic development in the region’s rural communities.
6. Ensure growth occurs in areas with adequate utilities.
7. Ensure that our archeological and historic resources are preserved and celebrated.





Develop a Competitive & Inclusive Regional Economy

Sample of Strategies and Actions

- Conduct a study on municipal tax incentive deals in the region.
- Invest in the power of "fun," placemaking, and the importance of third places to retain young adults and fuel social and economic prosperity.
- Continue efforts to re-establish and expand waterfront access.
- Proactively identify, regulate, and solicit alternative uses for underutilized office space.
- Prepare malls and legacy commercial corridors for the changing retail landscape.

Chapter 7

Reform Outdated “Steady Habits” in Our Institutions and Governance

Connecticut is commonly known as the “Land of Steady Habits”, referencing a culture and temperament that is slow to evolve. This characterization can be fairly applied to the Capitol Region. Connecticut has 169 towns, each with their own set of rules, regulations, governing bodies, infrastructure, and stakeholders. Many of our communities were established hundreds of years ago and operate under the same fundamental organization and governance models. Some aspects of our traditional government have served and still serve us well. But it also presents challenges.



Key Considerations

CRCOG communities widely vary in abilities and resources to meet emerging challenges and state mandates.

Cities and towns have limited options to fund public services.

CRCOG has had success with providing / facilitating shared services – opportunity to build.

Public input revealed sense of disconnection and distrust of government.

Reform Outdated “Steady Habits” in Our Institutions & Governance

Goals

1. Improve public service delivery through robust shared services and partnerships.
2. Create fiscally sustainable and equitable systems for funding public services.
3. Enhance the operational efficiency and effectiveness of local government operations.
4. Increase equitable community participation in local decision-making.



Reform Outdated “Steady Habits” in Our Institutions & Governance

Sample of Strategies and Actions

- Review and advocate for the reform of state statutes impeding regional cooperation.
- Reform the PILOT system.
- Help municipalities with operational best practices including succession planning.
- CRCOG should continue to build out its GIS and data capabilities.
- Look to interlocal or region-wide solutions for state-mandated boards and commissions.

Chapter 8

Invest in Transportation Options for Every Journey

The Capitol Region's transportation network is comprised of local roads, state routes, and the federal highway system, along with passenger and freight rail lines, ferry service, an international airport, and smaller, regional airports. This indispensable system connects us but also presents mobility limitations for many users.



Key Considerations

Public input emphasized our residents want and need more transportation options.

Recognition that our transportation system should support a stronger sense of place and identity.

Existing transportation system places burdens on us – greenhouse gases, equity issues, cost of car ownership, safety.

Opportunities to rethink our streets, especially with funding now available.

Invest in Transportation Options for Every Journey

Goals

1. Align transportation investments with land use, housing, and other development and place-making goals.
2. Expand transportation options for all users and purposes.
3. Address the burdens and costs of transportation.



Invest in Transportation Options for Every Journey

Sample of Strategies and Actions

- Prioritize transportation investments that support land use goals.
- Provide safe, appealing, and accessible walking and bicycling infrastructure.
- Track development in TOD corridors to assess growth and return on investment.
- Proactively plan for transit dependent older populations and transit supportive younger populations by providing resources and services for these populations.
- Prioritize the inclusion of safety improvements, particularly for vulnerable roadway users, into transportation projects, plans, and studies.

Chapter 9

Expand and Diversify the Region's Housing Stock



Key Considerations

Region (and all of CT) lags in housing production.

Frequent public comments on lack of affordable ownership opportunities and rent.

Greater recognition and acknowledgement of how historic land use decisions impacted minority communities.

Opportunities to increase housing supply in ways that respect and complement the variety of community types found in our region.

CTRail and CTfastrak offer opportunities to connect housing and transit.

Safe and adequate housing is a fundamental human need, and its provision impacts all aspects of our lives.

Expand & Diversify the Region's Housing Stock

Goals

1. Preserve the region's housing stock.
2. Diversify the region's housing stock.
3. Increase affordable housing in the region.
4. Build housing adjacent to transit.
5. Provide the region's vulnerable populations with a safe place to live.



