



**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

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

**Meeting Notice & Agenda**  
**South Central Regional Metropolitan Planning Organization and**  
**South Central Regional Council of Governments**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 2023 – 10:00 A.M.**

This is a hybrid meeting with in-person attendance at the SCRCOG Office and remote access via Zoom.

Office Location: 127 Washington Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor West, North Haven, CT 06473

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83877342935>

Call-In Number: +1-929-205-6099 / Meeting ID: 838 7734 2935

- 1 **Call to Order and Introductions**
- 2 **Adopt Minutes of 3/22/23 SCRCOG Meeting (motion)** Pages 2-5
- 3 **Treasurer’s Report for month ending 3/31/23 (motion)** Pages 6,7
- 4 **MPO Business**
  - a) Adopt Resolution to Approve FY 2022-2023 TIP Amendment Twenty-Six (motion) Pages 8-12
  - b) Adopt Resolution on Conformity with the Clean Air Act – Ozone (motion) Pages 13,14
  - c) Adopt Resolution on Conformity with the Clean Air Act – PM 2.5 (motion) Pages 15,16
  - d) Adopt Resolution to Approve the South Central Regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2023-2050 (motion) Pages 17,18
  - e) Resolution Supporting Tweed New Haven Airport Expansion and Draft Environmental Assessment Findings (motion) Pages 19-21
  - f) Deputy Director/Director of Transportation Report
  - g) Transportation Staff Report
  - h) Greater New Haven Transit District Report
- 5 **COG Business**
  - a) Resolution in Support of SCRCOG’s Application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for \$1 million in Non-competitive Grant Funding for the New Haven MSA under the Climate Pollution Reduction Act (motion) Page 22
  - b) Executive Director’s Report Pages 23-35
  - c) Regional Planning Staff Report
  - d) Regional Planning Commission March Action Table Page 36
  - e) REX Development Report Page 37
  - f) Congressional Reports
  - g) State Legislative Reports – CCM, COST
  - h) DEMHS Report
- 6 **Regional Cooperation/ Other Business**
- 7 **Adjournment**

The agenda and attachments for this meeting are available on our website at [www.scrkog.org](http://www.scrkog.org). Please contact SCRCOG for copy of agenda in a language other than English. Auxiliary aids/services and limited English proficiency translators will be provided with two weeks’ notice.

*“Necesidades especiales: a las personas con discapacidad auditiva se les proveerá con medios auditivos y/o intérpretes de signos. Igualmente intérpretes para personas que hablan poco inglés, pero será preciso avisar con dos semanas de antelación. Se puede solicitar la agenda en otro idioma que no sea inglés comunicándose con SCRCOG”.*

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

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**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*Planning for Our Region's Future*

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

Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

**TO: SCRCOG Board Members**  
**FROM: First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons, Secretary**  
**DATE: April 19, 2023**  
**SUBJECT: SCRCOG Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2023**

**Present:**

Bethany	First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco, <i>Vice Chair</i>
Branford	First Selectman James Cosgrove
East Haven	Mayor Joseph Carfora
Guilford	First Selectman Matthew Hoey, <i>Immediate Past Chair</i>
Hamden	Mayor Lauren Garrett, <i>Treasurer</i>
Madison	First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons, <i>Secretary</i>
Meriden	Tim Coon, <i>proxy for Mayor Kevin Scarpati</i>
Milford	Mayor Benjamin Blake
North Branford	Michael Downes, <i>proxy for Mayor Jeffrey Macmillen</i>
North Haven	First Selectman Michael Freda
Orange	First Selectman James Zeoli, <i>Chair</i>
Wallingford	Mayor William Dickinson
West Haven	Olivia Bissanti, <i>proxy for Mayor Nancy Rossi</i>
Woodbridge	First Selectman Beth Heller
SCRCOG Staff	Carl Amento, Laura Francis, James Rode, Christopher Rappa, Benjamin Lovejoy, Rebecca Andreucci, Heba Naqvi

**Guests:** Richard Smith, *City of Milford*; Sheila Dravis-Cosgrove, *Town of Woodbridge*; Ginny Kozlowski and Barbara Malmberg, *REX Development*; Jennifer Pacacha, *CT Department of Transportation*; Lou Mangini and Anthony Afriyie, *Office of U.S. Representative Rosa DeLauro*; Ellen Graham, *Office of U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal*; Randy Collins, *CCM*; Mario Marrero, *Greater New Haven Transit District*; Marisa Kaplita, *CT Rides*; Anne Benowitz and Keyri Ambrocio, *Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce*; Laurie McElwee, *Kennedy Collective*; Greg Malone, *United Illuminating*; Nan Birdwhistell, *Murtha Cullina*; Pam Roach, *SCRCOG Solid Waste & Recycling Consultant*;

**NOTE: The March SCRCOG Board meeting was a hybrid meeting**

**1. Call to order and Introductions**

Chairman Zeoli called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. All present introduced themselves.

**2. Presentation: 2023-2028 South Central Connecticut Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs)**

Ginny Kozlowski and Barbara Malmberg from REX Development presented a draft of the 2023-2028 CEDs report. This report is revised every year and updated every five years. Mayor Dickinson suggested incorporating energy costs into the document, as it is the largest limiting factor for new businesses. He stated that education is also a major issue with people not being prepared to enter the workforce. Lou Mangini asked if the CEDs contained an inventory of local projects to be funded? Ginny Kozlowski responded yes. She added that, after a public comment period, the CEDs would be adopted at the May SCRCOG Board meeting.

**3. Adoption of the February 22, 2023 SCRCOG Meeting Minutes**

First Selectwoman Lyons presented the minutes of the SCRCOG Meeting of February 22, 2023, which were included in the agenda packet at pages 3-6. First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to approve. First Selectman Heller seconded, and all voted in favor.

**4. Adoption of the March 15, 2023 SCRCOG Special Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Zeoli presented the minutes of the SCRCOG Special Meeting of March 15, 2023 on pages 7-24 of the agenda packet. First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to approve, and First Selectwoman Lyons seconded. First Selectman Heller abstained. The motion carried.

**5. Treasurer's Report for the month ending 2/28/23**

Mayor Garrett presented the Treasurer's Report on pages 25-26 of the agenda packet. The Balance Sheet shows that SCRCOG has total assets of \$2,457,000 with \$994,000 of that in cash and investments. There is also \$324,900 due from CTDOT and \$112,000 due from DEMHS. Expenses for the month were in order. Mayor Garrett moved to accept the report, and First Selectwoman Lyons seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**6. Public Comment**

Chairman Zeoli stated he would like to add an opportunity for public comment to the agenda. He asked if anyone had any comments. Mayor Carofora thanked the board for not moving forward on the Tweed Airport resolution this month.

**7. MPO Business**

**a. Adopt Resolution to Approve FY 2022-2023 TIP Amendment Twenty-Five (motion)**

First Selectman Hoey presented the Transportation Committee report on pages 27-33 of the agenda packet. He made a motion to approve TIP Amendment Twenty-Five. First Selectman Cofrancesco seconded, and all voted in favor.

**b. Adopt Resolution to Commit to the Goal of Zero Traffic Deaths Following the Principles of Vision Zero (motion)**

Deputy Director Francis presented the resolution on pages 34,35 of the agenda packet. This Vision Zero resolution is a prerequisite for obtaining Safe Streets for All (SS4A) funding. First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to approve, and First Selectman Cosgrove seconded. All voted in favor.

