



Minutes of the September 2, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting

Present: Bob Carlson (Chairman), Dan Cunningham, John Salomone, Cheryl Blanchard, Lenny Bunnell, Tom DeVivo (all remote via Teams)

SECOG staff: Amanda Kennedy, Kate Rattan, Helen Zincavage (all remote via Teams)

1) Call to Order:

- a) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carlson at 9:00 AM.

2) Roll Call:

- a) Ms. Kennedy determined that a quorum was present.

3) Program Updates:

a) Regional Planning

- i) Housing: Helen provided a status report on related activities. Chairman Carlson raised a question regarding the statutory rules required to qualify for an affordable housing moratorium. Helen offered to follow up with him with a response. Chairman Carlson clarified that North Stonington is receiving moratorium inquiries from residents due to significant local affordable housing construction under Section 8-30g.
- ii) New Grants & Staffing: Helen Zincavage reported that there were no new incoming regional planning grants at this time. The regional planning department is preparing for fall staffing and looks forward to the arrival of new interns.
- iii) Hazard Mitigation Planning: Amanda Kennedy reported that the region's Hazard Mitigation Plan is set to expire in two years. SECOG is currently exploring potential grant opportunities to fund the update. Alternatively, the

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agency may need to fund this update internally through regional services, which will be a discussion point for the next fiscal year's budget planning.

b) Transportation Planning:

Kate Rattan provided the following transportation and infrastructure updates:

- i) General Engineering Services: The CT Department of Transportation (DOT) has approved the general engineering services contract. SECOG is authorized to sign the contract and execute task orders to support the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) process.
- ii) Southeast New London COA: This contract has been officially approved by the CT DOT.
- iii) Eastern Shoreline Path (Waterford): SECOG continues to negotiate the scope of work with the designated consultant.
- iv) PROTECT Grants: A federal solicitation under the PROTECT program opened on August 27, 2026, and is scheduled to close on October 9, 2026. This program funds resilience projects and lowers the local matching funds required for projects identified within the State Resilience Improvement Plan (RIP). In the SECOG region, this includes the Yantic flooding projects.
- v) Corridor Studies: SECOG anticipates a new corridor study solicitation from CTDOT. Past successful studies include Route 161, Norwich Downtown Mobility, and Route 32. Once live, SECOG will collect municipal applications and rank projects for selection.

c) Municipal Services:

Amanda Kennedy presented updates regarding municipal services:

- i) Building Official Services: SECOG's building inspector Doug Colter is now providing services to Ledyard, after the resignation of their building official, and his time is fully programmed.

- ii) **Permitting Software Transition (MGO):** SECOG is helping 4-5 towns transition to an online permitting software called MGO (My Government Online), which was developed by a council of governments in Louisiana and is highly cost-effective. Bozrah, Preston, and Ledyard are currently adopting the platform, which includes modules for building permits, town clerk, and planning and zoning. If this pilot proves successful, SECOG will offer to assist other regional municipalities in transitioning.
- d) **Regional Emergency Planning Team (REPT):**
 - i) **Staffing & Grants Administration:** The REPT steering committee annual budget-setting meeting went well, with SECOG's new grants administrator Nico Xenophonstos providing support.
 - ii) **REPT CEO Council Meeting:** Scheduled for next Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 8:30 AM (in person). The council will review, discuss, and vote on the REPT budget for the upcoming year.
- e) **Automated Traffic Enforcement Speed Workshop:** Scheduled for next Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 10:00 AM (in person only) immediately following the REPT meeting. Ms. Rattan explained that the session will focus on automated traffic enforcement technologies, detailing the technical and operational differences between Flock, license plate readers (LPR), and ATESD systems. The workshop will also present "quick build" physical infrastructure solutions designed to reduce municipal speeds by design. All regional Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), Local Traffic Authorities (LTAs), and Public Works Directors are invited and encouraged to attend. Flock Cameras & AI License Plate Surveillance: Committee members noted high resident interest and community controversy. The committee agreed that the upcoming September 10 seminar on automated traffic enforcement will help build mutual understanding of these systems, after which the committee can assess if an additional guest speaker is warranted.

4) Personnel Policies:

- a) Amanda Kennedy reported that she distributed two memos to the committee prior to the meeting:
 - i) A proposal regarding short-term disability policies, for discussion.
 - ii) Proposed revisions to the general SECOG personnel policies concerning remote work. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend the revisions for adoption.

5) Board Meeting Format:

- a) The committee tabled discussion of this item until the next meeting.

6) New Business:

- a) Amanda Kennedy reported that there was no new business to be brought before the Executive Committee, but that a resolution would be placed on the September board meeting agenda that had been advanced by the Executive Committee in July.

7) Potential Speakers:

- a) Eversource: Amanda Kennedy is actively coordinating with Eversource to secure a speaker for either the October or November board meeting.

8) Next Meeting:

- a) Date: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, 2026.
- b) Omitted Resolution: Amanda Kennedy noted that a resolution approved by the Executive Committee in July 2026 to advance a grant to the board was inadvertently omitted from the previous agenda. This resolution will be placed on the full September board meeting agenda for final processing.

9) Adjournment:

- a) The meeting adjourned at 9:51 am.