



Minutes of the July 16, 2025 Meeting of the Southeastern CT Council of Governments

PRESENT:

Bozrah	Glenn Pianka	New London	Michael Passero
Colchester	-	North Stonington	Bob Carlson
East Lyme	Dan Cunningham	Norwich	John Salomone
Franklin	Alden Miner	Preston	-
Griswold	Tina Falck	Salem	Ed Chmielewski
Jewett City	Lori Sorder	Sprague	-
City of Groton	Keith Hedrick	Town of Stonington	Danielle Chesebrough
Town of Groton	-	Stonington Borough	Michael Schefers
Lebanon	Kevin Cwikla	Waterford	-
Ledyard	Fred Allyn	Windham	Tom DeVivo
Lisbon	Tom Sparkman	SEAT Rep (MPO)	-
Montville	-	CT DOT Rep (MPO)	Jennifer Pacacha
Military Liaisons:	US Coast Guard Academy: - New London SUBASE: Captain Ken Curtin		
Tribal Affiliates:	Mohegan Tribe: - Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation: Bob Hayward		

SECOG staff: Amanda Kennedy, Wendy Leclair, Helen Zincavage, Emily Bigl, Debra Pierce, David Cook. seCTer: Paul Whitescarver. Office of Sen. Murphy: Erin McBride, interns. Office of Rep. Courtney: Noah Carver, interns. Office of Sen. Blumenthal: -. Health Districts: -. Eversource: -. SEAT: -. SUBASE: Steve Sadlowski. Additional members of Groton Economic Development Commission were also in attendance.

The Council of Governments met **Wednesday, July 16th at 8:30 AM** at Submarine Base New London (1 Crystal Lake Drive, Groton). Materials are linked below and available at secogct.gov.

- 1) Call to Order. In the absence of Chairman Blanchard, Vice Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.
- 2) Roll Call
 - a) Ms. Kennedy determined that a quorum was present.

If disability or language assistance is needed, please contact SECOG at 860-889-2324, office@secogct.gov.

Si necesita asistencia lingüística, por favor comuníquese a SECOG.

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- 3) Act on Minutes of the June 18th meeting: Motion: To approve the June meeting minutes (Cwikla, Chmeliewski). Motion passed unanimously.
- 4) Treasurer's Report: Motion: To approve the Treasurer's Report (Hedrick, DeVivo). Mr. Cunningham stated that he reviewed checks and all seemed to be in order. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5) Communications: Ms. Kennedy reported that Comptroller Scanlon has requested a time to meet with the SECOG Board, and the Executive Committee has suggested h
- 6) Public Comment: none.
- 7) Speaker: Captain Kenneth Curtin, Commanding Officer of SUBASE New London
Captain Curtin welcomed SECOG to the base and thanked SECOG for its partnerships, which most recently involved the submission of a grant request for \$6 million to replace a water main. He spoke about the extent of activities on the SUBASE, and that it is the only active (non-training) Navy base in New England. A goal of the base is military readiness, with a need for infrastructure investment. His job is to ensure the support for military activities is strong. He highlighted the base's use of IGSA's to implement projects. He also mentioned the State's allocation of \$40 million in bond money to invest in the base, of which about half remains. These investments, along with the Base's military strategic value, should make the base "BRAC proof."
- 8) Committee and Liaison Reports
 - a) Executive Committee
 - i) Minutes 7/1/25
Mr. Carlson reported that the Executive Committee had renewed a discussion about hybrid meetings and still prefers that SECOG meetings be held fully in-person except in case of emergency. Ms. Kennedy noted that SECOG has upgraded its technology to better accommodate hybrid meetings.
 - ii) RSG Resolution Action Item

(1) MOTION: For SECOG Board to approve Resolution 26-1 to allow Executive Director to execute agreement with the State of Connecticut for a Regional Services Grant (DeVivo, Allyn). Motion passed unanimously.

iii) Resolution: SECOG MPO Planning Certification Action Item

(1) MOTION: For SECOG MPO Board to approve Resolution 26-2 to self-certify that SECOG's transportation planning process meets applicable requirements (Cwikla, Schefers).

iv) Nomination to Southeastern CT Water Authority Action Item

(1) MOTION: For SECOG Board to nominate Harry Watson of the Town of Groton to sit on the Southeastern CT Water Authority Board for a 5-year term (Cwikla, Allyn). Motion passed unanimously.

b) Legislative Committee

Mayor Allyn asked that members meet after the September board meeting for a discussion of 2026 legislation, in order to reach out to legislators well in advance of the next session.

c) Tribal Liaison Representatives

Mr. Hayward provided a report which mentioned the Tribe's development of a health care facility.

d) Military Command Representatives: Mr. Sadlowski commended Ms. Zincavage for her work submitting an application for funding to OLDCC to support water main infrastructure, and SECOG staff's administration of defense-related projects.

e) Congressional Office Report: Mr. Carver stated that the reconciliation bill had passed and that electeds should refer constituents to Rep. Courtney's office if they have questions about its impacts. Ms. McBride spoke about Sen. Murphy's introduction of a bill to aid the AUKUS effort.

f) seCTer: Mr. Whitescarver noted seCTer's and SECOG's participation in an effort to improve coordination/collaboration with EB. This effort is being spearheaded

by DECD with a grant from DOD OLDCC.

g) Eastern CT Tourism District

h) SEAT

i) Regional Water Committee

j) Regional Emergency Planning Team

k) Regional Human Services Coordinating Council

l) Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition

m) Health Districts

n) Solid Waste Committee: Mr. Allyn noted that the next meeting will be July 29th, at SECOG.

