



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 MPO and COG Wednesday, July 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, 4th 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 **Presentation: Steve Sullivan, President of CT Electric Operations, Eversource Energy**
- 3 **Adopt Minutes of 6/28/23 SCRCOG Meeting (motion)** Pages 2-6
- 4 **Treasurer's Report for month ending 6/30/23 (motion)** Pages 7,8
- 5 **MPO Business**
 - a) Adopt Resolution to Approve Fiscal Year 2021-24 TIP Amendment Twenty-Eight (motion) Pages 9-17
 - b) Adopt Resolution to Approve Section 5310 Program Priorities for FY2022 (motion) Page 18
 - c) Deputy Director/Director of Transportation Report
 - d) Transportation Staff Report
 - e) Greater New Haven Transit District Report
 - f) CT Rides Report
- 6 **COG Business**
 - a) Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Execute Agreement for Acceptance of 2023-24 Regional Services Grant (motion) Page 19
 - b) Executive Director's Report Pages 20-32
 - c) Regional Planning Staff Report
 - d) Regional Planning Commission July Action Table Page 33
 - e) Sustainable CT Update
 - f) REX Development Report Page 34
 - g) Congressional Reports
 - h) State Legislative Reports – CCM, COST
 - i) DEMHS Report
- 7 **Regional Cooperation/ Other Business**
- 8 **Adjournment**

Agenda and attachments for this meeting are available on our website at 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: **July 19, 2023**
SUBJECT: **SCRCOG Meeting Minutes of June 28, 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>
North Branford	Rory Burke, <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
Woodbridge	Karen Crosby, <i>proxy for First Selectman Beth Heller</i>

SCRCOG Staff Carl Amento, Laura Francis, James Rode, Benjamin Lovejoy, Rebecca Andreucci, Stephanie Camp

Guests: Ginny Kozlowski and Barbara Malmberg, *REX Development*; Jennifer Pacacha, *CT Department of Transportation*; Lou Mangini, *Office of U.S. Representative Rosa DeLauro*; Betsy Gara, *COST*; Mario Marrero, *Greater New Haven Transit District*; Magali Seymour, *CT Rides*; Nicole Velardi, *DEMHS*; Elizabeth Esposito, *Avangrid*; Nan Birdwhistell, *Murtha Cullina*; Pamela Roach, *SCRCOG Solid Waste & Recycling Consultant*.

NOTE: The June SCRCOG Board meeting was a hybrid meeting

1. Call to order and Introductions

Chairman Zeoli called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. All present introduced themselves.

2. Adoption of the May 24 , 2023 SCRCOG Meeting Minutes

First Selectwoman Lyons presented the minutes of the SCRCOG Meeting of May 24, 2023, which were included in the agenda packet at pages 2-5. First Selectman Lyons made a motion to approve. First Selectman Cosgrove seconded the motion, and Chairman Zeoli abstained. The motion passed.

3. Treasurer's Report for the month ending 5/31/23.

Mayor Garrett presented the Treasurer's Report on pages 6-7 of the agenda packet. The Balance Sheet shows that SCRCOG has total assets of \$2,300,000 with \$705,000 of that in cash and investments. There is also \$377,000 due from CTDOT, and \$131,000 due from DEMHS. Expenses for the month were in order. First Selectman Cosgrove moved to accept the report, and First Selectwoman Hoey seconded. The vote was unanimous.

4. MPO Business

a. Deputy Director/Director of Transportation Report

Deputy Director Laura Francis reported that CTDOT received approval from FHWA and the FTA for the SCRCOG FY24-25 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). CTDOT will be submitting a Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation Program (PROTECT) grant funding for a statewide evacuation planning study on state roadways. SCRCOG will work with RiverCOG to submit their own evacuation planning study with a focus on local roads. Applications for PROTECT grant funding are due in August. She also reported the State Legislature approved the use of speed safety cameras for municipalities. SCRCOG will be sending out a survey to gauge municipal interest as well as offer guidance and training with respect to safety cameras.

b. Transportation Staff Report

Jim Rode reported that the June Transportation Committee meeting was canceled. SCRCOG is looking into changing the LOTCIP guidelines to allow for use of such funding to complete applications for the municipalities. He reported there are 33 project concepts for 11 municipalities deemed eligible for funding through the LOTCIP program. SCRCOG received 3 new project concepts from Woodbridge, which are the result of a SCRCOG UPWP study that was recently completed. Two LOTCIP projects are currently under review at DOT, and 12 projects have received Commitment to Fund letters. Five LOTCIP projects are currently under construction.

Rebecca Andreucci reported that UPWP-funded studies are wrapping up for the end of the fiscal year. Final reports were received for CT Loop Trail Study, Milford Road Connection Feasibility Study, Wallingford Northrup Road Study and Congestion Management Plan. She also reported on a DEEP E-Bike Rebate Program, which allows CT residents to apply for a rebate of \$500-\$1500 towards the purchase of a new E-Bike.

Deputy Director Laura Francis reported that SCRCOG completed the final Regional Transportation Safety Plan Update. The report will be used to seek funding for some of the recommendations. She stated the Kennedy Collective was advised funding for its Mobility Manager program has lapsed, however, SCRCOG and the Greater New Haven Transit District will be working with DOT to continue this service. First Selectman Cosgrove asked if the program services had been suspended. Jim Rode advised yes. The program is funded through DOT 5310 Program. Funding has lapsed but the application for the next funding cycle is due Friday.

c. Greater New Haven Transit District Report

Mario Marrero advised that Greater New Haven Transit District has 2 mobility coordinators, Lisa Barney and Kenya Simmons, who are assisting clients with finding transportation. GNHTD completed its FTA biennial review. The District received Municipal Grant applications from all SCRCOG municipalities and will be submitting them for continued funding. Executive Director Amento asked how ridership is going. Mario advised during the “free fare” period they saw approximately 800 trips per day. Currently they are seeing 500-600 trips per day.

d. CT Rides Report

Magali Seymour introduced herself and noted that she is replacing Marisa Kaplita. The Drive Less CT Challenge was successful. It eliminated 187 tons of greenhouse gases by taking 27,000 fewer car trips over the 6-week period.