**c. Adopt Resolution to Amend 2022-2023 UPWP (motion)**

Deputy Director Francis presented the resolution on pages 36-38 of the agenda packet. This resolution amends the FY22-23 UPWP to move \$20,000 from Consultant Supported Studies to Capital. The proposal is to use the capital funding to upgrade the technological equipment in the conference room to better aid virtual meetings and public participation.

Mayor Dickinson stated he would not support this amendment and encourages all meetings to be held in-person. Chairman Zeoli stated his opinion was to phase out virtual and remote meetings. Rebecca Andreucci stated the upgrades were not only for Board meetings, but for any public outreach meetings where attendance has been higher virtually. Mayor Garrett agreed that removing virtual public meetings should not be an option as it has greatly increased public involvement. First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to approve, and Mayor Garrett seconded. Mayor Dickinson voted no. The motion passed.

**d. Deputy Director/Director of Transportation Report**

Deputy Director Francis reported that the MTP comment period ends April 8. The Safe Streets for All Task Force needs representatives from each municipality before the biweekly meetings begin on April 3. Staff have been reviewing the successful and unsuccessful applications from the last round of funding for insight.

**e. Transportation Staff Report**

James Rode, and Rebecca Andreucci provided staff reports on the ongoing transportation planning projects, including UPWP studies and LOTCIP projects.

**f. Transit District Report**

Mario Marrero from the Greater New Haven Transit District reported that free fares on buses are ending April 1, 2023.

**8. COG Business**

**a. FY2023 Budget Revision #2 (motion)**

Executive Director Amento presented the budget revision on pages 39-41 of the agenda packet. The amendment includes the UPWP adjustment (Item 7c on the agenda) and the addition of the SMM grant. First Selectman Heller made a motion to approve, and First Selectman Cofrancesco seconded. All voted in favor.

**b. Resolution in Support of SCRCOG's Application to CT DEEP for Technical Assistance Funding to Study the Formation of a Regional Waste Authority**

Executive Director Amento presented the resolution on page 42 of the agenda packet. SCRCOG would be applying for a \$300,000 DEEP grant to study the formulation of a Regional Waste Authority. The City of New Haven submitted a letter of support to the COG.

Mayor Blake stated that Milford already participates in a consortium and gets the lowest rate through that agreement. They are locked in for a number of years. First Selectman Cosgrove asked if all COGs were planning on participating in this grant program. Deputy Director Francis replied that many are. First Selectman Hoey stated he would support the application, however he is frustrated that DEEP is not taking the lead on this as it is a statewide issue. Executive Director Amento stated that we are currently in a comment period and can submit comments to DEEP. First Selectman Freda echoed that he supports the resolution, but it is a statewide issue.

First Selectwoman Lyons stated she is unsure what authority they should join as a municipality with private haulers. She is looking for town-by-town recommendations and would support the resolution. Mayor Dickinson commented that this process is extremely difficult as no one wants the facility in their municipality. He reiterated that a statewide solution is needed. Mayor Carfora reported that there are long wait times at the Bridgeport facility and the logistics are difficult. First Selectman Cosgrove asked if this was worthwhile to take up regionally as a predominately transportation agency with limited staffing? Executive Director Amento stated that the COG has been working on Solid Waste matters for many years. First Selectwoman Lyons stated she would like to see municipal-specific plans similar to the affordable housing reports. Mayor Blake commented he isn't sure this issue needs to be studied further. Chairman Zeoli commented he would support the resolution because he would like to see a burn plant in the region. He would also like the COG to make comments to the state. First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to approve, and Mayor Garrett seconded. Mayor Dickinson opposed. The motion passed.

**c. Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Submit a Regional Performance Incentive Program Grant Application for a Regional Cybersecurity Assessment and Protection Program**

Executive Director Amento presented the resolution on page 43 of the agenda packet. This program was discussed in detail at the Special Board Meeting of March 15. The base program will include vulnerability assessments and data mapping for each participating town. From there, towns can choose to add on additional services.

First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to approve, and Mayor Garrett seconded. All voted in favor.

**d. Executive Director’s Report**

Executive Director Amento reviewed the SCRCOG Newsletter found on pages 44-56 of the agenda packet. He reported that a new employee would be starting next month. He also stated that SCRCOG is monitoring a potential non-competitive grant award from EPA for climate pollution reduction.

**e. Regional Planning Staff Report**

Benjamin Lovejoy stated there’s an upcoming Housing Working Group meeting Wednesday regarding urban housing. Community conversations with Ben Fink are ongoing. Staff have been working on revising the Regional Housing Action Plan to incorporate municipal feedback.

**f. Regional Planning Commission March Action Table**

The RPC Action Table was reviewed on page 57 of the agenda packet.

**g. REX Development Report**

Ginny Kozlowski of REX Development reviewed their report on pages 58-78 of the agenda packet.

**h. Congressional Reports**

Lou Mangini from Congresswoman DeLauro’s office reported that the FY24 appropriations process started. He also introduced a new outreach coordinator, Anthony Afriyie.

Ellen Graham from Senator Richard Blumenthal’s office reported that they are reviewing the applications received through the congressionally directed spending process. Jameson Foulke from Senator Christopher Murphy’s office reported the same.

**i. State Legislative Reports – CCM/COST**

Randy Collins from CCM reported that Planning and Development Committee concludes its work on Monday. Early voting proposals are being reviewed. There is concern over early voting for local referendums. Housing and TOD bills are moving forward.

**j. DEMHS Report**

Benjamin Lovejoy reported that RiverCOG hired a DEMHS Region 2 coordinator. Information on the DEMHS cybersecurity grant is currently being refined.

**9. Regional Cooperation/Other Business**

There was no other business.

**10. Adjournment**

First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to adjourn, and First Selectman Zeoli seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons, *Secretary*

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# Balance Sheet

South Central Regional Council of Governments

As of period 3/31/2023

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<b>Assets</b>
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**Cash and Investments**

Key Bank - Checking Account	54,345.60
State of CT - Short-Term Investment Fund	723,211.13
New Haven Bank	108,336.16

**Accounts Receivable**

CT Department of Transportation	343,974.22
CT DESPP – FEMA Grant	117,455.19
CT DECD – EDA Grant	21,823.80
Other State Grants (CIRCA)	(534.80)

**Other Assets**

Prepaid Expense (UConn MPA Intern)	2,961.76
Accrued Leave & Security Deposit	23,867.11
Furniture & Equipment	10,574.46
Right to Use Asset - Real Property	1,193,827.26
Right to Use Asset - Equipment	34,813.69
Amortization	(243,376.32)

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,391,279.26</b>
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<b>Liabilities</b>
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Payroll Taxes Payable & Accrued Interest	775.10
Deferred Revenue - Municipal	47,295.23
Deferred Revenue - OPM	200,791.24
Deferred Revenue - LOTCIP	179,613.26
Deferred Rev. - Other (Election Monitor)	3,690.77

<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>432,165.60</b>
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<b>Fund Balance</b>
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Fund Balance	730,272.15
Designated Fund Balance	300,000.00
Amount for Accrued Leave	12,204.19
Investment in Equipment	10,574.46
Lease Obligation	984,489.53
Change in Fund Balance	(78,426.67)

<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>1,959,113.66</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>2,391,279.26</b>

