

CRCOG Transportation Committee Meeting
Monday March 24, 2025 | 12:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting

Name

Larry Baril
Eric Anderson
Chris Edge
Jon Colman
Patrice Carson
Neil Pade
Todd Penney
Doug Wilson
Len Norton
Donald Nunes
Russ Arnold
Kirk Severance
Daniel Pennington
Owen Deutsch
Yousheng Mao
Jeff LaMalva
John Carrington
Jason Outlaw
Chris Zibbideo
John Bossi
Steve Sopelak
Adam Kessler
Todd Rolland
Jeffrey Doolittle
Jim Grappone
Devin Cowperthwaite
Bill Hawkins
David Corcoran
David Smith
Greg Sommer
Troy Sposato

Organization

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

Guests

Michael Ahern
Rob Trotter
Dan Carter
Grayson Wright

Berlin
Bloomfield
Bloomfield
CTDOT

Jennifer Brady
Charles Harlow
Karen Svetz
Daniel Amstutz
Bryan Walsh
Steven Kamimnski

FHWA
Fuss & O'Neill
Jacobs
VHB
DND Construction Services
Unknown

CRCOG Staff

Robert Aloise, Mike Cipriano, TJ DeMichele, Matt Hart, Roger Krahn, Anaka Maher, Dagmar Noll, Cara Radzins, Elizabeth Sanderson, Karen Stewartson, Terri Thompson

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

1. Roll Call – 0:24 – The meeting was called to order at 12:01 pm by chair Jon Colman the Town of Bloomfield. There is a new feature in zoom that will download the participant lists that will be used for roll call and the meeting minutes moving forward.

2. Public Forum – 0:31 – There were no public comments.

3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2025 – 0:53 – A motion was made by Eric Anderson from the Town of Andover, seconded by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington, to adopt the meeting minutes from the February 24, 2025, meeting. This meeting was passed unanimously with two (2) abstentions made by Len Norton from the Town of East Windsor and Devin Cowperthwaite from the Town of Stafford.

4. Staff Report

- **60 Seconds for Safety – 1:58** – Roger Krahn shared that CRCOG is gathering input through the interactive map and survey to identify safety issues across the Capitol Region. For more information, please visit <http://crcog.org/safety-action-plan>. Mr. Krahn also shared that CRCOG staff will be holding online meetings on April 14-17 to present regional crash maps and data related to the development of the regional Transportation Safety Action Plan. Individual meetings to discuss specific municipal-level data will be held upon request during the summer/fall.
- **BIL/IIJA Update – 3:42** – Elizabeth Sanderson provided an update on current award programs. More information can be viewed at <https://crcog.org/bil-iija>.
- **2025 CT General Assembly Transportation Bill – 12:44** – Terri Thompson reviewed transportation-related bills that are currently being considered by the Connecticut General Assembly. More information is available at <https://www.cga.ct.gov>. There was discussion about CRCOG testimony, and a question was made regarding SB 1375 and its potential impact on rural communities. Ms. Thompson will look into this.
- **AASHTO Spring Meeting in Hartford – 20:03** – Cara Radzins shared that the upcoming AASHTO Spring Meeting will be held in Hartford on May 12-15. More information and registration is available [HERE](#).
- **Priority Pathways Public Meeting – 20:38** – Mike Cipriano mentioned that a virtual public meeting will be held on April 29, 2025 from 6:30-7:30 PM for CRCOG's Priority Pathways Study. Pop-up events and walk audits for the study will be in late spring/summer.

