



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

Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

SCRCOG MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

July 27, 2016 – 10:00 A.M.

Location: 127 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor West

North Haven, CT 06473 Full agenda materials can be found at our website – www.scrkog.org

1. Call to Order and Introductions – *Mayor Benjamin Blake, Chairman*
2. **Presentation: UI Vegetation Management -James A Cole, MBA, PE, PMP, Transmission and Distribution Operations – Director, Electric System Operations, United Illuminating Company**
Note: UI will make a presentation on their proposed rate increase at the September SCRCOG meeting
3. Adoption of 6/22/16 SCRCOG Minutes – *First Selectman Joseph Mazza, Secretary* Pages 2-4
4. Treasurer's Report for month ending 6/30/16 – *First Selectman James Cosgrove, Treasurer* Pages 5,6
5. Transportation Committee Report – *Mayor William Dickinson, Chairman* Pages 7-13
Adopt Resolution to Approve 2015-2018 TIP Amendment Seventeen Pages 12,13
6. Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute Agreements with the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management for Regional Performance Incentive Grant for Regional Open Space Inventory- \$74,228 Page 14
7. Resolution Approving Re-Purposing of FY 2016-2017 State Grant In Aid (SGIA) Pages 15-22
Previously Approved for Economic Development Projects to Different Economic Development Projects and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate and Execute Agreements with the REX Development for such New Economic Development Projects
8. FY 2016-17 Budget Revision # 1 (\$29,000 carryover from FY2015-2016) Pages 23, 24
9. Discussion and Possible Action on U.S. DOT Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on MPO Coordination Note: Materials relating to the NPRM on MPO Consolidation will be either sent out before the meeting or distributed at the meeting
10. Congressional Reports – Louis Mangini, *Aide to Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro*;
Ben Florsheim, *Aide to U.S.Senator Christopher Murphy*; Ellen Graham, *Aide to Senator Richard Blumenthal*
11. State Legislative Report – *Michael Muszynski, Advocacy Manager, CCM*
12. SCRCOG Executive Director's Report – *Carl Amento, Executive Director*
13. Grant Opportunities and Upcoming Events – *Carl Amento, Executive Director* Attached
14. REX Development Report – *Ginny Kozlowski, Executive Director, REX Development* Pages 25-27
15. RPC Action Table for July Page 28
16. Regional Cooperation/Other Business
17. Adjournment

The agenda and attachments for this meeting are available on our website at www.scrkog.org. Please contact SCRCOG at (203) 234-7555 for a 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.

La Agenda y Adjuntos para esta reunión están disponibles en nuestro sitio web en www.scrkog.org. Favor en contactar con SCRCOG al (203) 234-7555 para obtener una copia de la Agenda en un idioma distinto al Inglés. Ayudas/servicios auxiliares e intérpretes para personas de Dominio Limitado del Inglés serán proporcionados con dos semanas de aviso

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**
FROM: **First Selectman Joseph Mazza, Secretary**
DATE: **July 20, 2016**
SUBJECT: **SCRCOG Minutes of June 22, 2016**

Present:

Branford	First Selectman James Cosgrove – <i>Treasurer</i>
East Haven	Salvatore Brancati, <i>proxy for Mayor Joseph Maturo</i>
Hamden	Julie Smith, <i>proxy for Mayor Curt Leng</i>
Guilford	First Selectman Joseph Mazza – <i>Secretary</i>
Madison	First Selectman Thomas Banisch
Milford	Mayor Benjamin Blake – <i>Chairman</i>
New Haven	Serena Neal-Sanjurjo, <i>proxy for Mayor Toni Harp – Vice Chairman</i>
North Branford	Michael Paulhus, <i>proxy for Mayor Michael Doody</i>
North Haven	First Selectman Michael Freda – <i>Immediate Past Chair</i>
Orange	First Selectman James Zeoli
Wallingford	Mayor William Dickinson
West Haven	Mayor Edward O'Brien

SCRCOG Staff Carl Amento – *Executive Director*, Albert Ruggiero, Eugene Livshits,
Christopher Rappa, Rebecca Andreucci (intern), Dane St. John (intern)

Guests: Maya Lowenberg, *CT DECD*; Mary Bigelow, *Greater New Haven Transit District*; Miriam Brody, *League of Women Voters of Hamden-North Haven*; Tony Bialecki, *United Illuminating Co.*; Barbara Malmberg, *REX Development*; Louis Mangini, Regan Fitzgerald, Clinton Pepe, and Ali Dunne, *Office of U.S. Representative Rosa DeLauro*; Michael Muszynski, *CCM*; Michael Harris, *City of New Haven*; Lori Vitagliano and Rose Gavrilovis, *RWA*; Julian DeOlivera, *Town of North Haven*; Sarah Amento; Edgar Wynkoop and Steven Schweitzer, *CT DOT*; Nan Birdwhistell, *MurthaCullina*; Mark Zaretsky, *New Haven Register*

1. **Call to order and Introductions -**

Chairman Benjamin Blake called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. All present introduced themselves.

2. **Presentation: Report from the Permit Ombudsman-**

Maya Lowenberg presented on her responsibilities and accomplishments as DECD's Permit Ombudsman.

3. **Adoption of May 25, 2016 SCRCOG meeting minutes -**

First Selectman Mazza presented the Minutes of the SCRCOG meeting of May 25, 2016 which were included in the agenda packet at pages 2-4. He moved for their approval. First Selectman Banisch seconded the Motion, which was approved by all.