# Statement of Resources and Expenditures

South Central Regional Council of Governments

As of period 3/31/2023

Resources	Current	Year-to-Date	Budget
Municipal - Revenue	17,855.26	146,604.77	303,094.00
Municipal - Special Assessment		2,581.63	2,827.00
CT OPM - Regional Planning	58,814.41	372,640.32	573,101.00
CTDOT - Transportation Planning	92,045.32	654,893.58	1,699,588.00
CTDOT - LOTCIP	1,156.51	20,913.34	203,611.00
FEMA - Hazard Mitigation Plan	5,317.74	89,008.29	108,000.00
CT DECD (EDA Grant)	21,823.80	63,665.31	358,006.00
CT SotS - Regional Election Monitor			3,690.00
CIRCA - Resilient CT Grant			15,139.00
CT DEEP - SMM Grant			139,000.00
Miscellaneous		.02	
Interest - Revenue	2,979.66	22,156.27	2,000.00
Retiree Health Insurance Contribution	367.00	1,766.80	6,600.00
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>200,359.70</b>	<b>1,374,230.33</b>	<b>3,414,656.00</b>

Direct Expenses	Current	Year-to-Date	Budget
Retiree Benefits	367.00	1,766.80	6,600.00
Transportation Planning Consultants	41,703.25	299,242.07	1,058,600.00
Land-Use Planning Consultants	4,170.00	109,249.50	143,500.00
Other Consultants	35,088.67	223,344.51	420,200.00
Travel	2,164.14	3,722.04	7,800.00
Data Processing		2,000.00	4,000.00
Commercial Printing		34.10	2,500.00
Subscriptions and Books	99.00	149.00	3,100.00
Meeting Expenses and Advertising	3,366.83	13,301.90	19,200.00
Capital			20,000.00
Miscellaneous		157.63	152.00
Transportation - Reserved			193,589.00
LOTCIP - Reserved			161,449.00
CT DECD (EDA Grant) - Reserved			178,973.00
CT DEEP (SMM Grant) - Reserved			99,000.00
<b>Total Direct Expenses</b>	<b>86,958.89</b>	<b>652,967.55</b>	<b>2,318,663.00</b>

Direct Labor	Current	Year-to-Date	Budget
<b>Direct Labor - Employees</b>	<b>45,999.32</b>	<b>307,541.95</b>	<b>458,472.00</b>

Overhead	Current	Year-to-Date	Budget
Indirect Labor - Employees	10,700.83	120,371.58	184,816.00
Employee Benefits	22,599.70	201,069.42	264,755.00
Travel			100.00
Data Processing		14,298.83	18,600.00
Rent	9,716.54	95,367.30	114,500.00
Telephone and Internet	265.92	3,851.28	7,400.00
Office Supplies	29.30	1,846.63	3,600.00
Equipment Maintenance	1,182.45	18,311.12	18,300.00
Subscriptions and Books	321.99	321.99	
Insurance and Professional Services	10,648.00	36,219.50	24,100.00
Miscellaneous	39.14	399.98	700.00
<b>Total Overhead</b>	<b>55,503.87</b>	<b>492,147.50</b>	<b>637,521.00</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>188,462.08</b>	<b>1,452,657.00</b>	<b>3,414,656.00</b>

**South Central Regional Council of Governments**  
**2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**  
Amendment Number 26

**Project**      **0170-3688**      **2023-A26-1**      **ALT/FHCT Connector Study**

**Changes**      Amendment 26 adds a new project.

**Reason**      The proposed study will determine the best route to connect the State’s two most significant and longest multi-use trails: the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail and the Air Line State Park. This approximately 23-mile ALT-FCT Connector begins in Portland at the western-most terminus of the Air Line Trail; crosses the Arrigoni Bridge; passes through Middletown using planned and existing multi-use trails and on-street bike routes; passes through Meriden, again using existing or planned multi-use trails and on-street bike routes; and enters Cheshire, using on-street residential bike routes, until it connects with the Farmington Canal Trail. Approximately half of the route of the ALT-FCT Connector has either been constructed in the form of existing off-road and on-road routes, or the route has been planned or designed, or is in the process of being planned or designed by the municipalities. Approximately half of the route has not been studied in sufficient detail to allow it to be improved for safe and inviting bicycle transportation and recreation. Preliminary goals are to: 1) determine the best route for the ALT-FCT Connector, or in some cases to identify and to prioritize various route options; 2) identify easements that will be required for various route options, as well as bridge access accommodations and street crossings; and 3) organize the entire ALT-FCT Connector project in terms of phases and phasing, along with estimated design and construction costs for each phase.

**Project**      **0170-5025**      **2023-A26-2**      **Statewide Various Sign Support**

**Changes**      Amendment 26 adds a new project.

**Reason**      The purpose of this project is to install and remove overhead sign supports in various locations based on structural deterioration or damage caused by vehicle strikes. Locations are also included to correct sign supports that do not conform to the MUTCD or are creating driver confusion.

**Project**      **0402-0034**      **2023-A26-3**      **MOVE NEW HAVEN BRT - Preliminary Design**

**Changes**      Amendment 26 adds a new project.

**Reason**      This STIP action will provide Section 5307 funding for the MOVE New Haven On-Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System project's design activities. The overall MOVE New Haven BRT project will include design, construction, and implementation of two new, 11+mile, limited-stop, on-street BRT system corridor overlays. This system will overlay along four of the most heavily travelled local transit routes within CTDOT's CTtransit New Haven Division service area. If awarded, this project will fund the construction of a new on street BRT service complete with new battery electric buses; new enhanced on-street BRT stop locations; new transit mini-hub locations; bus-only lanes and queue jump where applicable; and implementation of Transit Signal Priority elements throughout the on street BRT corridors. This project is a comprehensive approach to State of Good Repair, modernization, and innovation and directly addresses safety, equity, accessibility, quality of life, environmental sustainability, economic development, and innovation goals, which will yield significant local and regional benefits.



South Central Regional Council of Governments  
 FFY2021-FFY2024 Transportation Improvement Program  
 Amendment 26

**State Project #0170-3688**

**SCRCOG # 2023-A26-1**

**Municipality** Regional

**AQ Code** X6

Proposed

**Project Name** ALT/FHCT Connector Study

**Description** Corridor study of the Air Line Trail - Farmington Heritage Canal Trail Connector between Portland and Cheshire to be carried out by RiverCOG. The study will determine a route to connect these 2 most significant and longest multi-use trails:

**Current TIP Funding (In Thousands)**

**Proposed TIP Funding (In Thousands)**

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Prior</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>FYI</i>
STPA	PL	Federal			280		
		State			35		
<b>TIP Funds</b>	<b>\$315</b>		0	0	0	315	0

**Amendment Notes**

FY21 Amend 26 adds a new project

**State Project #0170-5025**

**SCRCOG # 2023-A26-2**

**Municipality** Statewide

**AQ Code** X6

Proposed

**Project Name** Statewide Various Sign Support

**Description** Overhead sign support installations and replacements at various locations statewide. Approximately 18 locations on Interstate and limited access highways to be addressed.

**Current TIP Funding (In Thousands)**

**Proposed TIP Funding (In Thousands)**

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Prior</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>FYI</i>
STPA	CON	Federal			8,320		
		State			2,080		
<b>TIP Funds</b>	<b>\$10,400</b>		0	0	0	10,400	0

**Amendment Notes**

FY21 Amend 26 adds a new project

South Central Regional Council of Governments  
 FFY2021-FFY2024 Transportation Improvement Program  
 Amendment 26

**State Project #0402-0034**

**SCRCOG # 2023-A26-3**

**Municipality** Regional

**AQ Code X6**

Proposed

**Project Name** MOVE NEW HAVEN BRT - Preliminary Design

**Description** This STIP action will provide Section 5307 funding for the MOVE New Haven On-Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System project's design activities.