5. COG Business

a. Approval of FY 2023-24 Regional Services Grant (RSG) Spending Plan Revision (motion)

Executive Director Amento reported funding for RSG Grant was increased from statewide \$4M to \$7M yearly for the next five years. SCRCOG's allotment was increased by \$375K to a total of \$948,502. This allows SCRCOG to expand offerings in municipal services, housing and in other regional planning work.

First Selectman Freda asked what the value of next stage of affordable housing work was now that all the local plans have been adopted? Ben Lovejoy stated that the proposed housing work in the coming fiscal year will include one-on-one municipal support on 8-30j plans and ways to make connections with developers. Ben Fink will also continue to build out a stakeholder and public participation network in each town. The proposed work will also include revising the Regional Housing Plan with concrete Action Steps.

Executive Director Amento advised SCRCOG wants to increase funding for the Grants Program to expand its assistance to our municipalities. SCRCOG will also look into glass recycling and establishing regional composting sites as part of this year's solid waste & recycling program. The SCRCOG Regional Purchasing Consortium will be revived. Risk Management, Recreational Trails, and Tree Canopy Assessment will be new programs. A motion was made by Mayor Garrett and seconded by First Selectman Hoey. The vote was unanimously in favor.

b. Approval of SCRCOG FY 2023-24 Budget Amendment #1 (motion)

Rebecca Andreucci reviewed the budget revision on pages 8-10 of the agenda packet. The budget revision incorporates the increased RSG funding and the new Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG). This budget amendment frees up transportation funding, which can be made available through a UPWP amendment in future months.

Mayor Garrett made a motion to approve, and First Selectman Cosgrove seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into Agreements for FY 2023-34 Regional Services Grant – funded Consultant Services (motion)

Executive Director Carl Amento reviewed the resolution on pages 11-12. He requested authorization to continue with existing consultants in addition to soliciting for consultants for new programs. At Executive Committee, UMass and UVM were added to the list of consultants not requiring an RFP. The motion to approve was made by First Selectman Cosgrove and seconded First Selectman Cofrancesco. The motion was unanimous.

d. Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute a Grant Award Agreement and other Related Documents with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) to the New Haven Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (motion)

Executive Director Carl Amento reviewed the resolution on page 13. SCRCOG is still awaiting the official grant award but wants to be prepared to begin work and enter into agreements under the grant. First Selectman Hoey made a motion to approve, and First Selectman Cofrancesco seconded. All voted in favor.

e. Resolution Designating the Arts Council of Greater New Haven as the South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG's) Local Arts Agency for the purpose of making application for a National Endowment for The Arts (NEA) Grant (motion)

Executive Director Carl Amento reviewed the resolution on page 14 of the agenda packet. He stated the Arts Council would like SCRCOG to designate it as its Local Arts Agency for the purpose of a grant application. This was done two years ago as well. Mayor Garrett made a motion to approve, and First Selectman Cosgrove seconded. The vote was unanimous.

f. Executive Directors Report

Executive Director Carl Amento reviewed the newsletter on pages 15-26 of the packet. SCRCOG is cautiously optimistic about receiving an award from OPM relating to our RPIP application. Amento noted that SCRCOG is working with an architectural firm to produce different options for office expansion to accommodate the three new staff members to be hired in the fall. He introduced Katie Meder, Sustainable CT Intern, and Jonathan Schachter, Summer Intern. Amelia Maynard will be joining SCRCOG as an intern from the UConn MPA program in the fall.

g. Regional Planning Staff Report

Ben Lovejoy reported on his work as lead on SCRCOG's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. SCRCOG is the lead agency for the New Haven/Milford MSA, which includes all the SCRCOG region and the eastern half of Naugatuck Valley COG including the City of Waterbury. SCRCOG has successfully submitted the 4-year work plan for this non-competitive EPA grant. SCRCOG Regional Planner Stephanie Camp has been working with Consultant Ben Fink meeting with towns and performing outreach and educational programs regarding affordable housing. Today is the final meeting for the Housing Working Group led by Consultant David Fink in this fiscal year.

h. Sustainable CT Update

Katie Mader reported she is working with towns on achieving Sustainable CT certification with a deadline of August 15th.

i. Regional Planning Commission June Action Table

Ben Lovejoy reviewed the Action Table on page 27 of the agenda packet.

j. REX Development Report

Ginny Kozlowski reviewed the REX report on page 28. She stated that the region has 18K open positions, and that there are 93K open positions throughout the state.

k. Congressional Reports

Lou Mangini reported that the compromise Debt Limit Bill is 99 pages. The American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds were not impacted by the Debt Limit Bill. The State of CT won a \$144M Grant for broadband upgrading and expansion. The State will use GIS maps to create a plan for broadband funding distribution. A \$25M RAISE Grant was awarded for the Move New Haven Bus Rapid Transit program, which will run in West Haven, New Haven, and Hamden.

l. State Legislative Reports – CCM, COST

Betsy Gara reported the legislature adjourned on June 7th. The governor is busy signing all approved bills into law. This includes an 800-page budget implementor bill and the provisions of a bond package. COST sent out a legislative wrap-up report that details the major legislative issues that may affect municipalities. An updated version will be forwarded to Carl to share. The Bond Commission meeting Friday will be releasing the \$30M in local capital improvement program grants.

m. DEMHS Report

Deputy Director Laura Francis reported Nicole Velardi from DEMHS sent out a notice that meetings regarding the Emergency Management Support Plan will be starting soon. Towns should be represented at those meetings. Ben Lovejoy mentioned that Susie Beckman from RiverCOG will be reaching out to anyone with outstanding MOAs.

