



NECCOG Meeting

November 2020





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



Meeting Agenda

November 20, 2020 - 8:30 am - Via ZOOM Meeting
ZOOM Connection:

Agenda (updated)

1. Call To Order - Allan Cahill, NECCOG Chair

- a. Welcoming Remarks
- b. Previous Meeting Minutes
- c. Public Participation

2. Director's Report - John Filchak, Executive Director

- a. Property Purchase
- b. Transit Activities
- c. Animal Services
- d. Engineering Program
- e. Paramedic Intercept Program
- f. Regional REVAL Program
- g. GIS Program Update
- h. Economic Development - EDD Application Status
- i. CARES Act Recovery Assistance Grant Funding
- j. Annual Audit
- k. Crumbling Foundations
- l. Transportation Projects, LOTCIP and LRTP Status
- m. Housing Plan Status
- n. Town Assistance - Chaplin, Brooklyn, Woodstock, Union, Eastford and Canterbury
- o. Region IV DEMHS Activities and Recovery Efforts
- p. ACIR Best Practices Guides
- q. NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum
- r. Upcoming Forums
- s. 2020 Annual Meeting

3. Discussion and Action Items

- a. **Resolution 11-1-20** - Confirmatory Resolution regarding the Executive Director's Authority to Sign on Behalf of NECCOG for the purchase of the property located at 125 Putnam Pike
- b. **Regional Referrals**
- c. **November Election Process Review** - Douglas Lary, NECCOG Regional Election Monitor
- d. **Scaling Pandemic Resilience Through Innovation And Technology (Sprint) Challenge Grant, EDA**
- e. **STIP Amendments or Actions**
- f. **2021 Legislative Session and Legislative Priorities**
 - Modify current law to recognize regional programs through COGs and not require inter-local agreements
 - Barking dog and other nuisance animal law reform
 - Support efforts to fund and protect Crumbling Foundations initiatives
 - COG funding formula

4. Chief Elected Official Roundtable

5. Adjournment

NECCOG meetings are conducted in accessible locations and materials can be provided in accessible formats free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, alternative material formats such as audio, Braille, and large print), as available. Interpreter and other translation requests must be made at least fourteen (14) business days before the meeting. Materials in alternative formats must be requested at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

NECCOG fully complies with all Federal and Connecticut nondiscrimination protections, including, but not limited to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in all of its programs and activities. NECCOG does not discriminate on the basis of: race, color, national origin, English proficiency, or age, ancestry, background, disability, gender, gender identity or expression, income, religion, sex, sexual orientation or expression, or military status. Any person who believes himself/herself or through a representative, file a complaint with NECCOG. Please view our website neccog.org or call 860-774-1253 for details/assistance in filing a complaint or for additional information.



Call To Order - Allan Cahill, NECCOG Chair

- a. Welcoming Remarks
- b. Previous Meeting Minutes - October 2020
- c. Public Participation



Director's Report

- a. Property Purchase
- b. Transit Activities
- c. Animal Services
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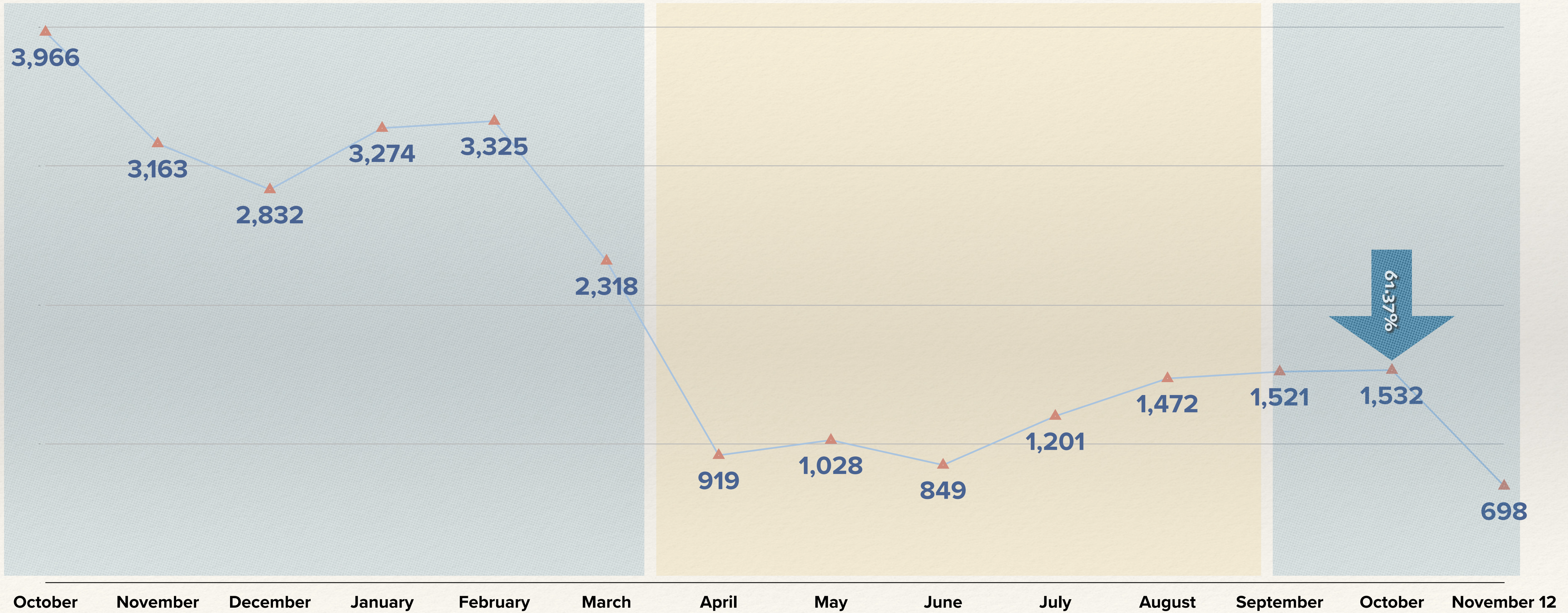


Director's Report

- a. Property Purchase
- b. **Transit Activities - Preparing for service adjustments related to COVID-19**
- c. Animal Services
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- r. Upcoming Forums
- s. 2020 Annual Meeting