4. **Treasurer's Report for month ending May 31, 2016 -**

First Selectman Cosgrove presented the Treasurer's Report for the month ending May 31, 2016, which was included in the agenda packet at pages 5 and 6. Cash and Investments totaled \$802,616, with \$325,335 due from

CTDOT. Expenses were in order for the month. First Selectman Cosgrove moved for acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. First Selectman Zeoli seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. **Transportation Committee Report-**

Mayor Dickinson moved for approval of the Resolution to Approve TIP Amendment Sixteen found at Page 7-19 of the agenda packet. First Selectman Banisch seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. **Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate and Sign Agreements with Consultants Selected to Perform UPWP Studies-**

The Resolution is found at Page 20 of the agenda packet. Serena Neal-Sanjurjo moved for approval. First Selectman Cosgrove seconded. The Resolution was approved unanimously.

7. **Selection of SCRCOG Representative and Alternate to Central Corridor Water Corridor Coordinating Committee (WUCC)-**

An explanation of the WUCC program and the proposed SCRCOG Representative (Carl Amento) and Alternate (the SCRCOG Regional Planner to be hired in July) are found on pages 21-24 of the agenda packet. Mayor O'Brien moved for the selection as proposed. First Selectwoman Freda seconded, and the selection was approved unanimously.

8. **Congressional Report –**

Louis Mangini reported that there still had been no funds approved to fight the Zika virus, that the implementation of the Cadillac Tax in the Affordable Care Act was delayed until 2019 by Executive Order, and that he would send the SCRCOG Executive Director information about the new overtime rules to distribute to SCRCOG members. Senator Murphy's Office sent information on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) which passed the Senate and would provide funding for CT's aerospace and submarine manufacturing industries.

9. **State Legislative Report-**

Michael Muszynski reported that further budget deficit reduction measures were likely. CCM has produced a toolkit on the opioid epidemic that is available to municipalities.

10. **SCRCOG Executive Director's Report -**

Executive Director Amento introduced SCRCOG interns, Rebecca Andreucci and Dane St. John, as well as his daughter, Sarah Amento, an education graduate student at SCSU who was visiting. SCRCOG staff is working intensively to convert the accounting system to the new Deltek software program. This has involved training on the new system and conversion of data to the new system. Four SCRCOG towns were awarded State of CT Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development grants (Branford, Madison, Meriden and New Haven). Amento reported on progress in SCRCOG's Regional GIS program, the Recreational Trails Mapping project, an updated housing study, the UPWP studies, and the completion of the Regional TOD Study.

11. **Grant Opportunities and Upcoming Events -**

Executive Director Amento reviewed the Grant Opportunities and Upcoming Events attached to the agenda packet. The attachment contained information on an EV Charging Station Funding Opportunity, CIRCA's Climate Resilience Matching Funds Program, and a June 27th webinar on CIRCA programs. In addition, information on another grant was distributed, NOAA's Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Grants Program information. An additional Upcoming Event, the Urban Wildlife Refuge Academy in New Haven on June 28th, was also distributed.

12. **REX Development Report -**

Barbara Malmberg of REX Development reviewed Executive Director Ginny Kozlowski's report which is found at Pages 25-37 of the agenda packet. She also reported on the launch of the economic development internship program for the SCRCOG towns.

13. **DESPP/ DEMHS Report -**

John Field was not present.

14. **RPC Action Table for June-**

The Action Table was reviewed.

15. **Regional Cooperation/Other Business-**

None

16. **Adjournment -**

First Selectman Cosgrove moved to adjourn, First Selectman Mazza seconded. Mayor Blake adjourned the meeting at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

First Selectman Joseph Mazza, Secretary

Balance Sheet

Thursday, July 21, 2016

3:58:44 PM

So. Central Regional Council of Government

As of period 6/30/2016

Balance

Assets

First Niagara Bank - Checking Account	290,716.88
State of CT - Short-Term Investment Fund	156,170.19
Start Community Bank	101,224.19
Connecticut Department of Transportation	387,947.76
State Grant-in-Aid	102,500.12
National Fish & Wildlife	247,735.94
Prepaid Expense	44,241.72
Furniture & Equipment	39,880.24

Total Assets 1,370,417.04

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	19,754.24
Deferred Revenue - OPM	306,441.04
Deferred Revenue - RPI Grant	26,866.42
Deferred Revenue - LOTCIP	224,709.16

Total Liabilities 577,770.86

Fund Balance

Fund Balance	739,954.32
Amount for Accrued Leave	10,578.76
Investment in Equipment	39,880.24
Change in Fund Balance	2,232.86

Total Fund Balance 792,646.18

Total Liabilities and Fund Balance 1,370,417.04

Statement of Resources and Expenditures

Thursday, July 21, 2016
4:06:44 PM

So. Central Regional Council of Government

As of period 6/30/2016

	Budgeted	Current	Year-to-Date
Resources			
Municipal - Revenue		25,700.00	154,200.00
CT OPM - Regional Planning		38,798.42	315,007.05
OPM RPI Grant - GIS Project			50,717.81
CTDOT - Transportation Planning		168,623.80	777,662.85
CTDOT - LOTCIP		520.51	1,622.87
CTDOT - Mobility Manager		4,883.70	96,393.45
National Fish & Wildlife Grant		97,748.82	363,585.90
Interest - Revenue		56.00	461.05
Total Resources		336,331.25	1,759,650.98
Direct Expenses/Labor			
Direct Labor - Employees		28,287.94	339,338.77
Transportation Planning Consultants		103,741.79	360,774.68
Land-Use Planning Consultants		97,118.80	471,206.30
Other Consultants		27,141.84	65,607.73
Travel		477.12	6,155.59
General Office Software			8,058.45
Subscription and Books			1,979.00
Insurance and Professional Services			861.20
Meeting Expenses and Advertising		1,402.38	12,753.43
Capital			42,628.55
Miscellaneous			1,600.59
Total Direct Expenses/Labor		258,169.87	1,310,964.29
Revenue Less Direct Expenses/Labor		78,161.38	448,686.69
Overhead			
Indirect Labor - Employees		16,342.36	133,262.10
Employee Benefits		6,471.45	173,355.06
Data Processing		24.00	13,100.84
Rent			104,445.24
Telephone and Internet		476.60	4,577.65
Office Supplies		115.92	2,080.49
Equipment Maintenance		927.50	8,547.92
Subscriptions and Books			195.00
Insurance and Professional Services		589.50	18,114.60
Meeting Expenses and Advertising			156.51
Capital			2,315.00
Miscellaneous		(.01)	(.01)
Total Overhead		24,947.32	460,150.40
Total Operating Expenses		283,117.19	1,771,114.69
Total Operating Profit/Loss		53,214.06	(11,463.71)