Mayor Dickerson stated that he is concerned about the failure of ambulance service companies in the state. There are serious concerns regarding response time. Betsy Gara reported there has been a significant shortage

in EMS staff. The Medicaid Reimbursement rate did not increase this year. She agreed there are significant concerns.

6. Regional Cooperation/Other Business

Pam Roach reported that West Haven's pilot co-collection of food waste and MSW has substantially reduced the cost of disposal. The City is planning to make the food scrap collection program mandatory. Guilford and Madison will begin their food scrap diversion program shortly. Meriden's program will be starting in August.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons, *Secretary*

Balance Sheet

South Central Regional Council of Governments

As of period 6/30/2023

Assets

Cash and Investments

Key Bank - Checking Account	26,830.13
State of CT - Short-Term Investment Fund	280,803.42
New Haven Bank	108,336.16

Accounts Receivable

CT Department of Transportation	530,512.64
CT DESPP – FEMA Grant	131,321.03
CT DEEP – SMM Grant	38,583.46
CIRCA	(534.80)

Other Assets

Prepaid Expense	29,277.18
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)

Total Assets	2,164,835.42
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Liabilities

Accounts Payable	9,500.00
Payroll Taxes Payable & Accrued Interest	775.10
Deferred Revenue - Municipal	(50,455.61)
Deferred Revenue - OPM	21,862.86
Deferred Revenue - LOTCIP	176,082.30
Deferred Rev. - Other (Election Monitor)	3,690.77

Total Liabilities	161,455.42
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Fund Balance

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	(34,160.33)

Total Fund Balance	2,003,380.00
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	2,164,835.42

Statement of Resources and Expenditures

South Central Regional Council of Governments

As of period 6/30/2023

Resources	Current	Year-to-Date	Budget
Municipal - Revenue	45,941.27	244,355.61	303,094.00
Municipal - Special Assessment		2,581.63	2,827.00
CT OPM - Regional Planning	67,953.90	551,568.70	573,101.00
CTDOT - Transportation Planning	303,397.90	1,235,820.16	1,699,588.00
CTDOT - LOTCIP	769.31	24,444.30	203,611.00
FEMA - Hazard Mitigation Plan		102,874.13	108,000.00
CT DECD (EDA Grant)		80,137.63	358,006.00
CT SotS - Regional Election Monitor			3,690.00
CIRCA - Resilient CT Grant			15,139.00
CT DEEP - SMM Grant	29,666.00	38,583.46	139,000.00
Miscellaneous		.02	
Interest - Revenue	2,034.69	29,774.75	2,000.00
Retiree Health Insurance Contribution		2,650.20	6,600.00
Total Resources	449,763.07	2,312,790.59	3,414,656.00

Direct Expenses	Current	Year-to-Date	Budget
Retiree Health Insurance		2,650.20	6,600.00
Transportation Planning Consultants	266,654.32	770,497.53	1,058,600.00
Land-Use Planning Consultants		127,399.70	143,500.00
Other Consultants	56,433.50	348,434.12	420,200.00
Travel	222.19	5,180.12	7,800.00
Data Processing	1,500.00	10,430.00	4,000.00
Commercial Printing		34.10	2,500.00
Subscriptions and Books	405.99	2,340.91	3,100.00
Meeting Expenses and Advertising	166.07	14,828.26	19,200.00
Capital	18,792.00	18,792.00	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
Total Direct Expenses	344,174.07	1,300,744.57	2,318,663.00

Direct Labor	Current	Year-to-Date	Budget
Direct Labor - Employees	43,927.45	430,510.72	458,472.00

Overhead	Current	Year-to-Date	Budget
Indirect Labor - Employees	15,310.38	154,731.44	184,816.00
Employee Benefits	6,881.14	253,857.03	264,755.00
Travel			100.00
Data Processing		14,313.81	18,600.00
Rent		114,513.88	114,500.00
Telephone and Internet	775.92	6,017.04	7,400.00
Office Supplies	20.97	2,147.18	3,600.00
Equipment Maintenance	1,882.54	22,558.56	18,300.00
Subscriptions and Books		321.99	
Insurance and Professional Services	9,500.00	46,220.00	24,100.00
Meeting Expenses and Advertising		89.87	650.00
Miscellaneous	242.17	924.83	700.00
Total Overhead	44,313.53	581,082.51	637,521.00
Total Operating Expenses	170,155.05	1,924,236.28	3,414,656.00

South Central Regional Council of Governments
2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
Amendment Number 28

Project	0156-0181	2019-TIP21-1	Replace Br #00162 Design-Build
Changes	Amendment 28 replaces NHPP-BRX funds with STPNH funding.		
Reason	With the end of the federal fiscal year approaching and the release of additional ceiling, CTDOT is moving funds between programs to make the best use of available balances.		
Project	0171-0471	2021-A10-2	Replace Traffic Signals @ Various Locations Dist 1
Changes	Amendment 28 adds CON phase funds.		
Reason	Funding will be provided for 13 signal replacement projects in District I. The only project in our region is #079-244 Route 71 (Old Colony Road) at Hall Avenue in Meriden.		
Project	0424-XXXX	2023-A28-2	MILFORD TD - REPLACE SMALL BUSES FY23
Changes	Amendment 28 adds a new project		
Reason	This action is necessary to provide funding for the replacement of 3 small buses for the Milford Transit District. These vehicles will replace (3) 2018 buses in their fleet that have reached the end of their useful life.		
Project	0424-XXXX	2017-A0-40	MILFORD TD- FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
Changes	Amendment 28 increases FY2023 funds.		
Reason	This action is necessary to provide additional section 5307 funding for state of good repair improvements at the Milford Transit District facility.		
Project	0427-XXXX	2017-A0-46	GNHTD- ADMIN CAPITAL/SUPPORT EQUIP/SCV
Changes	Amendment 28 increases funds for FY2023		
Reason	This action will provide the necessary funding for software updates and maintenance, general IT infrastructure enhancements and security, new servers, diagnostic maintenance equipment, general IT equipment, replace office furniture and equipment, replacement of 2 support vehicles which have reach the end of their useful life.		
Project	0427-XXXX	2017-A0-47	GNHTD- REPLACE PARATRANSIT VEHICLES
Changes	Amendment 28 adds funding to FY2023.		
Reason	This action will provide the necessary funding to allow GNHTD to replace buses in their fleet that have reached the end of their useful life.		
Project	0427-XXXX	2023-A28-1	GNHTD- FACILITY IMPROV SHERMAN AVE FY23
Changes	Amendment 28 adds a new project.		
Reason	This action is necessary to provide funding for the repair of sink holes, parking lot restriping and state of good repair improvements at GNHTD's 840 Sherman Avenue location.		

