



Bethany - Branford - East Haven - Guilford - Hamden - Madison - Meriden - Milford
New Haven - North Branford - North Haven - Orange - Wallingford - West Haven - Woodbridge

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Carl Amento, Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA
September 22, 2010 – 9:00 A.M.

Location: 127 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor West
North Haven, CT 06473

Full agenda materials can be found at our website – www.scrkog.org

1. Call to order
2. Adopt Minutes of August 25, 2010 – *Anthony DaRos, Secretary* Pages 2-4
3. SCRCOG Executive Director’s Report - *Carl Amento* Page 5
4. Progress Report on SCRCOG FY 2010-2011 Work Program - *Carl Amento* Pages 6-7
5. SCRCOG 2011 Legislative Agenda Process – *Carl Amento* Page 8-9
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

Special needs: Hearing impaired closed audio loops and/or sign language interpreter and limited English proficiency translator will be provided upon two weeks notice. Agenda can be requested in a language other than English by contacting SCRCOG.

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Carl Amento Executive Director

To: SCRCOG Board members
From: Secretary Anthony DaRos
Date: September 22, 2010
Subject: Executive Committee Minutes for meeting of August 25, 2010

Members present were:

Bethany: First Selectman Derrylyn Gorski
Branford: First Selectman Anthony DaRos
Milford: Lisa Bull DiLullo, Assistant to the Mayor, proxy for Mayor James Richetelli, Jr.
New Haven: Mayor John DeStefano, Jr.
West Haven: Mayor John Picard, Treasurer
Woodbridge: First Selectman Edward Sheehy, Vice Chair

Staff present: Executive Director Carl Amento

Item #1- Call to order

Meeting of the SCRCOG Executive Committee was called to order at 9:10 by Acting Chairman Edward Sheehy.

Item #2 Adoption of Minutes

A motion to adopt the minutes of July 28, 2010 as presented was made by First Selectman Gorski and seconded by Mayor DeStefano. The vote was unanimous to adopt with no changes.

Item #3 Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Amento reported that the federal Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant application was submitted on August 23rd. SCRCOG partnered with Greater Bridgeport RPA, South Western RPA (Stamford and Norwalk), New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (New York City, western Long Island, lower Hudson Valley) on the application.

Executive Director Amento also reported that twenty-four engineering and planning firms submitted written proposals in response to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for fifteen UPWP studies. Ten firms were selected by a panel comprised of town engineers from four towns and Executive Director Amento.

Amento also reported on SCRCOG's collaboration with the Greater New Haven Transit District in planning a Regional Transit Forum to be held on October 26th. The Executive Director's written report is attached.



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Item #4 Progress Report on SCRCOG Work Plan

Executive Director Amento reviewed progress made during the past month regarding the goals of the SCRCOG 2010-11 Work Program.

Item #5 Executive Director Evaluation Process

The Executive Committee reviewed the Evaluation Process for the position of the Executive Director, and requested that the process be incorporated into the By-laws.

Item #6 SCRCOG Legislative Process for 2011 Legislative Session

The Executive Committee reviewed the revised Legislative Process submitted by the Executive Director. The Committee determined that the following changes should be made: change date for completion of Legislative Agenda from October to November; and include federal and state legislation in the Legislative Agenda. The Committee discussed proposed legislative initiatives submitted by the Executive Director.

Item #7 Report on REX Development Move

Executive Director Amento reported that the new offices were gradually being fitted out with glass partitions, blinds, doors and hardware. The fax and copy machines are being shared. The telephone system is in need of a substantial upgrade and vendors are being interviewed. Given advances in technology, it appears that SCRCOG and REX may be able to obtain a very sophisticated telephone system for what is currently being paid for the outdated system.