Expand & Diversify the Region's Housing Stock

Sample of Strategies and Actions

- Preserve older housing units through repair, rehabilitation, and enforcement.
- Bring together stakeholders, including non-traditional stakeholders, on a regular basis to review progress, identify emerging needs and trends, and adjust strategies.
- Actively work to preserve affordability of units with expiring deed restrictions.
- Encourage light touch density in areas with supporting infrastructure.
- Explore targeted expansion of water and sewer infrastructure in rural areas to meet the need for affordable housing and new housing options

Policy Map

Suitable Development Areas

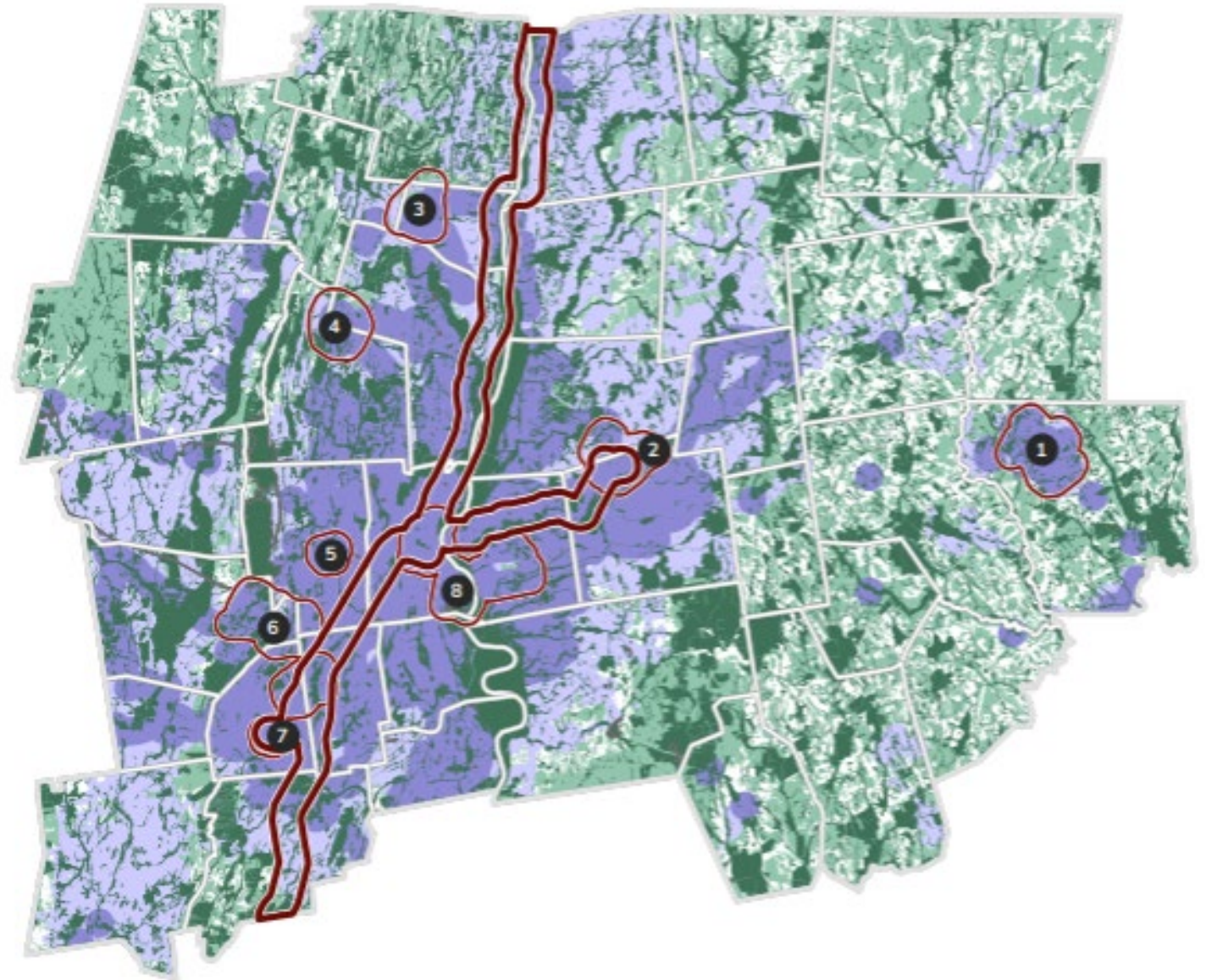
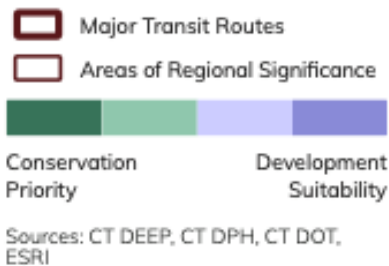
Areas of regional significance; served by water and / or sewer with a 1/4 mile buffer; transit, Hartford Line, & CTfastrak with a 1/2-mile buffer.

Priority Conservation Areas

High: 100-year floodplain, wetlands and water bodies, preserved open space.

