

2021 Annual Report

July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

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| BOARD MEMBERS | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Bethany | FS Paula Cofrancesco |
| Branford | FS James Cosgrove |
| East Haven | Mayor Joseph Carfora |
| Guilford | FS Matthew Hoey |
| Hamden | Mayor Curt Leng |
| Madison | FS Peggy Lyons |
| Meriden | Mayor Kevin Scarpati |
| Milford | Mayor Benjamin Blake |
| New Haven | Mayor Justin Elicker |
| North Branford | Mayor Bob Viglione |
| North Haven | FS Michael Freda |
| Orange | FS James Zeoli |
| Wallingford | Mayor William Dickinson, Jr. |
| West Haven | Mayor Nancy Rossi |
| Woodbridge | FS Beth Heller |

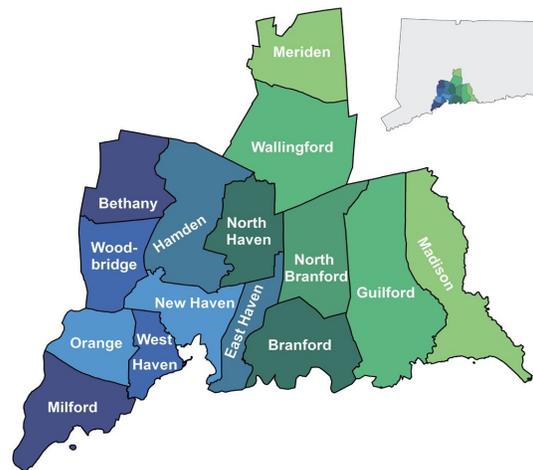
| SCRCOG STAFF | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Carl Amento | Executive Director |
| Stephen Dudley | Deputy Director |
| Christopher Rappa | Finance Director |
| James Rode | Sr. Transportation Planner |
| Eugene Livshits | Sr. Regional Planner |
| Rebecca Andreucci | Transportation Planner |
| Andy Cirioli | Municipal Services Manager |

This report highlights the major activities of the South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) during the 2020-2021 fiscal year. SCRCOG primary role is to bring together local governments to coordinate transportation planning, regional planning, and municipal services programs on a regional basis. All fifteen municipalities also belong to the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

SCRCOG's transportation responsibilities include administering a regional metropolitan transportation plan (MTP), developing a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and developing the region's Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP).

SCRCOG's regional planning responsibilities include maintaining the South Central Region Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, and a Regional Geographic Information System (GIS) Program. Additionally, the regional planning commission reviews zoning regulations, subdivision applications, and land use changes that affect member municipalities.

SCRCOG's municipal services programs promote efficiencies and cost-savings initiatives through regional energy conservation, finance, grants, information technology, public works, purchasing, and solid waste and recycling programs.



South Central Regional Council of Governments

Committee Members

| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (CALENDAR YEAR 2020) |
|---|
| First Selectman Beth Heller - <i>Chair</i> |
| First Selectman Michael Freda - <i>Vice Chair</i> |
| First Selectman Matthew Hoey - <i>Secretary</i> |
| First Selectman James Zeoli - <i>Treasurer</i> |
| First Selectman James Cosgrove |
| Mayor William Dickinson, Jr. |
| Mayor Benjamin Blake |
| Mayor Justin Elicker |

| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (CALENDAR YEAR 2021) |
|---|
| First Selectman Michael Freda - <i>Chair</i> |
| First Selectman Matthew Hoey - <i>Vice Chair</i> |
| First Selectman James Zeoli - <i>Secretary</i> |
| First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco - <i>Treasurer</i> |
| First Selectman Beth Heller - <i>Immediate Past Chair</i> |
| Mayor William Dickinson, Jr. |
| Mayor Benjamin Blake |
| Mayor Justin Elicker |

| TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE |
|---|
| Mayor William Dickinson, Jr. - <i>Committee Chair</i> |
| Mayor Benjamin Blake |
| Mayor Justin Elicker |
| First Selectman Matthew Hoey |
| First Selectman James Cosgrove |
| First Selectman Michael Freda |
| First Selectman Peggy Lyons |

| REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Bethany | Bob Harrison |
| Branford | Charles Andres - <i>Vice Chair</i> |
| East Haven | <i>Vacant</i> |
| Guilford | Matthew Yorzinski |
| Hamden | Robert Roscow ('20); Ted Stevens ('21) |
| Madison | Joel Miller |
| Meriden | Kevin Curry - <i>Secretary</i> |
| Milford | Robert Satti |
| New Haven | Elias Estabrook ('20); <i>vacant</i> |
| North Branford | Tricia Mase |
| North Haven | James Giuliatti ('20); Theresa Ranciato-Viele ('21) |
| Orange | <i>Vacant</i> |
| Wallingford | Jeffrey Kohan - <i>Chair</i> |
| West Haven | Kathleen Hendricks |
| Woodbridge | Andrew Skolnick |

| TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Bethany | Alan Green |
| Branford | John Hoeffler |
| East Haven | Kevin White |
| Guilford | Janice Plaziak |
| Hamden | Mark Austin |
| Madison | John Iennaco |
| Meriden | Howard Weissberg |
| Milford | Gregory Pidluski |
| New Haven | Giovanni Zinn |
| North Branford | Kurt Weiss |
| North Haven | Andrew Bevilacqua |
| Orange | Robert Brinton |
| Wallingford | Alison Kapushinski |
| West Haven | Abdul Quadir |
| Woodbridge | Betsy Yagla |

Transportation Planning Program

SCRCOG's Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2019-2045 complements the South Central Region: Plan of Conservation and Development and the Connecticut Department of Transportation's (CTDOT) Master Transportation Plan. The FFY '21 - FFY '24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) advances the Region's transportation goals and provides a project-by-project guide for use of available U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), state, and municipal funding. A biennial Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) guides the planning process for the Region.

The Transportation Committee, composed of chief elected officials, and the Transportation Technical Committee, composed of municipal staff, work with transit operators and CTDOT to shape, review, and prioritize plans and programs.

Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP)

The Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP) provides State funding to urbanized areas. This funding allows municipalities to perform needed capital infrastructure improvements with less burdensome requirements.

Since 2013, this program has provided over \$17,000,000 in funding to 11 projects throughout the region. SCRCOG's transportation committee has compiled a list of 47 projects that are eligible for funding. Currently over \$24,000,000 in projects is under review at CTDOT.

Mobility Management

SCRCOG continues to support the Mobility Management Program for the South Central Urbanized Area. With funding provided by Federal Transit Administration's Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities program, The Kennedy Center maintains a website for the Mobility Management Program, entitled "Know How to Go South Central Connecticut," which provides valuable travel-related information to help seniors and persons with disabilities better access their communities. The website address is www.knowhowtogoscct.org. In addition to maintaining the website, the Kennedy Center also conducted outreach to various senior and community centers.

Data Collection

SCRCOG continues to serve as a resource for its member municipalities and constituents with data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as other sources. Annually, SCRCOG compiles social, economic, housing, and demographic data. The SCRCOG Demographic and Socioeconomic Trends report is available on the SCRCOG website, www.scrcog.org.

SCRCOG conducts Quarterly Commuter Parking Lot Occupancy Surveys for the region. For over 20 years, SCROG has compiled this Data into a report that includes one-day counts of commuter parking lots and Shoreline East stations. Vehicles parked adjacent to commuter lots are included in the count total and represent demand. The information collected is posted on our website <https://scrcog.org/reports-and-data/data-collection/>.

Transportation Planning Program

Unified Planning Work Program

SCRCOG's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) addresses major regional transportation issues and opportunities through a combination of staff effort, consultant support, coordination with CTDOT, and staff work at the member cities and towns. Each year, studies are undertaken for the benefit of all member municipalities and the region. Due to the COVID Pandemic, the following consultant supported studies were delayed, and have been included in the new 2-year UPWP for FY22 and FY23:

Town of Woodbridge Business Connectivity Study

Review current conditions and limitations and provide recommendations, concept plans and cost estimates for improved connectivity and circulation, with a particular focus on cyclists and pedestrians, in the Village area, including Selden Plaza and the Commercial Park.