**Current TIP Funding (In Thousands)**

**Proposed TIP Funding (In Thousands)**

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Prior</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>FYI</i>
5307C	PD	Federal			4,800		
		State			1,200		
<b>TIP Funds</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>		0	0	0	6,000	0

**Amendment Notes**

FY21 Amend 26 adds a new project



Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

**Resolution**

***Fiscal Year 2021-Fiscal Year 2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Twenty-Six***

- Whereas:* U.S. Department of Transportation “Metropolitan Planning Regulations” (23 *CFR* 450) prescribe that each metropolitan planning organization maintain a financially constrained multi-modal transportation improvement program consistent with a *State Implementation Plan for Air Quality (SIP)* conforming to both U.S. Environmental Protection Administration-established air quality guidelines and *SIP*-established mobile source emissions budgets; and
- Whereas:* The Council, per 23 *CFR* 450.324 and in cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) and public transit operators and relying upon financial constraints offered by ConnDOT, adopted a *Fiscal Year 2021-Fiscal Year 2024 Transportation Improvement Program* on September 23, 2020, after finding the *Program* conforming per U.S. Environmental Protection Administration (U.S. EPA) final conformity rule (40 *CFR* 51 and 93) and relevant Connecticut Department of Transportation air quality conformity determinations: *Air Quality Conformity Reports: Fiscal Year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program* and the Region’s *Metropolitan Transportation Plans—2019 to 2045, (April, 2019)*; and
- Whereas:* The Council, on *September 23, 2020*, indicated that periodic *Program* adjustment or amendment was possible; and
- Whereas:* Projects referenced in the *Program* amendment (below) are consistent with the region’s metropolitan transportation plan *Metropolitan Transportation Plans—2019 to 2045, (April, 2019)*; and
- Whereas:* Council *Public Participation Guidelines: Transportation Planning* have been observed during the development of the proposed *Program* amendment (below); and
- Whereas:* By agreement between the Council and the Connecticut Department of Transportation, public involvement activities carried out by the South Central Regional Council of Governments in response to U.S. Department of Transportation metropolitan planning requirements are intended to satisfy the requirements associated with development of a *Statewide Transportation Improvement Program* and/or its amendment; and
- Whereas:* Council of Governments’ review of transportation goals, projects and opportunities may result in further adjustment or amendment of the *Program*.



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*Planning for Our Region's Future*

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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

***Resolution***

***Fiscal Year 2021-Fiscal Year 2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Twenty-Six (Continued)***

*Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Council of Governments:*

The Program Amendment *Twenty-Six* shall be transmitted to the Connecticut Department of Transportation, for inclusion in the *State Transportation Improvement Program*

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the South Central Regional Council of Governments certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the South Central Regional Council of Governments on **April 26, 2023**

Date April 26, 2023

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons *Secretary*  
South Central Regional Council of Governments



SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

*Planning for Our Region's Future*

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

Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

**RESOLUTION ON CONFORMITY WITH THE CLEAN AIR ACT  
OZONE**

WHEREAS,

The South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) is required to submit an Air Quality Conformity Statement to the US Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with the final conformity rule promulgated by EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93) when adopting an annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) or when effecting a significant revision of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); and

WHEREAS,

Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) states that conformity of transportation plans and programs will be demonstrated if:

1. the plans and programs are consistent with recent estimates of mobile source emissions;
2. the plans and programs provide for the expeditious implementation of certain transportation control measures;
3. the plans and programs contribute to annual emissions reductions consistent with the Clean Air Act of 1977, as amended; and

WHEREAS,

it is the opinion of the SCRCOG that the plans and programs approved today, April 26, 2023 and submitted to FHWA and EPA conform to the requirements of Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) as interpreted by EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93); and

WHEREAS,

The State of Connecticut has elected to assess conformity in the Connecticut portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT Ozone Nonattainment area (Fairfield, New Haven and Middlesex Counties) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation has jointly assessed the impact of all transportation plans and programs in this Nonattainment area (Ozone and PM2.5 Air Quality Conformity Determination February 2023); and

WHEREAS,

The Connecticut Department of Transportation's assessment (above) has found that plans and programs jointly meet mobile source emission's guidelines advanced by EPA pursuant to Section 7506 (3) (A).



SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
*Planning for Our Region's Future*

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New Haven North Branford North Haven Orange Wallingford West Haven Woodbridge

Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the SCRCOG

That the SCRCOG finds that ,based upon CTDOT’s Air Quality determination, the 2023-2050 MTP and the FFY 2021-2024 TIP and all Amendments conform to air quality requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Administration (40 CFR 51 and 93), related U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines (23 CFR 450) and with Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) and hereby approves the existing Ozone and PM2.5 Air Quality Conformity Determination, dated February 2023,

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the SCRCOG certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the SCRCOG on April 26, 2023

Date April 26, 2023

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons *Secretary*  
South Central Regional Council of Governments



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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

**RESOLUTION ON CONFORMITY WITH THE CLEAN AIR ACT  
PM 2.5**

WHEREAS,

The South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) is required to submit an Air Quality Conformity Statement to the US Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with the final conformity rule promulgated by EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93) when adopting an annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) or when effecting a significant revision of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); and

WHEREAS,

Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) states that conformity of transportation plans and programs will be demonstrated if:

1. the plans and programs are consistent with recent estimates of mobile source emissions;
2. the plans and programs provide for the expeditious implementation of certain transportation control measures;
3. the plans and programs contribute to annual emissions reductions consistent with the Clean Air Act of 1977, as amended; and

WHEREAS,

It is the opinion of the SCRCOG that the plans and programs approved on April 26, 2023 and submitted to FHWA and EPA conform to the requirements of Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) as interpreted by EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93); and

WHEREAS,

The Connecticut portion of the New York – Northern New Jersey – Long Island, NY-NJ-CT area is designated a PM 2.5 attainment/maintenance area; and

WHEREAS,

The State of Connecticut has elected to jointly assess conformity in all PM 2.5 attainment/maintenance areas in Connecticut (Fairfield County and New Haven County) and



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WHEREAS,

The results of the required emissions analysis performed by the Connecticut Department of Transportation on the 2023-2050 MTP and the FFY 2021-2024 TIP and Amendments show that the implementation of the projects contained therein will result in emissions of PM2.5 in each analysis year that are less than the emissions of the baseline year; and

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That the SCRCOG finds that, based upon CTDOT's Air Quality determination, the 2023-2050 MTP and the FFY 2021-2024 TIP and Amendments conform to air quality requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Administration (40 CFR 51 and 93), related U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines (23 CFR 450) and with Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) and hereby approves the existing Ozone and PM2.5 Air Quality Conformity Determination dated February 2023.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the SCRCOG certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the SCRCOG on April 26, 2023.