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2021-FFY2024 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 28

State Project #0156-0181

SCRCOG # 2019-TIP21-

Municipality West Haven

AQ Code X6

Proposed

Project Name Replace Br #00162 Design-Build

Description NHS - Replacement of Bridge No. 00162 (including addition of operational lane) carrying Interstate-95 over Metro North Railroad in West Haven. This project will use the Design-Build delivery method.

Current 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>
NHPP-BRX	ROW	Federal				495		
		State				55		
	CON	AC-Entry			0			
		Federal			85,000	26,600		13,900
		State			9,444	2,956		1,544
Total Cost	\$139,994		0	0	94,444	30,106	0	15,444

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>
NHPP-BRX	ROW	Federal			495		
		State			55		
	CON	AC-Entry		0			
		Federal		85,000	21,800		8,700
		State		9,444	2,422		967
STPNH	AC-Entry			0			
	Federal			10,000			
	State			1,111			
<i>TIP Funds</i>	<i>\$139,994</i>	0	0	94,444	35,883	0	9,667

Amendment Notes

Moved to FY21 TIP, FY21 TIP Amend 17 adds CON Funding. FY21 TIP Amend 19 adjusts schedule, FY21 TIP Amend 27 adjusts funding and adds ROW. FY21 TIP Amend 28 replaces NHPP-BRX funds with STPNH funding.

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2021-FFY2024 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 28

State Project #0171-0471

SCRCOG # 2021-A10-2

Municipality District 1

AQ Code X7

Proposed

Project Name Replace Traffic Signals @ Various Locations Dist 1

Description Replacement of traffic control signals to meet current standards at various locations in District 1

Current 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	PD	Federal		631			
	FD	Federal			517		
	ROW	Federal			140		
Total Cost	\$1,288	0	0	631	657	0	0

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	PD	Federal		631			
	FD	Federal			517		
	ROW	Federal			260		
	CON	AC-Entry				0	
		Federal				100	6,300
		State				25	1,575
TIP Funds	\$9,408	0	0	631	777	125	7,875

Amendment Notes

Fy21 TIP Amend 28 adds CON phase funds

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2021-FFY2024 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 28

State Project #0424-XXXX

SCRCOG # 2023-A28-2

Municipality Milford

AQ Code X6

Proposed

Project Name MILFORD TD - REPLACE SMALL BUSES FY23

Description funding for the replacement of 3 small buses for the Milford Transit District. These vehicles will replace (3) 2018 buses in their fleet that have reached the end of their useful life.

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	ALL	Federal			544		
		State			136		
TIP Funds	\$680		0	0	0	680	0

Amendment Notes

FY21 TIP Amend 28 Add a new project

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2021-FFY2024 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 28

State Project #0424-XXXX

SCRCOG # 2017-A0-40

Municipality Milford

AQ Code X6

Proposed

Project Name MILFORD TD- FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Description Provide funding for the necessary facility improvements and repairs

Current 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	CON	Federal	60		60	80	
		State	15		15	20	
5307P		Federal	60		60		
		State	15		15		
Total Cost	\$400	0	150	0	150	100	0

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	CON	Federal	60		80	80	
		State	15		20	20	
5307P		Federal	60		60		
		State	15		15		
TIP Funds	\$425	0	150	0	175	100	0

Amendment Notes

FY18 TIP Amend 7 increases funds for FY18. FY21 TIP Amend 6 moves 5307 funds from FY20 to FY21 FY21 TIP Amend 23 moves funds from FY22 to FY23. FY21 TIP Amend 28 increases FY23 funds.

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2021-FFY2024 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 28

State Project #0427-XXXX

SCRCOG # 2017-A0-46

Municipality Hamden

AQ Code X6

Proposed

Project Name GNHTD- ADMIN CAPITAL/SUPPORT EQUIP/SCV PROGRAM

Description Transit District's Administrative Capital Funds for purchase of utility vehicles, vehicle parts, computer hardware, equipment, etc used to support Transit operations

Current 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	OTH	Federal	600			400	400	
		State	150			100	100	
5307P		Federal				20		
		State				5		
Total Cost	\$1,775		750	0	0	525	500	0

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	OTH	Federal	600			560	400	
		State	150			140	100	
5307P		Federal				20		
		State				5		
TIP Funds	\$1,975		750	0	0	725	500	0

Amendment Notes

FY21 TIP Amend 6 deletes funds for FY21 FY21 TIP Amend 17 reduces fund for FY22 FY21 TIP Amend 23 moves funds from FY22 to FY23. FY21 Amend 28 increases funds for FY23

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2021-FFY2024 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 28

State Project #0427-XXXX

SCRCOG # 2017-A0-47

Municipality Hamden

AQ Code X6

Proposed

Project Name GNHTD- REPLACE PARATRANSIT VEHICLES

Description Transit District's Capital Funds for purchase of Paratransit buses to replace vehicles that have reached the end of their useful life. Generally 4 years or 125,000 miles

Current 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	OTH	Federal	2,000			1,200	1,440	
		State	500			300	360	
Total Cost	\$5,800		2,500	0	0	1,500	1,800	0

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	OTH	Federal	2,000			1,440	1,440	
		State	500			360	360	
TIP Funds	\$6,100		2,500	0	0	1,800	1,800	0

Amendment Notes

FY18 TIP amend 15 reduces funds for FY19. FY21 TIP amend 6 deletes funds for FY21 FY21 TIP amend 16 deletes funds for FY22, FY21 TIP Amend 28 adds fund to FY23

State Project #0427-XXXX

SCRCOG # 2023-A28-1

Municipality Hamden

AQ Code X6

Proposed

Project Name GNHTD- FACILITY IMPROV SHERMAN AVE FY23

Description funding for the Greater New Haven Transit District's facility improvements. Activities include the repair of sink holes, parking lot restriping and state of good repair improvements at their 840 Sherman Avenue location

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	ALL	Federal				440		
		State				110		
TIP Funds	\$550		0	0	0	550	0	0

Amendment Notes

Fy21 TIP Amend 28 adds a new project



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

Fiscal Year 2021-Fiscal Year 2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Twenty-Eight

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—2023 to 2050, (April, 2023)*; 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—2023 to 2050, (April, 2023)*; 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*.



SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

Resolution

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

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

The Program Amendment *Twenty-Eight* 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 **July 26, 2023**

Date July 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

FFY 2022 Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities.

- Whereas:*** The State of Connecticut has received annual Federal Section 5310 funding for transportation of seniors and individuals with disabilities, since 1975; and
- Whereas:*** Section 5310 funding is apportioned based on Transportation Management Area (TMA). The New Haven TMA includes the South Central Region and portions of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG); and
- Whereas;*** \$293,117 has been appropriated to the New Haven TMA for FY22; and
- Whereas:*** The Connecticut State Department of Transportation (CTDOT) has made available applications for Section 5310 Nontraditional operating projects; and
- Whereas:*** SCRCOG and RiverCOG, have reviewed all applications from interested non-profit organizations, and prioritized projects based on criteria provided by CTDOT; and

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

That the South Central Regional Council of Governments adopts the following 5310 priorities for the New Haven TMA:

Section 5310 Non Traditional

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Kennedy Collective | Mobility Management Services |
| 2 ALSA-CT | Transportation Services |
| 3 ETD | Transportation Services |
| 4 ETD | Taxi Voucher Program |
| 5 Mary Wade Home | Transportation Services |
| 6 United Way of Connecticut | Mobility Management Services |

Certificate

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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

***Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Execute Agreement
for Acceptance of 2023-24 Regional Services Grant***

Whereas: SCRCOG has been awarded \$948,501.80 for the 2023-24 Regional Services Grant for Councils of Governments from the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management; and

Whereas: The Office of Policy and Management requires an adopted resolution by the SCRCOG Board.

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

That SCRCOG execute and deliver to the State of Connecticut a Notice of Grant Award (the "Agreement") in the amount of \$948,501.80 for the 2023-24 Regional Services Grant; and

Be It Further Resolved:

That Carl Amento, as Executive Director of SCRCOG, is directed to execute and deliver the Agreement on behalf of SCRCOG and to do all things necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of the Agreement, including executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by the Agreement.

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 July 26, 2023.

Date: July 26, 2023

By: _____
First Selectman Peggy Lyons Secretary
South Central Regional Council of Governments



NEWSLETTER

Volume III, Issue 7

JULY 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

Director Announcements

SCRCOG is excited to announce that all of the state's Councils of Governments received a significant increase from \$4 million to \$7 million in total in their state Regional Services Grant (RSG) funding at the end of the 2023 legislative session. SCRCOG's RSG funding saw an increase of \$375,151 to \$948,552 for FY 2023-2024. The legislation also locked in the increased level of funding for a 5-year period. RSG funding for FY 2022-2023 and for several previous years was at \$573,401. At SCRCOG, the additional funding will support the creation of new regional planning and municipal services initiatives, fund staff development, and expand existing services. As a result, the Board passed an amended Regional Services Grant budget at our June meeting that outlined these new services. In the coming weeks, SCRCOG staff will be working on fleshing out the details of these services and planning initiatives and will share a report with the Board soon. Highlights of our preliminary planning include the following new services for our municipalities:

- **Expanded Grants Technical Assistance:** SCRCOG will be providing even more support, including increased individualized municipal assistance, for local efforts to acquire funding from state and federal government programs.
- **New Affordable Housing Programing:** Two tours of successful affordable housing developments will be offered, one-on-one assistance to support local Affordable Housing Plans and increased capacity and training of local residents for the Community Conversations work.
- **Tree Canopy Study:** SCRCOG will conduct a follow-up to the 2018 Tree Canopy Study that will provide a longitudinal snapshot of the region's tree health, and where tree planting is needed to provide shade.
- **Purchasing:** SCRCOG will revive its previous purchasing consortium work with creation of new on-call lists for preferred vendors based on the expressed needs of our municipalities. Training and best practices will be provided to municipal Purchasing Agents.
- **Risk Management:** SCRCOG will be supporting our region through assistance provided to municipalities in areas of Risk Management such as insurance coverages, safety programs, training and best practices.

SCRCOG also is planning to expand our services in the areas of Cybersecurity and Solid Waste & Recycling, Food Waste Diversion and Composting.

