



Council News

Vol. 1, ed.7



Connecticut Greenways Council

c/o CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 424-3578 www.ct.gov/deep/greenways

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, 6

<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, CT Outdoor Recreation Alliance

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/COGS || CALENDAR

“COUNCIL NEWS”

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.

There is no July meeting

LEGISLATIVE News

The legislator is in summer recess at this time.

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

- a. The Western CT ECG Gap Study is underway
- b. New Haven/FCHT cross walks ribbon cutting.
 - a. Aaron Goode spoke on project. Many officials and media.
 - b. Discussion on crosswalks, raised FRBs and general safety.
- c. State Street Cycletrack Project NH is nearing completion. Part of ECG
- d. Plainville I is in construction. (FCHT).
- e. Plainville II Farmington south to bid end of year.
- f. Plainville III reviewing alignment
- g. Quinebaug River Trail by end of year. Design Build
- h. Jim Kulpa (VHB)
 - a. Discussed many projects. Contact him for details.
- i. Kim Bradley indicated that the [Department of Economic and Community Development](#) is increasing funding for trails and there is interest in how this synchronizes with Recreational Trails Grant review process.
- j. Bill O'Neill Cycle Project in Manchester.
- k. Claire Cain indicated
 - a. Storm clean up multiple trails.
 - b. Conservation team is out repairing stone staircases, walkways.
- l. Aaron Goode –
Shoreline Greenway Trail - 5 miles NH section going out to bid in Fall. Construction Spring '27!

NEWS from CTDOT

\$125K in Active Transportation funding still remaining in Small Grant Fund. The next due date for grant consideration is September 25th

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)

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.
- Recommendations for funding rec trails grants has been made to Brian Wilson.
- Discussion by the review team regarding the additional fund was held in June and included in the recommendations.
- Look for announcements by end of summer early fall.

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.

Requests for presentations and Sponsorship requests are now available.

Please check the website above for details.

The Symposium Website (above) includes a separate tab and calendar for ***Partner Events*** that will occur over the course of the entire weekend.

Look for more recreation, fun and info while enjoying the greater New Haven region and its communities.

The **Next planning meeting will be 08/03/26.** All are welcome to attend and help!!

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

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 includes 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
Aug 3 rd	2026 Symposium Planning Meeting - Zoom	Contact Danbuckley@shorelinegreenwaytrail.org for details
Sep 2 nd	2026 Symposium Planning Meeting - Zoom	Contact Danbuckley@shorelinegreenwaytrail.org for details
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 **NO August Meeting.**
Sept 8th will be held via Microsoft Teams.