



Council News



Vol. 1, ed.6

Connecticut Greenways Council

c/o CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
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Welcome to the latest edition of *Council News* from the **Connecticut Greenways Council**. It is designed to quickly communicate information presented at the monthly CGC meetings that both our stakeholders and the general public attend and might find interesting.

Previous Edition Archive.

Vol.1, ed. 1,2,3, 4, 5

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GIXrcxOGnHMT4gYhLzakwee2R0RcqPnw/view?usp=sharing>

Council Members

Bruce Donald, East Coast Greenway Alliance, *Chairman*

Rista Malanca, Naugatuck River Greenway, *Vice-Chairman*

Dan Buckley, Shoreline Greenway Trail, *Secretary*

Paula Burton, CORA

Clare Cain, CT Forest & Park Assoc.

Gillian Carroll, Eversource Energy

Bob Dickinson, Appalachian Mtn. Club

Aaron Goode, Friends of Farmington Canal Greenway

Cathy Hagadorn, CT Audubon Society

Bill O'Neill, East Coast Greenway Alliance, *Past Chairman*

Marc Weinberg, At Large

Kim Bradley, CTDEEP Trails & Greenways Coord., *Ex-Officio*

Paul Ashworth, CTDOT Bike-Ped Coord. and Planner, *Ex-Officio*

NEWS || LEGISLATIVE || TRAIL PROJECTS || CTDEEP/CTDOT || CALENDAR

“COUNCIL NEWS”

Although not directly “Council News” but impacts our work, Governor Lamont announced that Katie Dykes is resigning as Commissioner of DEEP.

- a. https://portal.ct.gov/governor/news/press-releases/2026/06-2026/governor-lamont-announces-commissioner-katie-dykes-leaving-deep?language=en_US

The **Budget** and **Bylaws** sub teams have not had their official first meeting but a draft bylaws has been circulated and a draft Fiscal Agent document is being prepared. Council members can contact Bruce if you'd like to sit on one of these sub-teams. Bruce@greenway.org.

The Bylaws will outline Council Representatives and how to become sponsored as a member.

New Website in Development! It will reside within the current UConn CLEAR website <https://cttrails.uconn.edu/> Look for this later this year!! A Letter of Understanding between UConn Trails (CLEAR) and the Council is under review by DEEP stakeholders and council Chair Bruce Donald. This will be the funding initiation and start to create a new **public** platform that is easily editable and allows quick communication of information and events.

Greenways Fund

DID YOU KNOW that the DMV has a program for special license plates for your vehicle and proceeds support Connecticut Greenways?

Please consider your support! <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Outdoor-Recreation/Greenways/Greenways-License-Plate>

Funds will be used for various activities and programs and will be outlined in a newly developed CGC Financial oversight team.

Connecticut Trails Learning Community

[Trails Learning Community | CT Trails Program](#)

Use link above for info and link.

LEGISLATIVE News

The Bond Commission met and awarded \$15M for the 2026 Connecticut Trails Grant program which supports many of the incredible initiatives within the Greenways program and across the state.

OTHER PROJECT NEWS *(this is a non-inclusive sampling of efforts underway)*

Air Line State Park Trail Alliance reports that there will be an interview on radio on latest developments - Check it out at: <https://willimanticwhitewater.org/>

Their popular "Third Thursdays" series will partner in a street fair on 18th June in Willimantic from 6-9pm. Details can be found at <https://willimanticstreetfest.com/>

The East Cost Greenway, June 27th "Ride the State" is sold out at 220 participants. Details at: [Ride the State | East Coast Greenway](#)

The Farmington River Trail in Burlington reopened after repaving with a large grant from the CTRTP.

New Haven's State Street Cycle track appears to be ahead of schedule. Could we see an August open?

The Quinnipiac Linear River trail expansion is underway in Wallingford.

RECENT EVENTS

The Connecticut Greenway Awards was held June 5th in Manchester's Charter Oak Park and was very well attended with both Commissioner Dykes (CTDEEP) and Commissioner Eucalitto (CTDOT) speaking along with many other state and local leaders. Joanne and the Manchester team did a fantastic job in setting up.



Photo credit: Jessica Lavoie

The handmade award plaques were presented to a very deserving set of awardees!! See the list of awardees here: [Connecticut Greenways Council to Hold 27th Annual Greenway Awards](#)

The event featured a demonstration of the “ride hosting” services provided by Cycling Without Age – Manchester.



