



**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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.**

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

**NOTICE: This is a Hybrid meeting**

**Log-on Information to attend this meeting remotely is provided below:**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84119028074>

Call-In Number: +1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 841 1902 8074

The agenda and attachments for this meeting are posted and are available on our website at [www.scrkog.org](http://www.scrkog.org)

1. Call to Order – *First Selectman James Zeoli, Chair*
2. Adopt Minutes of November 16, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting –  
*First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons, Secretary* Pages 2,3
3. Preliminary Review of Proposed SCRCOG FY 2023-24 Budget
4. Preliminary Review of Proposed FY 2023-24 Regional Services Grant (RSG) Spending Plan
5. Resolution Supporting Tweed New Haven Airport Expansion and Draft Environmental Assessment Findings Pages 4-6
6. 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 week's 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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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

TO: **SCRCOG Executive Committee Members**  
FROM: **First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco, Secretary**  
DATE: **April 17, 2023**  
SUBJECT: **SCRCOG Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2022**

**Present**

Bethany First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco, *Secretary*  
Guilford First Selectman Matthew Hoey, *Chair*  
Madison First Selectman Peggy Lyons, *Treasurer*  
Milford Mayor Benjamin Blake  
New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker  
Wallingford Mayor William Dickinson

SCRCOG Staff Carl Amento, Laura Francis, Christopher Rappa, Rebecca Andreucci  
Guests Brian Borgerson, CPA of Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto

**NOTE: The November SCRCOG Executive Committee meeting was a hybrid meeting.**

**1. Call to order**

Chairman Hoey called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**2. Adopt Minutes of September 28, 2022 SCRCOG Executive Committee Meeting**

First Selectman Cofrancesco presented the Minutes of the SCRCOG Executive Committee of September 28, 2022, which were included in the agenda packet at Pages 2-3. First Selectwoman Lyons moved for their approval. Mayor Blake seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

**3. Review and Accept Audit Report for FY 2021-2022**

Brian Borgerson, CPA of Bailey, Moore, Glazer, Schaefer & Proto presented the draft audit report for FY 2021-2022. He stated the audit went very well, with the fund balance absorbing the predicted losses caused, in large part, by the COVID-19 pandemic. A significant amount of match funding will be needed in the next UPWP, and a recommendation is being made to increase the per capita dues assessment to fund those increased matches. . First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to accept the audit report, and First Selectwoman Lyons seconded. All voted in favor.

**4. Discussion and Recommendation of Preliminary Dues for FY 2023-2024**

Deputy Director Laura Francis presented the preliminary dues recommendation for FY 2023-2024. SCRCOG is requesting an eight cent per capita increase for dues. She stated that SCRCOG is committed to not leaving money on the table, and a dues increase is necessary to utilize the increased transportation funding. It is not sustainable to continue drawing down the fund balance. If an increase in transportation funding does not come through, the dues increase will not be as large.

Mayor Blake commented that while the amount of money being requested is not that large, it is still a 20% increase in dues. Deputy Director Francis responded that the COG considered incremental increases. Christopher Rappa stated it has been over seven years since the last dues increase. First Selectwoman Lyons stated she has heard this is a more frugal COG and asked if this dues increase would catch us up with other COGs. Deputy

Director Francis said yes. First Selectman Cofrancesco made a motion to accept, and First Selectwoman Lyons seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**5. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**6. Adjournment**

First Selectman Cofrancesco moved to adjourn; First Selectwoman Lyons seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco, *Secretary*



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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