Date April 26, 2023

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons *Secretary*  
South Central Regional Council of Governments





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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION PLAN, 2023-2050**

WHEREAS,

The South Central Regional Council of Governments has, per 23 CFR 450, reviewed its Long Range Transportation Plan 2019-2045, April 2019 during the January-April 2023 period; and,

WHEREAS,

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan review process has conformed to relevant U.S. Department of Transportation regulations including those of 23 CFR 450 and 49 CFR 613 (transportation planning); and,

WHEREAS,

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan review process has been accomplished in accord with the South Central Regional Council of Governments “Public Participation Guidelines” (January 2021); and,

WHEREAS,

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan review process has included air quality assessments conducted by the Connecticut Department of Transportation; and,

WHEREAS,

The Connecticut Department of Transportation has notified the Region of air quality conformity, in accord with EPA guidelines, for the draft Plan; and,

WHEREAS,

The South Central Regional Council of Governments has, by two resolutions, approved air quality conformity for the Plan for ozone and PM2.5; and,

WHEREAS,

The review process has resulted in a financially constrained South Central Regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2023-2050, April 26, 2023; and,



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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION PLAN, 2023-2050 (Continued)**

WHEREAS,

The South Central Regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2023-2050, April 26, 2023, distinguishes needs that lie beyond financial constraints from proposals that are within the financial constraints;

*Now There Be It Resolved by the South Central Regional Council of Governments:*

That the South Central Regional Council of Governments hereby adopts the *South Central Regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan, 2023-2050*.

*Certificate*

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the South Central Regional Council of Governments certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the South Central Regional Council of Governments on April 26, 2023.

Date April 26, 2023

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons *Secretary*  
South Central Regional Council of Governments



**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

***Resolution***

***Supporting Tweed New Haven Airport Expansion and Draft Environmental Assessment Findings***

*Whereas;* Tweed New Haven Airport (HVN) is a public airport, constructed in 1929, that plays a vital role in the regional transportation system for accommodating aviation activity and airline passenger travel, with regularly scheduled commercial passenger service; and

*Whereas;* HVN has and will continue to provide passengers affordable and direct access to critical new destinations, while maintaining the experience and advantages of a neighborhood airport, including convenience of shorter commuting, faster check-in times, and less congestion; and

*Whereas;* HVN is owned by the City of New Haven and governed by the Tweed New Haven Airport Authority (TNHAA) which was established by Connecticut General Statutes and operates with representatives appointed by neighboring municipalities and the South Central Regional Council of Governments; and

*Whereas;* HVN is owned by the City of New Haven which entered into a 43-year lease with the TNHAA in September 2021 in a critical development to expand operations at the airport, enhance service for passengers, make important investments in community betterment programs, and completely eliminate the need for existing state and city subsidies, which had recently totaled \$1.8 million per year; and

*Whereas;* HVN underwent a Master Planning Process for over 18 months to hear from the public, stakeholders, and technical advisors to craft a plan that will meet the needs of the airport, its users, the surrounding community, and the region with a goal to provide a framework needed to guide future airport development;

*Whereas;* The TNHAA published a draft environmental assessment to share foreseeable environmental, social, and economic consequences associated with the proposed extension of the airport runway and construction of a new airport terminal “East Terminal” and associated facilities at HVN; and

*Whereas;* This draft Environmental Assessment meets the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and is required for all such projects by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and outlines the purpose and need for the project, analyzing alternatives and potential impacts, and demonstrates compliance with federal, state, and local environmental laws, and requires public participation; and

*Whereas;* This EA process began on November 18, 2021 and has included extensive research and information from a variety of sources, including: scientific studies, community input, and collaboration with numerous local, state, and federal agencies including the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and the US Environmental Protection Agency; and

*Whereas;* The environmental assessment process provides the general public with an important opportunity to continue to weigh in regarding the TNHAA efforts to modernize the airport, which started with the Master Plan process that commenced in 2019, and its commitment to involving the local stakeholders, policymakers, and the general public in the development process; and

*Whereas;* The Environmental Assessment's release marks the beginning of a 45-day public comment period, which will conclude on April 16, including a public hearing on April 1; and

*Whereas;* The proposed action evaluated in the draft environmental assessment finds that extending the runway and relocating the terminal reduces overall noise by reducing the number of total necessary flights, shifting aircraft ground noise further from residences, and expanding the Residential Sound Insulation Program to include additional homes that would otherwise be significantly impacted by aircraft noise; and

*Whereas;* The proposed action evaluated in the draft environmental assessment finds that by relocating the terminal and extending the runway, HVN and its airline partners can reduce the overall impact on air quality by reducing commutation of vehicular traffic; and the potential air emissions from the construction, forecasted operations is not expected to exceed Environmental Protection Agency standards; and

*Whereas;* The proposed action evaluated in the draft environmental assessment finds that the new terminal is proposed within the footprint of a closed runway and taxiway field, and the construction would include mitigation measures implemented to achieve the overall policy goal of "no net loss" according to wetland ecological functions and values; and

*Whereas;* The proposed action evaluated in the draft environmental assessment finds that the impact to wildlife and plant life has been reduced below local and federal thresholds, and the project site contains no critical habitats for threatened or endangered species as designated by the state or federal government; and

*Whereas;* The proposed action evaluated in the draft environmental assessment finds that overall traffic would be similar to "no action" and that the construction would not significantly impact the 11 key intersections studied, while the proposed action envisions key traffic mitigation actions included in the community investments.

*Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Council of Governments*

The South Central Regional Council of Governments applauds this next milestone in modernizing Tweed New Haven Airport to realize the investment of \$100+ million in the Southern Connecticut Region which will lead to the creation of more than 1,100 jobs, the generation of significant economic activity in East Haven and New Haven, the new opportunities and destinations made possible through this runway and terminal expansion.

The South Central Regional Council of Government supports the Tweed New Haven Airport Authority's public engagement throughout the development process, and the TNHAA commitment to solicit public input regarding the expansion of Tweed Airport, and the findings of the draft Environmental Assessment controlled by FAA guidelines under the NEPA to implement elements of its Airport Master Plan.

*Certificate*

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the South Central Regional Council of Governments certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the South Central Regional Council of Governments on April 26 2023.

Date: April 26, 2023

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons, Secretary  
South Central Regional Council of Governments



**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

***Resolution in Support of SCRCOG's Application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for \$1 million in Non-Competitive Grant Funding for the New Haven Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) from the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant***

*Whereas:* The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the availability of \$ million in non-competitive federal grant funding to the largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) under the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) for planning; and

*Whereas:* SCRCOG will be the lead agency for the CPRG in the New Haven MSA; and

*Whereas:* The New Haven MSA will use the boundaries of the New England City and Town Area (NECTA) according to the EPA; and

*Whereas:* SCRCOG intends to submit a Notice of Intent to Participate (NOIP) with EPA on or before April 28, 2023; and

*Whereas* SCRCOG intends to submit an application for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant on behalf of its MSA.

*Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved By the Council of Governments*

The SCRCOG Board authorizes and supports the application by SCRCOG for non-competitive funding from the EPA under the Climate Protection Reduction on behalf of the New Haven MSA.

*Be It Further Resolved:*

*Certificate*

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the South Central Regional Council of Governments certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Council of Governments on April 26, 2023.

Date: April 26, 2023

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons, Secretary  
South Central Regional Council of Governments

# NEWSLETTER

Volume III, Issue 4

## APRIL 2023

Welcome to the SCRCOG monthly newsletter where you can find updates on our transportation planning, regional planning, and municipal services programs.

Please visit the [SCRCOG website](#) for more information on who we are, what we do, and opportunities for public participation.



