Northeastern ConnecticutTransit District

Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2015

Russell Gray, NECCOG Chair opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. - noting that a quorum was present (Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Voluntown and Woodstock)

The **previous meeting minutes of October 24, 2014**, December 4, 2014 and December 19 were **approved** as presented on a motion by Mr. Walker and a second by Ms. Nicholson.

Director's Report - John Filchak, Executive Director reported on the following:

The **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy** (CEDS) is presently being finalized in a draft form as a means to begin the CEDS adoption process. NECCOG has taken the current CEDS, which has been in place since 2002, and adopted it in terms of background material and format to match the new 16-town region. The intent is to circulate this document in early February in advance of a meeting of the CEDS Working Group in late February or early March. The CEDS Working Group is, by federal law, a group consisting of not less than fifty-one percent private sector persons. We are currently attempting to secure commitments from various private and public sector entities to populate the CEDS Working Group. On a related note, the Director stated that there is an issue on a state basis regarding the number of CEDS. Current Connecticut law mandates that there be no more than eight CEDS. This law was written in anticipation that there would be just eight COGs in place and not the nine that resulted from the recent consolidations. More than likely, he informed the Council, the solution to this will be a change to not more than nine CEDS - which are coterminous with the COGs.

In terms of **Emergency Management** the Director stated that no changes of significance on a Region IV level. He did state that owns that have not sent in their most recent MOAs are asked to do so as soon as possible. NECCOG met with the Region's EMD's in January and discussed the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan as well as the current status of CERT.

Transit District Operations - The Director informed the Council that Transit continued its ridership growth in 2014; with an overall increase of 16.5 percent (a more than 2,100 passenger gain). Since 2008, Transit has realized a ridership growth of just over 70 percent. The District's damaged bus is still out of service and there is now discussion that the DOT will declare the bus "totaled." Estimates to repair the bus have come in at between $6,000 and $9,300. Given that it will take approximately 18 months to replace the bus — repairing this bus (which is four year old with about 85,000 miles) seems the preferable option. The Director did report that the District did encounter confusion regarding the Passenger Endorsement for drivers — the District received multiple answers from DMV. He noted that Representative Rovero was a tremendous assist with DMV and the issue is now clarified.

Animal Services The Director reported that after a busier October and November (in terms of dogs in the facility) than previously experienced, December was back to normal with fewer than five dogs on average in the facility.

2014 Audits - Audits (NECCOG and NECTD) were completed on time and sent to the various state agencies required and each town should be receiving their copy.

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Regional Performance Incentive Program - All applications were sent to OPM as required before December 31, 2014. Copies were sent to each member of the legislative delegation. Town endorsements are due on or before March 31, 2015. If you need me to attend a local meeting to explain or answer questions regarding these grants — please let me know.

Regional Reval II - Director reported that we are currently waiting on the assessors to provide comments on the RFP prepared for the new round. The plan is to issue the RFP in early February.

Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Study - Director reported that two responses were received and are now under review.

The Director reminded the members that a meeting with **State Comptroller Kevin Lembo** is scheduled for February 6.

The Director discussed a **proposed change to the funding methodology for 911 centers** and suggested that due to the complexity of the issue and the time needed to discuss that the Executive Committee review this issue and get back to the full Council.

Mr. Sweet asked about the **organization's fund balance** and the Director indicated that he would provide details.

Discussion and Action Items

1. **2015-16 NECCOG Budget and Work Plan** - The Director provided a summary sheet with the proposed assessments for NECCOG's programs and services.

2. **STIP Amendments/Actions** - Motion from Mr. Sweet and a second by Mr. Piper - all items were approved by block vote.

Proj#	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot $(000)	Fed $(000)	Sta $(000)	Loc$(000)	Comments
0111-0122	CT 44	POMFRET	REPLACE BR 02339 O/ BARK MEADOW BROOK	PD	2015	150	120	30	0	NEW PROJECT
0111-0122	CT 44	POMFRET	REPLACE BR 02339 O/ BARK MEADOW BROOK	FD	2016	100	80	20	0	NEW PROJECT
0111-0122	CT 44	POMFRET	REPLACE BR 02339 O/ BARK MEADOW BROOK	ROW	2016	50	40	10	0	NEW PROJECT
0136-0072	CT 14A	STERLING	REPLACE BR 02132 O/ CEDAR SWAMP BROOK	PD	2015	150	120	30	0	NEW PROJECT
0136-0072	CT 14A	STERLING	REPLACE BR 02132 O/ CEDAR SWAMP BROOK	FD	2016	100	80	20	0	NEW PROJECT
0136-0072	CT 14A	STERLING	REPLACE BR 02132 O/ CEDAR SWAMP BROOK	ROW	2016	50	40	10	0	NEW PROJECT
0172-0436	VARIOUS	DISTRICT 2	DESIGN & INSTALL OSTA TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN DISTRICT 2	PD	2015	350	350	0	0	NEW PROJECT
0172-0436	VARIOUS	DISTRICT 2	DESIGN & INSTALL OSTA TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN DISTRICT 2	FD	2016	150	150	0	0	NEW PROJECT
0172-0436	VARIOUS	DISTRICT 2	DESIGN & INSTALL OSTA TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN DISTRICT 2	ROW	2016	100	100	0	0	NEW PROJECT
0172-0436	VARIOUS	DISTRICT 2	DESIGN & INSTALL OSTA TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN DISTRICT 2	CON	2017	2,200	2,200	0	0	NEW PROJECT
0115-0114	US 44	PUTNAM	REHAB BRIDGE 00992 OVER QUINNIBAUG RV	CON	2015	2,478	1,982	496	0	INCRE. EST. FROM FED. $1.34M
0169-0128	CT 169	WOODSTOCK	BRIDGE 02738 OVER GRAVELLY BRK (LIST 25)	ROW	2015	38	30	8	0	INCRE. EST. FROM FED $20K

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0123-0066	CT 14	SCOTLAND	REPLACE BR 00681 O/ MERRICK BROOK	PD	2015	150	120	30	0	NEW PROJECT
0123-0066	CT 14	SCOTLAND	REPLACE BR 00681 O/ MERRICK BROOK	FD	2016	100	80	20	0	NEW PROJECT
0123-0066	CT 14	SCOTLAND	REPLACE BR 00681 O/ MERRICK BROOK	ROW	2016	50	40	10	0	NEW PROJECT
0170-3107	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	FY13: STATEWIDE MARKETING (GREATER CT MODERATE) TRANSFER TO FTA (5307S)	OTH	2014	-434	-347	-87	0	DELETE FFY14 AND ADD TO FFY 15
0170-3107	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	FY13: STATEWIDE MARKETING (GREATER CT MODERATE) TRANSFER FROM FHWA (CMAQ)	OTH	2014	-434	-347	-87	0	DELETE FFY14 AND ADD TO FFY 15
0170-3107	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	FY13: STATEWIDE MARKETING (GREATER CT MODERATE) TRANSFER TO FTA (5307S)	OTH	2015	975	780	195	0	MOVE FROM FFY '13 TO FFY '14, & TRANSFER TO FTA (5307S)
0170-3107	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	FY13: STATEWIDE MARKETING (GREATER CT MODERATE) TRANSFER FROM FHWA (CMAQ)	OTH	2015	975	780	195	0	TRANSFER FROM FHWA (CMAQ)

3. **New GIS Viewer Demonstration** - Mr. Larkin provided a presentation of the new GIS Viewer

4. Selectmen's Roundtable - Discussion regarding State Statute change to raise the minimum bid to $25,000

Motion to by Mr. Piper, seconded by Ms. Nicholson at 10:17 a.m.

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