City of West Haven Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan

Creation of a City-wide Bicycle Pedestrian Plan coordinated with other City Plans and with emphasis on intermodal connections and addressing all areas of the City.

City of New Haven Two-way Transit Study

Completion of study started in FY 20 building on previous traffic two-way studies, study transit routing options made viable by changes to traffic flow directions on city streets.

Town of Hamden Canal Trail Crossings Evaluations

Evaluation, concept design safety improvements and recommendations with cost estimates for 21 at grade crossings on the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail between Goodrich Street and Mt. Sanford Road.

City of New Haven One Way Two Way Conversion Study

Building upon 2014 Study, evaluate Elm Street between York Street and State Street and Grove Street/ Tower Parkway between Broadway and State Street and evaluate other additional roadway sections.

City of New Haven Conditional Evaluation of Existing Structures

Inventory, documentation and evaluation of Traffic structures including span poles overhead sign poles and other similar structures.

Town of Hamden Complete Streets Route 10 Study

Existing conditions evaluation and recommendations for implementation of complete streets improvements on Route 10.

Town of Hamden Dixwell Avenue and Whitney Avenue Intersection Roundabout Feasibility Study

Build upon previous discussions to determine feasibility of creation of a roundabout at this intersection to improve current level of service "F" with concept plans and preliminary cost estimates.

New Haven Port Transportation and Freight Security Study

Study to review transportation and freight security and possible transition for the area south of I-95 into a secure port zone. Review options for possible abandonment of city streets, secure entry points and freight laydown areas for more efficient and secure goods and commodities movement.

Regional Planning Program

Affordable Housing

The second year of the Regional Housing Initiative concluded in June 2021. The initiative consisted of a series of monthly workshops facilitated by SCRCOG's Housing Consultant David Fink and included presentations from subject matter experts. The workshop sessions were attended by representatives from each SCRCOG municipality. The sessions were designed to provide in-depth information on a variety of topics/themes within the affordable housing context. The themes included Equity Conversation, Energy Efficiency, Creating Housing Groups, Working with Developers, Blight Remediation, and Transit Oriented Development.

An RFP was issued for a consultant to assist in the creation of a SCRCOG Regional Housing Plan with unique sections/plans pertaining to each of the thirteen participating municipalities. RKG Associates was selected to develop the Housing Plan in a manner compliant with the statutory requirements set forth in the CGS Section 8-30j. David Fink was selected to assist in the outreach strategy and community engagement components of the planning process for the development of the Housing Plan. A kick-off meeting with the Regional Housing Working Group has been scheduled for July 28, 2021.

EDA Grant Application – FY2020 PWEAA / CARES ACT Funding

SCRCOG in partnership with REX Development submitted an application for the FY2020 PWEAA / CARES ACT. The funding will allow for the implementation of programs associated with economic recovery and resiliency planning, assistance to local governments, business through educational webinars and/or other virtual networking functions, and support of tourism business through integration of technology. In addition, the grant funding will allow for regional coronavirus recovery planning efforts that advance equity and resilience among our most highly-impacted communities. EDA will notify applicants of their decision in late 2021.

Regional Planning Commission

The South Central Regional Planning Commission (RPC) continued to hold monthly meetings to review statutory referrals, which included amendments to Zoning Regulations, Subdivision Applications, and Municipal Plans of Conservation and Development. The RPC resolutions/comments are advisory, and are forwarded to applicable municipalities. The RPC reviewed a total of eighteen applications from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Regional Recreational Trails Program

The Regional Recreational Trail Brochures are available on the SCRCOG Trails Webpage and in the Regional GIS Interactive Viewer. SCRCOG has continued to make periodic changes and adjustments to the Trail Maps and Brochures through collaboration with municipal staff, land trusts, conservation commissions, and the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (RWA). SCRCOG is planning to convert the existing trail maps into geo-referenced PDFs, and continue to collaborate with CT Trail Finder on its GIS Data needs, and regional trail information.

