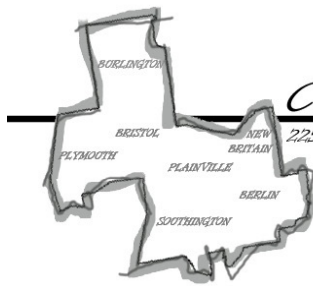


MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Committee
FROM: Carl J. Stephani, Executive Director
DATE: January 21, 2011
FOR AGENDA: February 3, 2011
SUBJECT: Recent Brownfields Projects in the Region

Thru participation in the Regional Brownfields Partnership of West Central CT (RBP), the following towns have accrued the benefits noted below:

- Bristol
 - assessment grant funding for 316 Park Street and a site on East Main Street
 - cleanup grant for 316 Park
 - Targeted Brownfields Assessment grant for the Sessions propertyTotal grant funding received by the City through the RBP exceeds \$300,000
- Southington
 - \$100,000 to complete the assessment of the former Beaton/Corbin site
- Plymouth
 - \$200,000 for assessment and cleanup funding of the Waterwheel site



MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Committee
FROM: Carl J. Stephani, Executive Director
DATE: January 21, 2011
FOR AGENDA: February 3, 2011
SUBJECT: Legislative Advocacy

At your last regular meeting on January 6, 2011, you authorized the Chair to send a letter to the Chief Executive Officers of each town, and others, inviting them to suggest legislation for the 2011 State Legislative Session. As a result, on Tuesday, January 11, 2011, the attached email was sent to all the Region's municipal CEOs, and copies were also sent to the Town Planning Directors to share with their Commission Chairs.

Following that email, I met with the CEOs (except Bristol and Plymouth) to review our three current advocacy positions with them, and to make note of their comments. In addition to expressing support for the three advocacy positions we have already taken, the CEOs made the following suggestions:

- Berlin Mayor Adam Salina & Town Manager Denise McNair - urged the Agency to oppose any legislation that would impose additional unfunded mandates on the Region's cities/towns
- Bristol
- Burlington First Selectman Catherine Bergstrom - urged the Agency to support legislation that would remove public employees from collective bargaining
- New Britain Mayor Tim Stewart - urged the Agency to continue to support the New Britain-Hartford Busway
- Plainville Town Manager Robert E. Lee - urged the Agency to oppose any legislation that would impose any additional unfunded mandates on the Region's cities/towns
- Plymouth
- Southington Council Chair Eddie Pocock and Town Manager John Weichsel urge the Agency to oppose any legislation that would impose any additional unfunded mandates on the Region's cities/towns, or would reduce the Town Aid funds.

Attachment(s): January 11, 2011, Legislative Advocacy email
Draft 2011 Agency Legislative Agenda

Carl Stephani

From: Carl Stephani
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 9:56 AM
To: Plainville Town Council Chair; Catherine R. Bergstrom (bergstrom.c@burlingtonct.us); Denise McNair; Ed Pocock (EPocockIII@southington.org); John Weichsel (E-mail); Mark Sciota (sciotam@southington.org); Mayor Adam Salina; Mayor Art Ward ; Mayor Timothy Stewart (E-mail); Mayor@plymouthct.us; Robert E. Lee (relee@plainville-ct.gov)
Cc: Alan Weiner (E-mail); Hellyn Riggins (E-mail); Karl Nielson; Khara Dodds (kdodds@plymouthct.us); Land Use Burlington (landuseoffice@burlingtonct.us); Mark DeVoe (devoe@plainville-ct.gov); Mary Savage; Steve Schiller
Subject: CCRPA Legislative Advocacy

Dear Mayor/First Selectman/Town Manager of the Central Connecticut Region

As we have in the past, the CCRPA will be participating in legislative advocacy at the Connecticut General Assembly for issues we believe affect our region. Some of the issues of interest we have identified are:

1. Support for legislation that would limit liability for uses of municipal or other lands which are made available to the general public for passive recreation (ie: the MDC);
2. Support for legislation that would simplify the planning and zoning referral process ;
3. Support for efforts to enhance rail freight transport through the Region.

We are writing to invite suggestions from your municipality for other legislation you would like to see the Agency support and /or challenge. If we believe an issue is one appropriate for our support, our combined advocacy may help us be successful at the State level.


Please feel free to pass this note – a copy of which is also being sent directly to your Planning and Zoning Commission Chairs - to your commissions and boards, and your municipal Department heads to let them know that we are inviting issues of regional interest to be brought to our attention.

Because the legislative session is already in session, your timely response to this invitation would be appreciated. The next meeting of our Legislative Committee, which you and the public are invited to attend, will be held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, February 3rd at the CCRPA offices in downtown Bristol.

Yours truly,

Timothy W. Furey
Chairman Legislative Committee
Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency

cc: Chairpersons of all Central Connecticut Region Planning and Zoning Commissions

CARL J. STEPHANI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY (CCRPA)
225 NORTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 304; BRISTOL, CT 06010; 860 589 7820 X 12, 860 224 9888 X 12; FAX 860 589 6950
WWW.CCRPA.ORG; SERVING: BERLIN, BRISTOL, BURLINGTON, NEW BRITAIN, PLAINVILLE, PLYMOUTH, SOUTHLINGTON
 Please consider the environment before printing this email.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA - 2011 SESSION

(underlined items are those endorsed by the Board in 2009 or 2010)

The following legislative advocacy has been authorized by the Central Connecticut Region Planning Agency Board

TRANSPORTATION

- Continue to support development of the New Britain-Hartford Rapid Transit (“Busway”) Project. (02/04/10)
- Support an “Alternatives Analysis” and “NEPA Scoping” for transit services from Waterbury thru Bristol to Hartford.(02/05/09)
- Support legislation that would encourage the development or improvement of rail freight facilities. (12/03/09)
- Support the implementation of New Haven-(Berlin)-Hartford-Springfield commuter rail services.
- Support initiation of a land use and transportation corridor study for Route 229 from I-84 in Southington to Riverside Ave. in Bristol.

LAND USE

- Support annual State funding and budgeting for Connecticut’s Regional Planning Agencies.
- Support legislation that would allow required municipal filings of planning, zoning and subdivision referrals to be made by email. (06/03/10)

RECREATION

- Support a modification of the existing Recreational Land Use Act (CGS §§ 52-557f, et seq.) to provide the liability protection to municipalities that was eroded by the State Supreme Court ruling in Conway v. Wilton. (11/04/10)

HOUSING

- Support legislation which would recognize actually existing housing - which rents at rates which meet the state standard for “affordable,” but which is not deed restricted as to affordability - as “affordable housing.”
- Support legislation which would reduce the deed restriction burden on affordable accessory apartments so that more property owners will be able to develop such apartments.

ECONOMY

- Support actions at the State and National level that would mitigate the severe impact that recent changes in the world’s economy have had upon the manufacturing industries of the Central Connecticut Region.

GOVERNANCE

- Oppose proposals that would provide funding for regional programs or projects that would only be made available to RPOs that are structured as COGs.
- Oppose any new unfunded mandates on municipalities.