

What is CCRPA?

The Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA) is an association represents and assists the seven communities of Berlin, Bristol, Burlington, New Britain, Plainville, Plymouth, and Southington in the planning areas of transportation, land use, economic development, homeland security, public health and safety, and environmental stewardship, especially as they relate to the Region as a whole.

Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency Mission Statement:
"To plan and promote regional policies and programs to enhance the vitality and quality of life in our communities"

The governing board of the Agency, with voting members of each community, serves as the policy board for MPO matters. Additionally, the following subcommittees assist in achieving the Agency's mission statement:

- ◆ The Transportation Improvement Committee – prepares transportation plans and selects federally funded transportation projects in the Region.
- ◆ The Comprehensive Planning Committee – prepares the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development and reviews municipal projects that affect regional land use.

Central Connecticut residents understand their transportation needs. With the public's help, the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency will strive to plan for a transportation system that is efficient, equitable and diverse in mode choice.



Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency

**225 North Main Street, Suite 304
Bristol, CT 06010-4993**

**Phone: 860-589-7820
860-224-9888 (Berlin and New Britain)
Fax: 860-589-6950
<http://www.ccrpa.org>
Email: ccrpa@ccrpa.org**

Prepared by the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation (including its participating agencies) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Housed at:
Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency



The Regional Transportation Agency for the Central Connecticut Region

SERVING

**Berlin
Bristol
Burlington
New Britain
Plainville
Plymouth
Southington**



Help direct your community's growth

What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization?

In every urbanized area in the United States, at least one metropolitan planning organization (MPO) is designated to conduct regional transportation planning and to select federally-funded projects. Every federally-funded surface transportation project must be approved by an MPO. The Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA) is the designated MPO for the Central Connecticut region of Berlin, Bristol, Burlington, New Britain, Plainville, Plymouth and Southington—which make up the southwestern portion of the Hartford Urbanized Area. Every year, CCRPA makes decisions that influence the maintenance and improvement of the region's transportation system.

Types of Projects the MPO Programs

Federal transportation funds can be used for many different types of transportation projects, including:

- ◆ Road maintenance
- ◆ Road widening
- ◆ Intersection safety and performance
- ◆ Bridge repairs and replacements
- ◆ Public transportation
- ◆ Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
- ◆ Railroad crossing safety projects
- ◆ Other surface transportation projects

How the MPO Plans for the Central Connecticut Region

CCRPA conducts many planning studies and programs millions of transportation dollars. Some of the key planning and funding activities the MPO conducts include:

- ◆ **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**
The TIP is the annual programming of all federal transportation money in the region. No federally funded project can be completed if the MPO does not accept it into its TIP. The TIP is programmed annually for a four-year period and is typically developed in late spring, with final approval coming in June. The TIP can be amended throughout the year.
- ◆ **Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)** The LRTP is created every four years. The plan lays out the region's desired transportation system 25 years into the future, along with the actions that will help achieve such a system. The last update of the plan was in 2007.
- ◆ **Surface Transportation Program-Urban (STPU)** While the Connecticut Department of Transportation selects most of our region's federally funded projects, STPU funds are programmed locally. Approximately every two to three years, the region programs this discretionary pot of money on a variety of different projects.
- ◆ **Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP)**
This funding is used toward projects that enhance the transportation system. Examples include landscaping, establishing transportation museums, accommodating bicycles and pedestrians and renovation of historic transportation buildings. This funding is programmed every five to six years.

Be Informed

The Agency's public MPO meetings are held every other month starting in July. By contacting CCRPA, you can get on our MPO mailing list, which will keep you informed of our meeting activities as well as the implementation of the aforementioned programs. You can also keep up on our activities by utilizing our website: <http://www.ccrpa.org>. Upon request, MPO staff will come to a local organization's meeting to make a presentation about transportation planning and the MPO. You can also read the Federal Highway Administration's "A Citizen's Guide to Transportation Decisionmaking" at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/citizen/index.htm>.

Participate

By contacting the agency, attending meetings and interacting with staff, you can help shape the transportation landscape for the Central Connecticut region. You can also submit comments on all of our programming and planning activities.

