

CRCOG POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 17, 2025 12:00 NOON This was a virtual meeting.

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

Attendance

Tony Harrington
Jim Rupert
Rodney Fournier
Mark Walter
Jim Drumm
Lisa Thomas
Connor Martin
Jason Bowsza
Laurie Berstein
Matt Reed
Corey Turner
Raúl De Jesús Jr.
Jeff Auker
Steve Stephanou
David Porter
Bobbie Sanchez
Jonathan Altshul
Allan Smith
Wendy Mackstutis
Craig Zimmerman
Paul Chaplinsky
Bill Morrison
Colin Moll
Ken Lesser
Nuchette Black-Burke
Peter Souza
Jon Savino

Town/Organization

Bloomfield
Bolton
Bolton
Columbia
Coventry
Coventry
East Hartford
East Windsor
Ellington
Ellington
Glastonbury
Hartford
Hartford
Manchester
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
South Windsor
Southington
Stafford
Suffield
Wethersfield
Windsor
Windsor
Windsor Locks

CRCOG Staff

Caitlin Palmer
Cheryl Assis
Erik Snowden
Elizabeth Sanderson
Heidi Samokar
Jack Treanor
Robin Nichols

Roger Krahn
Kim Bona
Matt Hart
Pauline Yoder
Rob Aloise
Tracey Malenfant

Guests

Grayson Wright
Erin McBride
Donna Hamzy Carroccia
Matt Reich
Tajjah Anderson

CTDOT
Office of Sen. Murphy
Kozak & Salina
Office of Rep. Courtney
Office of the Governor

1. **Call to Order**

Ken Lesser called the meeting to order at 12:06.

2. **Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

3. **Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2025**

Ken Lesser made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Wendy Mackstutis seconded. Motion passed.

4. **Staff Reports**

Executive Director Matt Hart provided an overview of his report. Mr. Hart's full report can be found [HERE](#)

- a. General Announcements
- b. Project Updates
- c. Committee Updates
- d. Meetings & Events

5. **Presentation:**

Michael Bloom, Senior Director of External Affairs and Engagement and Hate Crimes Initiative Coordinator. Understanding Hate Crimes in Connecticut. The presentation begins at the 7 minute mark.

6. **Legislative Update**

Matt Hart provided updates on funding opportunities. He also noted that staff are developing a user-friendly summary of House Bill 8002 in collaboration with other COGs and CCM, with informational sessions planned for January.

Matt Reich provided a legislative update from Congressman Courtney's office, and Tijah Anderson welcomed new members of the Board.

7. **ACTION: Appointment of Policy Board, Executive Committee and Personnel & Finance Committee**

The Nominating Committee proposed slate of nominees to serve as CRCOG's officers, Executive Committee members, and Personnel & Finance Committee members for the 2025-2027 term. Lisa Thomas made a motion to approve, Jeff Auker seconded. Motion carried.

8. **ACTION: Approval of 2026 Meeting Schedule for Policy Board and Executive Committee**

Matt Hart presented the 2026 committee schedules. Chris Edge made a motion to approve the schedules, Tony Harrington seconded. Motion carried.

9. **ACTION: Resolution to Accept Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Grant of \$440,300.00 for the Regional Food Waste Collection and Diversion Program from DEEP**

Robyn Nichols recommended the Policy Board approve the resolution to accept grant funds that will provide funding for equipment and materials, operational costs, and education and outreach, as well as in-kind administrative support from CRCOG and CCSWA. Steve Stephanou motioned to approve the resolution. Jim Rupert seconded. Motion passed.

10. **ACTION: Resolution Endorsing the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan**

Paul Chiplinsky motioned to table this item. Corey Turner seconded the motion. The motion was tabled to a future Policy Board Meeting.

11. **ACTION: Approval of 2026 Legislative Agenda**

Donna Hamzy Carroccia presented the 2026 CRCOG Legislative Agenda and highlighted key initiatives, including expansion of passenger rail, support for microtransit programs, and efforts to increase the municipal share of gaming funds. She also announced a legislative breakfast scheduled for March 5 at 8:00 a.m.,

intended to foster dialogue between CRCOG members and the legislative delegation. Lisa Thomas made a motion to approve. Ken Lesser seconded the motion. Motion carried.

12. TIP Amendments

Rob Aloise presented the proposed TIP amendments to approve; the following projects are included:

1. Glastonbury – CT 94 – Construct Sidewalk and Rehab Multi-Use Trail
2. Manchester – Tolland Turnpike – Pavement Rehab and Other Improvements
3. Farmington/New Britain – I-84 EB – Replace Noise Barriers and Guiderails
4. New Britain/Plainville – I-84/CT 72 – Replace Noise Barriers and Guiderails
5. Wethersfield – I-91 – NHS Bridge Improvements; Bridges over Elm Street
6. Various – Various – Install Electric Vehicle Charging Stations – Phase 1A

Lisa Thomas made a motion to approve the TIP amendments as presented. Jim Rupert seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

13. ACTION: Authorizing Resolution: Execution of an Agreement for the Development of the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Rob Aloise presented that the MTP outlines a long-range vision for transportation improvements in the region. This plan is a requirement for CRCOG's role as an MPO, which allows CRCOG to receive federal transportation funding. Tony Harrington made a motion to approve the motion. Jim Rupert seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

14. Correspondence / Handouts

- a. [Letters of Support](#)
- b. [The CRCOG Connection Newsletter](#)
- c. [The Funding Newsletter](#)

15. Other Business

None.

16. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned the meeting at 1:18PM. Ken Lesser made a motion to adjourn. Jim Rupert seconded.