



**SOUTHEASTERN
CONNECTICUT
COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS**

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FY 27 REGIONAL SERVICE GRANTS STATEMENT OF WORK AND GRANT AWARD BUDGET

PART I

NAME OF GRANTEE: **Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments
(SECCOG)**

GRANT PROGRAM NAME: Regional Services Grant (RSG)

GRANT PROGRAM SUMMARY (PURPOSE/INTENT/MISSION): Provides annual grant-in-aid to regional councils of governments (COGs).

OPM GRANT NUMBER: **(SECCOG): RSG-27-08**

GRANT AWARD AMOUNT: **(SECCOG): \$1,056,911.96**

DESCRIPTION:

Per Connecticut General Statutes Sections 4-66k and 4-66r, as amended by November Special Session Public Act 25-1 and Section 8-31b, the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) administers RSG grants and service awards from the Regional Planning Incentive Account. Individual RSG grant awards are calculated through a statutory formula that is valid for five years. Such funds shall be used for planning purposes and to achieve efficiencies in the delivery of municipal services, without diminishing the quality of such services. Additional individual grants are assigned by law to fund positions and associated costs for the planning and development of housing, and a stormwater management/ flood mitigation or municipal solid waste/ recycling services coordinator.

PART II – FY 27 RSG Budget Categories

(Note: The sum of **Budget Amounts** listed below must add up to the total **Grant Award Amount** shown in Part I)

Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SECCOG) shall complete a selection or all of the work activities outlined below under the categories of I. Comprehensive Planning, II. Regional Services, III. Municipal Technical Support, IV. Housing, and either V. Stormwater/ Flood Mitigation or VI. Municipal Solid Waste/ Recycling.

I. Comprehensive Planning Budget Amount: \$ 436,911.96

Expected work activities include: (Expand list as necessary.)

1. Regional Plan of Conservation and Development: Monitor implementation of 2017 plan and develop content for next plan.
2. Public Participation: Manage and update the SECOG website, purchase advertising and/or public participation platforms as needed. Host public participation events to include associated expenses such as publicity, venue, and refreshments, and may require purchasing access to online interactive platforms.
3. Regional Organizations: Support and participate in the work of organizations including the Eastern CT Workforce Investment Board, Eastern CT Tourism District, Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition, Eastern Connecticut Transportation Consortium, health districts, Southeastern CT Enterprise region (seCTer), and watershed and environmental planning groups such as Avalonia Land Trust and Alliance for Mystic River Watershed.
4. Defense Industry: Coordinate ongoing implementation activities recommended by the 2017 Joint Land Use Study and subsequent studies in partnership with the Department of Defense, CT Office of Military Affairs, and municipalities adjacent to SUBASE New London, and prepare an update to the Joint Land Use Study, now referred to as a Compatible Use Plan.

5. Utilities: Support ongoing drinking water planning efforts including providing staff support to Eastern CT WUCC. Implement recommendations of 2019 regional wastewater plan. Update data in wastewater plan.
6. Resilience/Flooding: Implement activities recommended in SECOG's 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan/Resilient CT 2.0, including continued coordination around Yantic River flooding issues and pursuit of implementation grant funding. Update inventory of open space and implement open space plan activities. Identify funding for next HMCAP update.
7. Brownfields: Pursue grant funding and administer grant-funded activities to assess, remediate, and redevelop brownfield properties.
8. Supplement activities funded under 4. Housing
9. Coordinate regarding transportation projects, OR
10. Provide match to federal transportation planning grant funds (PL).

II. Regional Services

Budget Amount: \$ 140,000

Expected work activities include: (Expand list as necessary.)

1. Provide staff support to SECOG's Regional Human Services Coordination Council.
2. Staff the SECOG Board.
3. Referrals: Conduct review of proposed zone changes and projects of regional significance per CGS 8-3b and 4-124u.
4. Support the activities of the Region 4 Regional Emergency Planning Team (REPT).
5. Collect municipal GIS parcel data and transmit data to State, per CGS 7-100I.
6. Legislation: Develop annual legislative agenda, coordinate with members and legislators.
7. Coordinate efforts to address municipal solid waste challenges, including supporting an ad hoc Solid Waste working group and pilot programs to reduce MSW.

8. OR Grants Development: Submit applications for federal and state funding and administer grants as needed. Contribute in-kind labor for grants management and participation in steering committees.

III. Municipal Technical Support

Budget Amount: \$ 80,000

Expected work activities include: (Expand list as necessary.)

1. Brownfields: Assist municipalities in obtaining and administering brownfields assessment/remediation funding, coordinate with resources including the Eastern CT Land Bank and UConn TAB program.
2. Host and supervise Sustainable CT summer fellows assisting SECOG towns with sustainability activities and certification.
3. Grants: Provide information to municipal CEOs and staff regarding grant opportunities, provide letters of support and other assistance to municipalities and other partner entities seeking grant funding.
4. Provide on-call services that may include assistance with GIS, IT, land use planning, and other areas as requested.
5. Apprentice program: Employ entry-level staff interested in working in municipal services and provide training under an apprenticeship program, OR
6. Shared Services: Maintain staff capacity to provide interim or ongoing technical assistance. Contract for legal counsel to advise on regional provision of municipal services.

IV. Housing

Budget Amount : \$ 200,000

***This budget category cannot exceed \$200,000.**

Expected work activities include: (Expand list as necessary.)

1. Contract for legal and other services.
2. Develop Regional Needs Assessment and Recommended Affordable Housing Goals.

3. Coordinate with elected officials, municipal staff, and p&z commissioners regarding the Regional Housing Growth Plan Process.
4. Collect, prepare, and publish data and analysis regarding housing need, development constraints, infrastructure needs, fiscal impacts of development, barriers to housing production, and best practices for supporting access to housing.
5. Support the formation and activities of fair rent commissions, OR
6. Housing: Provide staff support to the Southeastern CT Housing Alliance, conduct housing plans and implementation tools.

V. Stormwater/ Flood Mitigation Budget Amount: \$ 200,000

***Choose between Budget Categories V and VI, neither of which can exceed \$200,000.**

Expected work activities include: (Expand list as necessary.)

1. Provide technical support to municipalities pursuing the creation of stormwater authorities.
2. Provide leadership and administrative and technical support to SE CT Regional Stormwater Collaborative.
3. Develop data and provide training to municipal staff involved in MS4 work.
4. Coordinate programs and assist region's watershed groups.
5. Pursue grants and administer grant-funded activities, OR
6. Contract for services.

VI. Municipal Solid Waste/ Recycling Budget Amount: \$ 0

***Choose between Budget Categories V and VI, neither of which can exceed \$200,000.**

Expected work activities include: (Expand list as necessary.)

1. See #6 Regional Services