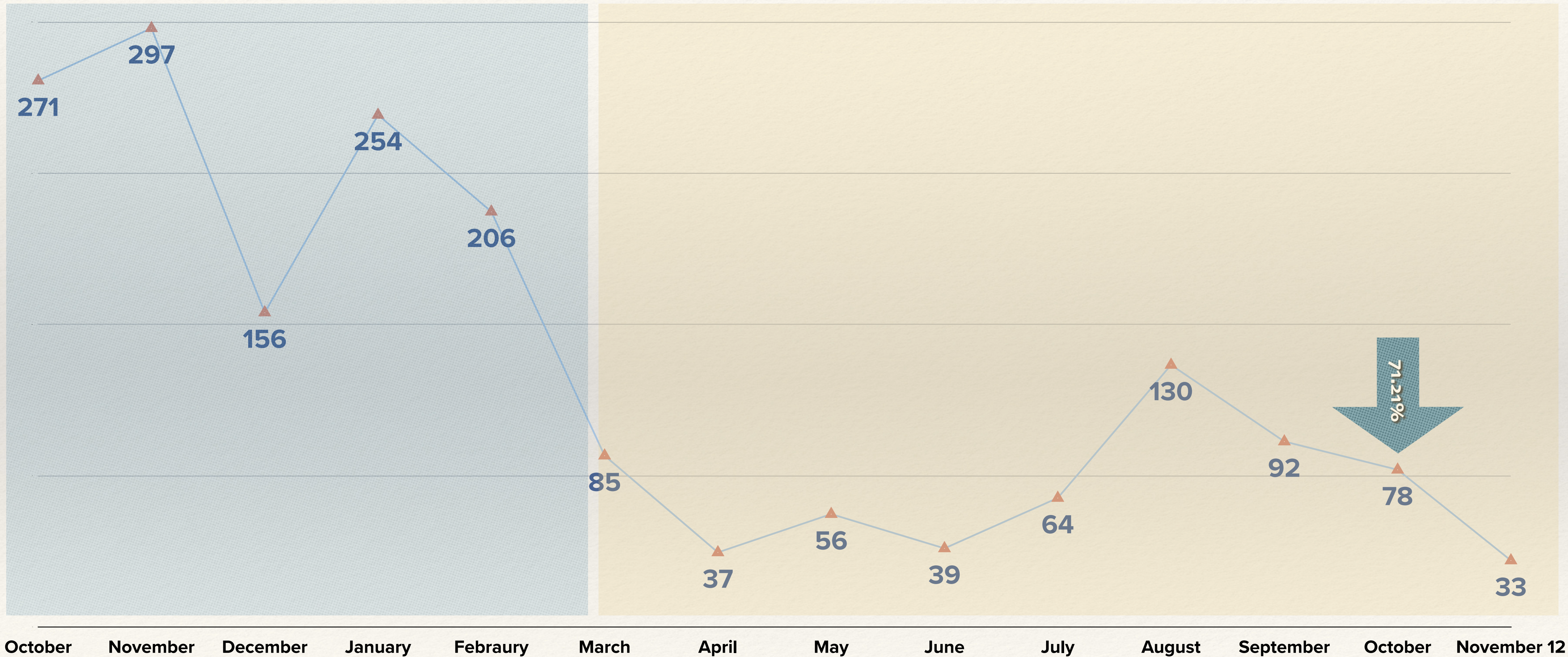


Deviated—Fixed Route Ridership





Elderly Disabled Ridership

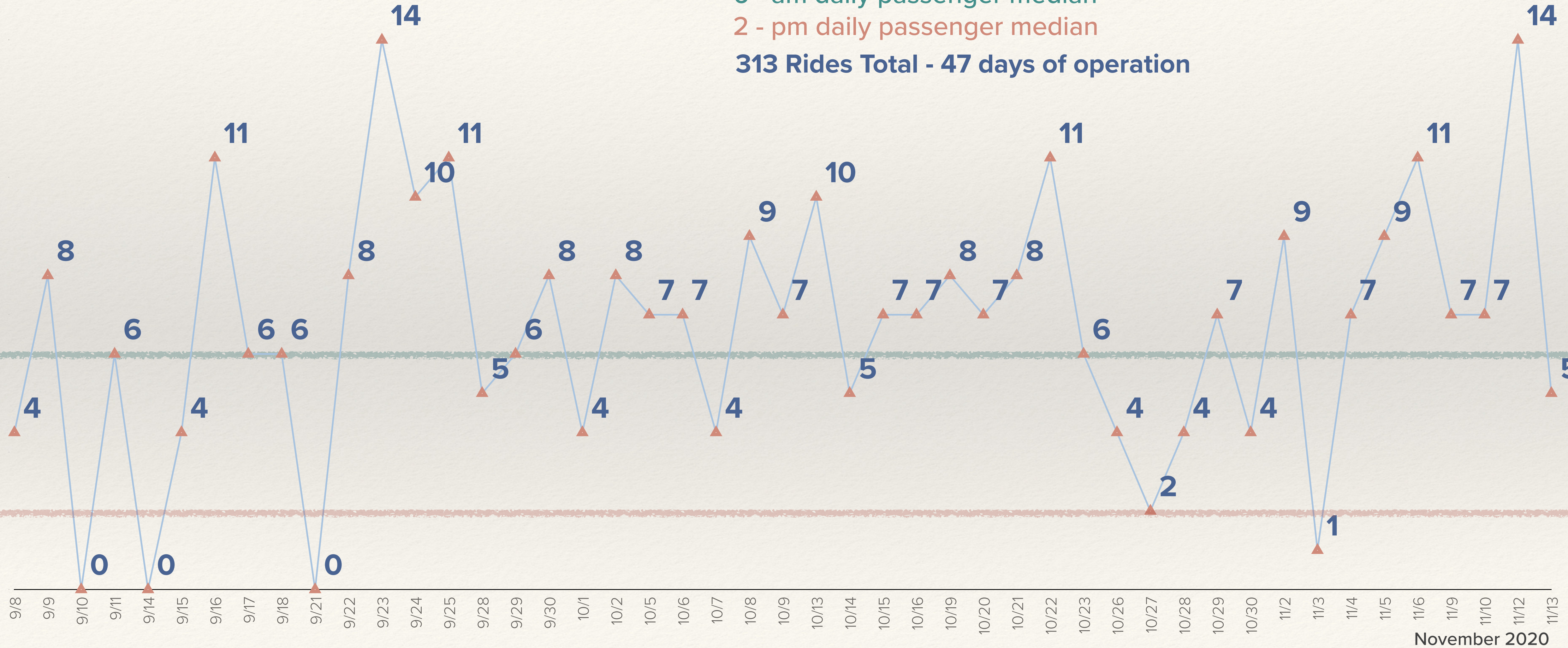




Plainfield Bus Service



6 - am daily passenger median
2 - pm daily passenger median
313 Rides Total - 47 days of operation



