

CRCOG

CAPITOL REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Working together for a better region.

VT General Assembly County & Regional Governance Study Committee

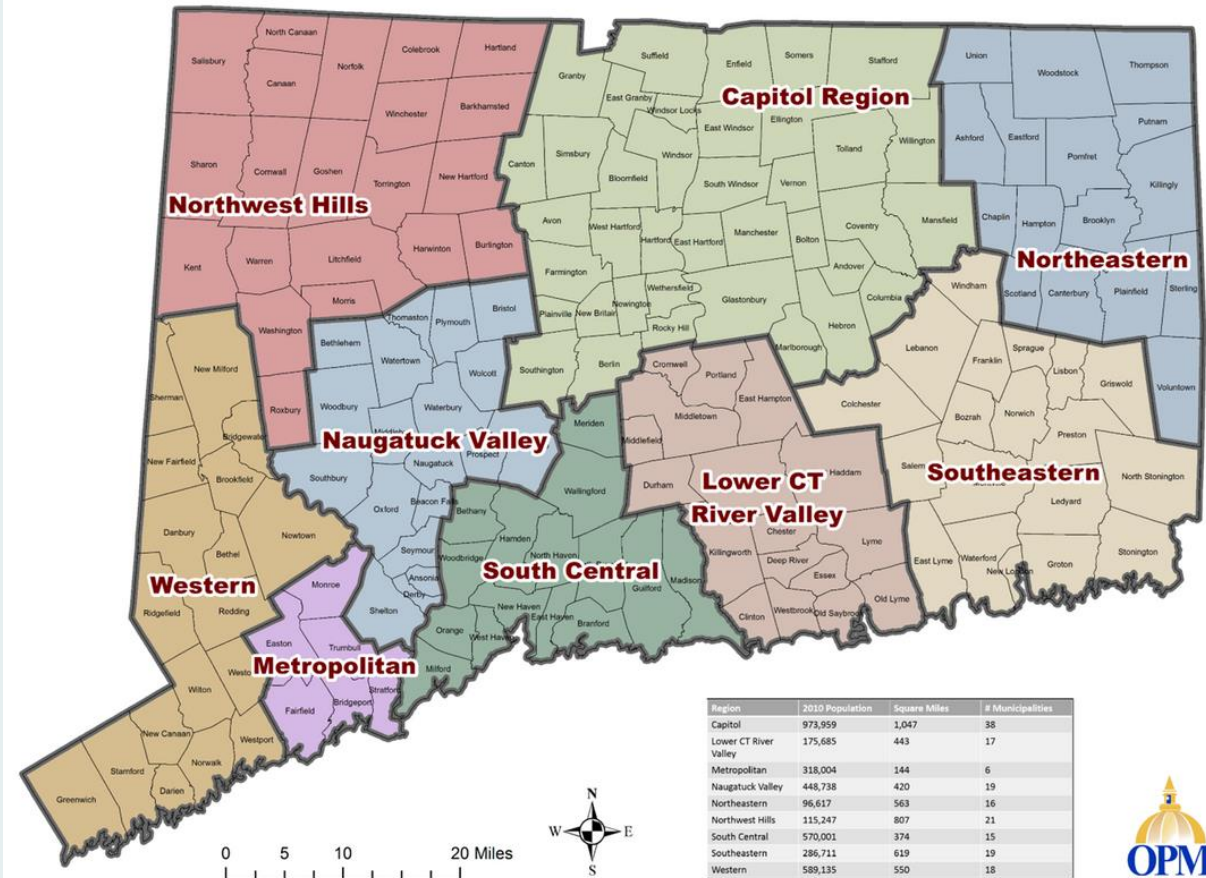


Matt Hart | Executive Director

REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS OF GOVERNMENTS (COGS)

- Regional Councils of Governments (COGs) provide a geographic framework for municipalities to jointly address interests and coordinate the delivery of federal, state, and local programs.
- COGs can also function as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), which oversees regional planning and implementation of federal transportation funding, and the Economic Development District (EDD) for the administration of EDA funds for regional economic development initiatives.

Regional Councils of Governments in Connecticut



CRCOOG Overview

- Largest of state's 9 COGs/MPOs
- Serve 38 municipalities with a population of almost 1M residents.
- Geographic region of 1,047 sq. miles

MISSION STATEMENT

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOOG) leads as a catalyst to enhance the quality of life, vibrancy, and vitality of the Greater Hartford region. CRCOOG provides planning, programs, and services to its member municipalities and is the region's designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). CRCOOG is a strong advocate for the region and regional solutions.

