



July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

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Council Members (January 2010)

Bethany	FS Derrylyn Gorski
Branford	FS Anthony DaRos
East Haven	Mayor April Capone Almon
Guilford	FS Joseph Mazza
Hamden	Mayor Scott Jackson
Madison	FS Fillmore McPherson
Meriden	Mayor Michael Rohde
Milford	Mayor James Richetelli, Jr.
New Haven	Mayor John DeStefano, Jr.
North Branford	Mayor Anthony Candelora
North Haven	FS Michael Freda
Orange	FS James Zeoli
Wallingford	Mayor William Dickinson, Jr.
West Haven	Mayor John Picard
Woodbridge	FS Edward M. Sheehy



Retiring Council Members (January 2010)

Guilford	Carl A. Balestracci, Jr.
Hamden	Craig B. Henrici
Madison	Alfred Goldberg
North Branford	Michael Doody
North Haven	Janet M. McCarty

SCRCOG Staff (January 2010)

Carl Amento	Executive Director
Albert Ruggiero	Principal Planner
Stephen Dudley	Transportation Planner
James Rode	Transportation Planner
Eugene Livshits	Regional Planner
Mona Beavis	Assistant Planner
Barbara Bograd	Administrative Assistant

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INTRODUCTION

This report highlights the major activities of the South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) during the **2009-2010 fiscal year**.

Comprised of the chief elected officials from the fifteen member communities, the South Central Regional Council of Governments provides a forum to foster communication and collaboration among its member municipalities in identifying and addressing regional issues.

The South Central Regional Council of Governments' responsibilities include maintaining a regional plan of development, reviewing land use changes that affect member municipalities, and developing a regional transportation work program. In addition, SCRCOG provides a meeting location for various collaborative municipal actions.

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS (JANUARY 2010)

Officers & Executive Committee

First Selectman James Zeoli - <i>Chairman</i>
First Selectman Edward M. Sheehy - <i>Vice Chair</i>
First Selectman Anthony DaRos - <i>Secretary</i>
Mayor John Picard - <i>Treasurer</i>
First Selectwoman Derrylyn Gorski
Mayor James Richetelli, Jr.
Mayor John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor William Dickinson, Jr.

Transportation Committee

Mayor William Dickinson, Jr. - <i>Chairman</i>
First Selectman Anthony DaRos
First Selectwoman April Capone Almon
Mayor John DeStefano, Jr.
First Selectman Michael Freda
Mayor Scott Jackson

Regional Planning Commission

Bethany	Sharon Huxley
Branford	Charles Andres
East Haven	David Anderson
Guilford	Michael Scott
Hamden	Ralph Riccio
Madison	Christopher Traugh
Meriden	Vacant
Milford	Kim Rose
New Haven	Karyn Gilvarg
North Branford	Vacant
North Haven	Brian Cummings
Orange	Paul Kaplan
Wallingford	James Fitzsimmons
West Haven	John Panza
Woodbridge	Peggy Rubens-Duhl

Technical Committee

Bethany	Alan Green
Branford	Janice Plaziak
East Haven	James Staunton
Guilford	James Portley
Hamden	Robert Brinton
Madison	Michael Ott
Meriden	Pierre Blanchet
Milford	Vacant
New Haven	Richard Miller
North Branford	Kurt Weiss
North Haven	Jonathan Bodwell
Orange	Edwin Lieberman
Wallingford	John Thompson
West Haven	Abdul Quadir
Woodbridge	Warren Connors

REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

Land Use Referrals

SCRCOG coordinates and provides staff support to the Regional Planning Commission (RPC). The RPC meets monthly and provides advisory reviews of proposed changes to land use regulations, maps, developments near municipal boundaries, and updates to local plans of conservation and development. From July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, the RPC reviewed seventy-two land use referrals.

Amended Regional Plan of Conservation and Development

The South Central Regional Planning Commission held a public hearing on July 9, 2009 for proposed amendments to the *Plan of Conservation and Development: South Central Region*. The amendments included an updated Regional Sewer Service Map, addition of municipal sewer service maps, and revisions to the sewer service text. The Office of Policy and Management acknowledged that this amended *Plan* is consistent with the *State Plan of Conservation and Development*. On July 21, 2009, the amended *Plan* was adopted by the Board of the South Central Regional Council of Governments.

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U.S. Census

SCRCOG continues to serve as a resource for its member municipalities and constituents with data provided by the U. S. Census Bureau. Social, economic, housing, and demographic estimates, generated by the *2006-2008 American Community Survey (ACS)*, have been released by the United States Census Bureau. Upon request, SCRCOG staff offers assistance to ensure that this region is accurately counted, represented, and given the financial resources applicable to its population.

Sustainable Communities

In Spring 2010, SCRCOG was involved in discussions with three CT MPOs (Greater Bridgeport, Valley, & South Western), Regional Plan Association, and the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council regarding a potential NY-CT partnership to apply for federal Sustainable Communities Initiative funding. The Sustainable Communities Initiative is a joint effort of the Environmental Protection Agency, US DOT, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Regional Performance Incentive Grants - Update

In 2008, OPM awarded grant funds to SCRCOG through the Regional Performance Incentive Program for two projects. The first was a grant for the development of a South Central Connecticut Regional Economic Development Web Portal.