For additional information contact Ben Lovejoy, Director of Regional Planning and Municipal Services at blovejoy@scrcoq.org

General Announcements

SCRCOG would like to welcome our newest intern, Jonathan Schacter. Jonathan graduated in May 2023 with Highest Distinction from Duke University with a B.A. in Public Policy Studies and a minor in Political Science. For the remainder of the summer, Jonathan will be supporting regional and transportation planning initiatives and assisting in the development of new municipal services programs and the expansion of existing programs. In the fall, he will be moving to New York City to pursue his Juris Doctorate (J.D.) at Columbia Law School, and after that he hopes to begin a career in corporate law. Jonathan is a lifelong resident of Orange, CT, where he enjoys playing golf & tennis, watching *Jeopardy*, and taking advantage of the numerous recreational trails in the area.

Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment, Electrification Training – Earn 5 Points Towards Your Sustainable CT Certification with Action 6.4.2!

SCRCOG will be hosting a training on August 9th from 1 – 2 PM with information on how towns can prepare for an increase in electric vehicles and their corresponding

infrastructure. Attendance of one municipal elected official, staff member, or member of a relevant commission who participates in a training related to electrification of municipal vehicles will earn the town 5 points toward their Sustainable CT certification. This training will be both in-person at the SCRCOG offices and online via Zoom.

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

[LINK | Register for this training](#)

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant



SCRCOG, in partnership with NVCOC, is preparing to develop the first of two Climate Action Plans in collaboration with the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Center for Resilient Metro-Regions. These plans will be funded through the [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant](#) (CPRG), a planning grant program managed by the Environmental Protection Agency. The program was created through the Inflation Reduction Act and represents an incredible opportunity for the region to lower greenhouse gas emissions. The region's first plan, the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), is due by March 1, 2024. This preliminary climate action plan will include a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the region, as well as actions, strategies, and projects to reduce climate pollution. Actions, strategies, and projects identified in the PCAP can potentially be funded through competitive CPRG implementation funds. Applications to apply for part of the \$4.6 billion set aside for implementation will be due in April of 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Ben Lovejoy at blovejoy@scrcog.org.



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.

Previous Workshop: June '23

Housing Working Group Session 10: Housing in the SCRCOG Region: Where We Are, Where We're Headed

In our most recent Housing Working Group session, "Housing in the SCRCOG Region: Where We Are, Where We're Headed", we discussed the progress on housing that our municipalities have made, barriers the region still faces, and what programming our municipalities would like to see from this Working Group in the next fiscal year. We also discussed SCRCOG's plans to provide regional training for Planning and Zoning Commissioners, among other training and educational sessions. Please keep an eye on our website for updates on future meetings, tours, and trainings.

Recording Link: For those of you who were unable to attend the June meeting, we have provided [a link](#) to the recording on our [website](#). We've also created a brief survey to collect ideas and feedback about how we can help our municipalities with their housing efforts, and what kind of specific programming they'd like to see.

If you were unable to attend or unable to provide this feedback during the meeting, please take a moment to fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/qyL74NxaXjtw9AEN8>

[LINK | FY23 Housing Working Group Website](#)

[LINK | Housing Working Group Feedback Form](#)

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.

If your municipality would like to begin working with Ben to facilitate honest and productive community discussions, please contact Stephanie Camp, Regional Planner, at smcamp@scrcog.org or Ben Fink at ben.fink@gmail.com.

[LINK | Additional Information on Community Engagement](#)



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. In this Fiscal Year, the Grants consultants will offer more in-depth and more individualized assistance to the SCRCOG municipalities.

Training Opportunity for SCRCOG Member Municipalities

SCRCOG co-hosted grant training sessions throughout 2022 and into 2023. Past meetings featured guest speakers, best practices, and guidance for attendees. You can watch recordings of these past training sessions on our [webpage](#).

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

Please reach out to blovejoy@scrcog.org if you require additional assistance.

EMERGING GRANTS OPPORTUNITIES

Community Connectivity Grants

CT DOT is soliciting applications for Community Connectivity Grants. 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 to Optimize for Equity or to address other equity-related issues of importance regarding federal and state grant proposals.

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

Wildlife Crossings Program

The Federal Highway Administration is funding projects through the Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) with the goal of reducing Wildlife Vehicle Collisions (WVCs) while improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. This program will provide funding for both construction and non-construction projects.

Application Deadline: August 1, 2023

For more information, please visit the [FHA's website](#).

PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program

The USDOT is funding projects that address the climate crisis by improving resilience of the surface transportation system, including highways, public transportation, ports, and intercity passenger rail. Projects selected under this program should be grounded in the best available scientific understanding of climate change risks, impacts, and vulnerabilities. They should support the continued operation or rapid recovery of crucial local, regional, or national surface transportation facilities.

Application Deadline: August 18, 2023.

More information can be found on the [Federal Highway Administration's website.](#)

NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge

Approximately \$575 million is available for projects that build the resilience of coastal communities to extreme weather (e.g., hurricanes and storm surge) and other impacts of climate change, including sea level rise and drought. Funding was made possible by the [Inflation Reduction Act](#), a historic, federal government-wide investment that is advancing NOAA's efforts to build [Climate-Ready Coasts](#). **The focus of this grant program** is on collaborative approaches to achieving resilience in coastal regions. Proposed projects should address risk reduction, regional collaboration, and equity, and build enduring capacity for adaptation.

Letter of Intent Deadline: August 21, 2023.

Full Application Deadline: February 13, 2024.

More information can be found on [NOAA's website.](#)

EPA Clean School Bus Program Grants

EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$400 million in competitive grant funding under the Clean School Bus (CSB) [Grants Program Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#). The program is soliciting applications nationwide for a grant competition to fund the replacement of existing school buses with clean and zero-emission (ZE) school buses.

Application Deadline: August 22, 2023.

