



Executive Directors Report – April 2025

1) **Animal Control**

- Currently we are still at capacity in the two facilities as several large cases continue. We are still able to adopt most of the animals that are not tied up in court cases, fortunately.
- I have notified Norwich that we are increasing their fees for next year due to the costs to cover their Town and to run the facility. I also have notified them that we will not be covering Norwich after next fiscal year, to better focus on our core NECCOG towns.
- A citizen asked me about a spay and neuter program at NECCOG. We do not currently have any funds for this program, it has become quite expensive. The Towns can, at their discretion, pay for that service if they wish, for their Towns.

2) **Transit District**

- Jacobs Company visited us this week on April 24th for the first of two site visits, to help them prepare an assessment of repairs needed. The State contracted them to perform this work in preparation for capitol improvements to the building and site.

3) **Regional Town Administrator**

- Jordan Lumpkins has been holding office hours in the participating Towns. Mary Calorio will begin in May. Jordan also delivered a very comprehensive grant schedule, as promised, to all of you. Several other Towns are evaluating their needs for shared administration. NECCOG has capacity for others to join and will add more capacity if the need presents itself. The next regional resource we will add is Human Resources, as at least one Town expects to share with NECCOG for the next fiscal year.

4) **Outreach**

- My monthly appearances continued WINY, my regular time is 9am first Fridays of the Month. I am starting to get more calls, which is appreciated.
- I have sat down with most Town leaders so far, I have a few more to go. Killingly Town Council has invited me in on May 13th to talk about our programs at NECCOG.

5) **NECCOG Programs**

- Chaplin and Thompson may be joining GIS.
- Woodstock has withdrawn from the Planning services for 25-26.
- Colchester and Bozrah are leaving the Animal Control Program.
- We will be updating Pomfret POCD for them.

6) **Legislative Update**

- We are still months away from real fiscal answers concerning State funding to Towns. There are many variables that can change the budget from now until then.
- The one bright spot in the budget is more funding for regional programs, specifically there is \$250k yearly for each COG for funding two positions to work on climate resiliency (inventory, assessment and mapping of drainage systems, hazardous mitigation), waste management, recycling, GIS etc... In addition, there is another proposal for another (3rd position) to be funded by the Regional Incentive fund, for a regional building official/architect/planner to inventory, evaluate, determine, support the repurpose of vacant structures for conversion to housing, in each region. **UPDATE-** This legislation has advanced through several committees and looks to be headed for a floor vote.
- The Pistol Permit legislation introduced by Representative Pat Boyd has advanced and stands a good chance of passage. This is to allow Towns with no police departments to have pistol permits go through the State and bypass the Town approval. (First Selectman no longer would have to sign off on permits).

7) **24-25 Audits**

- We have drafts of the audits (Transit and NECCOG). There were no material weaknesses or deficiencies for either entity and we did manage to increase reserves in both organizations. I will send you all electronic copies once we have finalized them.