A total of eight trail maps were updated during the fiscal year. These include Ida Carrington Lowell Land, and Mendell's Folly in Bethany, The Supply Ponds & Pisgah Brook Preserves, and Stony Creek & Hoadley Creek Preserves in Branford, Brooksvale Park in Hamden, and Newton Road in Woodbridge. An additional trail map and brochure was created for Massaro Community Farm in Woodbridge.

Regional Planning Program

Regional Hazard Mitigation

South Central Region: Multi-Jurisdiction Plan

The South Central Regional Council of Governments has submitted an application to the Building Resilience Infrastructure and Communities Grant Program (BRIC) for funding to update the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The application has been identified for further review by FEMA. The update will provide an opportunity to include the City of Meriden, and have all fifteen SCRCOG jurisdictions become part of the regional HMP.

SCRCOG has continued to update its member municipalities of funding opportunities for Mitigation Projects, and advance Regional Mitigation Actions. An annual update meeting with the Regional Hazard Advisory Commission has been scheduled for July 15, 2021 to review the local and regional mitigation actions identified in the regional HMP, and begin planning for the next update. The regional HMP update process will be coordinated with the Resilient Connecticut work program.

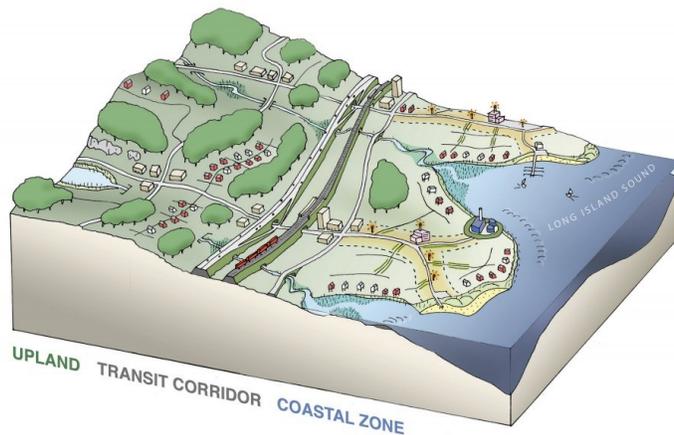
Resilient Connecticut

This initiative, which focuses on New Haven and Fairfield Counties, is a coordinated effort between CIRCA, state agencies, regional councils of governments (COGs) and municipalities. The focus of the initiative is regional resilience and adaptation planning through engagement and risk assessments that inform municipal to regional scale actions. The program is currently in its second phase, which will focus on the development of resiliency tools (climate change vulnerability index, zones of shared risk).

SCRCOG has participated in a series of GIS-focused meetings, and contributed a variety of datasets needed for the development of a climate change vulnerability index. There was additional collaboration associated with regional engagement, including Regional Workshops to refine the findings from resiliency tools, and provide input on resilience projects with regional significance. The feedback received from the workshops allowed for the identification and prioritization of highly vulnerable areas and potential resilience opportunity areas.

Products for Resilience Planning

Importantly, Resilient Connecticut builds off existing planning efforts at the local and regional levels and uses CIRCA's climate research and tools for decision making. Many of these products will be used to create a Municipal Toolkit to help local and state agency staff. The Toolkit will help decision makers better understand climate vulnerabilities and how to plan for them.



Excerpt from CIRCA's Resilient Connecticut Project Handout: <https://resilientconnecticut.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/761/2021/05/CIRCA-RC-fact-sheet2021.pdf>

Excerpt from FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC): <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>



FY 2020 Subapplication Status

On July 1, 2021, FEMA announced the selection of the FY 2020 grants for the \$700 million available through its BRIC and FMA programs. This selection announcement is not an award; it's a decision on the status of all subapplications. **While FEMA has announced the selections for FY 2020, the actual awards are anticipated to be made beginning in September 2021.**

[Learn more about the BRIC selections](#)

[Learn more about the FMA selections](#)

Municipal Services Program

Energy Conservation

SCRCOG continued to convene the Energy Conservation and Fleet Manager Working Groups to share ideas and collaborate on programs that result in energy efficiencies, cost savings, and environmental benefits.