More information can be found on the [EPA's website.](#)

EPA Solar for All Grant Competition

EPA's [Solar for All](#) grant competition, which was created by the Inflation Reduction Act's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), will expand the number of low-income and disadvantaged communities primed for residential solar investment by awarding up to 60 grants to states, territories, Tribal governments, municipalities, and eligible nonprofits to create and expand low-income solar programs that provide financing and technical assistance, such as workforce development, to enable low-income and disadvantaged communities to deploy and benefit from residential solar.

Notice of Intent (NOI) for municipalities and eligible nonprofit recipients: July 31, 2023.

Application Deadline: September 26, 2023.

More information can be found on [grants.gov.](#)

Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program

The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) is now accepting applications for the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program (OSWA). The program provides grants to municipalities and nonprofit land conservation organizations to assist them in acquiring land for open space protection. The grant program is also available to water companies to acquire land to be classified and protected as Class I or Class II water supply watershed lands. Awards are granted to projects that offer the highest conservation and recreational value and that leverage the greatest percentage of private and municipal funding.

Application Deadline: October 2, 2023.

More information & applications can be found on [DEEP's website](#).

Connecticut Department of Aging and Disability Services

ADS has been awarded \$10 million in funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that will be used to support upgrades and enhancements at senior centers statewide in Connecticut. The state is designating \$9 million of this funding to be distributed to municipalities. The municipalities can use the funding to support upgrades at their local senior centers through:

- Facility improvements, which can cover a variety of capital improvements, including air and HVAC systems, lighting, accessibility features, vehicle acquisition, maintenance, and repurposing; and
- Programming, which can include the acquisition of program registration software, web design renovation capability, extended senior center hours, special or focused entertainment or programming, while also encompassing expanded staff hours to support those programs, when applicable.

To obtain funding, municipalities must develop a plan and submit it, along with an application, to the Connecticut Department of Aging and Disability Services' Unit on Aging.

Application Deadline: June 2024

More information for municipal officials is available online at portal.ct.gov/ADS-SeniorCenterARPA.



DEEP SMM Pilot Programs

Through the DEEP's Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) pilot program, the City of West Haven has been conducting curbside co-collection of food waste and MSW on a voluntary townwide basis. This has resulted in an [11.6 percent reduction in overall waste](#) in the first nine weeks of 2023 compared to the same time period in 2022. To find out more about the pilot program, please [visit ReduceTheTrashCT – A sustainable solution with a positive environmental impact](#). West Haven is considering continuing its program with participation made mandatory.

Guilford and Madison have begun their SMM Pilot Program, and the City of Meriden is preparing to launch their pilot program as West Haven continues its program.

SCRCOG has received a grant from DEEP to assist SMM pilot programs being conducted in SCRCOG municipalities with education and outreach. SCRCOG Solid Waste & Recycling Consultant has been paid through the DEEP grant to lead the education and outreach initiatives in West Haven, Guilford, and Meriden.



REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (RPC)

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

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

[DOWNLOAD | RPC Informational Brochure](#)



SUSTAINABLE CT

Sustainable CT Updates

Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment, Electrification Training – Earn 5 Points

Towards Your Sustainable CT Certification with Action 6.4.2!

SCRCOG will be hosting a training on August 9th from 1 – 2 PM with information on how towns can prepare for an increase in electric vehicles and their corresponding infrastructure. Attendance of one municipal elected official, staff member, or member of a relevant commission who participates in a training related to electrification of municipal vehicles will earn the town 5 points toward their Sustainable CT certification. This training will be both in-person at the SCRCOG offices and online via Zoom.

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

[LINK | Register for this training](#)

Sustainable CT events

There are many events and information sessions that can be viewed on the Sustainable CT calendar, located [on their website](#).

- July 21st – [Sustainable CT Coffee Hour: Question and Answer Session for 2023 Fall Certification](#) from 10 – 11 AM
- July 27th – [Connecticut Main Street Center Webinar: Main Street Management 101](#) from 11 AM – 12:30 PM
- August 16th – [Sustainable CT Community Match Fund Office Hours](#) from 12 – 1 PM



TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

UPWP Update

- The Regional Transportation Safety Plan (RTSP) has been completed and is now available on the SCRCOG website. The Plan is data-driven and includes an analysis of crash data in the region. A variety of engineering and behavioral countermeasures were identified in the plan, ranging from low-cost quick builds to long-term solutions. SCRCOG will work with its member municipalities to implement some of the identified strategies to improve roadway safety for all users.

LOTICIP Update

- The town of Guilford submitted their final design plans for project #L059-002 *Nut Plains Rd Reconstruction* and received CTDOT authorization to put the project out to bid. CTDOT conducted an application review for project# L106-002 Pine Tree Dr and Peck Ln culvert replacement in Orange.
- SCRCOG finished the fiscal year with 33 LOTCIP project concepts approved for applications. 2 LOTCIP applications completed and under review at CTDOT. 12 projects have received their commitment to fund letters and are in the design phase. 8 projects have moved into construction. The South Central Region receives over \$11 million dollars of apportionment each year and we have roughly \$60 million dollars programmed with another \$78 million in projects planned.
- In July, CTDOT announced changes to the guidelines that would allow COGs to utilize administrative funding to complete LOTCIP applications for the municipalities. Previously these funds could only be used to review applications. SCRCOG staff is working with our Transportation Committee update our procedures.