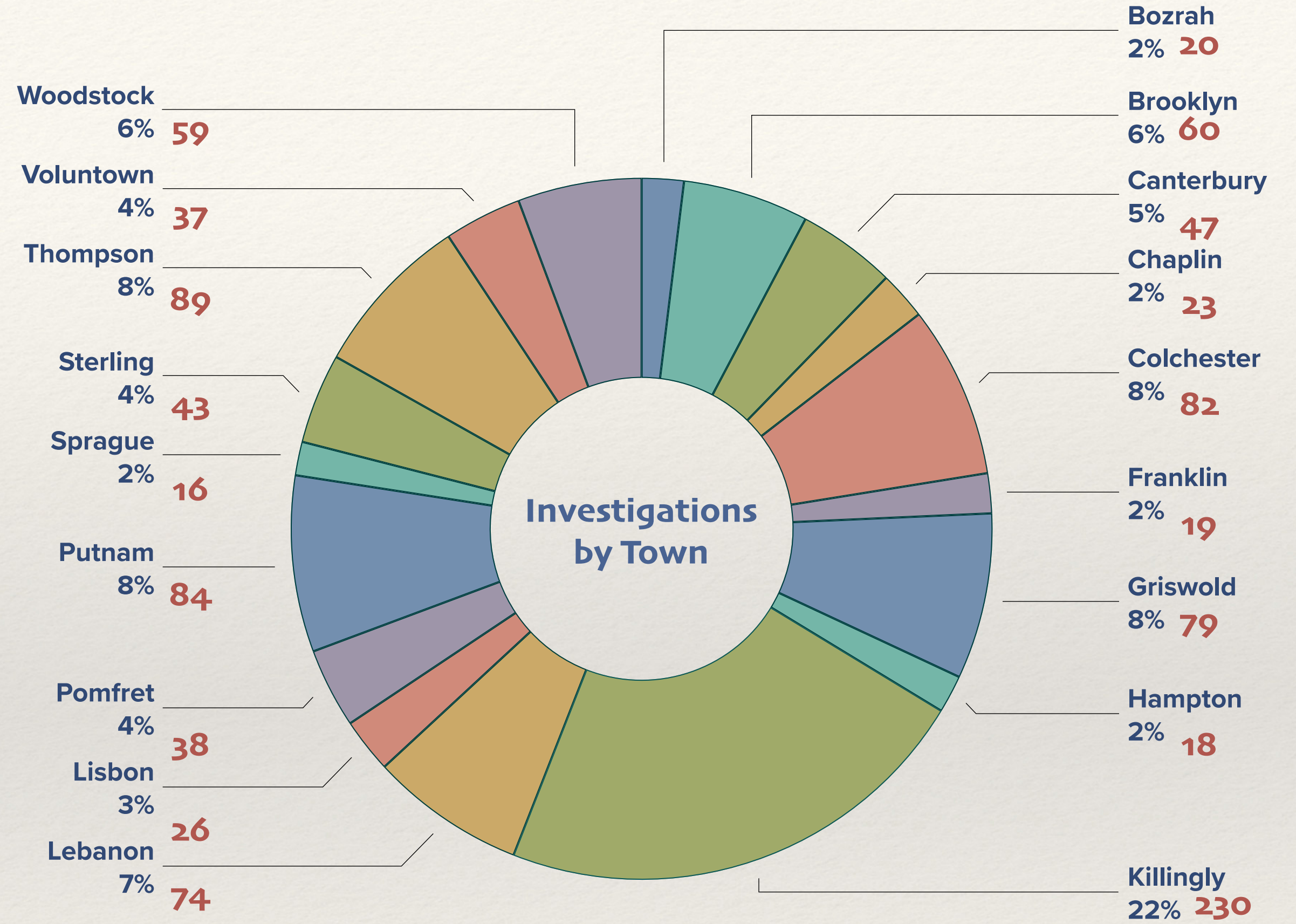
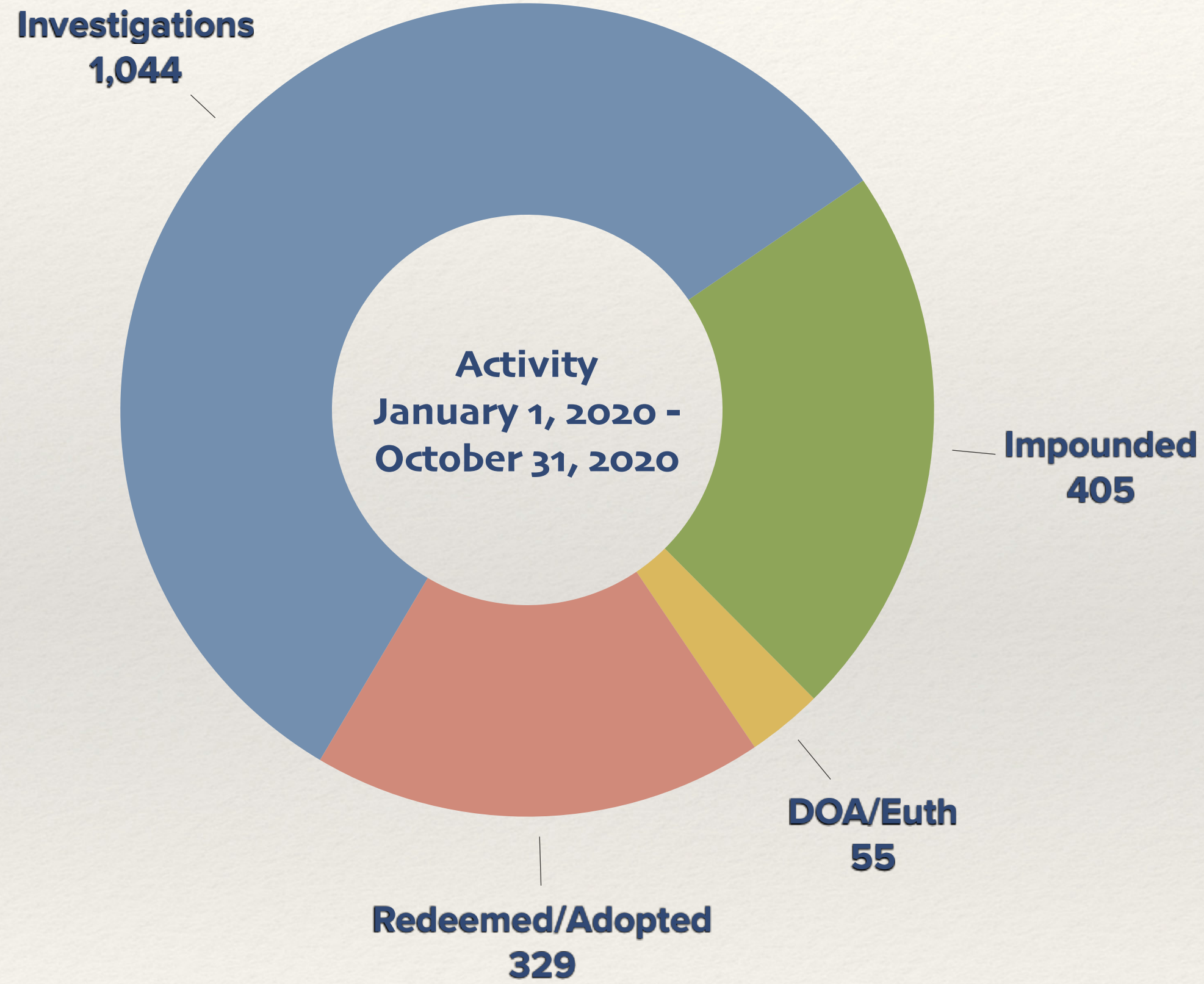