SCRCOG collaborated with CT Green Bank to bring six solar projects to municipal buildings and schools in Branford and Woodbridge resulting in immediate savings/utility incentives. CT Green Bank provided support that simplified each step of the process to develop solar photovoltaic (PV) projects by analyzing and identifying opportunities for solar, connecting municipalities with a contractor through a competitive process, and by providing attractive financing through Green Bank Solar Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

SCRCOG was awarded Silver designation by SolSmart, a U.S. Department of Energy Program. As the ninth regional government organization in the U.S. to receive designation, SCRCOG demonstrated a commitment to making the region more solar-friendly and environmentally sustainable by promoting programs and practices that make it faster, easier, and more affordable to go solar. SCRCOG also assisted the region's municipalities in earning designation by hosting two trainings for municipal officials in Planning and Zoning, Permitting and Inspection. Additionally, achieving SolSmart designation qualifies municipalities for 20 Sustainable CT points.

SCRCOG collaborated with Live Green to enlist municipal staff to attend twelve Free EV Readiness Modules last fall and share the availability of an EV Readiness toolkit, to accept Live Green's free support EV projects, and to attend their free informational sessions. Participating in these programs qualify municipalities for Sustainable CT points. Additionally, Live Green published a municipal EV readiness study for the Town of Hamden and will publish more studies within our region as funding becomes available.

Finally, SCRCOG launched two new energy conservation webpages (1) Electric Vehicle Initiative: <https://scrcog.org/municipal-services/electric-vehicle/> and (2) Solar Energy Initiative: <https://scrcog.org/municipal-services/solar/>.

Information Technology and Cybersecurity

The primary focus of the Information Technology and Cybersecurity program was cybersecurity self-assessment surveys and cybersecurity training for municipal employees. SCRCOG contracted with Novus Insight, Inc. to deliver these services and provide consultation opportunities to the region's municipalities.

Cybersecurity Self-Assessments

SCRCOG recognizes the need for municipal vulnerability assessments and has been encouraging each municipality's Information Technology Director to complete a pre-assessment survey. The survey is a self-evaluation which will guide and inform a future vulnerability assessment program. The survey results are directly submitted to Novus who has offered to individually review the results with the municipality's IT staff. This initial phase will inform SCRCOG on how to design vulnerability assessments.

Cybersecurity Training for Municipal Employees

A critical area of vulnerability for any type of organization are its end users (i.e. employees). In an effort to minimize potential exposure to ransomware and other cyber-attacks within the region's municipalities, SCRCOG offered a regional interactive cybersecurity program for SCRCOG municipal employees. The training platform, KnowBe4, is an integrated simulated phishing program designed to increase employees' cyber-awareness by training them to detect fraudulent emails. In the 2021 fiscal year, SCRCOG proportionally distributed 1,000 training seats to its fifteen municipalities. Six municipalities started the training program, while three additional towns are either in the process of on-boarding or waiting for the next round of training seats to become available. In the 2022 fiscal year, SCRCOG will expand the program to the remaining municipalities and provide available additional training seats as needed.

Municipal Services Program

Purchasing

In the past fiscal year, the Purchasing Initiative focused on procurement training for municipal employees, joint-purchasing opportunities, best practices in purchasing policies, and consultation opportunities. SCRCOG's purchasing consultant, Wilma Petro, CPM, assisted in delivering these programs and engaged a range of municipal employees, including purchasing officers, finance directors, public works directors, and municipal engineers.

Municipal Procurement Training Series

The Municipal Procurement Training Series offered municipal employees and officials an opportunity to develop their purchasing skills and knowledge through seven, 1.5 hour virtual sessions. Each session focused on a specific topic related to procurement, including an overview of the basics, bids, request for qualifications and proposals, contacts, and construction delivery methods. Training materials and video recordings of each session were made available to participants and municipal employees.