South Central Regional Council of Governments
2015-2018 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
Amendment Number 17

Project	0079-0241 2016-A17-1 Traffic Signal Modernization
Changes	Amendment 17 adds a new project
Reason	This project was selected by CTDOT in 2016, through a COG solicitation, for funding under the CMAQ Program. The project will upgrade the signal equipment, provide coordination and geometric improvements that will improve safety and efficiency and reduce vehicle emissions
Project	0100-0178 2014-A25-1 Replacement of Br#03120 O/ I-91
Changes	Amendment 17 decreases funds for FY16 and increases funds for FY17
Reason	Action is necessary based on an updated schedule and construction cost estimate
Project	0106-0128 2016-A17-2 Interchange 58 Improvements on Rte 15 @ Rte 34
Changes	Amendment 17 adds a new project
Reason	This project will address a high rear-end accident pattern at the interchange by providing the required Northbound Route 15 Acceleration lane from Route 34 Westbound and the required Southbound Route 15 deceleration lane onto Route 34 Westbound. It is proposed to reconstruct the median to provide the roadway width required, install a concrete median barrier and stripe the mainline.
Project	0170-XXXX 2016-A17-3 Sec 5311 & RTAP Program funds from FFY14
Changes	Amendment 17 adds a new project
Reason	Action is necessary to move this project from FY 14 to FY 16 the current year of the STIP to allow the filing of a FTA grant application and to avoid lapsing funds.
Project	0171-0404 2016-A17-4 Replace Joints on Various NHS Bridges in Dist 1
Changes	Amendment 17 adds a new project
Reason	Project provides funding for the replacement of joints on various bridges in District 1

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2015-FFY2018 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 17

State Project #0079-0241

SCRCOG # 2016-A17-1

Municipality Meriden

Proposed

Project Name Traffic Signal Modernization

Description The project will upgrade the signal equipment, provide coordination and geometric improvements that will improve safety and efficiency and reduce vehicle emissions.

Current TIP Funding (In Thousands)

Proposed TIP Funding (In Thousands)

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>		<i>Prior</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>FYI</i>
CMAQ	PD	Federal			280			
	FD	Federal					300	
	CON	Federal						2,609
<i>TIP Funds</i>	\$3,189		0	0	280	0	300	2,609

Amendment Notes

FY 15 TIP Amendment 17 adds a new project

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2015-FFY2018 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 17

State Project #0100-0178

SCRCOG # 2014-A25-1

Municipality North Haven

Proposed

Project Name Replacement of Br#03120 O/ I-91

Description Project was originally for Deck replacement of Bridge #03120 which carries Bassett Rd over I-91. Project has been upgraded to Full Bridge Replacement

Current TIP Funding (In Thousands)

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Prior</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>FYI</i>
STPNH	PD	Federal		320			
		State		80			
	FD	Federal		400			
		State		100			
	ROW	Federal		148			
		State		37			
	CON	AC-Entry		0			
		Federal		2,840	2,840		
		State		710	710		
Total Cost	\$8,185	0	0	4,635	3,550	0	0

Proposed TIP Funding (In Thousands)

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Prior</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>FYI</i>
STPNH	PD	Federal		320			
		State		80			
	FD	Federal		400			
		State		100			
	ROW	Federal		148			
		State		37			
	CON	AC-Entry		0			
		Federal		1,000	7,320		
		State		250	1,830		
TIP Funds	\$11,485	0	0	2,335	9,150	0	0

Amendment Notes

FY12 TIP Amend 25 adds new project. FY15 TIP Amend 4 increases ROW phase funding. FY15 TIP Amend 10 changes funding to STPNH funding increased based on revised scope. FY15 TIP Amend 17 moves funds from FY16 to FY17

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2015-FFY2018 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 17

State Project #0106-0128

SCRCOG # 2016-A17-2

Municipality Orange

Proposed

Project Name Interchange 58 Improvements on Rte 15 @ Rte 34

Description The project will add a Northbound Route 15 Acceleration lane from Route 34 Westbound and a Southbound Route 15 deceleration lane onto Route 34 Westbound.

Current TIP Funding (In Thousands)

Proposed TIP Funding (In Thousands)

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Prior</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>FYI</i>
NHPP	PD	Federal		400			
		State		100			
	FD	Federal			336		
		State			84		
	CON	Federal					3,600
		State					900
<i>TIP Funds</i>	<i>\$5,420</i>	0	0	500	420	0	4,500

Amendment Notes

Fy15 TIP Amendment 17 adds a new project

State Project #0170-XXXX

SCRCOG # 2016-A17-3

Municipality Statewide

Proposed

Project Name Sec 5311 & RTAP Program funds from FFY14

Description Carry over funding for Rural Transit (5311) and Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP)

Current TIP Funding (In Thousands)

Proposed TIP Funding (In Thousands)

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Prior</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>FYI</i>
5311P	OTH	Federal		322			
		State		81			
<i>TIP Funds</i>	<i>\$403</i>		0	0	403	0	0

Amendment Notes

FY 15 TIP Amendment 17 adds a new project

South Central Regional Council of Governments
FFY2015-FFY2018 Transportation Improvement Program
Amendment 17

State Project #0171-0404

SCRCOG # 2016-A17-4

Municipality

Proposed

Project Name Replace Joints on Various NHS Bridges in Dist 1

Description Project provides funding for the replacement of joints on various bridges in District 1

Current TIP Funding (In Thousands)