- **Public Outreach Effectiveness Survey – 22:04** – Dagmar Noll shared that staff is working to understand the effectiveness of CRCOG’s public outreach efforts. A survey related to this is open through March 30, 2025. Ms. Noll encouraged the Committee to share the survey which is available [HERE](#).
- **Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices Roundtable Recap – 23:21** – Anaka Maher shared highlights from the Automated Traffic Enforcement Roundtable meeting, which was held before Transportation Committee:
 - An early step municipality can do in the implementation process is to check if their school zones and traffic signals are approved by OSTA.
 - CRCOG has two on-call lists. One can be used for ATESD Plans and other general transportation engineering tasks. The other, which is still under review, will be a pre-qualified vendor list.
 - One requirement of ATESD Plans is to include the town’s Safety Action Plan, but if they don’t have one CRCOG’s Regional Transportation Safety Plan can be used instead.
 - The City of Hartford recently hired a vendor to implement ATESDs. They may be a good resource for other municipalities.
 - CRCOG and municipalities have been seeing cost estimates of around \$2,000 to \$4,000 a month per camera. Many vendors also promise cost neutrality so that if the fines from the camera don’t keep up with the monthly cost, then the municipality will not be charged. The primary costs to the municipality will be staffing time for reviewing the citations.
 - Some advice that was shared on how to communicate to the public: start with school zones, include public outreach support in contracts with consultants and/or vendors, take advantage of the required public hearing for the passing of the ordinance to allow ATESDs. Some municipalities have task forces/committees that can be a good touchpoint with the public.
 - There was a question about how long ATESDs should be implemented to get the full safety benefit. Some people have heard between three and seven years, but it may be best to use the required annual reporting to keep track of the number of violations to see how safety is improving.
 - ATESD Plan approvals through OSTA take 60 days (or more if OSTA needs to go back to the municipality for more information).
 - Owen Deutsh added: Washington, CT has a complete plan that is available on the OSTA website. Middletown, New Haven, and Stamford all have plans under review and may be open to sharing the plans with other municipalities before they are officially approved.
- **Executive Director Update – 28:36** – Matt Hart shared some information on legislation, highlighting bills related to funding for multi-use trails and the state Local Bridge Program. He mentioned the kickoff of the Regional Stormwater Authority Study. Mr. Hart also shared he will be a panelist at the Transportation Showcase being hosted by CTDOT on April 1 at the Connecticut Science Center from 8am-10 am.

5. TIP Amendments – 32:14 – Robert Aloise reviewed the TIP Amendment. A motion was made by Devin Cowperthwaite from the Town of Stafford, seconded by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington, to accept the TIP Amendment as presented. This motion was passed unanimously.

- Mansfield – CT 195 – Ped/Bike Improvements; Install Multi-Use Trail

6. LOTCIP Funding Increase/Scope Modification Requests – 34:15 – Rob Aloise reviewed the Bloomfield Transfer of Woodland Avenue/LOTICIP Funding Increase Request for West Dudley Roadway Reconstruction and Sidewalk Project. Rob Trottier offered some additional information about the project’s history. A motion was made by Russ Arnold from the Town of Farmington, seconded by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin, to approve the LOTCIP funding transfer of \$2,417,500 and an additional funding increase of \$1,174,100 (48.5%), from \$2,417,500 to \$3,591,600. This motion was passed unanimously.

7. CTDOT Project Coordination and Complete Streets Policy – 40:35 – Rob Aloise shared concerns from several municipalities regarding CTDOT’s project coordination and Complete Streets Policy. The Committee discussed these concerns as summarized below:

- The Committee clarified their complete streets concerns and requested that CRCOG staff continue this conversation with CTDOT.
- Committee members expressed the need to revisit public meetings and municipal engagement for projects where significant complete streets elements were added after or not sufficiently addressed during initial outreach.
- It was highlighted that in many instances, especially in rural communities, the need for pedestrian amenities that allow for safe crossing of the state roadway is more pressing than providing complete streets elements along the route.
- Several Committee members highlighted the need for more CTDOT coordination and flexibility with the municipalities during projects, potentially via some or all of the following:
 - Earlier involvement of the municipalities in the design/complete streets exemption process
 - Deference to any municipal complete street plans or priorities
 - Re-assessment of CTDOT’s complete streets policy exemption criteria
 - Assignment of maintenance responsibilities to the State for project elements that are solely initiated/proposed by CTDOT

8. Other Business – 1:06:13 – There was no other business discussed.

9. Adjourn – 1:06:28 – The meeting was adjourned at 1:09 pm. via motion by Devin Cowperthwaite from the Town of Stafford, seconded by Eric Anderson from the Town of Andover.