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- p. ACIR Best Practices Guides
- q. NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum
- r. Upcoming Forums
- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



Regional Animal Services





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- b. Transit Activities
- c. Animal Services
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- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



Regional Engineering Services

Ashford

- Senior Housing Sidewalk Replacement Project
- Dock Replacement and Sidewalk Construction
- Pool and Retaining Wall Construction

Brooklyn

- Parking Expansion Review
- Subdivision (multiple) Review
- IWWC Reviews (multiple)
- Swimming Pool Reviews
- Site Plan Review
- Subdivision Reviews
- Gravel Excavation
- 51 Unit Multi-Family Development
- Pavement Condition Inspection

Canterbury

- Road Relocation

Chaplin

- Intersection Improvement Study

Pomfret

- Future Salt Shed Site Plan
- Sidewalk Project
- Evaluate Drainage Issue and Road Width
- Town Bridge Issue
- Future Bulky Waste Site
- Horse Trailer parking Review

Putnam

- Sidewalk and Pavement Restoration
- Sidewalk Reconstruction
- Sidewalk Replacement LOTCIP Application



Director's Report

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- e. **Paramedic Intercept Program - steady**
- f. Regional REVAL Program
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- q. NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum
- r. Upcoming Forums
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- d. Engineering Program
- e. Paramedic Intercept Program
- f. **Regional REVAL Program - distribution for signature week after Thanksgiving**
- g. GIS Program Update
- h. Economic Development - EDD Application Status
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- o. Region IV DEMHS Activities and Recovery Efforts
- p. ACIR Best Practices Guides
- q. NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum
- r. Upcoming Forums
- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



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- g. **GIS Program Update**
- h. Economic Development - EDD Application Status
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- q. NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum
- r. Upcoming Forums
- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



GIS Program

- ◆ Parcel updates for Woodstock complete
- ◆ Parcel updates for Brooklyn in process
- ◆ Working with Vision regarding extracts for Union
- ◆ Working with eQuality and Vision on ownership extracts for other towns
- ◆ Meeting (early December) to discuss possible additional participation in the program - addressing reluctance to participate and solutions



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- h. Economic Development - EDD Application Status - Pending, no word yet**
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- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



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- i. **CARES Act Recovery Assistance Grant Funding - \$47,000 paid for work completed**
- j. Annual Audit
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- q. NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum
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- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



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- r. Upcoming Forums
- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



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- j. Annual Audit
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- m. Housing Plan Status
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crumblingfoundations.org

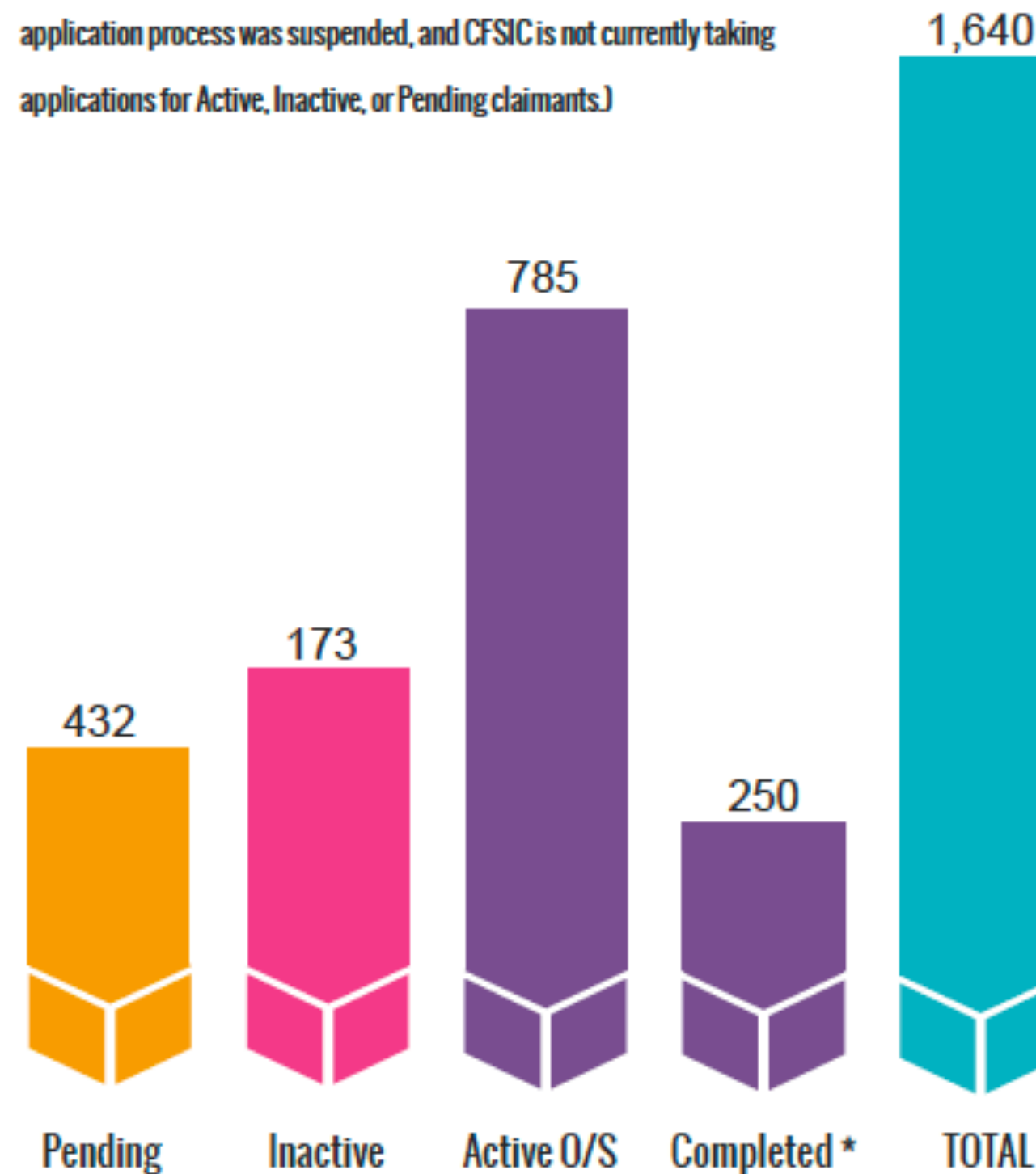
The Extent of Our Claims

to date

Active, Inactive, Pending

This data is valid as of August 31, 2020.

Effective January 13, 2020 CFSIC added a third claim designation, "Pending" ... no financial liability (reserves) are maintained for Pending claimants. (As of June 30, 2020, the Pending application process was suspended, and CFSIC is not currently taking applications for Active, Inactive, or Pending claimants.)



* NOTE:
"Completed" means foundations remediated and Type 2s fully paid.

SOURCE
Internal ESIS Claim Data Effective August 31, 2020

CREATED BY
Connecticut Foundation Solutions Indemnity Company, Inc.