Proposed TIP Funding (In Thousands)

<i>Funding</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Prior</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>FYI</i>
NHPP-BRX	CON	Federal		4,480			
		State		1,120			
<i>TIP Funds</i>	\$5,600		0	0	5,600	0	0

Amendment Notes

FY 15 TIP Amendment 17 adds a new project



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Planning for Our Region's Future

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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

Resolution

***Fiscal Year 2015-Fiscal Year 2018 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment
Seventeen***

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 2015-Fiscal Year 2018 Transportation Improvement Program* on October 22, 2014, 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 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program* and the Region’s *Long-Range Transportation Plans—2015 to 2040, (April, 2015)*; and

Whereas: The Council, on *October 22, 2014*, indicated that periodic *Program* adjustment or amendment was possible; and

Whereas: Projects referenced in the *Program* amendment (below) are consistent with the region’s long-range transportation plan (*South Central Regional Long Range Transportation Plan—2015 to 2040, (April, 2015)*); 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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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

Resolution

***Fiscal Year 2015-Fiscal Year 2018 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment
Seventeen (continued)***

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

The Program *Amendment seventeen* 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 27, 2016**

Date: **July 27, 2016**

By: _____
First Selectman Joseph Mazza, *Secretary*
South Central Regional Council of Governments



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

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Carl J. Amento, Executive Director

Resolution Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute Agreements with the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management for Regional Performance Incentive Grant

Whereas: SCRCOG applied for and has been awarded a Regional Performance Incentive Grant by the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management for a **Regional Open Space Inventory (\$74,228)**; and,

Whereas: The Connecticut Department of Policy and Management will require the execution of agreements prior to the commencement of the work under the grant;

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

That the Executive Director, Carl Amento, is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the South Central Regional Council of Governments in negotiating and executing all appropriate and necessary contractual instruments for the Regional Performance Incentive Grant with the Connecticut Office of Policy & Management.

Certificate:

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the South Central Regional Council of Governments certified that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the SCRCOG on July 27, 2016.

Date: July 27, 2016

By: _____

Joseph Mazza, Secretary
South Central Regional Council of Governments



July 19, 2016

Mr. Carl Amento
Executive Director
South Central Regional Council of Governments
127 Washington Avenue
4th Floor West
North Haven, CT 06473

Dear Carl,

On June 30, 2016, Governor Malloy eliminated the three remaining tourism districts as part of his FY 2017 Appropriations and Holdback Distributions. As a direct result, the contract between the Central Regional Tourism (CRTD) and REX Development was nullified.

History

In 2009, the Greater New Haven Convention and Visitors Bureau (GNHCVB) was eliminated by the State Legislature. The towns in the region were absorbed into the Central Regional Tourism District (CRTD). Combined, the District markets 65 towns with a small budget of \$400,000 for FY2016. Prior to the merge, the GNHCVB (as well as the four other tourism districts) each received \$950,000 in state funding.

REX received a small contract (\$50K) for services through the CRTD to provide the towns that comprise the South Central CT district with regional tourism services. In fiscal year 2017 our new agreement was scheduled to increase to \$55,000 annually. The funds were allocated for a portion of staff time, media placement, website and social media, methods to maximize visitor spending of the organic visitors to the region, maintain a Visitors Center and pursue direct sales opportunities for groups and meetings at regional and national sales conferences. The holdbacks announced will directly impact the current services provided by REX and the Central Tourism District. The services are outlined below:

Current Tourism Activities

- One and a half FTE
- Annual publication of 80,000 Visitor Guides
- Annual publication of regional and downtown map
- Maintenance of visitnewhaven.com
- Daily social media postings
- Weekly consumer newsletters
- Monthly constituent newsletters
- Event planning and execution

545 Long Wharf Drive 4th Floor, New Haven, CT 06511
T 203 821 3682 F 203 785 9900 www.rexdevelopment.org

BETHANY BRANFORD EAST HAVEN GUILFORD HAMDEN MADISON MERIDEN MILFORD
NEW HAVEN NORTH BRANFORD NORTH HAVEN ORANGE WALLINGFORD WEST HAVEN WOODBRIDGE

- Familiarization tours for both domestic and international planners/travel writers
- Ongoing collaboration with many organizations, including the Arts Council of Greater New Haven, Chambers of Commerce and individual municipalities
- Contracted services with the Connecticut Lodging Association
- Mentoring students majoring in Hospitality/Travel & Tourism from the University of New Haven, Southern Connecticut State University and Gateway Community College
- Participation in regional and national associations

Services Provided by the Central Regional Tourism District for Greater New Haven

In addition to the direct impact to REX's funding, the region is losing additional services provided by the Central Regional Tourism District directly, including:

- \$67,000 in direct marketing and media placement
- Tradeshows
 - ABA
 - NTA
 - DNE
- Non-stop Connecticut Videos that featured Bishop's Orchards, Thimble Island Cruises, Downtown New Haven, John Davenport's, PEZ Visitor Center, The Place, Louis' Lunch, Yale University, BAR, Temple Grill and Ordinary
- Hosting additional travel writers and tour operators
- Regional brochures to promote Greater New Haven's:
 - Gardens & Farmers Markets
 - Burgers & Brews
 - Pocket size guide
 - Coloring book for kids (available in print and PDF) that included Yale Peabody Museum, PEZ Visitor Center, Shore Line Trolley Museum, The Place, Thimble Islands and Pepe's Pizza
 - Contract with public relations firm

State Marketing Funding

In 2010, the Governor pledged \$15 million in state marketing for both tourism and economic development. Since that original pledge, funding has decreased annually, to the current amount of \$6.5 million.

Return on Investment

The Travel & Tourism industry is the only sector with unemployment rates at prerecession levels and is the fastest growing segment of the Connecticut economy.

The nearly one-half of businesses in the Connecticut Hospitality industry are small businesses.