Purchasing Consortium

Municipalities with small or no purchasing staff and those looking to leverage economies of scale expressed interest in region-wide procurement facilitated by SCRCOG. While regional purchasing associations exist, member municipalities requested a more flexible and responsive collaborative that supplemented and enhanced their purchasing operation.

In February 2021, the SCRCOG Board passed a resolution authorizing SCRCOG to establish and function as a regional purchasing consortium, officially titled "SCRCOG Regional Purchasing Consortium." Additionally, the Board adopted general guidelines and rules of procedure for the Consortium. A webpage dedicated to the Consortium was created and contains relevant information: <https://scrcog.org/purchasing/>.

The first solicitation of the Consortium was a request for qualifications (RFQ) for On-Call Engineering Services. SCRCOG received forty-one responses from engineering firms across Connecticut and surrounding states. Twenty-six firms were invited to interview before a selection panel of six municipal engineers from the region. Ultimately, eighteen firms spanning twenty-eight disciplines were selected to be on the On-Call List. The On-Call List will be active for three years with a mutual option for the firm and SCRCOG to renew for another three years. The official RFQ results can be found on the SCRCOG Purchasing Consortium webpage: <https://scrcog.org/purchasing/closed-bids/>.

To assist municipalities in using this On-Call List, Wilma Petro facilitated a training session focusing on best practices and techniques on how to utilize the On-Call List.



The flyer is titled "MUNICIPAL PROCUREMENT TRAINING SERIES" and is presented by "WILMA PETRO, CPM - SCRCOG CONSULTANT". It features the SCRCOG logo (South Central Regional Council of Governments) and a note that sessions are exclusive and free for municipal employees. The flyer lists seven sessions with their dates and topics:

- SESSION 1: MUNICIPAL PROCUREMENT 101** (Nov 12, 2020) - Basics of procurement, acronyms, quoting, and best practices.
- SESSION 2: MUNICIPAL PROCUREMENT 201** (Dec 10, 2020) - Bonds, state bid requirements, vendor relationships.
- SESSION 3: BIDS** (Jan 14, 2021) - Successful bid tips, minor defects, and state bidding requirements.
- SESSION 4: REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS** (Feb 11, 2021) - RFP vs RFQ, proposal tips, and scoring sheets.
- SESSION 5: CONTRACTS** (Mar 11, 2021) - Contract elements and types.
- SESSION 6: CONSTRUCTION DELIVERY METHODS** (Apr 15, 2021) - GC, CM, CM at Risk, subcontractor roles.
- SESSION 7: HOW TO USE THE ON-CALL ENGINEER SERVICES LIST** (Jun 30, 2021) - Coordinating bid schedules and using the On-Call list.

Municipal Procurement Training Series Flyer

Municipal Services Program

Solid Waste, Recycling, Food Waste Diversion, and Municipal Composting

SCRCOG, with the assistance of a consultant, Pamela Roach, has continued to convene the Solid Waste & Recycling (SW&R) Working Group to share and collaborate on waste reduction measures such as food waste diversion, recycling, and composting.

SCRCOG has been an active participant in Connecticut's Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM) meetings where regional and statewide waste reduction solutions are being discussed such as Unit Based Pricing, Co-Collection and organics diversion.

The SW&R Working Group and the Regional Food Waste/Compost subgroup is working to develop the infrastructure for a regional system of food waste diversion to local compost sites. SCRCOG municipalities may consider contracting with an operator to manage operations, sales & marketing to acquire feedstock, and to sell compost. Three or four food waste compost sites would provide the infrastructure needed to make it easy to implement food waste diversion programs for municipalities, schools, businesses, and residents by lowering tipping fees and transportation costs. West Haven will be the first municipality within the SCRCOG region to add food scraps to their current leaf and yard waste compost site. Their demonstration project was approved by CT DEEP is expected to begin by September 2021.

SCRCOG has been collaborating with the City of Meriden and Kristen Brown for SMART grant funding and a CT DEEP application for a UBP/Co-collection pilot in Meriden over a four-month period with 1000 households. During the pilot, residents will receive two free trash bags/week and one bag for food scraps/week and will be asked to try to limit their trash to two bags/week. This pilot program has the potential to provide significant financial and environmental benefits and may serve as model for other municipalities across the State.