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program**

The SCRCOG region is slated to receive a \$1 million non-competitive planning grant through the [Climate Pollution Reduction Grants \(CPRG\)](#) program under the Inflation Reduction Act. These funds are restricted to projects that are directly related to the development, updating, or evaluation of state, local, tribal, or territorial plans to reduce climate pollution. SCRCOG will be the lead organization executing the grant over a four-year period, with three main deliverables: a priority climate action plan, a comprehensive climate action plan, and a status report. For more information on what these deliverables entail, you can review the [program guidance document](#) on the EPA's website. We are excited for the opportunity to further support the reduction of harmful air pollution in our region and state.

#### **Shoreline Greenway Trail**

On April 6th, the Shoreline Greenway Trail publicly introduced a two-mile addition to the existing trail in East Haven. Local officials, Shoreline Greenway Trail members, supporters, and members of the community gathered for a ceremonial first shovel to celebrate the

milestone. The newest section extends the trail off Elliot Street to Coe and Cosey Beach Avenue. This is intended to provide an uninterrupted path with stunning views and connect pedestrians, runners, bicyclists, and nature lovers safely to the shoreline. Read more about the Shoreline Greenway Trail [here](#).



## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### **2023 Housing Working Group Update**

SCRCOG continues its work building community and educating residents, advocates, and municipal staff throughout the first half of 2023. Check out the details of our upcoming meeting below.

### **April Workshop**

*Housing Working Group Session 8: Converting Strip Mall Into Housing: How to Approach Property Owners, Attract Developers, & Incorporate TOD – April 26, 2023, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM*

The extremely tight housing market – too little supply for so much demand – has had a troublesome and sometimes tragic ripple effect. The failure of Connecticut municipalities to create more homes at all levels has limited home-buying inventory, driving up prices and driving would-be buyers into the rental market. That in turn has driven up demand for limited rental supply, in turn driving up prices and driving many households and individuals into homelessness. So, this session will explore the issue, and offer a solution. Three regional leaders in providing housing and services for those who become homeless will describe their work – and how SCRCOG municipalities can help them – and Chris Kuschel, the author of a Boston-region study, will describe the huge potential in converting aging and often vacant strip malls into multifamily housing in advantageous locations!

### **Guest Speakers:**

- **Chris Kuschel**, Land-Use Manager and Principal Planner, Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- **Kellyann Day**, CEO, New Reach Inc., New Haven
- **Jennifer Paradis**, Executive Director, Beth-El Center, Milford
- **Margaret Middleton**, CEO, Columbus House, New Haven

*While this event will be offered both in-person and on Zoom, **we highly encourage all our***



***municipal representatives to attend this session in-person.*** In our March workshop, we had outstanding in-person attendance that allowed for a robust discussion amongst our municipal leaders and Connecticut urban housing experts. SCRCOG hopes to keep building on that momentum with a largely in-person attendance at our next and all future sessions.

Register [Here](#).

### **Previous Workshop: March '23**

*Housing Working Group Session 7: Urban Housing Issues: Ideas, Tools, and Strategies for Dealing with All of Them!*

In our *previous* Housing Work Group Session, Urban Housing Issues: Ideas, Tools and Strategies for Dealing With All Of Them!, several of our member municipalities came together to hear local urban housing experts speak to a number of issues that dense, urban municipalities often deal with: abandoned and blighted properties, increasing homeownership and rehabilitating aging housing stock, staff capacity, and more. Attendees shared their experiences, asked questions, and had meaningful dialogue with the CT urban housing experts facilitated by David Fink.

**Recording Link:** If you were unable to attend the March workshop, we encourage our readers to view the recording of the discussion [here](#).

Links to all previous Housing Working Group recordings are available [here](#).

[LINK | FY23 Housing Working Group Meeting Schedule](#)

### **Community Conversations with Ben Fink**

Ben continues his mission to build as broad and diverse a base as possible to support expanded housing options in our municipalities. The goal is to be inclusive of residents with varying experience and open to all perspectives on housing, while working in tandem with municipal governments as they implement their affordable housing plans.

### **Training Opportunity for SCRCOG Municipal Government And Community Members**

*Facilitating Effective Community Conversations – May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM*

This hands-on training will offer easy-to-use techniques and strategies for planning and leading community conversations that keep our member municipalities' residents informed and involved in the decisions that affect their lives. We will learn simple and effective ways to create a safe and supportive environment where everyone's voice is heard and honored, even when talking about challenging and controversial issues. This workshop is open to all

— including people and municipalities who have started hosting community conversations and want to learn from each other's experience, and those who are looking for a place to start.

Use the link below to register for in-person attendance.

*This training will be in-person only and a light breakfast will be provided.*

Register [here](#).

The workshop flyer can be found [here](#).



## HAZARD MITIGATION

### **Hazard Mitigation Update**

FEMA has approved the 2023 SCRCOG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan is in effect for five years from April 3, 2023, which is the date of the first municipal adoption.

### **Flood Awareness Workshop**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is hosting Flood Awareness workshops for each DEMHS region, in cooperation with CT DEMHS, CT DEEP, the National Weather Service, and U.S.G.S. Region 2's workshop will be held on May 23, 2023.

More information & registration can be found here: [Flood Awareness Workshop - DEMHS Region 2 Tickets, Tue, May 23, 2023 at 8:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

<https://scrcog.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Flood-Awareness-Workshop-Flyer.pdf>



## MUNICIPAL GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Grants Writing Services**

SCRCOG continues to offer free grant writing support and education through a partnership with consultants Renata Bertotti and Juliet Burdelski. SCRCOG will be hosting another Grants event in the Spring of 2023 and planning is underway for this workshop. We welcome any input and suggestions to ensure this workshop is best designed to meet our members' needs.

The Municipal Grants webpage is now live on [SCRCOG's website](#) and contains a wealth of information on the services we offer. The page contains an updated Grant Opportunities Worksheet, links to recordings of past webinars, sample documents, and more.

Please reach out to [bllovejoy@scrcog.org](mailto:bllovejoy@scrcog.org) if you require additional assistance.

## **EMERGING GRANTS**

### **CT Communities Challenge Grant**

The Department of Economic and Community Development (“DECD”) is undertaking a competitive grant application process to fund multiple projects under the CT Communities Challenge Grant Program with an eye on projects that improve livability, vibrancy, convenience, and equity of communities throughout the state. The Program is intended to potentially create approximately 3,000 new jobs. Grant awards are \$1M to \$10M per project and it is DECD’s goal to allocate up to 50% of the funds to eligible and competitive projects in distressed municipalities.

Application Deadline: May 3, 2023

More information can be found [here](#).

### **Smart Policing Initiative Grant Program**

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks applications for funding to support innovative and evidence-based policing practices, more effective information sharing, and multiagency collaboration under the Smart Policing Initiative (SPI) Program. This program furthers the Department’s mission by assisting state, local, and tribal jurisdictions in reducing crime and improving the functioning of the criminal justice system. This solicitation incorporates guidance provided in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide which provides additional information for applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

Application Deadlines:

- Grants.gov deadline: May 01, 2023
- JustGrants deadline: May 08, 2023

More information can be found [here](#).

### **COPS Hiring Program**

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) is the component of the U.S. Department of Justice responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation's state, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources. The COPS Office was appropriated more than \$20 billion to advance community policing initiatives, which included awarding grants to more than 13,000 state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies to fund the hiring and redeployment of more than 136,000 officers. COPS Office information resources, covering a wide range of community policing topics such as school and campus safety, violent crime, and officer safety and wellness, can be downloaded via the COPS Office's home page, <https://cops.usdoj.gov/>

Application Deadline: May 4, 2023

More information can be found [here](#).