The 4 Ways CFSIC Is Making a Difference for the Town of Ashford



SOURCES:
CFSIC Loss Run Valued 8/31/20
CFSIC Internal Construction Tracking Valued 8/31/20

CREATED BY
Connecticut Foundation Solutions Indemnity Company, Inc.



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Transportation Projects/Initiatives, LOTCIP, LRTP and Veteran's Transport Status

- ◆ LOTCIP Projects for Putnam and Thompson waiting on CONNDOT Review
- ◆ STP Rural Projects for Eastford, Hampton and Thompson in Progress
- ◆ LRTP in Progress
- ◆ Updated MOU with CMRPC regarding cooperation
- ◆ Veteran's Transportation Program on hold due to COVID-19
- ◆ Airline Trail Crossings - Pomfret



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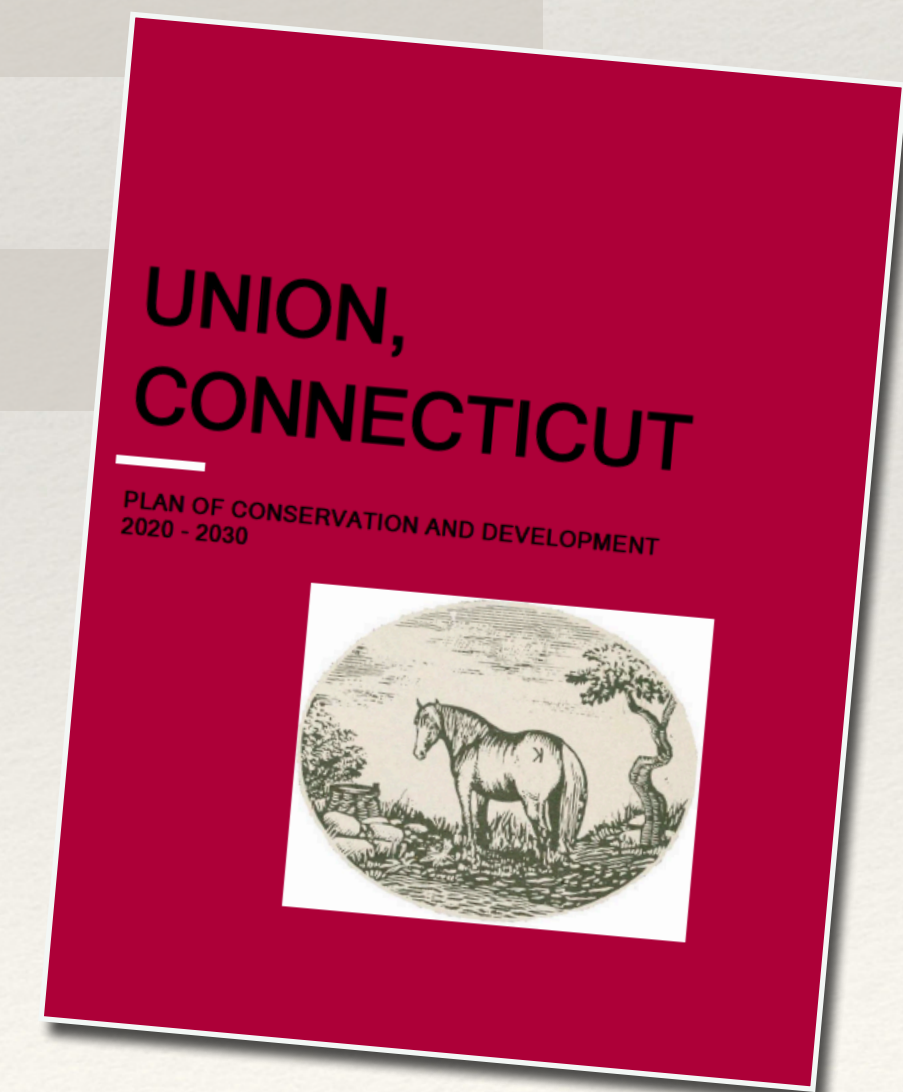
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Town Assistance

Chaplin Housing Plan	Preliminary research completed, waiting on Department of Housing guidance document
Chaplin POCD	Work and meetings with Commission begun
Brooklyn	No work begun
Woodstock Planner Assistance	Ongoing planner services provided per contract
Union	Initial drafts completed and multiple meetings held with Commission
Eastford	Ongoing planner/landuse services provided per contract
Canterbury POCD	Work and meetings with Commission progressing