Item #8 Report on Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant

Executive Director Amento reported on the FEMA Planning grant which he proposed be undertaken on a regional basis. Amento reviewed the agenda handout outlining the grant process. Ten of the fifteen regional planning agencies in Connecticut have obtained this planning grant. In our region, three cities and towns have already been awarded the grant (East Haven, New Haven and Milford), and two more have applied (Guilford and Meriden). Once the regional pre-disaster hazard mitigation plan is completed and accepted by FEMA, the region or any town in the region will be eligible to apply for grants of up to \$3 million for projects that mitigate hazardous conditions. After discussion, the consensus of the Executive Committee was to recommend approval of the proposed resolution authorizing SCRCOG to apply for this grant on behalf of those cities and towns in the region who wish to participate in the program.

Item #9 Recommendation on SCRCOG's appointment to Tweed-New Haven Airport Authority

This matter is to be placed on the agenda when a recommendation for the appointment is made.



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Item #10 Other Business

There was no other business.

Item #11 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:45 am by Mayor Picard, seconded by First Selectman DaRos.
The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony DaRos, Secretary



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Carl Amento Executive Director

Executive Director's Report

September, 2010

HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant

The grant application requesting \$5 million was submitted on August 23rd. SCRCOG partnered with Greater Bridgeport RPA, South Western RPA (Stamford and Norwalk), New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (New York City, Western Long Island, lower Hudson Valley). We do not know when a decision will be made on our grant application. We are now involved in lobbying for its approval. We met with staff members of the federal delegation in Bridgeport Mayor Finch's office, and a meeting with the federal delegation is being planned in Washington.

Regional Transit Forum

SCRCOG is working with the Greater New Haven Transit District in planning a Regional Transit Forum for October 26th in New Haven. The forum will include presentation on the current status and plans for improvement to the modes of transportation (public and private bus service, rail, para-transit, telecommuting, bike/ pedestrian) in our region. It is expected that a series of recommendations will result from the presentations and discussions. I will be giving the welcoming address.

Website

We are continuing to work with York & Chapel on improvements to the SCRCOG website.

REX Development move

The new offices for REX employees have been glassed in, have blinds and doors. We have integrated our use of fax, copying and scanning services. Integrating REX into our telephone system would involve considerable expense and still leave us with a 15 year old phone system without features such as caller ID, voicemail and a busy lamp field so that the receptionist can see who is on the phone. We also have no way to automatically direct phone calls without a receptionist. After interviewing 10 local companies, it appears that SCRCOG or REX can buy or lease a new phone system with all of the modern features at a cost that is less per month than we are presently paying.

FEMA grant

We are working on contacting towns in the region to see which want to participate in the Pre-Disaster hazard Mitigation Planning grant which is due in late October.

Regionalization initiatives

We are in discussion with various individuals and entities exploring regionalization initiatives involving energy, recycling, SeeClickFix, DataHaven, and purchasing.

Speaking engagement

I will be making a presentation on SCRCOG and Regionalism to a Community Development Breakfast sponsored by the Greater new haven Community Loan Fund on October 12th.

SCRCOG FY2010-11 Goals and Work Program
SCRCOG Meeting – September 22, 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE

Due Date: **Tasks:**

July 2010

- o Complete move of REX Development into SCRCOG offices- COMPLETED
- o Initiate direct deposit of employee payroll checks-COMplete

August-November 2010

- o Legislation Committee meets, develops and adopts legislative agenda

September-October 2010

- o Complete personnel evaluations of employees

October-December 2010

- o Executive Director visits mayors and first selectmen

November-December 2010

- o Executive Director resumes active involvement in legislature's MORE Commission

November-December 2010

- o Executive Director and Legislation Committee meet with legislators and advocate legislative agenda

November 2010

- o Complete updates to SCRCOG website

December 2010

- o Complete re-write of Personnel Management Procedures

February 2011

- o Complete personnel evaluations of employees

January - May 2011

- o Executive Director and Legislation Committee members advocate legislative agenda during General Assembly session
- o Executive Director visits mayors and first selectmen