### **Coastal Resiliency Projects**

The Long Island Sound Futures fund is seeking grant applications for planning and implementation of coastal resilience projects in CT. Grant awards in the range of \$50,000 to \$500,000 are available for planning, design, or permitting. \$50K-\$1.5M is available for "shovel ready projects". All SCRCOG members are eligible to apply.

Applicants must register in Easy Grants to apply. Visit [here](#) for more information on how to get started.

Application Deadline: May 10, 2023

More information on the grant can be found [here](#).

### **National Endowment for the Humanities Cultural and Community Resilience**

The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access is accepting applications to support community-based efforts to mitigate climate change and coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic impacts, safeguard cultural resources, and foster cultural resilience through identifying, documenting, and/or collecting cultural heritage and community experience. Applicants may apply for up to \$150,000.

Application Deadline: May 16, 2023

More information can be found [here](#).

### **CDBG Small Cities**

The State of Connecticut Department of Housing's Community Development Division announced CDBG Small Cities funding availability for the program year 2023-2024. Approximately \$14 million dollars in funding is expected from HUD to the State of

Connecticut. A link to a secure portal will be provided for all applications. Please note that only complete applications will be accepted and scored, and one (1) application per town will be accepted. Communities (with less than 50,000 residents) with an eligible activity (refer to the website for qualifying projects) are encouraged to apply for this funding opportunity.

Application Deadline: [May 31, 2023](#)

More information can be found [here](#).

### **State Local Bridge Program**

The Funding Application Window for STATE Local Bridge Program FY 2024 opened on April 1, 2023 and slated to close on May 31, 2023.

All 15 SCRCOG municipalities have eligible bridges on the newly updated [list](#).

Please contact SCRCOG transportation staff if you need any assistance with project development. In addition, SCRCOG offers consultative municipal grants technical assistance. More information for that service can be found at [Municipal Grants – South Central Regional Council of Governments \(scrcog.org\)](#)

Application Deadline: [May 31, 2023](#)

More information can be found [here](#).

### **Community Investment Fund (CIF) 2030**

The NOFA for Round 3 of CIF will become available on May 1, 2023 on the [application page](#), and closes on June 30, 2023. The CIF will host a webinar on April 27<sup>th</sup> & May 2<sup>nd</sup> to provide an overview of the program and review the timeline as well as the process for applying.

Application Deadline: [June 30, 2023](#)

More information can be found [here](#).

### **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)**

The USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 [Notice of Funding Opportunity is now open for applications](#). The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent deaths and serious injuries on our nation's roadways.

Application Deadline: [July 10, 2023](#).

More information can be found [here](#).

### **Community Connectivity Grants**

CT DOT is soliciting grant applications for Community Connectivity. Grants awarded in this solicitation are between \$100,000 and \$800,000 and can only be used to fund activities related to project construction. The Community Connectivity Program seeks to improve accommodations for bicyclists and pedestrians in urban, suburban and rural community centers.

Application Deadline: July 21, 2023.

More information can be found [here](#).

### **Thriving Communities Program (TCP)**

The U.S. Department of Transportation will be announcing the notice of funding opportunity for the FY2023 Thriving Communities program later this summer to support additional communities in the coming year. This planning, technical assistance, and capacity building support will enable disadvantaged and under-resourced communities to advance a pipeline of transformative infrastructure projects that will increase mobility, reduce pollution, and expand affordable transportation options, connecting communities to the essential opportunities and resources that will help them thrive.

More information can be found [here](#).

### **Sustainable CT Equity Coach**

Sustainable CT is offering a no-cost assistance program to help CT municipalities lay out a process to complete action Optimize for Equity or to address other equity-related issues of importance in regard to federal and state grant proposals.

More information can be found [here](#).



## **SOLID WASTE, RECYCLING, & FOOD WASTE DIVERSION**

### **Solid Waste, Food, and Recycling Updates**

SCRCOG has requested technical assistance funding to conduct a Regional Waste Authority study to help guide and inform the SCRCOG region and its municipalities towards the creation of a Regional Waste Authority (RWA) through the [SMM Regional Waste Authority Grant Program](#).

In addition, the SCRCOG Board passed a resolution of support during their March meeting. If awarded, SCRCOG will receive significant funding that will be directed to help determine

a path towards sustainable solid waste and recycling management in our region. Announcement of the grant recipients is expected by summer 2023.



## REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (RPC)

[LINK | April 2023 RPC Meeting Agenda](#)

[DOWNLOAD | April 2023 RPC Action Table](#)

[DOWNLOAD | RPC Informational Brochure](#)



## SUSTAINABLE CT

### Sustainable CT Updates

#### Climate Leader Webinar Series

Sustainable CT is partnering with energy providers to tackle the topic of Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations on [April 24<sup>th</sup> at 1pm](#). Learn more and register [here](#).

#### Spring into Summer Celebration

Sustainable CT is hosting a special event to introduce its newest class of Sustainable CT Fellows and acknowledge its newest cohort of Certified Communities. The Board of Directors and the entire Sustainable CT team will be participating. The event is on [June 1<sup>st</sup>, 3pm – 6pm at the Glastonbury Boat House](#). Register [here](#).



## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

## UPWP Update

- Three transportation studies were concluded this month, including: New Haven Conditional Evaluation of Existing Structures Study, Woodbridge Business Connectivity Study, and West Haven Bike Ped Study. SCRCOG staff are currently reviewing the draft Meriden CT Loop Trail Connection Study. All studies will be made available on the SCRCOG website.

## Other Programs

- The Funding Application Window for STATE Local Bridge Program FY 2024 will open on April 1, 2023 and close on May 31, 2023. All 15 SCRCOG member municipalities have eligible bridges on the newly updated list which can be found at [here](#). Please contact SCRCOG transportation staff if you need any assistance with project development.
- **Know the Zone: Speed Safety Camera Program**
  - The Know Zone: Speed Safety Camera Program became active on April 10, 2023, at work zones in Norwalk and East Hartford, to be followed by the Route 8 corridor between Shelton and Seymour soon. There are currently no zones in the SCRCOG region scheduled. Future locations will be publicly noticed at [Know the Zone: Program & Locations](#). For information on how the Know the Zone: Speed Safety Camera system works, visit [Know the Zone: Speed Safety Camera Program \(ct.gov\)](#).
- **ezIQC User's Group**
  - The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is resuming the annual ezIQC User's Group after a four-year hiatus! The session will be held on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at Southington's Pavilion at the Drive-In, 995 Meriden-Waterbury Tpke., Plantsville, CT. Register to attend by Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Finance EV Charging Infrastructure Using C-PACE**
  - Through the Connecticut Green Bank, building owners can now use C-PACE (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy) retrofit financing to pay for electric vehicle infrastructure. In addition to saving on energy costs, you may qualify for state and federal incentives as well. To learn more, visit [the CT Green Bank's webpage](#).
- **General Updates**
  - The CT Department of Transportation (CTDOT) is hosting a public meeting on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:00 PM to provide the community an opportunity to learn about the Route 146 Corridor Management Plan and



allow an open discussion of any views and comments concerning the planning project.

- Branford Fire Headquarters, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 45 N. Main Street, Branford, CT 06405 (MAP)
- This meeting will also be livestreamed and recorded on [CTDOT's YouTube channel](#).