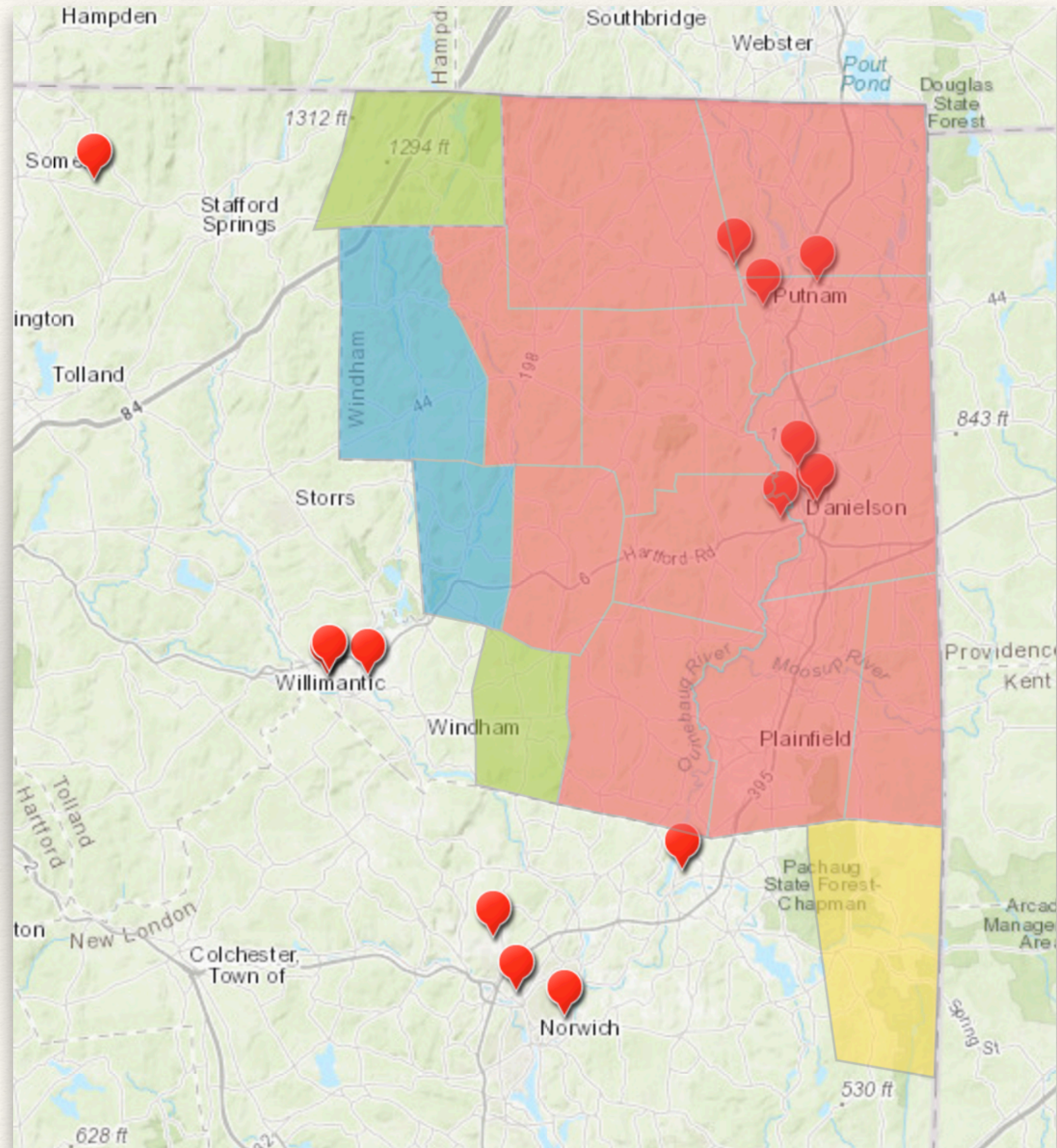


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Northeastern CT COVID-19 Testing Sites



Health Districts

- Northeast District Department of Health
- Eastern Highlands Health District
- North Central District Health Department
- North Central district Health Department
- Northeast District department of Health
- Uncas Health District

COVID Testing Sites

-



Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

- Supplemental funding for activities and purchases directly related to COVID-19
- This is a **100% grant** that **does not require any match** from local municipalities
- The **first year** of additional funding will be made available to towns to purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and COVID testing stipends for EMD's and their staff. The PPE allocation will be based on \$0.05 per capita with a baseline of \$250.00 for smaller towns with less than 5,000 residents. The COVID testing stipend will be a flat \$1,200.00 per municipality regardless of size.
- **All purchases and testing** being claimed must have occurred **after October 1st, 2020**.
- For the **second year**, a planning stipend will be added. The planning stipend will be **\$5,000.00 per town** regardless of size. The stipend will be paid to each town after completion of an updated Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP).
- If your town has already applied for the regular EMPG program, or plans to apply for EMPG funding before December 1st, please send an email to your DEMHS Regional Coordinator asking to Opt Into the EMPG-S grant. For all towns that Opt In, an additional sub-grant will be automatically added to each towns regular EMPG sub-grant for 2020 as a second signature page on the front of the sub-grant document.
- If your town does not participate in the regular EMPG program but you do want to receive EMPG-S funding, please ask Mike Caplet to send you an application for the EMPG-S program.



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ACIR

Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
Best Practices Guidelines
Updated 9-21-2020 with EO 9A

Public Meetings

Public meetings are gatherings of public where the agenda and the address are not. Accordingly, the Executive Orders (including remote

- Public meetings bring diverse groups together to engage a wide audience in information, education, issue or proposal, and can be a great way to build trust. When done well, they help build a community.
- The Office of Legislative Research requires some form of public notice, either in the form of a notice or where the statutes apply to public notice and Special and Emergency.

Statutory References of Note

- Chapter 14 - Freedom Of Information Act
- Title II of the ADA which covers accessibility for people with disabilities and provides for enforcement and remedies.
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act which prohibits programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of race, color, or national origin to include discrimination in the provision of language assistance services to provide meaningful access to state and local government. Providing "meaningful access" means the translation of vital documents.

Executive Orders

Declaration of Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergency

...since first declaring emergency effects from COVID-19 that are effective treatment for COVID-19 for our residents, businesses, and operational challenges as a responsiveness provided by the emergency powers in order to protect the public health and civil preparedness emergency shall run concurrently with the renewed emergency until February 9, 2021, unless earlier terminated by me.

ACIR

Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
Best Practices Guidelines
Updated 9-24-2020 with EO 9A

Animal Control

According to the Office of Legislative Research, all municipalities must have an animal control officer.

- All municipalities must have an animal control officer.
- (1) act to prevent cruelty to any animal.
- (2) take into custody any neglected or abandoned animal.
- (3) arrest people for violating any law relating to animals.

Statutory Issues/References

- CHAPTER 435 - DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS
- Sec. 22-328. Enforcement. Animal control officer.
- Sec. 22-329. Prevention of cruelty to animals.
- Sec. 22-330a. Regional animal control.
- Sec. 22-330b. Towns to provide for animal control.
- Sec. 22-330c. Town clerks may deputize animal control officers to act as agents for the issuance of orders and tags and the monies received therefor.
- Sec. 22-359. Control of rabies. Rabies control officer.
- Sec. 22-364. Dogs roaming at large.

Executive Orders

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(September 1, 2020)

ACIR

Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
Best Practices Guidelines
Updated 9/25/20 - EO 9A

Building Official

This function is responsible for the enforcement of building codes, reviewing and issuing permits, and enforcing zoning and subdivision laws.

ACIR
Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
Best Practices Guidelines
Updated 9/25/20, EO 9A

Elections

Critical Functions/Responsibilities

- Registrar of Voters
 - By law, there must generally be a registrar of voters.
 - Schedule and conduct voting.
 - Maintain voter registry lists.
 - Participate in Absentee Voting.
 - Conduct Elections.
 - Ensure the proper maintenance of ballot boxes.
 - Appoint deputy registrars.
- Town Clerks Election Duties
 - Examine and approve applications for ballot boxes.
 - Examine and approve applications for ballot boxes.
 - Act as filing repository for ballot boxes.
 - Notify the secretary of the state of ballot box locations.
 - Certify nominating petitions.
 - Issue absentee ballot applications.
 - Complete election results and submit to the secretary of the state.
 - Submit up-to-date voting district maps to the secretary of the state.
 - Keep custody of voting machines.
 - Prepare the explanatory text for ballot boxes.
- Regional Election Monitor
 - This position, working through the State Election Commission, and act on behalf of the Secretary of the State to coordinate and manage the statewide election process.
- Election Officials at a Polling Place
 - Moderators - serves as the chief election official.
 - Assistant Registrars - deal with a large number of voters.
 - Checkers - locate a voter's name on the ballot box and also check each voter's identification pursuant to state law. Any problems are referred to the moderator or assistant registrars.
 - Ballot Clerks - The Ballot Clerk gives each voter a ballot after he has passed the checkers' table and privacy folder. If the voter has spoiled his ballot or wishes to change it, the ballot clerk may give him a new ballot.
 - Tabulator Tenders - is in charge of the voting tabulator and for assisting voters who ask for assistance in using the tabulator.
 - Demonstrators - are available to educate voters on the correct manner in which to cast their ballots and answer questions from voters about the process. They also assist the Moderator in crowd control. They are usually appointed for elections where a high turn-out is expected.