The South Central Regional Economic Development Web Portal was transferred to REX Development (formerly the Regional Growth Partnership). In early 2010 REX launched their new website, which provides marketing, economic, and commercial development information related to the South Central Region.

The second grant was for a South Central Connecticut Regional Solid Waste Disposal Study. In March 2009, R S Lynch & Co. completed this study which presented the possible options of technologies and services which could be used, on a regional basis, for the disposal of trash and recyclables for the next twenty years.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITIES

SCRCOG's *Long Range Transportation Plan 2007-2035* complements the South Central Region's *Plan of Conservation and Development* and the Connecticut Department of Transportation's *Master Transportation Plan*. The *FFY 2010-FFY 2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*, shaped in conjunction with the CT Department of Transportation, advances South Central Connecticut's transportation goals and provides a project-by-project guide for use of available U. S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), state, and municipal support. A biennial Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) guides the planning programming process for the region.

SCRCOG's "*Public Participation Guidelines*" ensure that its plans and programs receive public exposure and provide the public opportunities for input and involvement.

SCRCOG's *Transportation Committee*, composed of chief elected officials, and the *Transportation Technical Committee*, composed of municipal staff, work with transit operators and the CT Department of Transportation to shape and review plans and programs. These programs draw on funds from the FTA for replacement of municipal and non-profit organizations' elderly service vehicles, transportation enhancement opportunities, and regional trail projects.

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UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAMS ACCOMPLISHED IN 2010

Wilbur Cross Parkway Interchange Needs Assessment Study

In cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, this study evaluated safety deficiencies and improvement opportunities for interchanges, within the Region, between Milford and Meriden. The study also called for the preparation of a needs assessment study report, which utilized and built upon previous Region and Connecticut Department of Transportation study work, analyzed existing conditions, future no-build conditions, and prepared viable conceptual safety and operational improvement alternatives for future implementation and construction. This study also involved updating of the region's TransCAD Model.

Regional Buildout Analysis

The second phase of a two year project to prepare a buildout analysis for the Region to provide congestion management and planning tools that would allow the Region and its municipalities to plan for future growth was completed in FY 2010. The buildout analysis provides data on potential development impacts in congested corridors throughout the Region. Specifically, the analysis provides municipalities with data for use in revising zoning regulations to direct growth to areas which have infrastructure to support development while mitigating or reducing future congestion. The first phase of this project, completed in FY 2009, involved data collection from the Region, which allowed for the FY 2010 second phase analysis and projections.

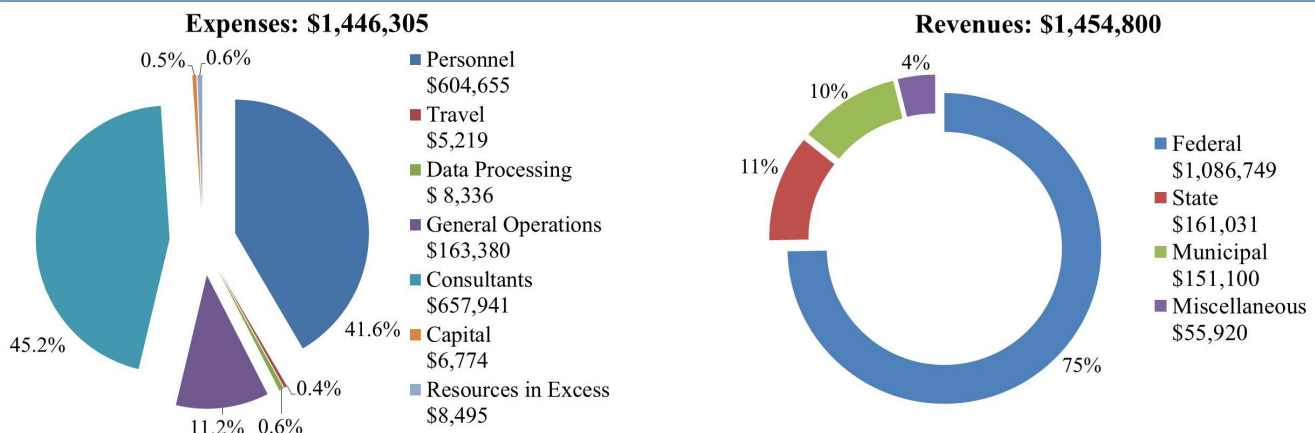
Congestion Management Process Study

This study analyzed the Region's congested corridors and implemented management protocols for Congestion Management Process data collection, mitigation and reduction opportunities.

TransCAD Model Application Update

The update incrementally improved and adjusted the Region's TransCAD model. This included an evaluation of opportunities for broader application of the model and integration with other traffic analysis tools.

ANNUAL BUDGET JULY 1, 2009 to JUNE 30, 2010



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

On January 11, 2010, Carl J. Amento became Executive Director of SCRCOG, replacing Judy Gott who retired in December 2009 after ten years of service as Executive Director. Amento was Mayor of the Town of Hamden and a member of SCRCOG from 1999 to 2006, and from 2006 to his SCRCOG appointment was Deputy and Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of New Haven.