



WCEDD Meeting Agenda

November 10th, 2021 at 1:00 pm | Web Conference

Meeting Call to Order

Public Participation

Welcome Betsy Paynter as WestCOG's Project Manager

WestCOG hired Betsy Paynter as a Project Manager to assist with regional economic development and to provide ARPA Funding support for municipalities.

Approval of July 2021 Meeting Minutes

Approval of Maritime Aquarium ARPA Tourism Project

WCEDD is the arbiter of EDA funded projects applied for within the district. Members will vote to approve this project based on its alignment to our CEDS. Seems to align with goal 6-2 A positive Regional Identity.

Vice Chair Appointment

Thank you to first Selectman Jim Marpe for serving as the WCEDD vice Chair since its inception.

CARES Act Funds Update

An update regarding where the region stands regarding these funds.

Build Back Better Regional Challenge

WestCOG, on Behalf of the City of Stamford, applied for funding in the BBB RC program. The Data Science Innovation Regional Campus Initiative will lay the groundwork for Connecticut to become the Innovation State, a place that is the preferred location for corporate headquarters, research and development units, startups, and technology jobs. The project will support bottom-up economic development by advancing equity, helping workers to develop in-demand skills, and creating good-paying jobs.

FEMA Grant Project Matching

WestCOG and member towns submitted a suite of projects to the state for FEMA to match with grant funding with. WestCOG will monitor and share matching results.

For language assistance or other accommodations, contact Western Connecticut Council of Governments at least five business days prior to the meeting at help@westcog.org. Para asistencia con el idioma y otras adaptaciones, por favor póngase en contacto con WestCOG por lo menos cinco días hábiles antes de la reunión al help@westcog.org. Para obter assistência língua ou outras acomodações, entre em contato com WestCOG pelo menos cinco dias úteis antes da reunião em help@westcog.org. Pour obtenir de l'aide linguistique ou d'autres mesures d'adaptation, contactez WestCOG au moins cinq jours ouvrables avant la réunion à help@westcog.org.

Next Generation Regional Sector Partnership

An update from Francis Pickering regarding the Regional Sector Partnership.

WCEDD Member Representation

Reviewing current membership. The WCEDD determines what sectors should be represented in its membership. Membership should reflect economic character of the district. Are there sectors missing, remove, and/or vacant?

Process for Grant Project Approvals

The WCEDD meets quarterly but if EDA projects seek approval, how will we handle these approvals in a faster timeline?

Current requests are low. One approach: WestCOG can tentatively schedule the second Thursday of each month. If an approval is required WestCOG will convene a short meeting. If there are no approval requests, than no meeting will occur except for the regular WCEDD quarterly meetings.

Other Business

Upcoming Meetings

January 13th, 2022, 1:00 PM

Adjournment