



TO: SECOG Board of Directors
FROM: Amanda Kennedy, Executive Director
DATE: April 7, 2026
SUBJECT: Monthly Executive Director's Report

Financial and Management Matters

a) Grants/Funding:

Active	Pending/Applied	On Horizon
USDOT- SS4A Regional Safety Action Plan	CT DCRF- Yantic	2026 SS4A
CT DECD- Brownfields x4	CT DCRF- Jewett City	
US EPA- Brownfields		<u>Recent Nos</u>
DOD- Utilities Design		
DOD- Utilities Infrastructure		
DOD- Compatible Use Plan		
CT DEEP- Materials Management Infrastructure (Windham)		
UConn TAB- Regional Brownfields Inventory		

b) FY 2025 audit is complete. One finding relates to the timing of reports due to the state.

c) Staffing:

- i) Michelle Maitland will join SECOG on April 9 as our Regional Stormwater Management and Watersheds Coordinator (Planner 3). As her title outlines, Michelle will staff our stormwater/MS4 related work and further develop SECOG's watershed program, liaising with existing watershed groups throughout the region. Michelle comes to SECOG after several years coordinating the Town of Groton's MS4 program and will manage SECOG's regional stormwater management activities
- ii) Phylicia Adams joins SECOG on April 24 as our Regional Housing Planner. Phylicia is a resident of Norwich whose housing experience includes positions with the Stonington Housing Authority and most recently, with the Corporation for Supportive Housing as Senior Program Manager. Phylicia will be working with the SECOG team to support our housing planner efforts moving forward.
- iii) Karen Pham joins SECOG on April 20 as Climate Resilience and Sustainability

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Si necesita asistencia lingüística, por favor comuníquese a SECOG.

如果需要残障或语言帮助, 请联系 SECOG.

- Planner. Originally from the west coast, Karen recently completed her PhD in Geosciences at Penn State University. Karen's responsibilities will include work related to hazard mitigation and flood prevention.
- iv) I have reopened hiring for assistant transportation planner after one of our recent hires, Victoria Jaskaran, accepted another position with DEEP.
 - v) I have opened a search for a half-time grants administrator to support SECOG's role as fiduciary for Region 4's REPT program, and support other grant administration activities.
 - vi) SECOG is currently accepting applications from prospective summer interns.
- d) Events: Helen Zincavage (HZ) attended the Eastern Chamber's Tourism conference to expand our knowledge of and connections with that sector.
- e) I will be out of the office April 29 (afternoon) through Monday, May 4.

Municipal Services

- a) Building Official: The Town of Montville has hired a full-time building official and will wind down its engagement with SECOG's program in early April. The Town of Franklin has withdrawn from SECOG's service as of April 15th. SECOG will then have capacity to assist additional towns- please contact me to discuss.
- b) Planning: Taylor Lussier providing interim planner services to C of Groton (2 days/wk) and Stonington (1 day/wk).
- c) GIS: ARPA-funded CAMA/GIS revisions underway.
- d) Human Services Coordinating Council: Met 1/16/26; next meeting 4/17.
- e) Animal Control: Resolution appears to NECOG extending services to SECOG towns, at rates reflecting NECOG costs. Ongoing need to anticipate end of service and new requirements for shelter structures (2029).

Regional Planning

- a) Housing: Intro meetings held with elected leaders and commissioners in Groton and Lebanon/Bozrah/Franklin. Goal is to hold intro sessions with all municipalities by the end

of June. The first meeting of the SECOG Housing Policy Allocation Committee is scheduled for 4/8 at 9 AM. Staff continue to engage with OPM regarding needs assessment and overall process. With SECHA, held event last week on energy efficiency in multifamily housing. Residential energy efficiency programs coming up in Groton and Norwich.

b) Resilience:

- i) Resilient Yantic River: Yantic River work under CIRCA's Resilient 2.0 is near complete. Project team presented proposals for three flood risk reduction strategies- removal of the Upper Falls Dam, voluntary retreat, and river channel widening in Norwichtown. SECOG submitted application 1/15/26 for CT DCRF funds to further support project development. SECOG supporting City of Norwich/NCDC/CIRCA Climate Smart Communities Initiative Grant focused on managed retreat.
- ii) Jewett City DCRF: SECOG submitted DCRF application 1/15/26 for this project and administer it due to limited staff capacity in Griswold.
- iii) HZ participating in Sustainable CT fellow interviews.

c) Regional Plan of Conservation and Development (ON HOLD).

d) Regional Emergency Management: See note above re M. Paquette.

e) Brownfields: UConn TAB will conduct region-wide inventory this year. SECOG has finalized contracts with consultants for EPA grant-funded assessment work in Sprague, Windham, and Preston (incl. regional work).

f) Defense: E CT Defense Industry Partnership continuing with staff support from UWSECT and seCTer. SECOG staffing subcommittees on housing and transportation. DOD-funded Compatible Use Plan and Water Main projects underway.

g) Stormwater & Watersheds: See above re hiring of Michelle Maitland.