Tourism supports shopping (the number one vacation activity), farms, restaurants, vineyards and wineries, attractions, arts, culture, history, events and transportation.

With gas prices hovering around \$2 per gallon, we can anticipate more visitors from the surrounding states if they are aware of what Greater New Haven has to offer. The region is located at the epicenter of Boston and New York City and both cities offer a substantial number of potential visitors.

Attraction Attendance

A quick survey of local attractions returned the following results.

Attraction	Attendance	Attraction	Attendance
Hammonasset Beach State Park	430,000*	Yale Peabody Museum	145,000
Ireland's Great Hunger Museum	8,000	Yale Repertory Theatre	45,000
Knights of Columbus Museum	25,000	Yale University Art Gallery	221,000
Long Wharf Theatre	80,000	Yale Visitor Center	90,000
PEZ Visitor Center	75,000		
Shore Line Trolley Museum	28,500		
Shubert Theatre	115,000	Events	
Stony Creek Brewery	300,000	Connecticut Open	52,000
Yale Center for British Art	100,000	International Festival of Arts & Ideas	139,000
Total	1.8 million		

*Plus 55,000 campers

Many of our large/new attractions and events are not included in the table above, including Silver Sands State Beach, Thimble Island Cruises, New Haven Museum, Guilford Craft Expo, North Haven Fair, College Street Music Hall, IT™ at Jordan's Furniture, trails, wineries and breweries.

Legislative Tourism Caucus Update

In a recent Legislative Tourism Caucus meeting, Ben Barnes (OPM), Tim Sullivan (DECD) and Randy Fiveash (State Office of Tourism) presented on the revised tourism funding and the results of the Still Revolutionary campaign on tax revenue, employment and total visitor spending. All three concurred that regional tourism efforts contributed to the success of the hospitality industry in Connecticut, however the budget deficits required some hard choices and they elected to consolidate the funds at the state level in the hopes of maintaining digital marketing and potentially reinstating television, radio and billboard marketing that was pulled for the spring 2016 campaign due to funding cuts. At the

meeting, Secretary Barnes indicated there was a potential for assistance as the regional tourism organizations implemented a model that was not reliant on state funding.

Moving Forward

To maintain REX's tourism efforts, we are formally requesting to reallocate \$70,300 of the consulting agreement between SCRCOG and REX for Site Feasibility Studies to Tourism Marketing & Promotion, which is a permitted use of the State Grant in Aid funding. A decrease in the number of visitors to our region will result in declining employment in the hospitality sector. We are particularly concerned with the consequences for small businesses. In addition to our request to SCRCOG, we are also pursuing partnerships with tourism-related businesses and non-profits. We would then return to OPM/DECD and request some level of matching funds.

To replace the \$70,300 in SGIA funding, REX will repurpose the recently awarded Office of Policy and Management RPIP grant for regional revenue sharing study to include site feasibility studies.

Our current request to SCRCOG is for FY 2017 only. During the year, we will continue to work with the State of Connecticut, regional tourism entities to establish alternative revenue streams, potentially including advertising and newsletters, charging for Visitor Guides, event planning, etc. We have always provided these services without charge; however that is no longer feasible. At the end of the year, we will review metrics such as new revenue sources, employment data, hotel tax revenue, web visits, e-newsletter subscribers, social media followers. At that time, SCRCOG could revisit funding REX for tourism marketing based on the economic impact on the region.

In most parts of the country, tourism is a valued economic driver and funded through part of an intercept tax, a local option tax or a tourism business improvement district. For the July 27 SCRCOG meeting, we will be preparing additional information and background for the SCRCOG members.

With the remaining funds \$13,800 of the original \$84,100 contract we are requesting reallocation for the acquisition of two subscriptions to the OneSource database which SCRCOG and REX will utilize in a joint data project for the benefit of the SCRCOG Region and towns. (See attached proposal.)

Please let me know if you require any additional material. Time is of the essence on this request. Our funding has ceased as July 1 from the Central Regional Tourism District.

Regards,


Ginny Kozlowski
Executive Director

Proposal Prepared for South Central Regional Council of Governments

July 15, 2016
South Central Regional Council of Governments
127 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor West
North Haven, CT 06473

On behalf of the entire Avention team, I am pleased to provide South Central Regional Council of Governments with this proposal for the OneSource business intelligence solution.

Based on the discussions we've had thus far, we are confident that the OneSource Offering will be a solution that's aligned with your needs.

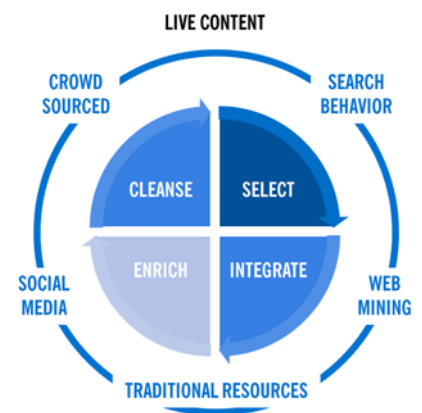
THE ONESOURCE SOLUTION

With OneSource, you will have access to a revolutionary application that minimizes research time while harnessing Big Data to deliver companies, contacts and a level of insight that was previously impossible to attain.

We collect, curate and organize the world's foremost repository of business information from structured and unstructured sources. We fuse global content from over 60 data partners in addition to thousands of feeds ranging from structured company data to social media using a state-of-the-art data process called *Live Content*.

More than 45 million global companies

- Over 61 million contacts
- Over 14.5 million verified email addresses
- Real-time intelligence from:
 - 24,000 news sources
 - Web crawl of over 9 billion web pages
- In-depth research and analysis
- Editorial content
- Deep web mining delivering key company and contact data
- Company data linkage to improve data quality and standardization
- Social Media data from premier social sites



PRICING FOR SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS*12 Month Subscription - OneSource Essential*

Number of Users	Price
Single Seat	\$6,900

*Includes 2,500 free email download credits

PRICING FOR REX DEVELOPMENT*12 Month Subscription - OneSource Essential*

Number of Users	Price
Single Seat	\$6,900

*Includes 2,500 free email download credits

Training Services:

An initial meeting will be held to collaborate on the Roll-Out and Training Strategy customized for you.