- 9) **Executive Director's Report:** Ms. Kennedy noted that SECOG had submitted an application for \$60,000 in state funding to prepare a solid waste road map (case studies of representative towns and recommendations to improve solid waste processing. Planner I Dan Robinson has left SECOG employment, and Ms. Kennedy is hiring for two positions. Ms. Kennedy is working with other COG directors to review and propose changes to HB5002 (omnibus housing bill) which is expected to be taken up in a special fall session. She submitted a request to extend SECOG's municipal services RPIP grant to enable participating towns three year's of grant benefit. RSG funds are also supporting shared services. She noted that SECOG's consultants preparing the Regional Safety Action Plan, BETA, are contacting municipal electeds and staff for town-specific interviews about safety concerns.

10) Old Business

11) New Business

12) TIP Amendments *Action Item- See following pages for details*

0172-0556 (new)	<u>REGION-WIDE</u> – Bridge improvements
0058-0307 (revised)	<u>GROTON, NORTH STONINGTON, STONINGTON</u> -- Safety Improvements/Pavement Rehab, Exit 89 to RI State Line
0163-0207 (new)	<u>WINDHAM</u> – Air Line Trail Improvements

Ms. Kennedy provided a brief overview of projects.

Motion: To approve TIP amendments (Cwikla, Allyn). Motion passed unanimously.

13) Next Meeting: The next SECOG Board meeting is August 20th at 8:30 AM in person at the SECOG Office. The next SECOG Executive Committee meeting is August 4th at 9:00 AM and will be a hybrid meeting at the SECOG Office and on Zoom.

14) Adjournment: Motion: To adjourn the meeting (Cwikla, Allyn). Motion passed unanimously.

TIP Amendments:

0172-0556 - BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS; VARIOUS BRIDGES AFTER PPP								
Lead Agency CTDOT	Project Type FHWA	Region 10, 13		Town DISTRICT 2				
Route -	Air Quality Status X6	Total Cost \$2,000,000						
Project Description BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS; VARIOUS BRIDGES AFTER PPP								
PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FUTURE	TOTAL
Preliminary Design	BRFP	-	\$960,000	-	-	-	-	\$960,000
Preliminary Design	State Match	-	\$240,000	-	-	-	-	\$240,000
Total Preliminary Design		-	\$1,200,000	-	-	-	-	\$1,200,000
Final Design	NHPP	-	-	\$640,000	-	-	-	\$640,000
Final Design	State Match	-	-	\$160,000	-	-	-	\$160,000
Total Final Design		-	-	\$800,000	-	-	-	\$800,000
Total Programmed		-	\$1,200,000	\$800,000	-	-	-	\$2,000,000

CURRENT CHANGE REASON	New Project
FEDERAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$1,600,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$2,000,000
AIR QUALITY CHANGES	Air Quality has changed from None to X6

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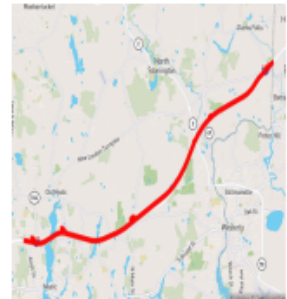
0058-0307 - SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS & PAVEMENT REHAB - EXIT 89 TO RI ST LINE

Lead Agency CTDOT	Project Type FHWA	Region 13	Town GROTON, NORTH STONINGTON, STONINGTON
Route -	Air Quality Status X6	Total Cost \$1,059,933	

Project Description
SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS & PAVEMENT REHAB - EXIT 89 TO RI ST LINE

PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FUTURE	TOTAL
Construction	NHPP	-	\$953,940	-	-	-	-	\$953,940
Construction	State Match	-	\$105,993	-	-	-	-	\$105,993
Total Construction		-	\$1,059,933	-	-	-	-	\$1,059,933
Total Programmed		-	\$1,059,933	-	-	-	-	\$1,059,933

CURRENT CHANGE REASON	Schedule / Funding / Scope- Update 04 - Adjust existing projects for revised cost estimates
PROJECT CHANGES	Plan Revision Name changed from "Adoption" to "July 2025 Amendments"
FUNDING CHANGES	NHPP - Decrease funds in FY 2025 in CON from \$15,250,000 to \$953,940 State Match - Decrease funds in FY 2025 in CON from \$1,694,444 to \$105,993
FEDERAL PROJECT COST	Decreased from \$15,250,000 to \$953,940 (-93.74%)
TOTAL PROJECT COST	Decreased from \$16,944,444 to \$1,059,933 (-93.74%)



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0163-0207 - AIR LINE TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

Lead Agency CTDOT	Project Type FHWA	Region 13	Town WINDHAM					
Route -	Air Quality Status X6	Total Cost \$4,800,000						
Project Description AIR LINE TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS								
PHASE	FUND SOURCE	PRIOR	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FUTURE	TOTAL
Preliminary Design	State Match	-	\$75,000	-	-	-	-	\$75,000
Preliminary Design	TAPSU	-	\$300,000	-	-	-	-	\$300,000
Total Preliminary Design		-	\$375,000	-	-	-	-	\$375,000
Final Design	State Match	-	-	-	\$75,000	-	-	\$75,000
Final Design	TAPSU	-	-	-	\$300,000	-	-	\$300,000
Total Final Design		-	-	-	\$375,000	-	-	\$375,000
Construction	State Match	-	-	-	-	\$810,000	-	\$810,000
Construction	TAP-FLEX	-	-	-	-	\$3,000,000	-	\$3,000,000
Construction	TAPSU	-	-	-	-	\$240,000	-	\$240,000
Total Construction		-	-	-	-	\$4,050,000	-	\$4,050,000
Total Programmed		-	\$375,000	-	\$375,000	\$4,050,000	-	\$4,800,000

CURRENT CHANGE REASON	New Project
FEDERAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$3,840,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	Stays the same \$4,800,000
AIR QUALITY CHANGES	Air Quality has changed from None to X6