Medium: steep slopes (greater than 15%); habitat, Aquifer Protection Areas.

- 1 UConn main campus
- 2 Buckland Hills Commercial Hub
- 3 Bradley International Airport
- 4 Day Hill Corporate Area / Blue Hills
- 5 West Hartford Center
- 6 Westfarms / UConn Health Center
- 7 Downtown New Britain
- 8 Downtown Hartford / East Hartford



Why Does the Plan Matter?

For CRCOG:

- Referrals
- When we apply for grants and discretionary funding
- CRCOG workplan

For You:

- Data and Information – region-wide, your community, your neighbors
- Support your efforts when you:
 - Apply for grants
 - Implement your own policy and planning initiatives
 - Advocate for change in your community or at the state level
- Conversation starter for topics that can be difficult to approach at the local level.
- Policy map can help justify local development and conservation decisions.

Timeline



May 22: Initial Presentation to Policy Board



June 19: Review updated draft with RPC



July: Post on-line mid-month for public review



September 19: RPC Public Hearing & approval



November: Policy Board approval



Post-Adoption: Implementation Plan, Annual Progress Reports

7. Authorizing Resolution for the Execution of an Agreement with Goman + York for the CRCOG Regional Housing Strategy



860.522.2217 | 350 Church St. 3rd Fl., Hartford, CT 06103 | crcog.org

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

FOR THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH GOMAN + YORK FOR THE CRCOG REGIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is initiating the first phase of a multi-year Regional Housing Strategy which, among other tasks, will provide tools to assist municipalities with implementation of their local Affordable Housing Plans, provide training tools and resources, and explore regional roles in creating housing; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG's Strategic Playbook includes a goal to assist municipalities across the region with increasing access to quality housing for people of varying income levels and includes an Action Step to develop a comprehensive housing strategy for our region in partnership with housing-based organizations and other stakeholders; and Housin

WHEREAS, the proposed CRCOG's 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development includes an action to Develop a Regional Housing Strategy to conduct a deeper analysis of housing trends and needs and gaps in the region, and to create tailored solutions and programs to help municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the project budget of up to \$200,000 over two years will be funded through CRCOGs' Regional Fund; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG has conducted a qualifications-based selection process and identified the consulting firm Goman + York as the most qualified to assist CROCG in the development of the Regional Housing Strategy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that CRCOG's Executive Director, Matthew W. Hart, is authorized to act on behalf of the Capitol Region Council of Governments in negotiating, executing, and amending all appropriate and necessary contractual instruments with Goman + York for the purpose of conducting a scope of services for the Regional Housing Strategy.

CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting held on November 20, 2024.

BY: _____ DATE: _____
Jason Bowsza, Secretary



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AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

FOR THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH GOMAN + YORK FOR THE CRCOG REGIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is initiating the first phase of a multi-year Regional Housing Strategy which, among other tasks, will provide tools to assist municipalities with implementation of their local Affordable Housing Plans, provide training tools and resources, and explore regional roles in creating housing; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG's Strategic Playbook includes a goal to assist municipalities across the region with increasing access to quality housing for people of varying income levels and includes an Action Step to develop a comprehensive housing strategy for our region in partnership with housing-based organizations and other stakeholders; and Housin

WHEREAS, the proposed CRCOG's 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development includes an action to Develop a Regional Housing Strategy to conduct a deeper analysis of housing trends and needs and gaps in the region, and to create tailored solutions and programs to help municipalities; and

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CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting held on November 20, 2024.

BY: _____ DATE: _____
Jason Bowsza, Secretary

8. Resolution to Establish a Fellowship at the University of Connecticut in Honor of Dr. Lyle Wray

Agenda Item Summary

To: Executive Committee

From: Matt Hart, Executive Director

CC: P. Yoder, Chief Operating Officer; K. Bishop, Economic Development Coordinator

Meeting Date: November 6, 2024

Subject: Resolution to Establish a Fellowship at the University of Connecticut in Honor of Dr. Lyle Wray

Background:

The Executive Committee has expressed support for establishing a fellowship at the UConn School of Public Policy (SPP) in honor of our Executive Director emeritus, Dr. Lyle Wray. Lyle had a close working relationship with the faculty and staff at the SPP.

We have reached out to the SPP and the UConn Foundation to discuss how to establish and structure the fellowship. The best approach would be to fund the endowment via the CRCOG Foundation, and then to issue an annual appeal for contributions. UConn could coordinate the annual appeal, as it does for its other fellowships and scholarships.