Training options include:

- Live and online training sessions
- Train the Trainer Session
- Recorded Web-based training modules
- Your users will also have the option to sign up at pre-scheduled times for live public training classes

On-going User Support:

In addition to your account team, the Avention helpdesk is available **24x5, M-F**. Users can reach the help desk through online feedback, integrated live messaging, or by phone. Additional resources include online help, a financial glossary, and user guides.

We appreciate your consideration of Avention and look forward to working with you to deliver a sales intelligence solution that will improve sales effectiveness, drive more leads and increase revenue.

Regards,

Alyson Graves

Strategic Data Consultant
OneSource Solutions by Avention



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 Approving Re-Purposing of FY 2016-2017 State Grant In Aid (SGIA) Previously Approved for Certain Economic Development Projects to Different Economic Development Projects and Authorizing the Executive Director to Negotiate and Execute Agreements with the REX Development for such New Economic Development Projects

Whereas: At the February 24, 2016 SCRCOG meeting, the Board approved allocating \$90,100 in FY 2016-2017 State Grant in Aid (SGIA) funds to REX Development for a Site Feasibility Studies project; and,

Whereas: At the March 23, 2016 SCRCOG meeting, the Board approved re-allocating \$6,000 of the previously allocated \$90,100 in FY 2016-2017 SGIA funds to REX Development as a partial contribution to REX attending the Hannover, Germany international trade show, reducing the funds available to the Site Feasibility Studies project to \$84,100;

Whereas: REX Development was awarded a Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPIP) grant from the Office of Policy & Management (OPM) for \$73,900 to study the implementation of a regional revenue sharing structure;

Whereas: SCRCOG recently released a study on regional revenue sharing that was produced by a Yale Law School intern, which negates the need for the study to be funded by the RPIP grant;

Whereas: OPM has indicated a willingness to allow REX Development to re-purpose the \$73,900 RPIP grant to another purpose such as the Site Feasibility Studies project;

Whereas: The State of Connecticut has eliminated regional tourism funding for FY 2016-2017;

Whereas: REX Development has requested re-purposing of the \$84,100 allocated to the Site Feasibility Studies project as follows:

- \$70,300 to regional tourism promotion for the benefit of the SCRCOG region and towns; and
- \$13,800 for the acquisition of two subscriptions to the OneSource database which SCRCOG and REX will utilize in a joint data project for the benefit of the SCRCOG Region and towns.

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

- (1) That The re-purposing of FY 2016-2017 State Grant in Aid (SGIA) previously approved for economic development projects to different economic development projects be approved; and
- (2) That SCRCOG's Executive Director is authorized to terminate the agreement that has been previously executed with REX Development for the Site Feasibility Studies; and
- (3) That SCRCOG's Executive Director is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the South Central Regional Council of Governments in negotiating and executing all appropriate and necessary contractual instruments with REX Development to carry out the new economic development projects.

Certificate:

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the South Central Regional Council of Governments certified that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the SCRCOG on July 27, 2016.

Date: July 27, 2016

By: _____

Joseph Mazza, Secretary
South Central Regional Council of Governments

FY 2016-17 Budget Revision # 1

Budget Revision # 1 carries forward \$29,000 of State Grant-in-Aid (SGIA) originally budgeted as part of our FY 16 budget into our FY 17 budget. The funds were part of the \$135,100 SCRCOG allocated during the February, 2016 SCRCOG meeting for economic development activities by REX Development. The FY 16 budget anticipated \$55,000 of expenditures in FY 16 and reserved \$80,100 for FY 17. As of June 30, 2016, there have been \$26,000 of expenditures. This budget revision moves the remaining \$29,000 into the current fiscal year. The SGIA funds run through September 30, 2016, although they possible could be extended by the Office of Policy and Management.

Actual line item revisions are below, followed by a resolution authorizing Budget Revision #1.

<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Current Budget</i>	<i>Proposed Budget</i>	<i>Revised Budget</i>
Municipal Contribution			
Municipal Contribution	154,000		154,000
Transportation Planning			
U.S. DOT - FY 2016-2017	1,125,527		1,125,527
U.S. DOT - Carryover	36,000		36,000
U.S. DOT - Mobility Management	95,358		95,358
CTDOT - FY 2016-2017	140,691		140,691
CTDOT - Carryover	4,500		4,500
CTDOT - Mobility Management	23,840		23,840
CTDOT - LOTCIP	225,571		225,571
Regional Planning			
CT OPM - State Grant-in-Aid (SGIA)	360,000		360,000
CT OPM - SGIA - Carryover FY 15-16	80,100	29,000	109,100
Regional GIS Program	97,800		97,800
CT Secretary of the State - Regional Election Monitoring	5,000		5,000
CIRCA - Municipal Resilience Grant	26,027		26,027
Coastal Resilience Planning Grant			
NFWF - Coastal Resilience Planning Grant	207,667		207,667
Investment Income	1,000		1,000
TOTAL	2,583,081	29,000	2,612,081

<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Current Budget</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Revised Budget</i>
Salaries	536,771		536,771
Benefits	173,091		173,091
Travel	12,650		12,650
Computer Supplies & Software	20,400		20,400
Rent	107,700		107,700
General Office Expenses	81,950		81,950
Transportation Consultants	610,000		610,000
Other Consultants	645,955	29,000	674,955
Capital	-		-
Contingency	394,564		394,564
Total	2,583,081	29,000	2,612,081



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

**South Central Regional Council of Governments
Fiscal Year 2016-17 - Budget Revision # 1**

Whereas: The South Central Regional Council of Governments adopted an operating budget for Fiscal Year 2016-17 on May 25, 2016;

Whereas: During the February, 2016 SCRCOG meeting, SCRCOG allocated \$135,100 of State Grant-in-Aid for economic development activities by REX Development;

Whereas: The FY 16 budget anticipated \$55,000 of expenditures in FY 16 and reserved \$80,100 for FY 17; and

Whereas: As of June 30, 2016, there have been \$26,000 of expenditures.

