



**SOUTHEASTERN
CONNECTICUT
COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS**

5 Connecticut Avenue

Norwich, CT 06360

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June 3rd, 2025 SECOG Executive Committee

Minutes

PRESENT: Via Zoom: Bob Carlson, John Salomone, Rob Brule, Cheryl Blanchard, Dan Cunningham, Tom DeVivo.

Staff: Amanda Kennedy, Kate Rattan, Dan Robinson.

- 1) Call to Order: Chairman Blanchard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- 2) Roll Call: A quorum was present.
- 3) Program Updates:
 - a) EPA Coalition Assessment Brownfields Grant
 - i) Ms. Kennedy shared that SECOG secured \$1.2 million under the EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant program. \$740,000 will be used for site assessments, \$331,000 for site reuse planning, \$65,000 for community outreach, \$65,000 for project management, and a third of Ms. Emily Bigl's time will be dedicated to managing the project for the next year and a half.
 - b) FY 2024 Audit/Corrective Action
 - i) Ms. Kennedy shared that reserve funds went up since the last fiscal year. The unassigned reserve is 37% of SECOG's annual budget, and the target was 15%. Reserve funds are in flux from year to year. She added that SECOG's indirect rate was at 108%, but will now decrease to 98% due to added staff at SECOG. Ms. Kennedy stated that in the course of SECOG's audit, there was a deficiency on one item: code enforcement. The program is burdensome on the administration side. There are five or six different municipalities in contracts with SECOG, coupled with state grants and supplementary RSG funds. SECOG will clean the process up and must submit a corrective action.
 - c) Regional Safety Action Plan

- i) Ms. Rattan summarized that the Regional Safety Action plan is funded mainly through the Safe Streets for All program, with SECOG matching the federal funds. The State of Connecticut mandates that a COG complete this plan once every five years. There are two public meetings coming up for the current plan process on the 17th and 18th of June. Beta Group, the consultant, has pulled crash information from the last five years and has 1.) identified sites that currently record the most crashes/injuries/deaths and 2.) performed risk-based analysis to predict where problematic sites will be in the future.
- d) July Board Meeting
 - i) Ms. Kennedy shared that SUBASE New London Commander Captain Ken Curtain offered to host July's SECOG Board meeting on the base, in the Cross Hall Galley. A tour of the SUBASE and perhaps a submarine is on the table. Ms. Kennedy inquired if the Executive Committee would be open to this arrangement, to which each member voiced their approval. Ms. Rattan asked how the public comment portion of the meeting will be done with the hurdle of accessing the base. Ms. Kennedy suggested that perhaps the meeting could still be accessible online via registration. She added that the team will work together to figure it out.
- e) Buckeye Terminal Working Group
 - i) Ms. Kennedy shared that Michael O'Connor, Executive Director of the CT Port Authority, is looking for volunteers to fill a working group on the matter. Mr. Brule and Mr. Cunningham agreed to help out and provide their expertise and knowledge.
- f) HB 5002, Housing Bill
 - i) Ms. Kennedy shared that, if HB5002 is signed into law by Gov. Lamont, SECOG will be getting \$400,000 for additional staff people for housing/stormwater/solid waste tasks. A summary of the bill will be

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available for the June meeting. A legislative summary on all municipally-relevant bills will also be created.

4) Agreement Regarding Transportation Planning & Funding in the Norwich New London Urbanized Area (SECOG, SEAT, and CTDOT):

a) Ms. Rattan summarized that this agreement replaces an outdated agreement with SEAT. SECOG is looking to increase coordination on Shore Line East commuter rail. The changes in this update are partly grammatical, new federal requirements are included, CTDOT is involved, and performance metrics are added.

i) MOTION: To recommend that SECOG MPO Board adopt the relevant agreement (DeVivo, Cunningham). Motion passed unanimously.

5) 2025-2028 TIP Amendments

a) Ms. Rattan summarized the relevant TIP amendments.

i) MOTION: TO recommend that SECOG MPO Board adopt the relevant TIP Amendments (Salomone, DeVivo). Motion passed unanimously.

6) New Business – There was no new business to report on.

7) Potential Speakers

Ms. Kennedy shared Ms. Rattan will be speaking about the Regional Safety Action Plan at June's Board meeting. There will be no speaker at the July Board meeting due to the nature of it being held at the SUBASE.

8) Next meeting: SECOG Board meeting is June 84th at 8:30 AM in person at the SECOG Office. The next SECOG Executive Committee meeting is July 1st at 9:00 AM and will be a hybrid meeting at the SECOG Office and on Zoom.

9) Adjournment:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting (DeVivo, Salomone). Motion passed unanimously. Chairman Blanchard adjourned the meeting at 9:26 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Kennedy, Executive Director, on behalf of Thomas DeVivo, Secretary