Staff will suggest that the SPP award the fellowship to a student with an interest in regional planning or government. The SPP could come up with more specific criteria on which to base the award.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG:

The fellowship would serve to honor Lyle's legacy and promote student interest in the field of regional planning and government.

Financial/Operational Impact:

The CRCOG Foundation has limited assets to fund an endowment. Consequently, staff suggests that we use interest income as a funding source. We could make a contribution from CRCOG's interest income in the amount of \$75,000, which would be sufficient to support an annual fellowship of \$3,000 - 5,000.

If the Board were to approve this process, the funds for the endowment would flow from CRCOG, to the CRCOG Foundation, and then to the UConn Foundation.

Recommendation:

Based on the support of our Executive Committee, I recommend that the Policy Board approve the attached Resolution to Establish a Fellowship at the University of Connecticut in Honor of Dr. Lyle Wray.

Attachments

- Proposed Resolution

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A FELLOWSHIP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT IN HONOR OF DR. LYLE WRAY

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) would like to recognize the many contributions of Dr. Lyle D. Wray to the region and to CRCOG; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wray established a close working relationship and a partnership with the University of Connecticut's School of Public Policy; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG has a 501(c)3 CRCOG Foundation that was established to advance regional goals but has limited resources; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG has interest income that could be used at the discretion of the board; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that CRCOG's Executive Director is authorized to donate \$75,000 of CRCOG interest income to the CRCOG Foundation to be given to the University of Connecticut's School of Public Policy towards the endowment of a named Scholarship in honor of Dr. Lyle D. Wray.

CERTIFICATE

I certify the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting held on November 20, 2024.

BY: _____ DATE: _____

Jason Bowsza, Secretary

9. Resolution Authorizing CRCOG Executive Director to Apply for and Accept Certain Grants and Contracts

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board

From: Pauline Yoder, Chief Operating Officer

CC: Matt Hart, Executive Director

Meeting Date: November 20, 2024

Subject: Corporate Grant Resolution

Background:

CRCOG receives recurring grants from the same agencies year after year. Oftentimes, the grants require a quick turnaround to accept and execute the grant award. The awards also frequently require a resolution from the Policy Board to accept the grants. This resolution would authorize the Executive Director to accept the most frequent recurring grants. In addition, the resolution allows the Executive Director to approve the use of up to \$50,000 for matching funds for the grants outlined in the resolution.

The Executive Committee has recently reviewed and expressed support for the proposed resolution.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG:

This resolution would enable CRCOG to respond more quickly to grant awards.

Financial/Operational Impact:

There is no immediate financial impact but would enable CRCOG to work more efficiently. The Executive Director could approve the use of Regional Funds for match up to \$50,000, depending on the availability of funds.

Recommendation:

Move approval of the resolution authorizing CRCOG's Executive Director to apply for and accept certain grants and contracts

Attachments:

- o Proposal Resolution

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CRCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT CERTAIN GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) regularly receives grants and contracts from various state and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, CRCOG maintains various plans that outline the organization's major goals, initiatives, and programs;

WHEREAS, the following agencies maintain grant programs to which CRCOG desires to apply for and accept:

Program	Agency / Agencies
Brownfields Assessment	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) CT Department of Economic Development (DECD)
Brownfields Remediation Revolving Loan Program	EPA
Homeland Security Grants	Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection – Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)
Public Health Preparedness, Medical Reserve Corps, and related grants	Department of Public Health (DPH) National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) All Clear Emergency Management Group
Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning	DEMHS
Transportation Planning Grants, including Safe Streets for All, and Corridor Studies	CT Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Regional Services Grant Other COG formula grants	CT Office of Policy and Management (OPM)
Solid Waste Planning and Implementation Grants	EPA CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

and

WHEREAS, CRCOG maintains the CRCOG Regional Fund and Connecticut Regional Services Grant (RSG) that can be used as match funding for certain grants:

10. Approval of 2025 Executive Committee and Policy Board Meeting Dates

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board
From: Matt Hart, Executive Director
CC: Pauline Yoder, Chief Operating Officer
Meeting Date: November 20, 2024
Subject: Approval of 2025 Executive Committee and Policy Board Meeting Dates

Background: Attached please find a proposed schedule for the Executive Committee and Policy Board for 2025. The schedule has been slightly adjusted from the current year to include an additional virtual meeting for the Policy Board at the end of June. Moving forward, the Policy Board will meet quarterly in a hybrid capacity.

Recommendation: The Executive Committee reviewed the schedule at its November 6, 2024 meeting and recommends approval by the full Policy Board.

If the Policy Board wishes to accept this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

Move, to approve the Schedule of Executive Committee and Policy Board Meetings for 2025, as presented by staff.