Photo credit: Aaron Goode

[Cycling Without Age | Volunteer and Support Seniors in Connecticut - UR Community Cares](#)
<https://urcommunitycares.org/cycling-without-age/>

The **2026 Connecticut Trails Day** was a huge success with over 200 events being held. Support via CFPA was incredible and such a fantastic program. www.Trailsday.org



NEWS from CTDOT

Information on the Connecticut Active Transportation program and available grants can be found

https://portal.ct.gov/dot/projects/active-transportation-plan/resources?language=en_US

NEWS from CTDEEP

Connecticut Recreational Trails Grant Program (CTRTP)

(see announcement in Legislative News about recent increased award!!)

The 2026 current round is closed.

- Over 70 applications plus several internally from DEEP met the deadline
- Over \$20M in total requests have been made.
- CTDOT (with VHB) is a partner in review and assessment of certain projects that require their scoping and expertise.
- The Grant review team will finish up its recommendations and then work with DEEP and State leadership on a final announcement.

2026 Trail Symposium, October 2nd Southern Connecticut State University

[Connecticut Trail Symposium | CT Trails Program | In Partnership with the Connecticut Greenways Council | University of Connecticut](#)

Planning is well underway and your help is needed.

The NEW HAVEN location will be a very central location with great facilities and expected to drive increase attendance, participation and partner events through the weekend.

The day long symposium will be Friday, Oct 2nd with a calendar of other events being set up.

RFPs and Sponsorship requests will be coming shortly. Please check the website above for details. **The Next planning meeting will be 07/08/26.** All are welcome to attend and help!!

Contact Danbuckley@shorelinegreenwaytrail.org to be included in the meeting.

NEWS from your COG!

Get you applications for Q2 AT grant applications by end June.

CRCOG (Mike Cipriano)

Mike indicated that the East Coast Greenway Study is wrapping up.

There is a Priority Pathways program public meeting this weekend.

Details <https://crocogct.gov/priority-pathways/>

MetroCOG (Nick Dostal)

Stratford (CRT awardee) is completing their workplan while the Housatonic P-III work is wrapping up. Details at: <https://www.stratfordct.gov/page/rectrails>

SECOG (Kate Rattan)

The Airline trial “Third Thursday” event will include presentation of public updates!

It was mentioned that the RFP for the Eastern Shoreline path is closed.

NWCOG (Rista Malanca)

- i. Safe Streets grant received.
- ii. Naugatuck Greenway P-I underway.

OTHER NEWS

CT TRAIL FINDER is the place to go to find a place to hike, walk, bike along with info on services and important facts!!

CT Trail finder [Welcome!](#) And their social media.

- i. <https://www.facebook.com/CTTrailFinder>
- ii. <https://www.instagram.com/cttrailfinder>

Fran Kefalas was introduced as the new Executive Director for The *Last Green Valley* organization,

[Discovering the National Heritage Corridor in The Last Green Valley](#)

CALENDAR – *non-exhaustive list of upcoming events, meetings, gatherings mentioned*

See separate calendar for River Front Recapture along the Connecticut River in Hartford.

<https://riverfront.org/eventcalendar/>

DATE	Event	Contact / LINK
<i>JUNE</i>		
Jun 18	ALSPTA 3 rd Thurs Willimantic	https://willimanticstreetfest.com/
Jun 27	Ride the State New Haven	https://greenway.org/news-events/events/
July 8	2026 Symposium Planning meeting	Contact Danbuckley@shorelinegreenwaytrail.org for invite
Oct 2 nd	8 th Annual CT Trail Symposium	Southern Connecticut State University Connecticut Trail Symposium CT Trails Program In Partnership with the Connecticut Greenways Council University of Connecticut
Oct 4 th	5 th Annual SGT 30 bike tour	Shoreline Greenway Trail. Announcing the 5th annual SGT 30 bike tour - Oct 4th - Shoreline Greenway Trail

Connecticut Greenways Council meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00am via Microsoft Teams and Quarterly in-person hybrids at VHB in Wethersfield. Meetings last 90 minutes.

If you want to be included, please contact Kim Bradley Kimberly.Bradley@CT.gov and you will be added to the Email list.

Next CGC Meeting Jul 14th will be held in person at VLB HQ and via Microsoft Teams.