ACIR

Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
Best Practices Guidelines
Updated 11/10/20, EO 9L

Farmers' Markets

Critical Functions/Responsibilities

- Direct marketing/provision of locally produced food.
- Local economic driver for the local economy.
- WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (WIC FMNP) provides fresh fruits and vegetables to WIC participants.

Statutory Issues/References

- Sec. 22-6r. Certified Farmers' Markets.
- Sec. 22-6g. Connecticut Farmers' Market.

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Executive Order 9L (Executive Order Extensions)

- Extension of COVID-19 Executive Order Extensions issued on September 1, 2020, all executive orders issued pursuant to the emergency declarations preparedness emergencies declared on March 10, 2020 and renewed on September 1, 2020 (COVID-19 Executive Order Extensions) that are unexpired and currently in effect as of the date of this order are hereby extended through February 9, 2021, unless earlier modified or terminated by me. Any individual section of any such order that is scheduled to expire on any other specific date shall remain in effect until such specific date, and any individual section that has specific dates for expiration or other action. The specific deadlines within each order, including the January 1, 2021 expiration of the eviction moratorium in Section 1 of that order and the February 9, 2021 expiration of the café liquor permits provided for in Section 2 of that order, shall remain unchanged and unaffected by this order.
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Best Practices Guidelines
Updated 11/10/20, EO 9L

Land Use

Critical Functions/Responsibilities

The Land Use Office is a part of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Together, they are in place to regulate growth, protect environmental resources, and properly manage land.

A typical Land Use Office includes the Director, Zoning Officer(s), Wetlands Enforcement Officer, and Watercourses Agency.

In general this function is responsible for the application of zoning and subdivision laws to all land use applications for complete plan.

Statutory Issues/References

- Chapter 124 - Zoning
- Sec. 8-1. Zoning code.
- Sec. 8-3. Enforcement.
- Sec. 8-6. Powers and duties: (1) To hear and decide appeals made by the affected parties of any specific regulation of zoning...regulation of zoning, public health, safety, or morals, or the general welfare of the community.
- Sec. 22a-42. Municipalities. Policies of select towns within the territory.

Executive Orders

Declaration of Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergency

...since first declaring emergency effects from COVID-19 that are effective treatment for COVID-19 for our residents, businesses, and operational challenges as a responsiveness provided by the emergency powers in order to protect the public health and civil preparedness emergency shall run concurrently with the renewed emergency until February 9, 2021, unless earlier terminated by me.

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Public Works

Critical Functions/Responsibilities

The APWA [American Public Works Association] has identified 145 different functions that are related to public works. They can be classified into 8 broad categories:

- Transportation** - This includes streets, bridges, sidewalks, bike paths, airports, seaports, traffic control and storm water management. Public works is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of these facilities.
- Sanitation** - Traditionally cities collect solid waste within the corporate limits and counties dispose of solid waste. However, some cities do operate solid waste landfills, compost facilities and incinerators. Increasingly, cities are becoming involved in recycling operations.
- Utilities** - This includes water, wastewater, gas and electric. It may also include storm water and flood control. Utility operations may be a function of public works or utilities may be handled by other city departments or other governmental entities.
- Buildings and Grounds** - This includes the design, construction, maintenance and management of public buildings and facilities including urban forestry.
- Municipal Engineering** - This includes civil and environmental engineering functions such as new facilities design, technical studies, construction inspection and surveying. The size of your city's public works department, as well as the expertise of personnel, will determine how many of these functions it performs. Larger departments tend to perform some of their own engineering services; small departments will contract these services. Major and complex projects are almost always contracted.
- Fleet Management** - This function involves the procurement and maintenance of city owned equipment and vehicles. Some public works departments only manage their own equipment; some provide this service for all city departments. Many contract maintenance services.
- Management and Administration** - This includes operations management and supervision, financial management and reporting, public relations, procurement of professional services, requesting and evaluating proposals, awarding bids and contract management.
- Other** - Various other functions such as parks maintenance, cemetery operation, airport services, dead animal pickup, etc. may be included under public works.

Organizational Structure of Municipal Public Works Departments, Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS, University of Tennessee - https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/knowledgebase/organizational-structure-municipal-public-works-departments)

Statutory Issues/References

- Solid Waste Management - Chapter 446d
- Municipal Sewerage Systems - Chapter 103
- Municipal Waterworks Systems - Chapter 102
- Municipalities: General Provisions - Chapter 97 - Sec. 7-148. Scope Of Municipal Powers.
- (4) Public services. (C) Provide for entertainment, amusements, concerts, celebrations and cultural activities, including the direct or indirect purchase, ownership and operation of the assets of one or more sports franchises; (F) Provide for lighting the streets, highways and other public places of the municipality and for the care and preservation of public lamps, lamp posts and fixtures; (G) Provide for the furnishing of water, by contract or otherwise; (H) Provide for or regulate the collection and disposal of garbage, trash, rubbish, waste material and ashes by contract or otherwise, including prohibiting the throwing or placing of such materials on the highways;
- (6) Public works, sewers, highways. (A) Public facilities. (i) Establish, lay out, construct, reconstruct, alter, maintain, repair, control and operate cemeteries, public burial grounds, hospitals, clinics, institutions for children and aged, intramural athletic fields, and other public buildings, structures, grounds, and facilities.

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Libraries

Critical Functions/Responsibilities

Libraries serve as a focus for intellectual growth and learning. They provide collective access to books, information, and cultural resources.

Statutory Issues/References

- Chapter 190 - Public Libraries
- Sec. 11-32. Legislative body of municipality may adopt by resolution to provide for the establishment of a board of trustees may adopt in order to render.

Executive Orders

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Director's Report

- a. Property Purchase
- b. Transit Activities
- c. Animal Services
- d. Engineering Program
- e. Paramedic Intercept Program
- f. Regional REVAL Program
- g. GIS Program Update
- h. Economic Development - EDD Application Status
- i. CARES Act Recovery Assistance Grant Funding
- j. Annual Audit
- k. Crumbling Foundations
- l. Transportation Projects, LOTCIP and LRTP Status
- m. Housing Plan Status
- n. Town Assistance - Chaplin, Brooklyn, Woodstock, Union, Eastford and Canterbury
- o. Region IV DEMHS Activities and Recovery Efforts
- p. ACIR Best Practices Guides
- q. **NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum - 125 Registered, CTN Rebroadcast**
- r. Upcoming Forums
- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



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- p. ACIR Best Practices Guides
- q. NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum
- r. **Upcoming Forums - Taxation, Food Security/Agriculture**
- s. 2020 Annual Meeting



Director's Report

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- p. ACIR Best Practices Guides
- q. NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum
- r. Upcoming Forums
- s. **2020 Annual Meeting - December 18**