[View CRCOOG's Strategic Playbook: HERE](#)

CRCOG Core Values



Strategic Priorities

- Governance and communications
- Federal infrastructure funding
 - Monthly grants newsletter
- Economic vitality
- Regional environmental services
- Coordinated approach to road safety, Complete Streets, and multi-use trail projects
- Enhanced bus and rail service
- Public sector workforce development, shared services, and direct services

Policy Board & Executive Committee

Policy Board

- ❑ Council's primary governing body. Also serves as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).
 - CRCOG Bylaws [2017-11-29-CRCOG-PB-Bylaws.pdf](#)

Executive Committee

- ❑ Reviews and makes recommendations to the Policy Board regarding goals, objectives, strategic direction, public policy issues, and budgetary issues

Personnel & Finance Committee

- ❑ Oversight of certain finance and HR matters

Legislative Committee

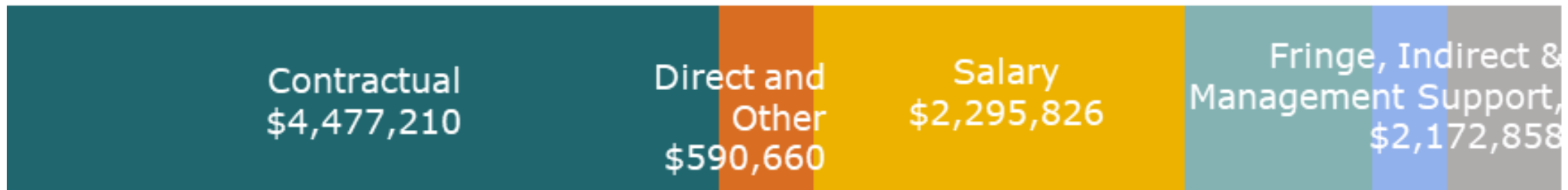
- ❑ Prepares annual Legislative Agenda

CRCOG FY 2024-25 Operating Budget

Revenue **\$\$9,972,671**



Expenditure: **\$9,712,682**



Departments

Transportation Planning

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- Transportation Improvement Program
- Regional Transportation Safety Plan
- Multimodal Planning
- Operations and Management
- Funding Opportunities

Regional Planning & Development

- Brownfields
- Natural Hazard Mitigation
- Complete Streets
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs)
- POCD
- Regional Climate Action Plan

Administration & Municipal Services

- GIS (Data Dashboards, Story Maps)
- Purchasing Council
- Human Resources
- IT Services
- Energy Consortia
- ezIQC
- Crumbling Foundations
- Administration & Finance

Public Safety & Homeland Security

- Emergency Support Functions
- Training & Exercise
- Capitol Region Emergency Planning Council
- Homeland Security Grants
- Department of Public Health Preparedness Grants

Transportation Planning

Core Plans

- ❑ **Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP):** federally mandated plan that lays out CRCOG's vision and investment priorities for the region's transportation system over the next 25 years
- ❑ **Regional Transportation Safety Plan (RTSP):** road map to reduce fatal and injury crashes within the region
- ❑ **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):** lists projects over a four-year period by location, funding source, cost, and year

Multi-Modal Planning: engage in planning for various transportation modes including mobility management programs, roadway system, transit, and rail

Operations & Management: engage in planning related to congestion management, traffic incident management, and intelligent transportation systems

Transportation Planning

Funding Opportunities:

- ❑ CRCOG has prepared a [Guide to Transportation Funding Sources for Municipalities](#)
- ❑ **LOTICIP:** The Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program provides State funds to municipal governments through COGs for transportation projects of regional significance

Other Programs and Services

- ❑ **BIL/IIJA Grant Submission Assistance**

Transportation Planning

On-Going Studies

- Capitol Region Roundabout Screening
- East Coast Greenway Gap Closure Study
- Route 44 Corridor Study, Canton
- Regional Transportation Safety Plan

New Studies

- Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Priority Network Plan
- Regional Warehousing Land Use and Traffic Study
- Berlin Turnpike Corridor Study

Transportation Planning

Transportation Committee (Chair: Jon Colman)

- ❑ Makes recommendations to the Policy Board in its capacity as the MPO for the Capitol Region

Cost Review Sub-Committee

- ❑ Subset of Transportation Committee that meets as needed to make recommendations to the full Committee for action

Bicycle/Pedestrian Sub-Committee

- ❑ Forum for town staff as well as interested agencies and individuals to discuss and share bike/ped related information

CTfastrak/CTrail Corridor Advisory Committee (Chair: Shari Cantor)

- ❑ Forum for CEOs of municipalities along transit corridors to discuss service and development

Multimodal / Complete Streets

Shared responsibility between Transportation Department and Regional Planning and Development Department

- Regional Complete Streets Plan and Policy
- Micromobility (regional contract and other opportunities)
- Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)
- Support for Bike/Ped Sub-Committee
- Bike/ped counts and Walk Audits
- Support for *CTfastrak/CTrail* Hartford Line Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC)
- Various plans and studies (ex: Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Priority Network Plan)

