

MEMORANDUM

TO: Agency Board
FROM: Carl J. Stephani, Executive Director

DATE: August 10, 2010

FOR AGENDA: August 13, 2010

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES REGIONAL PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

DATE: AUGUST 3, 2010

At your regular meeting on May 6, 2010, you authorized me "to submit an application for a grant of up to \$3 million from the US HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program for a project to promote the coordinated development of the Region".

Since that time this project has come into clearer focus, and, if we wish to continue to participate in the application, a new Board Resolution is required.

As you may recall from previous communications, the HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program will support regional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments in a manner that empowers jurisdictions to consider the interdependent challenges of economic competitiveness and revitalization; social equity, inclusion, and access to opportunity; energy use and climate change; and, public health and environmental impacts. The program will place a priority on investing in partnerships, including non-traditional partnerships (e.g., arts and culture, philanthropy, etc.) and bringing new voices to the regional planning process. The application will involve regional planning activities that include the entire region, and also may include "catalytic projects" that support transit oriented-development.

While the application scope is still under development, it will likely include the following elements:

- 1) Creation of a Knowledge Corridor Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD) that builds upon, enhances and integrates existing regional plans for housing, transportation, economic development, and environmental conservation.

- 2) Creation of a Detailed Execution Plan for the Knowledge Corridor RPSD that will serve as a guide for future implementation actions and investment decisions in the area;
- 3) Technical assistance to municipalities to help them adopt sustainable development principles, transit oriented development and affordable housing policies into municipal plans, programs, and land use regulations;
- 4) Development of tools and metrics to measure progress toward greater sustainability; and
- 5) Catalytic Projects (an estimated 3-5 in the two-state region), that are a significant aspect of the component regional plans, and that demonstrate the regions' ability to move toward greater sustainability through multidisciplinary, integrated planning.

To be competitive nationally, we have agreed with CRCOG to file a bi-state application that includes the Springfield, Massachusetts Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. The maximum grant amount for a region of this size is \$5 million, including a \$1 million regional match (which can come from other federal grant programs). The application will build on the work of the Hartford-Springfield Knowledge Corridor, a project with which we have participated that has been evolving over the past ten years. The Knowledge Corridor is built upon a wide range of regional assets, including: excellent highway, air and rail access; population and employment concentration; a well-educated workforce; intellectual and research resources of regional universities and colleges; businesses in historically stable (finance and insurance) and growth sectors (alternative energy and health care). Activities to be included in the application will be designed to support projects that create job and affordable housing opportunities in close proximity to transit stations and transit networks, to reduce vehicle miles traveled and transportation costs for the region's residents, and to improve the overall quality of life.

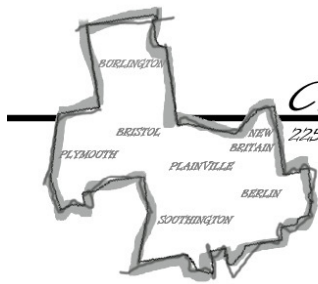
On that basis, it is my

RECOMMENDATION

that your Board

Approve the attached resolution authorizing the Executive Director to sign the documentation required to submit a HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Application in conjunction with the Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission and the Capitol Region Council of Governments.

Attachment(s): Resolution 2010-13-01



CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

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RESOLUTION NO.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CENTRAL CONNECTICUT
REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY AUTHORIZING
PARTICIPATION IN THE 2010 KNOWLEDGE CORRIDOR
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES MULTI-REGION PLANNING
GRANT APPLICATION**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CCRPA Governing Board authorizes its Executive Director, Carl J. Stephani, to act on behalf of the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency in executing forms and memoranda of agreement to enable CCRPA to join with the Capitol Region Council of Governments and the Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission in filing a Knowledge Corridor Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Application with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

I certify that above is a true copy of a resolution approved by majority vote of the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency Governing Board at its special meeting on August 13, 2010 in Bristol, Connecticut, a quorum being present. I further hereby certify that the above resolution has not been in any way altered, amended, or repealed, and is now in full force and effect.

, CCRPA Secretary

Date