Now, therefore be resolved by the South Central Regional Council of Governments:

That Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget Revision # 1, which carries forward \$29,000 of State Grant-in-Aid originally budgeted as part of the FY 16 budget into the FY 17 budget for economic development activities by REX Development, is adopted.

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 July 27, 2016.

Date: July 27, 2016

By:

First Selectman Joseph Mazza, *Secretary*
South Central Regional Council of Governments

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT JULY 2016 Ginny Kozlowski



Business Recruitment, Retention

Business Assistance

- Promoted ctvisit.com to tourism-related businesses in the region

Business Recruitment & Retention

- Developing a business survey in conjunction with the North Branford EDC. Final product will be available to all towns.
- Business grand opening – Ricky D's Rib Shack now has a permanent location in Science Park's retail corridor. We've been working with Ricky Evans to secure a location for over a year.
- We continue to work with an industrial manufacturer as they move from R&D to production. The company will be securing at least 10,000 of additional space within 60 days and immediately begin production. We've been working with this company for two years and helped them secure their current R&D space.
- NEDA Conference Planning

Featured

Development Site



435 Foxon Road
North Branford, CT 06471
3,247 SF
Office For Sale



Ribbon Cutting Ricky D's at
Science Park



Key Bank Meeting
Cleveland, OH



8/16 Ben Berkowitz
See Click Fix

Transit Oriented Development & Smart Growth

- GNHCC joint Governmental Affairs & Economic Development meeting 7/20 with Commissioner Redeker

Advocacy/New Legislation

- Certificate of Need testimony on behalf of Yale-New Haven Health System regarding acquisition of Lawrence and Memorial Hospital (New London)
- AHLA: Website Accessibility Webinar
- Tourism Coalition Meeting—Saybrook Point Inn
- Regional Tourism Meeting with State Office of Tourism
- Legislative Tourism Caucus with presentations by Ben Barnes (Secretary Office of Policy and Management), Tim Sullivan (Deputy Commissioner DECD) and Randy Fiveash (Executive Director, State Office of Tourism)

Site Visits

- 66 High Street, Guilford
- 1142 Chapel Street, New Haven
- Key Bank, Cleveland

Regional Collaboration

- Regional Alliance
- Regional Leadership Council

Infrastructure

- I-91/I-95 reconfiguration opened
- Tweed New Haven Regional Airport offering weekend charter trips to NYC

Entrepreneurs & Startups

- YEI Demo Day 7/21, 5PM
- Startup Grind on 8/16 with Ben Berkowitz of SeeClickFix at The Grove
- Funding opportunity: CTNext \$10K EIA grants for startups, next deadline Aug 12.

REDFO

July 22, 2016
Andrea Pereira
Executive Director of Hartford &
Connecticut Statewide LISC
CT-TOD Fund

June Presentation



Zoila Jennings of Chase Bank
New Market Tax Credits
[http://www.occ.gov/topics/
community-affairs/publications/
insights/insights-new-markets-tax-
credits.pdf](http://www.occ.gov/topics/community-affairs/publications/insights/insights-new-markets-tax-credits.pdf)

Visitor Newsletter Features

- Summer Concerts
- Fairs & Festivals
- Fireworks

Media

Inquiries:

- WLIS/WMRD
- Connecticut for Sale
- Hot 93.7

Hits:

- Travel with Kal
 - Madison Summer Concerts
 - Branford Jazz on the Green
 - Guilford Summer Concert
- New Haven Independent: Mill River Community Meeting

Community Outreach

- Mill River Community Meeting
- GNHCC Board Meeting
- Milford Progress Inc.
- West Haven Chamber Board Meeting

Align Education to Business Growth

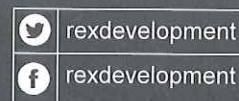
- Internship update—5 candidates have been placed
 - Madison
 - Meriden
 - Milford
 - New Haven
 - North Branford
- Bio Path Board Advisory Meeting

Implementation Funding

- REX Development - Regional Economic Development Asset Mapping (\$130,150): These funds will be used for an asset mapping study for the South Central CT Council of Governments in order for each municipality in the region to build upon and coordinate those assets for the betterment of the region.
- REX Development - Regional Revenue Sharing Study (\$73,900): This grant will fund a study on the implementation of a regional revenue sharing structure.
- Conference Call: Choice Neighborhood Grant
- Central Regional Tourism District eliminated

REX Development
545 Long Wharf Drive
4th Floor
New Haven, CT 06511

P 203-821-3682
F 203-785-9900
www.rexdevelopment.com



**SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT
Regional Planning Commission**

July 2016 Action Table

Ref. #	Received	Description	Adjacent RPC Towns	Abridged RPC Action
2.1	6/24/16	<i>Town of North Haven: Proposed Zoning Regulation Amendment to add Section – 5.1.3.5.4(e)</i>	East Haven, Hamden, New Haven, North Branford, Wallingford	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 do there appear to be any impacts to the habitat or ecosystem of the Long Island Sound.

