



Council News



Welcome to the inaugural 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 might find interesting.

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

January's meeting had the usual mix of both a quorum of council members present and representatives of both CTDEEP and CTDOT. Additionally, 18 non-council attendees, representing a wide variety of organizations and members of the public were present.

A new **Communications Plan** is available and being followed to establish a new website and other ways to share information.

New Website in Development! A Letter of Understanding between the CT Trails Program and the Council was agreed to and work will start to create a new **public** platform that is easily editable and allows quick communication of information and events. It will reside within the current UConn CT Trails website <https://cttrails.uconn.edu/>
Look for this later this year!!

Greenways Fund ~ \$13K.

- Donations from last year's Trail Symposium
- DMV proceeds from the Greenways License Plate (**Please consider your support!**) <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Outdoor-Recreation/Greenways/Greenways-License-Plate>

Connecticut Trails Learning Community topic for January

- Topic of Resiliency Program development
- [Trails Learning Community | CT Trails Program](#)
- Jan 28th next Meeting

Legislative

- 2026 shorter session (Feb. 4 – May 6).
 - i. Soft surface multi-use path maintenance funding will be a topic again this year. We will re-introduce this bill with CRCOG, CFPA, HRTA, ALSPTA, and other partners around the state.
- Bruce requested anyone to suggest or forward other ideas/initiatives that CGC should consider for our support.

Project News

Bruce Donald's Spreadsheet of East Coast Greenway Projects Through 2030:

CT ECGA Funded Projects 2026-2030			16-Jan
	Trail Name	Mileage	Description/Note
2026	FCHT - New Haven IV-2	0.58	State St. Cycle Track with Water St
	FCHT - New Haven IV-2	0.13	Grove Street Connector
	Charter Oak Manchester	0.34	Hartford Rd. and Bidwell Connector
	New Haven/Hamden Raised Crosswalks	0.2	12 Intersections on FCHT
	Quinebaug River Trail Plainfield	1.61	Plainfield Line to Wauregan
	Washington Blvd Stamford	0.8	Side Path on <i>On-Road Route</i>
		3.66	\$ 14.58
2027	Plainville FCHT I	1.30	Townline Rd to Norton Park
	East Hartford Charter Oak V	3	CRCOG Study Routing Town Center
	Columbia Hop River Trail	0.83	King's Rd to new Willimantic River Bridge
	Putnam/Pomfret Air Line Trail	1.1	Town Farm Rd to City Center
	Hamden Raised Crosswalks II	0.2	12 Intersections on FCHT
	Bloomfield Greenway East III	0.3	Seneca Road to High School
		6.73	\$ 28.10
2028	Bloomfield II	6.4	High School to Tobey Road
	Hartford III	2.7	Keney Park to River Trail North RR
	Plainville FCHT II	2.10	Town Center to Northwest Drive Lot
	Southington FCHT IIIb	1.08	Aircraft Rd. to Town Line Rd.
	Hartford/Windsor Riverwalk 1	2.6	Boathouse to just south of Meadow Brook
	Putnam Quinebaug River Trail	2.5	Putnam YMCA to Killingly Phase VII
		17.38	\$ 57.80
2029	Plainville FCHT III	1.90	Norton Park to Town Center
	Windham Air Line Trail Bridge Resurface	1.90	RT 6 to Windham TL/bridge over 203
	Plainfield Moosup Valley Trail Extension	2.40	Moosup Center to Water Street
	Simsbury Tariffville II	1.72	Tariffville Center to FCHT
		7.92	\$ 56.30
2030	Hartford Griffin Line Bikeway	1.95	Route 44 to Tobey Road
		1.95	\$ 12.00
	24 Projects Funded	37.64	Brings CT to 75%
			\$ 168.78

Other Projects – *pending efforts specifically mentioned*

Project	Who mentioned	Contact
River Walk North	Martha Connelly	
Hartford Alignments	Mike Cipriano (CRCOG)	HCC approval received
Granby Nursery Updates	Bob Dickenson	
Still River Greenway Streetscape	Jay Annis	
Stonington RT 1 Bikeway	Kate Rattan (SECOG)	LOTICIP review by CTDOT.

NEWS from CTDOT

The first set of 2026 Micro Grants as part of the Active Transportation Program are open for application with the end March the first deadline.

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

There is \$750K available this year plus some 2025 remaining.
Look for new guidelines coming this week (01/12/26)

NEWS from CTDEEP

Connecticut Recreational Trails Grant Program (CT RTP)

The 2026 current round has closed with many applications being evaluated.

- 73 applications plus 2 internally from DEEP met the deadline
- \$21M in total requests
- OPM software supporting the grant program is under development. Should be a major improvement.
- CTDOT (with VHB) will be partner in review and assessment of certain projects that require their scoping and expertise.
- A message from Brian Wilson (DEEP) was provided to the Council Members regarding pending issues around application grading/ranking and the voting process.

CTDEEP will hold its Annual Winter Festival.

- Feb 7th Sat. Burr Pond, Torrington.
 - i. <https://www.cttrailfinder.com/trails/trail/burr-pond-state-park>

2026 Trail Symposium Committee planning meetings.

- Next meeting 02/04/26
- DATE, LOCATION, PROGRAM are all TBD.

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

DATE	Event	Contact / LINK
Jan 23 rd	CGC Comm Meeting	Dan Buckley
Jan 28 th	CT Trails Learning session – “Resiliency Plan Development”	Laura Kelly Trails Learning Community CT Trails Program
Feb 4 th	2026 Symposium Planning Meeting	Dan Buckley
Feb 7th	CTDEEP Annual Winter Festival - Torrington	https://www.cttrailfinder.com/trails/trail/burr-pond-state-park
Feb 10 th	Connecticut Greenways Council Monthly Meeting – VHB & Hybrid	Kim Bradley

Feb 19 th	CORA Ski & Tubing day at Mohawk Mountain	Paula Burton
Feb 27 th	CGC Comm Mtg	Dan Buckley
Mar 31st	CTDOT Micro Grant round I closure	Anna Bergeron
May 16	Ride the East - Willimantic	Bruce Donald

Routine meetings are held SECOND TUESDAYS 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 Feb 10th Hybrid In-Person and Microsoft Teams.