Transportation

a) Safety

- i) Safety Action Plan (SAP) ready for adoption 4/15.
- ii) Safe Streets for All: Grant opportunity related to SAP findings. Applications due May

26, optional pre-app review due April 24.

iii) Road Safety Audits. CTDOT will again offer road safety audits. More info coming soon.

T2 center training for road safety audits, 5/28.

- b) Transportation Improvement Plan 2027-2030: Public comment period closes 4/16, potential SECOG adoption in May.
- c) Transportation Rural Improvement Program: 2026 TRIP Solicitation applications due to SECOG by 4/24.
- d) LOTCIP: Tyler Frost has been designated project manager for LOTCIP. Start thinking about projects for next round possibly this fall. CTDOT is updating guidance, anticipate increase in minimum project cost. Status as of 4/7/2026:

Phase	Status	CTF Year	Cost	Project
Projects Completed/Pending Closeout	CTDOT conducting audit review	2016	\$ 1,870,505	New London - Ocean Avenue
		2018	\$ 1,693,238	Norwich- Dunham Street
		2016	\$ 555,639	Montville - Old Colchester Road
		2018	\$ 1,871,502	Waterford - Cross Road <i>waiting on Wtdf repmt</i>
	Municipal audit submission needed	2018	\$ 784,240	Colchester - Halls Hill Road
		2019	\$ 2,308,154	City of Groton - Poquonnock Road
		2019	\$ 3,779,830	New London - Jefferson Avenue
		2022	\$ 3,190,724	Ledyard - Gallup Hill Road/Col Ledyard Highway
Under Construction/Punchlist and Acceptance		2023	\$ 1,068,196	Colchester - Lebanon Avenue Phase III CCD 12/25
In Design/Received Commitment to Fund	PAL pending revision	2022	\$ 1,582,800	Bozrah - Fitchville Road FDS 11/25
		2022	\$ 4,658,608	New London - Williams/Broad Streets FDS 1/26
		2023	\$ 2,850,578	Preston - Poquetanuck Road Phase I FDS 3/26
		2024	\$ 3,690,400	East Lyme - East Pattagansett Road FDS 5/26
		2024	\$ 3,722,800	Lisbon - River Rd/Route 12 FDS 5/26
		2024	\$ 2,910,400	Norwich/Montville - NL Turnpike FDS 4/26
		2025	\$ 2,628,000	Stonington - Taugwonk Road Bridge field work, FDS 5/27
		2024	\$ 4,678,380	New London - Vauxhall Street FDS 1/28
		2026	\$ 3,229,800	Waterford - Niantic River Rd
		2026	\$ 1,703,600	Stonington - Route 1 Bicycle Facility
Applications	Submitted to CTDOT		\$ 820,800	2026: Colchester - RT616 Sidewalks
			\$ 5,675,200	2026: Norwich - Hunters Rd Reconstruction
	Muni developing application		\$ 907,200	2025: Windham - multiple sidewalk gaps
			\$ 2,723,595	2025: Preston - Route 2A Phases 2 and 3

- e) Active Transportation Microgrant Program (\$5,000 bike/ped): Applications for this quarter are due 6/20. Eligible entities: schools, school districts, municipalities, health districts, and non-profits with 501(c)(3) status.
- f) Senior/Disabled Vans: SECOG region submitted 10 applications for 5310 funding in this

round. SECOG, CTDOT reviewing applications received.

- g) Transit:
 - i) SEAT and City of NL working with CTDOT re Smart Ride Funding. SECOG will advance a New London-only transit study with PL funds.
- h) Corridor Studies: CTDOT staff is reviewing supplemental data for Norwich Downtown Mobility and East Lyme Route 161 studies, and will schedule programming meetings subject to administration availability.
- i) CTDOT Projects and Informational Items
 - i) [Long Range Transportation Plan](#) public meetings 4/22
 - ii) Gold Star Bridge lane closure for construction was noticed
 - iii) ADA training for municipalities available 5/5 and 5/6 through T2 Center.
- j) Coordination
 - i) With City of Groton regarding safety and EB volume impacts.
 - ii) With CTDOT and stakeholders around improvements to Preston Riverwalk area.
 - iii) With NL regarding safety improvements Willetts Ave.
 - iv) With CTDOT regarding upcoming Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) project list.
 - v) With Montville regarding Route 32.

Letters of Support

- a) SECOG submitted letter of support for applications for congressionally directed funding from City of Groton.