Grant Opportunities
&
Upcoming Events

FY 16 Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Grants Program
Department of Commerce
NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2016-2004840

Document Type:	Grants Notice	Version:	Synopsis 1
Funding Opportunity Number:	NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2016-2004840	Posted Date:	Jun 14, 2016
Funding Opportunity Title:	FY 16 Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Grants Program	Last Updated Date:	Jun 14, 2016
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary	Original Closing Date for Applications:	Aug 16, 2016
Opportunity Category Explanation:		Current Closing Date for Applications:	Aug 16, 2016
Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement	Archive Date:	Sep 15, 2016
Category of Funding Activity:	Environment Natural Resources Science and Technology and other Research and Development	Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$8,500,000
Category Explanation:		Award Ceiling:	\$2,000,000
Expected Number of Awards:	10	Award Floor:	\$100,000
CFDA Number(s):	11.463 -- Habitat Conservation		
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes		

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants:	Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)
Additional Information on Eligibility:	Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, non-profit or for-profit organizations, U.S. territories, and state, local and Native American tribal governments. Applications from individuals, federal agencies, or employees of federal agencies will not be considered. Individuals and federal agencies are strongly encouraged to work with states, non-governmental organizations, municipal and county governments, and others that are eligible to apply.

Additional Information

Agency Name: Department of Commerce

Description: The principal objective of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Coastal Ecosystem Resiliency Grants solicitation is to implement projects that use a proactive approach to improve or restore coastal habitat to: 1) strengthen the resilience of U.S. marine and coastal ecosystems and decrease the vulnerability of communities to extreme weather and 2) support sustainable fisheries and contribute to the recovery of protected resources. Applications submitted under this solicitation will be selected based on their ability to demonstrate how the proposed project will enhance the resiliency of U.S. marine and coastal ecosystems to the impacts of extreme weather and changing environmental conditions thereby increasing community resilience and improving habitat for species under NOAA jurisdiction. Proposed projects should benefit threatened and endangered species listed under the Endangered Species Act (hereafter, Listed Species), including species identified by NMFS as "Species in the Spotlight" (http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/stories/2015/05/05_14_15species_in_the_spotlight.html), species managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (hereafter, Managed Species), or benefit Listed or Managed Species through ecosystem improvements such as restoring habitat for forage fish. Proposed projects should also demonstrate collaboration among stakeholders, as evidenced by recommendations and strategies outlined in multi-stakeholder studies, coastal vulnerability assessments, or comprehensive planning efforts designed to address ecosystem resiliency. Successful applications will: 1) identify an issue limiting the resiliency of U.S. marine and coastal ecosystems to extreme weather events or changing environmental conditions at the proposed project site; 2) identify the proposed project's outcome goal(s) and describe in detail the actions and on-the-ground restoration to be undertaken to enhance resiliency and reduce risk and; 3) describe the measurable impact on the ecosystem, the species (e.g. Listed or Managed Species) to benefit from the project, and surrounding coastal communities to benefit from the proposed coastal habitat restoration project.

Grantor Contact Information: If you have difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically, please contact:

Melanie Gange at (301) 427-8664 or melanie.gange@noaa.gov



Connecticut Statewide Bus Study

Do you ride the bus? Have ideas to make it a better experience?

Please join CTDOT for an online bus workshop anytime during the period from July 25th - August 5th.

To play a part, visit www.ctbusstudy.com. Watch a video about bus travel in Connecticut. Answer questions about how you get around, where you go, and what could make bus travel better.

The information you provide will be used as part of the CTDOT Statewide Bus Study to help make the bus transit system better meet the needs of Connecticut's residents and employees.

What: Bus Study Virtual Workshop

When: July 25th - August 5th

Where: Online at www.ctbusstudy.com

Why: To provide input and learn about improvements to CT's bus system

How: Visit the website anytime of day or night, watch the video and answer the questions as prompted. The workshop materials are viewable on most devices and should take about 20 minutes to complete.



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COMPLIMENTARY +1

JOIN US FOR AN OUTSTANDING DINNER AND STAY FOR LIVE
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ELECTED OFFICIALS, THE REGIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
AND BUSINESS LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITY.
ENJOY THE OPENING NIGHT FESTIVITIES FEATURING AN
INTRODUCTION TO ALL OF THE PLAYERS.

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MATCH STARTS: 7 PM**

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RSVP TO SUSAN RAPINI SRAPINI@GNHCC.COM BY TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

THE REGIONAL
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

SCRCOG

REX
RESTAURANT & CATERING



FRA 19-16
WEDNESDAY, July 20, 2016
Contact: FRA Public Affairs
Tel.: (202) 493-6024

FRA Approves Passenger Rail Blueprint to Connect Boston and New Haven to Montreal, Add Service for Central Massachusetts

One new route would run from Boston through Springfield, Mass. to New Haven; two additional routes would connect Montreal to Boston, New Haven

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) today announced a Finding of No Significant Impact on the Northern New England Intercity Rail Initiative (Initiative). The finding clears the way for states and the federal government to invest in future passenger rail service in New England. The Initiative proposes to restore service between Boston and New Haven through Springfield and Hartford and add new service between Boston and Montreal.

"Existing passenger rail service through New England is limited and already at capacity for a region that is growing," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "With an approved blueprint in hand, New England can now move forward to connect people to key job centers and allow students to easily travel to and from New England's numerous colleges."

FRA awarded \$942,775 to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) through FRA's Next Generation High-Speed Rail Program to study potential service options and complete the Tier 1 Environmental Assessment, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

FRA found that no significant environmental impacts would result from adding more frequent and higher speed intercity passenger rail service, in large part due to the use of existing operating rail lines within existing rights-of-way. The proposed infrastructure improvements also would be located within existing right-of-way along areas that were in the past double or triple tracked.

"More than two million people live within three miles of a station along this corridor," said FRA Administrator Sarah E. Feinberg. "For everyone to move safely and efficiently, the region needs a robust rail system, and this blueprint will help achieve that goal."

MassDOT and VTrans will coordinate the Initiative with other projects, including NEC FUTURE, FRA's ongoing comprehensive planning effort to define, evaluate, and prioritize future investments in the Northeast Corridor (NEC). The NEC runs from Washington, DC to Boston. Together, this Initiative and NEC FUTURE would provide greater connectivity to central Connecticut, Massachusetts, northern New England, and Montreal.

