



Minutes *Transportation Committee meeting – 3/27/2014*

I Roll call and determination of quorum

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am with the following members in attendance:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Art Simonian	Berlin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steven Schiller	New Britain
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bryan Griswold	Berlin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Bossi	Plainville
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Walter Veselka	Bristol	<input type="checkbox"/>	(vacant)	Plainville
<input type="checkbox"/>	(vacant)	Bristol	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charles Wiegert	Plymouth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scott Tharau	Burlington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Margus Laan	Plymouth
<input type="checkbox"/>	(vacant)	Burlington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jim Grappone	Southington
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark Moriarty	New Britain	<input type="checkbox"/>	(vacant)	Southington

Also in attendance: Robert Phillips (Southington, Director of Planning and Community Development), Robert Green (Robert Green Associates), Jason Zheng (CCRPA)

Jason Zheng welcomed Charles Wiegert and Margus Laan, both representing Plymouth, to the Transportation Committee.

Jason Zheng requested to add “Snowplow Routing Study” to Information Items.

MOTION: Jim Grappone moved approval; seconded by John Bossi; passed unanimously.

II Comments from the public – None

III Approval of minutes from the 1/30/2015 meeting

MOTION: Jim Grappone moved approval as presented; seconded by Steve Schiller; passed unanimously.

IV Action items

1. Transportation Committee Chair Position

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng discussed the vacancy in the position due to Don Padlo’s retirement from the Agency Board. Committee members nominated a new chair for the Agency Board to appoint. Committee members also requested to invite Don to the next meeting to recognize his twenty years of service.

NOMINATIONS: Walt Veselka nominated Mark Moriarty; seconded by Steve Schiller.

MOTION: Art Simonian moved approval as presented; seconded by Steve Schiller; passed unanimously.

2. Recommendations to the Agency Board to approve STIP/TIP amendments:
 - a. Statewide NHPP project #0170-3303 “Replace Overhead Sign Supports” (3 items)

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng discussed the details of this project.

MOTION: Mark Moriarty moved approval as presented; seconded by Steve Schiller; passed unanimously.

- b. New Britain STPU project #0088-0185 “Hart St Reconstruction” (2 items)

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng discussed the details of this project.

MOTION: Mark Moriarty moved approval as presented; seconded by Steve Schiller; passed unanimously.

V Information items and other matters

- . ADDED ITEM: Snowplow Routing Study

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng discussed the details for this potential study. Other towns around the country have been able to save money by optimizing their snow plow routes. CCRPA will be in touch with interested municipalities.

1. Functional Classification – no changes requested

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng summarized the discussion from the 1/30/2014 meeting. Based on input from member municipalities, CCRPA has requested no changes for ConnDOT’s functional classification update.

2. LRARP Results – one New Britain project possibly approved

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng discussed the results of the region’s three applications submitted to ConnDOT’s Local Road Accident Reduction Program in July 2013. ConnDOT recommends the New Britain project at Columbus Boulevard based on benefit/cost ratio.

3. Update MPO documents – TIP, LRTP, UPWP

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng discussed CCRPA’s public hearing on May 15th for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Federal law requires CCRPA to update its plans on a regular basis. CCRPA requests municipalities to submit any projects, plans, or ideas for inclusion in these documents.

4. CMAQ – solicitations this fall

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng summarized the results of the region’s last Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program solicitations. ConnDOT is likely to announce a round of funding later this year. Municipalities should begin thinking about potential projects and ideas.

5. LOTCIP – no updates from ConnDOT, discuss Bemis Street project

DISCUSSION: Since posting of the meeting Agenda, ConnDOT provided updates for the region’s LOTCIP projects. Jason Zheng shared ConnDOT’s updates and concerns: (1) Plainville’s Cooke Street project – Commitment to Fund Letter issued; (2) Bristol’s Traffic Signal project – Under review and likely to move forward relatively quickly; (3) Plymouth’s Bemis Street project – Requires CCRPA approval for cost estimate increase; (4) New Britain’s Allen Street project – Requires further discussion on supplemental funding sources; (5) Southington’s Plantsville project – Application not yet submitted.

ConnDOT has also asked CCRPA to prioritize its LOTCIP projects and defer funding for one of the projects to 2016 due to overprogramming (meaning there are more requests for funding than is available.) LOTCIP is intended to mirror the federal STPU funding program, where overprogramming is a common occurrence. However, there are implications in this case due to potential regional consolidations.

Committee members advise CCRPA to seek, from ConnDOT, a Commitment to Fund letter or some sort of assurance before determining which project is to be moved to 2016.

6. LOTCIP Engineering Review

DISCUSSION: Jason Zheng discussed the options for performing technical design reviews for projects being funded under LOTCIP. While ConnDOT recommends review by a third-party, many of the current projects are relatively straightforward (such as reconstruction). Municipalities are confident in reviewing their own projects in this round of LOTCIP.

7. Next meeting 5/29/2014.

VI Adjournment was declared at 9:59 am. Steve Schiller moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Jim Grappone; passed unanimously.