Regional Planning & Development

Regional Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD)

- ❑ Guiding document setting policy on issues ranging from housing, transportation, economic development, sustainability, and land use. 10-yr plan.
- ❑ Maps, goals, and policies identified are used to ensure activities we undertake are consistent with the objectives of the plan

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

- ❑ Strategy-driven plan for regional economic development
- ❑ CRCOG recently designated as a federal Economic Development District (EDD) through the Economic Development Administration (EDA)

Regional Planning & Development

Brownfields: inventory, assess, and assist with funding remediation of properties contaminated by petroleum products and/or hazardous substances in communities

- Brownfields Assessment Program
- Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

Sustainability

- Natural Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan (NHMP)
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)

Regional Planning and Development

Regional Planning Commission (RPC) (Chair: Jennifer Bartiss-Earley)

- ❑ Quarterly meeting of local, volunteer Planning & Zoning Commission members appointed to RPC
- ❑ Helps develop regional POCD and reviews municipal referrals sent to CRCOG per CT General Statutes

Brownfields Steering Committee

- ❑ Guides the Regional Brownfields Program work and approves loans for the Revolving Loan Fund

Planning and Development Forum

- ❑ Quarterly forum for local planning and economic development staff to discuss, share, and learn new information on various land use and development issues

Administration and Municipal Services

- Focuses on cooperative purchasing opportunities, Data and GIS support, shared municipal services projects, and other areas of collaboration among CRCOG's member municipalities
- Provides and back-office support for all of CRCOG's departments and the agency.

Administration and Municipal Services

Capitol Region Purchasing Council (CRPC)

- Serve 135/169 municipalities
- 14 to 20 annual bids
 - Treated road salt, fuel oil, and gasoline
 - Swimming pool chemicals, etc.
- Job Order Contracting (ezIQC): on-call service for construction projects
- Energy Consortia (electricity)
- Budget Presentation Software
- Fire/EMS Records Management Software

Administration and Municipal Services

IT Services

- Regional Online Permitting
- General IT Services
- Voice Over IP Phones
- Fiberoptics Installation
- Cybersecurity Assessment, Remediation and Training

Service Sharing

- RPIP Grants: Assessment, Building Official, Animal Control Officers

Waste Management and Diversion

- Administrator / Staff for the Central Connecticut Solid Waste Authority (CCSWA)
- Textile Recycling Contract

Administration and Municipal Services

Data GIS Portal

- Regional Online Property Viewer
- Interactive data download, mapping applications dashboards and StoryMaps supporting CRCOG projects

Other Programs and Services

- Human Resources Portal; Salary Survey
- DEI Training
- HR Consulting Services
- Crumbling Foundations (Testing Program and HUD Grant)

Administration and Municipal Services

Municipal Services Committee (Chair: Peter Souza)

- ❑ Meets monthly with focus on developing new regional initiatives and municipal information sharing

Capitol Region Purchasing Council

- ❑ Meets annually to set policy. Executive Committee meets as needed

Human Services Coordinating Council

- ❑ Regional Human Services Directors and interested agencies meet quarterly to discuss regional human services topics of interest

Public Safety and Homeland Security

Capitol Region Emergency Planning Council (CREPC)

(Chair: Hartford Deputy Police Chief: Dustin Rendock)

- ❑ Meets quarterly. Supports and administers federal & state grants providing funds for Public Safety, Emergency Management & Public Health
 - State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)
 - Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grants (PHEP)
- ❑ Develop and maintain the Regional Emergency Support Plan (RESP) for DEMHS Region 3
- ❑ Provide Training Classes and Exercises to Member Towns
- ❑ Provide regional liaison to the DEMHS Region 3 office to best coordinate regional resources in an emergency or disaster

Public Safety and Homeland Security

Capitol Region Chiefs of Police Association (CRCOPA) (Chair: Middletown Police Chief Costa)

- ❑ CRCOG staff provides administrative support for CRCOPA

Capitol Region Citizen Corps Council (Chair: Manchester EMD Don Janelle)

- ❑ Meets bimonthly. Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) share best practices and apply for funding for training and equipment.

Contact Us

Administration

- Matt Hart, Executive Director, mhart@crcog.org
- Pauline Yoder, Chief Operating Officer, pyoder@crcog.org

Public Safety

- Cherly Assis, Director of Public Safety and Homeland Security, cassis@crcog.org

Transportation

Planning

- Robert Aloise, P.E. Director of Transportation Planning, raloise@crcog.org
- Cara Radzins, AICP CTP Deputy Director of Transportation Planning, cradzins@crcog.org

Regional Planning & Development

- Caitlin Palmer, AICP Director of Regional Planning & Development, cpalmer@crcog.org

Support

- Laura Frankowski, Executive Assistant, lfrankowski@crcog.org

Thank You

Questions?

www.crcog.org