



Minutes of the March 3, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting

Present: Bob Carlson (Chairman), Dan Cunningham (Vice Chairman), Tom DeVivo, Cheryl Blanchard, John Salomone, Lenny Bunnell.

SECOG staff: Amanda Kennedy, Kate Rattan, Helen Zincavage.

1) Call to Order:

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

2) Roll Call:

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

3) Program Updates:

- a) 2025 Audit: Amanda Kennedy reported that the 2025 audit is complete, though the final draft is still pending. The only finding identified was a timing issue regarding PIP grant reporting, which occurred for the second consecutive year. Kennedy noted that despite an increase in programs, there were no additional issues. She will present detailed audit notes to the committee next month.
- b) Hiring: Michelle Maitland has been hired as a stormwater consultant starting the second week of April. Progress is being made on hiring for the housing program and an environmental planner role. Ms. Kennedy also noted the upcoming retirement of Wendy next year, which will necessitate a reorganization of administrative support.
- c) Housing: Helen Zincavage discussed the urgency of engaging with planning and zoning commissions on the housing growth plan. Due to scheduling challenges and the ongoing budget season, SECOG will pursue sub-regional meetings grouping two to three towns together in late March or April.

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- d) TIP: Kate Rattan announced a public comment period from March 16 to April 16. A hybrid public meeting is scheduled for March 19 at 6:30 PM. Adoption of the TIP is expected at the May COG meeting.

4) Council Meeting Structure:

- a) Chairman Carlson suggested tabling the discussion on meeting structure changes until mid-year to avoid conflicts with budget season. Vice Chairman Dan Cunningham agreed to meet with Chairman Carlson later this year to develop a plan that can be followed through into the next year. The committee also discussed the need to coordinate meeting times with SEAT to allow for better interaction among members after COG meetings.

5) Potential Speakers:

- a) Upcoming speakers and events include:
- March: Commissioner Eucalitto.
 - April: Coast Guard Academy visit.
 - May/June: CT DOT traffic operations session. Amanda Kennedy will track down the specific scope and intent of this session.

6) LOTICIP: [Waterford](#)

- a) The committee reviewed a request for re-endorsement of the Niantic River Road sidewalk project. While originally approved for 3.2 million due to DOT-identified utility movements, right-of-way issues, and compliance with current standards. MOTION: to recommend that SECOG MPO Board re-endorse Niantic River Road Sidewalks Waterford LOTCIP application (Salomone, Cunningham) *Motion passed unanimously.*

7) TIP Amendments:

0094-0267	GOLD STAR BRIDGE PED IMPRV (BR 02514A) O/ THAMES RIVER
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0103-0274	<u>SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS FROM MAPLE STREET TO FAIRMOUNT STREET</u>
0103-0275	<u>SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS BETWEEN NEW LONDON TPKE AND DUNHAM ST</u>
0133-0100	<u>REPLACE DETERIORATED 30" CORRUGATED METAL PIPE</u>

MOTION: to recommend that SECOG MPO Board endorse the 4 TIP amendments.

(Blanchard, DeVivo) *Motion passed unanimously.*

8) New Business: Amanda Kennedy noted she will insert recent testimony into the meeting package for member review.

9) Adjournment:

a) MOTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 am (DeVivo, Cunningham)

Motion passed unanimously.