## AROUND THE TOWNS

### Municipal Awards

Congratulations to New Haven and Hamden who were recently awarded state funding through the Community Investment Fund (CIF) for multiple projects:

- New Haven:
  - The *Long Wharf Responsible Growth Plan* project was awarded \$12,100,000. CIF will assist with the City of New Haven's Long Wharf Responsible Growth Plan to revitalize the waterfront district. Grant activity will focus on the revitalization of Long Wharf Park. Features in the park include public site furniture, lighting, playground, bike paths, outdoor fitness, upgraded walkways and Food Truck pavilion.
  - The *ClimateHaven* project was awarded \$910,744. CIF funding will build-out ClimateHaven's 16,000 ft<sup>2</sup> climate-tech business incubator. The space will contain co-working space, convening space, and shared resources for program participants pursuing start-up businesses focused on a sustainable, renewable future.
  - The *Boardman Residential Care Home Renovation – Planning* project was awarded \$700,000. CIF funding will be utilized to finalize renovation plans for the Boardman Residential Care Home, which houses 45 seniors living at or below the federal poverty level. The project will preserve existing housing stock and renovate a historic structure.
  - The *Health, Safety and Efficiency Initiative: Phase 2* project was awarded \$2,213,003. CIF will assist in funding capital improvements to Life Haven, a homeless shelter for women and children with a capacity to serve 20 families. Facility improvements include a complete roof replacement, electrical service upgrade to support the installation of mini-split heating/cooling units, elevator replacement, and repair work to masonry on roof and water-damaged walls.

- Hamden:
  - The *Town of Hamden Community Campus* project was awarded \$5,400,000. This CIF award will enable the re-development of the former Hamden middle school buildings that currently stand as blighted, vacant structures within an Environmental Justice Block Group. CIF grant funds will go towards demolition and abatement of the structures, and community planning activities for the creation of a Community Campus on the site.

Several SCRCOG towns are also recipients of funding from the General Operating Support (GOS) for Theaters & Performing Groups, as well as from the Connecticut Arts Endowment Fund (CAEF). Recipients include:

- **Branford's** Legacy Theater
- **East Haven** Arts Commission, Inc.
- **Guilford's** Chestnut Hill Concerts & Guilford Art Center Inc., Project: Music Heals Us
- **Madison's** Friends of Madison Youth, Inc., The Barn, FUSE Theater of CT Inc., and Madison Lyric Stage

Read more about it [here](#).



## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

### April

- April 21<sup>st</sup> - DEMHS Region 2 Monthly REPT Meeting – 9:30am
- April 11<sup>th</sup> – SCRCOG Monthly Board Meeting – 10am
- April 26<sup>th</sup> – Housing Working Group Converting Strip Malls Workshop – 1pm

### May

- May 10<sup>th</sup> – Transportation Committee Meeting – 12pm
- May 11<sup>th</sup> – SCRCOG RPC Monthly Meeting – 5:15pm
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Training in Community Conversation Facilitation w/ Ben Fink – 9:30am
- May 24<sup>th</sup> – SCRCOG Monthly Board Meeting – 10am

- May 24<sup>th</sup> – Housing Working Group Meeting - Housing and Open Space: Can Towns Have Both? – 1pm



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SCRCOG Newsletter

South Central Regional Council of Governments  
127 Washington Avenue  
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North Haven, CT 06473

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**SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT  
Regional Planning Commission**

**April 2023 RPC Action Table**

<b>Ref. #</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Adjacent RPC Towns</b>	<b>RPC Action</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<b>3/22/23</b>	<b>Town of Guilford:</b> Petition for Zone Text Change Mixed Use Conservation 1 Zone	Northford, Branford, North Branford, Madison, Durham	By resolution, the RPC has determined that the proposed zoning regulation amendment does not appear to cause any negative inter-municipal impacts to the towns in the South Central Region nor does there appear to be any impact to the habitat or ecosystem of the Long Island Sound.
<b>2.2</b>	<b>3/14/23</b>	<b>Town of Branford:</b> Text Amendment Change Outdoor Dining Regulations	East Haven, North Branford, Guilford	By resolution, the RPC has determined that the proposed zoning regulation amendment does not appear to cause any negative inter-municipal impacts to the towns in the South Central Region nor does there appear to be any impact to the habitat or ecosystem of the Long Island Sound.
<b>2.3</b>	<b>3/18/23</b>	<b>Town of West Haven:</b> Text Amendment Changes SRR District for Adult Housing/Clarifying Edits & Outdoor Dining Parking Requirements. Zoning Map Amendment for Third Ave Extension	Milford, Orange, Woodbridge, New Haven	By resolution, the RPC has determined that the proposed zoning text amendment does not appear to cause any negative inter-municipal impacts to the towns in the South Central Region nor does there appear to be any impact to the habitat or ecosystem of the Long Island Sound. The SCRCOG RPC has concerns with the zoning map amendment portion and has requested that special attention is considered for any projects in or near the new SRR district. The area adjacent to the proposed change is a known mating habitat for migrating birds and local waterfowl.
<b>2.4</b>	<b>3/14/23</b>	<b>Town of Branford:</b> Zoning Map Amendment Change from BL to IG-2 Dining Regulations	East Haven, North Branford, Guilford	It was determined that no action was required by the RPC as the map amendment did not fall within 500 feet of any neighboring municipality.
<b>2.5</b>	<b>3/30/23</b>	<b>Town of Orange:</b> Zoning Text Amendment – Residential Solar Installations and Renewable Energy Structures	Milford, Woodbridge, West Haven, New Haven	By resolution, the RPC has determined that the proposed zoning regulation amendment does not appear to cause any negative inter-municipal impacts to the towns in the South Central Region nor does there appear to be any impact to the habitat or ecosystem of the Long Island Sound.



April 19, 2023

Dear Chief Elected Officials of SCRCOG,

With the resumption of inperson tradeshows, REX is promoting the regions key sectors and US EDA's economic development funding opportunities.

Two manufacturing tradeshows offer the opportunity to showcase the sector in New England and the Tri-State area. REX will be contacting the towns for available manufacturing locations prior to EASTEC held May 16-18 in Springfield and the Medical Device and Manufacturing Show June 13-15 in New York.

Life sciences is the focus of BIO 2023 June 5-8 in Boston. In partnership with AdvanceCT, REX will be educating attendees about the benefits of locating in Greater New Haven. With an established bioscience innovation hub and a perpetual flow of highly-skilled workers generated by our colleges and universities, the region is a highly desirable, though sometimes overlooked, location for businesses.

In conjunction with EDA's investment focus on Foreign Direct Investment, REX is heading to Select USA – Foreign Direct Investment in Washington, D.C., May 1-4. In conjunction with AdvanceCT, we will highlight the reasons Connecticut is ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in FDI. Our location, with a reach of one third of the U.S. economy, proximity to New York and Boston, and an established transportation network is appealing to foreign investors.

Within the next two weeks, the 2023 Greater New Haven Visitors and Relocation Guides will be delivered to hotels, attractions, town halls, and libraries. Through CTM, guides will be placed in transportation centers, including train stations in Philadelphia, Fairfield County, Westchester County, and the Hudson River Valley. We will be co-hosting a brochure swap with the Central Regional Tourism District in May. The date and location will be announced shortly.

At next month's meeting, we will be requesting formal approval of the 2023-2028 CEDS. We are incorporating the comments from the March meeting. Please feel free to contact us in advance of the meeting with any comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ginny Kozlowski  
Executive Director