CCM Commission on Property Tax Reform

Review of DRAFT Recommendations: COG-related Findings

- ▶ The State lacks a complete and well-articulated vision (or incentive system) for regionalization, or for how the COGs can play a significant role
- ▶ Encouraging or incentivizing regionalization outside of an existing and established district, such as the COGs, may be creating further fragmentation
- ▶ Municipal CEO survey responses:
 - ▶ 81% were satisfied or very satisfied with their COG services
 - ▶ 78% agreed COGs were capable of providing municipal support services compared to 22% agreement the State can do the same
 - ▶ 52% agreed that COGs were capable of direct-to-resident delivery of certain services compared to 12.5% agreement the State can do the same
 - ▶ 41% would consider permanently moving certain services to their COGs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- ▶ Effort to get COGs recognized as a county equivalent for Census Bureau data collection/dissemination





CCM Commission on Property Tax Reform

Recommendation:

The State should take an **aggressive approach to regionalization** by creating a statewide system of effective and empowered regional Councils of Government that 1) will assume certain services that clearly benefit from economies of scale at a regional level; 2) can serve as facilitators and coordinators of service sharing at the sub-regional level; 3) are provided with the necessary resources to dramatically increase their effectiveness at a much greater scale; 4) are accountable to both the State and member municipalities; and 5) will continue to be member-governed. The intent is to create a middle-tier of government that operates similar to a county in other states, but in practice is a collective instrument of the municipalities rather than a subdivision of the State.



CCM Commission on Property Tax Reform

The Center further recommends that COGs develop the capacity to provide a number of additional services, available on an opt-in basis, or potentially mandated for smaller communities, as well as provide some new services to member municipalities

Fragmentation continues to be a major factor in the cost of service delivery in Connecticut in nearly all aspects of municipal services, especially outside of the larger cities. The state has attempted to incentivize regionalization in many areas of municipal services, but it is clear that the pace of regionalization is not occurring in an impactful way.

The State has failed to provide a vision for what role a Council of Governments should serve, resulting in wide disparity between the level of services provided by each agency. The first priority should be developing that clear and bold vision for COGs that includes direct service delivery and municipal support on a regional scale. The State should also appoint a Regional Council of Governments Commission to work in concert with a revitalized Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) to make recommendations to ensure COGs are positioned for success.



Questions

Thank you



Discussion and Action Items

- 3.a. Resolution 11-1-20 - Confirmatory Resolution regarding the Executive Director's Authority to Sign on Behalf of NECCOG for the purchase of the property located at 125 Putnam Pike**



Discussion and Action Items

3.b Regional Referrals

None



Discussion and Action Items

3.c. November Election Process Review

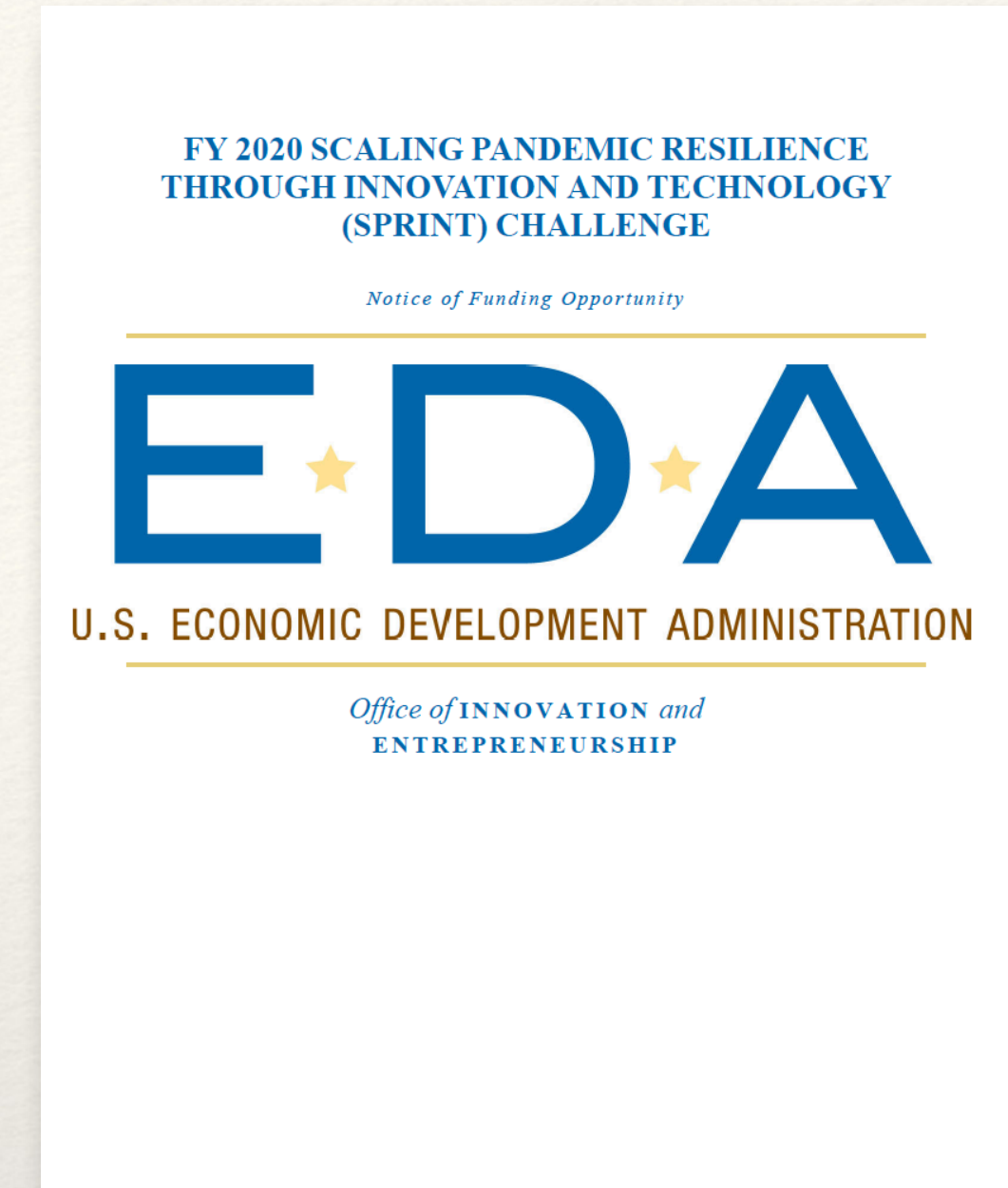
Douglas Lary, NECCOG Regional Election Monitor



Discussion and Action Items

3.d. Scaling Pandemic Resilience Through Innovation And Technology (Sprint) Challenge Grant, EDA

- Environmental Depot
- Animal Shelter Enhancements



80/20

\$500,000 up to \$750,000



Discussion and Action Items

3.e STIP Amendments and Actions

None



Discussion and Action Items

3.f. 2021 Legislative Session And Legislative Priorities

- **Modify** current law to **Recognize Regional Programs through COGs and Not Require Inter-Local Agreements**
- **Barking Dog and Other Nuisance Animal Law Reform**
- **Support** efforts to **Fund and Protect Crumbling Foundations** initiatives
- **COG Funding Formula**
- Other



Chief Elected Official Roundtable



Adjournment