Attachments:

- o 2025 Executive Committee and Policy Board Meeting Dates

POLICY BOARD

2025 Regular Meeting Schedule

Regular meetings of the CRCOG Policy Board are typically held the fourth Wednesday of January, February, March, April, May, June, October, and the third Wednesday of September, November and December. Meetings will be held virtually with Zoom, with a quarterly hybrid meeting. The Annual Meeting in June is held at a time, date and place selected by the Chairman.

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 – **Hybrid**

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 - **Hybrid**

JUNE – ANNUAL MEETING tentative date: Thursday 6/5/24
(Annual NARC Conference June 8-11, 2025 – Seattle, WA)

Wednesday, June 25, 2025 - **additional meeting date**

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 - **Hybrid**

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 *(moved due to Thanksgiving holiday)*

Wednesday, December 17, 2025 *(moved due to Christmas holiday)*

Conference Dates:

- February 9-12, 2025 NARC - National Conference of Regions
- June 8-11, 2025 NARC - Annual Conference and Exhibition
- October 25-29, 2025 ICMA Annual Conference

Please Note:

- September 22 - 24, 2025 Rosh Hashana
- October 1-2, 2025 Yom Kippur

Approved by
Policy Board on

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2025 Regular Meeting Schedule

Regular meetings of the CRCOG Executive Committee are typically held the second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, November are scheduled at noon and held in a **virtual** format.

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

11. TIP Amendments

All handouts can be found at:

[https://crcog.org/event/
policy-board-63/](https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/)

Agenda Item Summary

To: Policy Board; Transportation Committee

From: Rob Aloise, Director of Transportation Planning

CC: Matt Hart, Executive Director

Meeting Date: November 20, 2024 (Transportation Committee: November 18, 2024)

Subject: TIP Amendments

Background: Each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is required to maintain a four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), detailing all federal surface transportation funding. As part of maintaining this document, the MPO approves amendments as needed.

Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG: The following projects are included:

1. Bloomfield—CT 305—Replace Culvert at Mill Brook Crossing
2. New Britain—Washington Street—Superstructure Repairs
3. Plainville—SR 536—Replace Bridge over Pan Am Railroad
4. West Hartford—US44/CT 218—Intersection Modifications and Traffic Signal Replacement
5. East Hartford/Hartford—CT 2—GHMP-Extend CT 2 to I-91 Via New Bridge o/ CT River
6. New Britain—Trail—Beeline Trail (Phase 1) - Construct Multi-Use Trail Along CT72 Corridor
7. District 1—Various—Replace Traffic Control Signals at Various Locations
8. Various—Various—Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program Grant

Financial/Operational Impact: See attached table and backup material for individual project funding details.

Project Schedule: See attached table and backup material for individual project schedule details.

Recommendation: CRCOG Staff recommends approval. The Transportation Committee will provide a recommendation at their meeting on November 18, 2024.

Attachments:

- TIP Amendment Summary Sheet
- Project Backup Materials as provided by CTDOT

12. Correspondence & Handouts

• Letter of Support

All handouts can be found at:

[https://crcog.org/event/
policy-board-63/](https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/)

October 25, 2024

Mr. Matthew Pawlik
Environmental Engineering Program Supervisor
CT Department of Public Health
Code Advisory Committee
410 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06134

Re: Revisions to the Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems

Dear Mr. Pawlik:

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) works to enhance the quality of life, vibrancy, and vitality of the Greater Hartford region. CRCOG provides planning, programs, and services to our 38 member municipalities and we are the region's designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). CRCOG is a strong advocate for the region and regional solutions.

As the Code Advisory Committee determines potential revisions to the Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems, CRCOG urges the Committee to consider revisions to certain provisions related to ion exchange units.

We recognize the current revisions are focused on implementing recent legislative changes, but view this as an opportunity to address an emerging environmental and public health issue occurring in the Capitol Region. You may be aware of on-going well water contamination issues, potentially due to discharge from ion exchange units (water softener systems) in the town of Tolland and other localities around the state. While the Town, DPH, DEEP, and the affected residents continue to work on solutions for that particular situation, we see an opportunity to strengthen the technical standards for the systems to reduce the risk of future contamination to well water and sensitive water bodies.

13. Municipal Information Sharing

All handouts can be found at:

[https://crcog.org/event/
policy-board-63/](https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/)



14. Other Business

All handouts can be found at:

<https://crcog.org/event/policy-board-63/>



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15. Adjournment



All handouts can be found at:

[https://crocog.org/event/
policy-board-63/](https://crocog.org/event/policy-board-63/)