Other Programs

- **SECTION 5310** - Since 1975, the State of Connecticut has received annual Federal Section 5310 funding for transportation of seniors and individuals with disabilities. In FY23, CTDOT made available applications for Section 5310 Nontraditional operating projects. \$293,117 in SEC5310 funding was apportioned to the New Haven TMA. Six applications were received from five organizations with funding requests over \$420,000. SCRCOG and RiverCOG, reviewed all applications, and evaluated projects based on criteria provided by CTDOT.
- On June 26, 2023, Governor Ned Lamont signed Senate Bill 904. Section 5 of the bill will require Local Traffic Authorities (or their designee) to attend a training program, through the University of Connecticut's T2 Center, to provide them with critical knowledge and skills to better serve in this important role. The T2 Center is gathering input on the issues and subject areas that are most relevant to LTAs work. Please take a few minutes to complete their survey and share your experiences and feedback by the July 21 deadline. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LTANeedsassessment>

[LINK | Take the T2 Center's Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LTANeedsassessment)



AROUND THE TOWNS

Grants for Cultural and Historic Site Upgrades and Improvements

Congratulations to the following SCRCOG recipients of the [2023 Good to Great 2.0 grant](#):

- **New Haven:**
 - **A Broken Umbrella Theater:** \$500,000 to create a black box theater, cultural hub, and operational base that will allow them to build new work, hold classes and workshops and continue to celebrate New Haven by exploring our collective histories.
 - **St. Luke's Steel Band:** \$49,420 to source and purchase new Steel Pans for the band and acquire a new trailer used to transport the instruments for their performance engagements.
- **East Haven and Branford:**
 - **The Shoreline Trolley Museum:** \$405,375 to update both the East Haven and Branford Museum campuses to allow a more accessibly inclusive environment for guests, volunteers and staff.

Municipalities Receive Grant Awards for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

Governor Ned Lamont announced in late June that his administration is releasing more than \$6 million from the legal settlement in the [Volkswagen Corporation \(VW\) emissions cheating scandal](#) to fund 54 electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) projects across Connecticut. These funds are being administered by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) & are being made available for the installation of EVSE to encourage the use of electric vehicles. Of the \$6 million, \$3.3 million has been awarded for municipal projects, ten of which are in environmental justice communities.

Congratulations to the following SCRCOG member towns that received awards:

- **Town of North Haven & Town of Hamden** through the Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES):
 - Install 14 Level 2, Dual-port Chargers and 2 Dual -port DC Fast Chargers on Outdoor Pedestals at 1 location in North Haven, 3 locations in Hamden, and 1 location in the neighboring Waterbury.
 - Award: \$334,100.00
- **Town of Guilford**
 - Install 3 Dual-Port, Level 2 Chargers on Outdoor Pedestals at 3 locations.

- Award: \$35,340.50



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

July

- July 26th – SCRCOG Board Meeting – 10:00 AM

August

- August 9th – Transportation Committee Meeting – 12:00 PM
- August 9th – SCRCOG & Sustainable CT Training – 2023 Municipal EV Readiness – 1:00 PM
- August 10th – Regional Planning Committee Meeting – 5:15 PM
- August 23rd – SCRCOG Board Meeting – 10 AM



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SCRCOG Newsletter

South Central Regional Council of Governments

**SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT
Regional Planning Commission**

July 2023 RPC Action Table

Ref. #	Received	Description	Adjacent RPC Towns	RPC Action
2.1	6/9/2023	Town of Wallingford:	Cheshire, Durham, Middlefield, Hamden, Meriden, North Branford, North Haven	By resolution, the RPC has determined that the proposed zoning regulation amendment does not appear to cause any negative inter-municipal impact 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.
2.2	6/13/2023	Town of Milford:	Stratford, Shelton, Orange, West Haven	By resolution, the RPC has determined that the proposed zoning regulation amendment does not appear to cause any negative inter-municipal impact 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.
2.3	6/21/2023	Town of Hamden:	Cheshire, Wallingford, North Haven, New Haven, Woodbridge, Bethany	By resolution, the RPC has determined that the proposed zoning regulation amendment does not appear to cause any negative inter-municipal impact 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. Furthermore, the proposed amendments comply with recommendations established in the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development by reducing the amount of required parking.
2.4	7/3/2023	Town of Hamden:	Cheshire, Wallingford, North Haven, New Haven, Woodbridge, Bethany	By resolution, the RPC has determined that the proposed zoning regulation amendment does not appear to cause any negative inter-municipal impact 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. Furthermore, the proposed text and map amendments allow for the creation of diverse and affordable housing stock which aligns with recommendations offered in the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development.

South Central Regional Council of Governments

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July 18, 2023

Dear Chief Elected Officials of SCRCOG,

As mentioned in our report from last month, REX is currently carrying out the tasks associated with the CARES grant. These responsibilities include enhancing resilience, revitalizing the arts, culture, and tourism industry, and conducting a survey of local businesses to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and their ongoing recovery needs. The survey will concentrate on identifying unmet needs and promoting resilience moving forward.

Funding Opportunities

Resilience

The heavy rainfall on July 15th served as a reminder that certain parts of our region are prone to flooding during intense rain events. If you encountered similar issues in FY21 or FY22, the EDA's FY 2023 Disaster Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in April 2023 could offer financial aid to address economic challenges in areas where a Presidential declaration of a major disaster has been made. This funding can help communities create and execute long-term economic recovery plans through various construction and non-construction projects. Due to Hurricane Henri, a statewide disaster declaration had been issued, making our municipalities eligible for funding. However, individuals and for-profit businesses are not qualified for funding under this NOFO. Detailed information can be found at <https://www.eda.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/fiscal-year-2023-disaster-supplemental>.

Small Business

The Connecticut Small Business Boost Fund is an all-in-one support system for small business owners and non-profit organizations. This program, backed by the Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development, offers financial assistance, guidance, and support throughout the loan application process and beyond. Eligible applicants can receive working capital loans ranging from \$5,000 to \$500,000, free of origination fees, and with a fixed 4.5% interest rate. Payback terms for loans depend on the amount borrowed, with 60- and 72-month options available. During the loan application process, applicants can expect support from a network of community lenders and technical assistance providers who have extensive experience working with small businesses. This program is committed to equity and prioritizes communities that have historically faced obstacles in accessing working capital. More information can be found at https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Business-Development/05_Funding_Opportunities/Connecticut-Small-Business-Boost-Fund.

Sincerely,

Ginny Kozlowski
Executive Director

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