

Transportation Cost Review Sub-Committee Meeting
Monday, March 25, 2024
11:00 AM
Virtual Meeting

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Larry Baril	Avon
Michael Ahern	Berlin
Jon Colman	Bloomfield
Patrice Carson	Bolton
Todd Penney	Coventry
Russ Arnold	Farmington
Kirk Severance	Granby
Jeff LaMalva	Manchester
John Carrington	Mansfield
Peter Hughes	Marlborough
Chris Zibbideo	Newington
Rob Trottier	New Britain
Steve Sopelak	Rocky Hill
Adam Kessler	Simsbury
Jeffrey Doolittle	South Windsor
Devin Cowperthwaite	Stafford
David Smith	Vernon
Greg Sommer	West Hartford
Derrick Gregor	Wethersfield
<u>Guests</u>	
Kelly Cain	CTDOT
Darren Meyers	CTDOT

CRCOG Staff

Robert Aloise, Mike Cipriano, Roger Krahn, Anaka Maher, Cara Radzins,
Elizabeth Sanderson, Chris Seeger, Karen Stewartson

The record below includes a brief description of each agenda item and the timestamp for the beginning of that discussion. The audio recording is available at www.crcog.org.

- 1. Roll Call—0:00**—The meeting was called to order at 11:02 am by Chair Jon Colman from the Town of Bloomfield. The Zoom participant list will be used for attendance.
- 2. Public Forum—0:26**—There were no public comments.
- 3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes: September 18, 2023—0:47**—Dave Smith from the Town of Vernon made a motion, seconded by Rob Trottier from the City of New Britain, to approve the minutes from the Cost Review Sub-Committee on

September 18, 2023. This motion was passed unanimously with two (2) abstentions made by Steve Sopolak from the Town of Rocky Hill and Chris Zibbideo from the Town of Newington.

4. Transportation Alternatives Program: Hartford TMA Funding Allocations

—1:40—Mike Cipriano shared the proposed funding allocations for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), noting that while this solicitation will assume continuation of current funding levels, future legislation will dictate how many projects can be initiated. The federal funding allocation for the Hartford Transportation Management Area (TMA) is just under \$12.7 million, resulting in \$15.9 of total project funding, inclusive of the required 20% local match. CRCOG staff recommends that the same procedures from the 2019 solicitation be followed. If the Committee agrees, CRCOG projects will receive 75% of the funding and non-CRCOG projects will receive the remaining 25%. The first 50% of the funds would be reserved for CRCOG projects, the next 25% for non-CRCOG projects. David Smith from the Town of Vernon asked how the determination of the 50/25/25 split for this round of funding would work. Cara Radzins responded by saying there is almost twice as much money available at this round and project sizes are more variable, but that this breakdown had been discussed and agreed to by the various COGs in the Hartford TMA. A motion was made by David Smith from the Town of Vernon, seconded by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington, to accept the TAP funding allocations presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Transportation Alternatives Program: CRCOG Solicitation Guidance—

7:46—Mike Cipriano shared the draft solicitation guidance for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). He highlighted eligible projects and applicants. The maximum federal share for TAP projects is 80% for all phases. The minimum project size for TAP is \$500,000, and CRCOG staff is proposing a maximum project size of \$4.0 million. Mr. Cipriano reviewed the proposed solicitation schedule, beginning with the release of a Request for Proposals by March 28, 2024, and ending with Transportation Committee and Policy Board approvals in June. Derrick Gregor from the Town of Wethersfield asked if the town match included in-kind services in addition to a monetary match. Cara Radzins responded that it is a requirement for the towns to commit to 20% of project costs. Rob Trottier from the City of New Britain added that there is reimbursement for staff design work. Dave Smith from the Town of Vernon asked about how the non-CRCOG projects are selected. Cara Radzins responded that these generally alternate between RiverCOG and NVCOG, with that COG determining its own process. Jon Colman from the Town of Bloomfield shared his concern about municipalities voting on their own applications. Cara Radzins noted that these concerns would be taken into consideration when staff puts together the final materials. A motion was made by Steve Sopolak from the Town of Rocky Hill, seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, to approve the 2024 TAP Solicitation Guidance. This motion was passed unanimously.

6. STP-Urban Hartford TIP Amendment Discussion—18:03—

Rob Aloise explained that CTDOT is requesting CRCOG to approve \$6 million of federal STP-Urban funding towards pavement preservation on 1-91 in East Windsor and Enfield. This project was the only viable project that could be added to the CRCOG STP-Urban program that would comply with fiscal year 2024 redistribution requirements. This

project will not impact any other projects, and even without this project, approximately \$27 million of STP-Urban funding is expected to be expended on CRCOG projects, eclipsing the typical annual apportionment of \$24 million. Darren Meyers from CTDOT provided additional information and clarification about the request. Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough made a motion, seconded by Rob Trottier from the City of New Britain, to make an exception to the STP-Urban freeway restriction for State Project 46-0131. This motion was passed unanimously.

7. Other Business—28:35—There was no other business discussed.

8. Adjourn—29:21—The meeting was adjourned at 11:31am via motion by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by David Smith from the Town of Vernon.