SCRCOG held the first Regional Backyard Composting Sale within the SCRCOG region in April 2021. Residents purchased over 200 backyard composters, over 60 rain barrels and other accessories on-line. During the last week of April, residents picked up their merchandise at one of three pickup locations in the Towns of Woodbridge, Hamden, and Guilford.



Backyard Composter sold at SCRCOG's Regional Backyard Composting Sale event.

Presentations to SCRCOG Board

| MONTH | SPEAKER | TOPIC |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| July 2020 | <i>No Presentation</i> | |
| August 2020 | Garrett Eucalitto, Deputy Commissioner, Connecticut DOT | CTDOT Update |
| September 2020 | David Fink, SCRCOG Consultant | SCRCOG Regional Housing Working Group Report |
| October 2020 | Sukh Grewal, President and CEO, Veoci | Veoci's Municipal Software Programs |
| November 2020 | <i>No Presentation</i> | |
| December 2020 | <i>No Presentation</i> | |
| January 2021 | Sara Bronin, Founder, Desegregate CT | Desegregate CT |
| February 2021 | <i>No Presentation</i> | |
| March 2021 | Kristen Brown, Waste Zero, Consultant to CT DEEP | Cost-Saving Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Option: Unit-Based Pricing and Food Waste Diversion |
| April 2021 | Toyah Barigye, Senior Program Manager, The Solar Foundation | SolSmart Update |
| May 2021 | Ginny Kozlowski and Barbara Malmberg, Rex Development | Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2020 Update |
| | Joanna Wozniak-Brown, UConn CIRCA | Resilient CT Project Update |
| June 2021 | Daphne Dixon, Live Green | Municipal Readiness Program for Electric Vehicles (Fleet Electrification and Charging Infrastructure) |

Internship Program

University of Connecticut's Department of Public Policy Graduate Intern Program

This past May, Burton Guion and Daria Larson, UConn Master of Public Policy students, concluded their nine-month internship with SCRCOG. Burton and Daria dedicated most of their time and skills to SCRCOG's regional planning and municipal services programs. Specifically, they contributed to two municipal purchasing comparative analyses, a regional affordable housing needs assessment template, a spreadsheet to keep track of regional trail updates, an affordable housing inventory, and overall planning and preparation for Working Group meetings and initiatives.

Summer Internship Program

In June, SCRCOG on-boarded three municipal services and regional planning interns for the summer:

- Charles Butler, Master of Arts in Political Science student at Southern Connecticut State University
- Antoine Campbell, Law (JD) student at Quinnipiac University
- Michelle Skowronek, Master of Public Administration student at the University of Connecticut

They developed a municipal housing factsheet template, researched and compiled key housing data points, surveyed each municipality's assets and fleet management software, and contributed to the overall planning for energy conservation, solid waste and recycling, and municipal purchasing programs.

SCRCOG Partnerships

SCRCOG staff actively participate in the meetings and activities of several statewide and regional organizations. Executive Director Amento is a member of the Connecticut Councils of Government (CTCOG), and he represents SCRCOG on the Metropolitan Area Planning (MAP) Forum, a multi-state transportation planning organization. He is also a member of the Hartford Line Advisory Committee, and was appointed to U.S. Senator Murphy's Transportation Advisory Committee. He was recently appointed as Co-Chair of the DEMHS Region 2 Long-Term Recovery Plan Steering Committee. Executive Director Amento was appointed by the Speaker of the House to the Connecticut Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR). He is also an active member of the DEEP's CT Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM). SCRCOG staff are involved in the Region 2 DEMHS Regional Emergency Preparedness Team (REPT) and SustainableCT.

In the areas of energy conservation and solid waste and recycling, SCRCOG fostered partnerships with CCSMM, SolSmart, Live Green, Waste Zero, Brand Builders, Blue Earth, Haven's Harvest, Simple Recycling / BayState Textiles, the Center for EcoTechnology (CET), and the CT Energy Network.

Contact Information

Contact Information

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