March 2011

- o Submit draft FY 2011-12 SCRCOG budget and proposed work program/ goals

May 2011

- o Adopt FY 2011-2012 Budget and work program/goals

July 2010 - June 2011

- o Executive Director's continued participation in Transportation Strategy Board, Regional Growth Connection, Workforce Alliance, Rideworks, Regional Alliance, C-Med Board, Regional Planning Commission, Regional Growth Partnership, Regional Economic Development Directors, Connecticut Association of Regional Planning Organizations and Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security – Region 2

TRANSPORTATION

Due Date: **Tasks:**

July-August 2010

- o Review 24 RFQ submissions for 15 UPWP studies, conduct interviews, select consultants-COMPLETED
- o Submit application(s) for federal Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant -COMPLETED

September 2010

- o Obtain SCRCOG approval to execute consultant contracts for UPWP Studies-COMPLETED

October 2010

- o Plan and hold Regional Transit Forum along with Greater New Haven Transit District

September - December 2010

- Outreach to Region for input on update of Regional Long Range Transportation Plan

January - February 2011

- Solicit, if necessary, additional proposals for UPWP studies from municipalities

January - March 2011

- Update region's locally-coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan (LOCHSTP)

January - May 2011

- Prepare, review and approve update to Regional Long Range Transportation Plan

March - April 2011

- Approve any revisions to UPWP and submit to DOT for approval

April 2011

- Submit municipal grant applications for senior and disabled transportation in the region

May - June 2011

- Solicit consultants for FY 2012 UPWP studies

May 2011

- Develop Section 5310 funding priorities for purchase of wheelchair accessible vehicles

March - June 2011

- Work closely with consultants to complete UPWP planning studies

July 2010 - June 2011

- Regular maintenance and amendments to Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

LAND USE PLANNING:

Due Date: Tasks:

July - September 2010

- Organize and update GIS data, zoning regulations/maps, Plans of Conservation and Development from all of the region's cities and towns- COMPLETED

September 2010

- Prepare Sustainability Fact Sheets for Regional Planning Commission- COMPLETED

October 2010

- Address vacancies on Regional Planning Commission

November 2010 - January 2011

- Plan and hold 2011 Regional Planning Commission Annual Meeting and Dinner

February - June 2011

- Begin initial stages of five-year update to the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development

REGIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY INITIATIVES

Due Date: Tasks:

October 2010

- Present proposal for regional SeeClickFix service
- Present proposal for regional bid matching service

September - October 2010

- Possible application to FEMA for Regional Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant

September - December 2010

- Meet with mayors and first selectmen and determine interest in regional housing, energy, recycling and other initiatives

January - June 2011

- Implement new service delivery initiatives

SCRCOG Legislative Process for 2011 Legislative Session

August 2010 - Executive Director and staff develop draft Legislative Agenda, include draft in August meeting agenda packet, discuss at August and subsequent meetings.

September-October 2010 - Legislative Committee produces SCRCOG Legislative Agenda by end of November. Committee invites to its meetings any subject matter experts or any legislators as appropriate.

November-December 2010 - Executive Director and/or Legislative Committee explore beneficial alliances with other groups and meet with legislators from region and legislative leadership to press Agenda. Executive Director works with legislators to develop language for proposed bills.

January-May 2011- Executive Director and/or Legislative Committee lobby General Assembly members during legislative session and federal delegation to advance SCRCOG Legislative Agenda.

Proposed Legislation:

Providing “seed” funding for Regional Planning Organizations to create regional service and resource sharing projects

Restoring funding for regional land use planning activities

Amending EDD legislation to allow for a maximum of 10 rather than 8 districts

Legislation restoring municipal immunity for recreational liability

Legislation allowing municipal employees to join the state health insurance plan

Legislation providing health insurance pooling for towns and Boards of Education

Legislation funding the Incentive Housing Zone program

Legislation providing incentives to manufacturers for job creation

Legislation providing municipal mandate relief

Legislation providing for a moratorium on new unfunded municipal mandates without 2/3rds vote

Legislation restoring funding for tourism promotion