



Council News



Vol. 1, ed.4

Welcome to the second 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.

Previous Edition Archive.

Vol.1, ed. 1,2,3

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

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

April 2026's meeting had the usual mix of both a quorum of council members present and representatives of both CTDEEP and CTDOT. Additionally, 15 non-council attendees, representing a wide variety of organizations and members of the public were present.

NEWS

The Council is establishing **Bylaws** and **Finance** sub-committees, as allowed under its ruling legislation. These will allow for better coordinated work and ensure full transparency. Contact Bruce Donald if you want to serve on either of these sub-committees. Bruce@greenway.org.

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

New Website in Development! 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. It will reside within the current UConn CLEAR website <https://cttrails.uconn.edu/> Look for this later this year!!

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

1. 3 initiatives are in committee and are being watched as they are important to our Trail and user experience.
 - Use of sidewalk funds for other connections. SB 361 in discussion.
 - SB 406 Bike public safety for lighting
 - SB 413 revisions to MV statutes (Trans Comm) to redefine Elec Scooters.
2. The Bond Commission has not met this calendar year yet. We are still waiting for formal approval of funding for 2025 Grant funding.
 - Late April meeting is planned but not happened yet.

PROJECT NEWS

A brief overview of the FCHT work in various areas was provided by Bruce Donald.

A review of multiple state projects under development or actual work was provided by Jim Kulpa (VHB)

We will expand this list across the State in coming months.

NEWS from CTDOT

1st QTR Active Transportation Program have closed.

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 has closed with many applications being evaluated.

- Over 70 applications plus several internally from DEEP met the deadline
- Over \$20M in total requests for the \$10M of available funds once approved by the CT LEG Bonding committee.
- 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.
- The Grant review team will meet in the coming weeks to evaluate and select projects.

2026 Trail Symposium Planning is Underway!

We are closing in on final approval to host this year's event in NEW HAVEN at the Southern Connecticut State College campus. This will be a very central location with great facilities. We are targeting Oct 2nd.

There is the possibility of multiple days. Maybe ½ day Sat. with workshops to help accommodate 'working' volunteers.

The **Next planning meeting will be 05/06/26**. All are welcome to attend and help!! Contact Danbuckley@shorelinegreenwaytrail.org to be included in the meeting.

GET YOUR Nominations for the 2026 Greenways Awards in!!!

2026 Greenways Awards nominations are now open with recent press release.

- A. <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/news-releases/news-releases---2026/connecticut-greenways-council-accepting-formal-greenways-nominations>
- B. It will be held on the National Trails Day, Friday, June 5th.
- C. Planning for the location and logistics are underway and announced shortly.

DEEP has hired a new seasonal employee to help with the many initiatives and support your interests. Look for introductions as soon as they are onboard!

MAY is Bike to Work Month!

DEEP is coordinating with DOT for a ride to work day May 14th.

- i. West Hartford to Old Statehouse. Contact Kim Bradley
Kimberly.Bradley@CT.gov

Outdoor recreation day at capital 2-5 pm April 30th

[DEEP to Host CT Outdoor Recreation Day at State Capitol April 30th](#)

NEWS from your COG!

Look for applications for Q2 AT grant applications soon.

OTHER NEWS

CT TRAIL FINDER is growing!!

A 2500 Mile milestone has been achieved for state trails on the website. All are available for your recreation and enjoyment.

Check out the updated information on trails on the Data Dashboard

CT Trail finder [Welcome!](#)

Or on their social media.

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

Connecticut Trails Day Registration is OPEN via CFPA

It will be first weekend in June

Check out the options to participate as over 200 events are expected.

www.Trailsday.org



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

DATE	Event	Contact / LINK
APRIL		
April 30th	Outdoor Recreation Day	Kimberly.Bradley@CT.gov
MAY	National Ride to Work Month	
May 14th	DEEP/DOT bike to work day	Kimberly.Bradley@CT.gov
May 16 th	No Child Left Behind events	Kimberly.Bradley@CT.gov
May 16th	Ride the East - Willimantic	https://greenway.org/news-events/events/
JUNE		
June 5 (6,7)	CT Trails Day! Look for events in your area	Connecticut Trails Day 2026
June 5 th	2026 Greenways Awards	Manchester CT. Kimberly.Bradley@CT.gov
Jun 18	ALSPTA 3 rd Thurs Willimantic	https://willimanticstreetfest.com/
Jun 27	Ride the State New Haven	https://greenway.org/news-events/events/

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 May 12th will be held via Microsoft Teams.