

5 Connecticut Avenue Norwich, CT 06360 (860) 889-2324 secogct.gov

Representing 22 towns, cities, and boroughs in Southeastern Connecticut.

Communications Manager/Regional Planner

The Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SECOG) seeks a skilled, creative individual to coordinate SECOG's communications and public outreach activities. The Communications Manager will support activities across all program areas, including SECOG's regional planning, environmental, transportation, and municipal services programs.

The successful candidate will have experience establishing and implementing a communications strategy that includes cultivating stakeholder partnerships, harnessing the power of social media, and writing to multiple audiences, with a background in urban planning, government, or real estate development. The Communications Manager shall maintain a continuous working knowledge of SECOG activities and advise SECOG project managers on communications best practices.

This is a full-time, 35 hour per week position. SECOG offers a competitive benefits package including health, dental, and vision; a pension plan and optional 457(b) retirement plan, reimbursement of APA dues, and compensatory time for attendance at night meetings. Work is generally performed at SECOG's offices at 5 Connecticut Avenue, with limited opportunity for telework.

Responsibilities

- Provide guidance to directors and project managers regarding community engagement best practices
- Manage agency branding and collateral
- Maintain partnerships with municipalities and stakeholder organizations ensuring continuous communication/ integration with partner activities
- Develop and oversee implementation of agency-wide social media strategy
- Establish and maintain relationships with media
- Prepare project and issue briefs, press alerts, and press releases
- Generate web and social media content
- Coordinate and participate in public meetings.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will have demonstrated experience in local or regional planning and have a willingness to collaborate with coworkers, partner agencies and local and regional stakeholders. Successful planners with SECOG are self-directed but able to work well in a collaborative environment. Applicants should have excellent

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communication skills and experience with project management, analyzing and presenting data, and preparing technical written reports. Applicants should have experience working in the following spheres:

- Social media strategy development
- Development and use of interactive visual media (e.g. ArcGIS Storymaps, Tableau, Datawrapper)
- Video production/editing
- Development and use of collaborative public input platforms.

Salary will be dependent upon applicant qualifications according to the following range.

Salary Range Planner I: \$51,000-\$71,000 (Bachelor's Degree)

Planner II: \$64,000-\$90,000 (+3 years experience or Master's + 1) Planner III: \$79,000-\$111,000 (+6 years experience or Master's +4)

About the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

SECOG serves 22 municipalities with a total population of 280,430 and functions as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization. SECOG also counts as affiliate members Connecticut's two federally recognized Native American Tribes and works closely with the region's two military installations, the United States Naval Submarine Base and the United States Coast Guard Academy.

Primary focus areas of SECOG are regional planning, which includes producing studies and plans that affect the responsible development of the region; transportation planning and prioritization of State and Federal transportation funding; and regional services, which include staffing assistance to local land use commissions and coordinating inter-municipal cooperation. SECOG staff have the opportunity to engage in multiple subject areas including land use regulation, economic development, natural resource conservation, transportation, housing, human services, sustainability and resilience, renewable energy, and emergency management.

About Southeastern Connecticut

SECOG's offices are located in Norwich, CT, at the center of a dynamic region known for its diverse assets including Mystic and the southeastern Connecticut shoreline, entertainment/casino destinations, and opportunities for urban, suburban, and rural living. The region is critically important to Connecticut's economy for its tourism, defense, and defense manufacturing, and is New England's hub for the growing offshore wind industry. The region is conveniently located within fifty miles of Hartford, New Haven, and Providence and enjoys highway and rail connections to nearby Boston and New York City.

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Application Process

Send cover letter and resumé to:

Amanda E. Kennedy, AICP, Executive Director Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments 5 Connecticut Avenue, Norwich, CT 06360 office@secogct.gov

Closing date: July 9, 2025 or until filled.

Applications will not be accepted without a resumé and cover letter.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer