



Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Union, Voluntown and Woodstock



## Meeting Minutes January 2022 Regular Meeting

January 28, 2022 - 8:30 am - via ZOOM

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Representation from the following towns: Ashford, Brooklyn, Chaplin, Canterbury, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Scotland, Union, and Voluntown.

1. **Open Meeting 8:30am-** Tracey Hanson, NECCOG Chair
  - a. Welcoming Remarks - Tracey Hanson, NECCOG Chair
  - b. Previous Meeting Minutes
    - Motion to approve made by Kevin Cunningham, second by Allan Cahill - all in favor.
  - c. Public Participation
    - Kathleen Krider, Senior Director of Access Agency
  - d. Other Agenda Items - none
2. **Director's Report - John Filchak, Executive Director**
  - Slides are available at <http://neccog.org/about/agendas-and-minutes/>
  - a. **Transit Activities**
    - NECTD still operating with a maximum capacity of five passengers at one given time due to COVID-19 social distancing requirements.
    - Ridership counts are still below pre-pandemic averages.
    - Social distancing and mask requirements still implemented.
    - Plainfield pilot ridership holding steady.
  - b. **Animal Services Program**
    - Due to animal hoarding, NECCOG Animal Services has been conducting more animal seizures.
    - Adoption activity has not been effected by COVID-19.
  - c. **Paramedic Intercept Program**
    - **2021 Stats :**
      - Calls for Service 3,725
      - ALS Transports 2,471
      - Cardiac Arrest with Resuscitation Attempt 28
    - Towns pay NECCOG \$69.00 per transport for such services for transports to Day Kimball Hospital, and \$105.00 for transports to all other locations.
  - d. **Crumbling Foundations**
    - 1,913 registered claimants in the CFSIC system
    - 773 claims covered by Participation Agreements (eligible for funding)

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- CFSIC has put 459 families back in homes with new foundations, inclusive of 47 condominium units.
- CFSCI has made \$84,188,161 in claim payments to date.
- The cap on allowable construction costs will rise to \$190,000 from \$175,000 for stand-alone homes, and to \$76,000 for \$70,000 for condo units - effective 9:00am January 5, 2022.

**e. Regional Election Monitor Activities**

- Changes in Senate District
- House district changes
- Voting district's polling sites
- Town Clerks and ROVs
- 2020 Census Impacts
- Redistricting
- Thompson's two post election random audits (December 1 and December 8)

**f. GIS Staffing**

- New staff member, David Bitler, starting next week as NECCOG's GIS Technician.

**g. Transportation Projects and Planning**

## Funding Available to a Range of Recipients

Program Examples	State	MPO	Local	Tribe	PA*	Territory	FLMA*
Apportioned programs (formula)	✓						
Bridge Program (formula)	✓			✓			
National Electric Vehicle Formula Program	✓		✓				
Safe Streets and Roads for All program		✓	✓	✓			
PROTECT Grants (discretionary)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Congestion Relief Program	✓	✓	✓				
Bridge Investment Program (discretionary)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Rural Surface Transportation Grants	✓		✓	✓			
INFRA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Nat'l Infra. Project Assistance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Local and Regional Project Assistance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Note: This table does not include all BIL programs or eligible entities, and there are additional nuances not represented in this table. Additional programmatic information is provided in later slides. FHWA will administer most, but not all, programs listed.  
 \* "PA" means a special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function; FLMA means Federal Land Management Agency

- LOTCIP Road Projects as of January 25, 2022.
  - Projects with Commitment to Fund
    - Putnam, Woodstock Ave./Church St. Roadways and Pedestrian Improvements - Low Bid \$1,780,669 Waiting on CT DOT Authorization to Award
    - Putnam Grove Street Sidewalk Replacement - Current cost estimate \$1,784,893.18 - waiting on CT DOT Authorization to Advertise
    - Thompson, Riverside Dr./RT 12 Sidewalk Improvements - Current cost Estimate \$1,999,000 - Addressing final design comments from CT DOT
    - Plainfield, RT 647 Lathrop Road Pedestrian Safety Improvements - Current cost estimate \$743,600 - Starting surgery and design

- Putnam, School Street/RT 44 Sidewalk Reconstruction - Current cost estimate \$1,428,000 - starting design
- Application Submitted
  - Killingly, Maple Street Reconstruction - Current cost \$1,207,849.00 - Road base testing still in progress

#### **h. ARPA Program Update**

- Expanded the non-exhaustive lists of uses that recipients can use to respond to COVID-19
- Expanded support for public sector hiring and capacity
- Streamlines options to provide premium pay for essential workers
- Broadened eligible water, sewer, broadband infrastructure projects
- Simplified the program for small localities seeking revenue recapture through the option to elect a standard allowance of \$10 million for revenue loss rather than calculating revenue loss through the full formula
- NECCOG finalizing a model procurement policy to provide to participating towns

#### **i. Regional Planning Activities**

- Woodstock Town Planner Services
- Eastford Land Use Services
- Brooklyn and Canterbury POCD Updates
- Affordable Housing Plans - Union, Eastford, Pomfret, Canterbury, Chaplin and Wodostock.
- Pomfret Marketing Strategy

#### **j. COVID Recovery**

- Task 1 : Develop and Economic Recovery and Resilience Plan - integrated into the CEDS.
- Task 2 : Provide disaster recovery support to the DEMHS Region IV Recovery Steering Committee and subcommittees
- Implement the provision of technical assistance through virtual and in-person sessions that bring together new, existing, minority, women-owned and other businesses
- Develop and put in place an interactive (GIS based) regional map directory that provides resources for small agricultural and niche business on marketing, grant opportunities and best practices for adapting their business - providing opportunity for sustainability.

#### **k. ACIR Update**

- Remote Meeting Study
- Home Rule/Local Control Study

#### **l. Member Town Assistance**

#### **m. 2022-23 NECCOG/NECTD Assessments**

- Professional Service Fees are proposed to increase from \$55 to \$65 per hour
- Animal Services Program currently at \$3.15 per capita is proposed to be increased to \$3.30 per capita. The increase is based on increased costs related to wages, benefits, veterinarian care, fuel, utilities, and feed.
- All other assessments are proposed to have no change

#### **n. 2022 Legislative Session**

- Property Tax Reform
- Remote Meetings
- Funding COGs and Regionalism
- HVAC Systems
- Body Camera and Dashboard Cameras for Animal Control Officers
- Education Funding Formula
- Land Use

### **3. Discussion and Action Items**

- a. Regional Referrals** - motion made by David Eaton, second by Maureen Nicholson - no discussion.
  - i. Town of Brooklyn** - Text change for adaptive re-use of an agricultural building, section 6.B.3.1

- ii. Town of Mansfield - Proposed amendment to Article 3, Section A, temporary and limited moratorium on cannabis establishments

**b. STIP Amendments/Actions** - none

**c. 2022 Legislative Priorities**

- i. Continue Regional Service Grant to ensure stable funding for regional councils of governments
- ii. Structural Property Tax Reform (see attached and <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bdf8da94eddec7efc3b5071/t/61b1a3cb9ca84b26dabedf4d/1639031757238/Property+Taxes+-+Opportunity+for+Change.pdf>)
- iii. Animal Control Officers and Police Reform

**d. Other Business**

**e. CEO Roundtable**

**4. Adjournment - 9:24am - motion made by Mary Calorio, second by Kevin Cunningham.**