

## **Session 4**

### **Transportation: Foundation for Growth or Cause for Decline?**

Friday, July 9, 2010

Location: Union Station, 50 Union Avenue, Connecticut Department of  
Transportation, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor West, Conference Room C, New Haven, CT

#### Agenda

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| 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.   | <u>Continental Breakfast</u>   |
| 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.   | <u>Transportation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Vision</u><br>Jeffrey Parker, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of<br>Transportation   |
| 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.  | <u>Transit Oriented Development: The Who, What, Why, Where and<br/>How of TOD</u><br>Lyle Wray, Executive Director, Capital Region Council of<br>Governments                                     |
| 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. | Break  |
| 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. | <u>Downtown Revitalization and Transit Oriented Development</u><br>John Simone, President and CEO, Connecticut Main Street   |
| 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  | <u>Linking Land Use and Transportation</u><br>State Representative J. Brendan Sharkey, representing the 88 <sup>th</sup><br>District and serving as Chair, Planning and Development<br>Committee |
| 1:00 p.m.                | <u>Adjourn</u>   |

## Session 4: Transportation- Foundation for Growth or Cause for Decline?

Expected outcomes:

1. Participants will gain an understanding of the Connecticut's Transportation Vision for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
2. Participants will have a basic understanding of the planning process, who are the major players, and strengths and weakness of the process
3. Participants will gain a basic understanding of transit oriented develop: what it is, where this is being done, and who are the major drivers/advocates for TOD.

Resource materials:

- Connecticut Department of Transportation, Transportation in Connecticut: The Planning Process; Trends and Planning Data; The Existing System  
<http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=3531&q=306378>
- Connecticut Department of Transportation, On the Move: Performance Metrics Report, January 2009, <http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=3815&q=448402>
- Connecticut Department of Transportation, Transportation Plans, <http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=1383&q=431790>.
- Capital Region Council of Governments, Going with the Flow: TOD in Connecticut, [http://www.crcog.org/publications/CRCOG\\_OverviewDocs/TODConference/GoingWithTheFlow\\_TODinCT.pdf](http://www.crcog.org/publications/CRCOG_OverviewDocs/TODConference/GoingWithTheFlow_TODinCT.pdf)
- Transportation and Community and System Preservation Program, see sections on TOD, <http://www.crcog.org/publications/tcsp.html>

Faculty:

### **Jeffrey A. Parker, Commissioner - Connecticut Department of Transportation**

Mr. Parker was appointed Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Transportation in June 2010 by Governor M. Jodi Rell. The Department operates and maintains the State transportation network including rail transit, bus transit, highways, bridges, airports, ferries and ports.

Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, Mr. Parker had served as Deputy Commissioner of the Department since July 2008. In his role as Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Parker oversaw the Bureaus of Public Transportation, Highway Operations, Engineering and Construction, and Policy and Planning. He was responsible for the operations and maintenance of the State of Connecticut's highway, bridge and public transportation network.

Under his direction, the Department began a multi-billion dollar statewide transit expansion program that is aimed at expanding transit ridership in the State's most congested corridors. This includes modernizing the country's busiest commuter rail line, the New Haven Line, and expanding commuter and intercity service throughout the State and Region, including the New Haven, Hartford and

Springfield Rail Line. In addition, he is leading efforts to design and construct the New Britain-Hartford Busway, replace the state's rail car fleet with modern state of the art rail cars, rebuild the New Haven Rail Yard, modernize the statewide bus system and facilitate transit oriented development throughout the State.

Through a five-year \$2.5 billion capital program, he oversees a major effort to maintain the State's highway and bridge infrastructure. These projects include the I-95 New Haven Harbor Crossing Improvement Program, Moses Wheeler Bridge Replacement, Route 72 extension and numerous other road and bridge rehabilitation projects.

A native of Connecticut, he attended Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts and holds a Bachelor of Science degree. Prior to working at the Connecticut Department of Transportation, Mr. Parker worked at transit agencies in Boston, Massachusetts and Atlanta, Georgia. While working at these major metropolitan transit agencies, he lead the rail and bus operating divisions.

### **Lyle D. Wray, PhD, Executive Director-Capital Region Council of Governments**

Since 2004 Dr. Wray has served as executive director of the Capitol Region Council of Governments. In this role, Dr. Wray serves as chief executive for this regional planning organization for Hartford, Connecticut and the 28 surrounding towns in transportation, community development, public safety and homeland security. The metropolitan regional population is approximately one million. Initiatives include: region wide municipal service sharing projects, regional geographic information system, cooperative purchasing online system, and contributions to state and regional outcomes measurement systems in workforce development, education and training, transportation systems and economic development.

Dr. Wray's past experience includes serving as director of Ventura County Civic Alliance, Ventura County Community Foundation where he staffed a regional program of the Ventura County Community Foundation to engage citizens in identifying and addressing significant regional issues in a county of 850,000 residents with projects including a state of the region indicators report, "Connecting the Dots" community conversations on regional issues, and community communications and presentations. And Dr. Wray has held the position of executive director for the Citizens League in the Twin Cities for 11 years. In this role, he served as chief administrative officer of a nonpartisan citizen-based regional public policy organization. That organization was heavily involved in regional governance, transportation, tax policy reform and other important issue areas.

Other positions that Dr. Wray has held include County Administrator and Human Services Director for Dakota County, Minnesota and Division Director for quality assurance and protective services for the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Dr. Wray holds a Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts and PhD in psychology from the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada. He completed the State and Local Government executive program at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He recently co-authored the book "Results That Matter" on citizen engagement and performance measurement and was brought by the U.S. State Department to meet across Indonesia with local officials and non-governmental organizations on public service reform, infrastructure finance and citizen engagement in community improvement.

### **John Simone, President and CEO-Connecticut Main Street Center**

John Simone, President & CEO started working for the Connecticut Main Street Center in 2000. Under his leadership CMSC has grown in many directions. The number of member communities has grown from 6 to 39. The statistical gains in these downtowns have been extraordinary. He is also responsible for developing the team of regional and national experts and partners to complement CMSC staff's expertise and provide a wide spectrum of resources and services in downtown revitalization.

John sits on the Board of Directors of Connecticut Preservation Action, the voice of historic preservation at the Connecticut General Assembly since 1980. He was elected by his peer statewide Main Street directors to serve on the first national executive committee to advance national advocacy issues. He was invited by Dick Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, to participate on a national task force to develop a strategic plan for the National Trust Main Street Center.

John's Main Street career began in 1996 when he became the first executive director for First Town Downtown, Windsor Center's Main Street program. Prior to this, he worked for the Hartford Ballet for over 20 years. He was a founding member of its professional dance company serving 15 years as managing and then executive director. He was a contributing author to the anthology entitled, "Market the Arts" published by the Foundation for the Effective Development of American Professional Theater (FEDAPT) and he has served on numerous grants panels and awards juries.

### **Brendan Sharkey, Connecticut State Representative (88<sup>th</sup> District)**

Brendan Sharkey is serving his fifth term as State Representative, representing the 88th District, located entirely within Hamden. Sharkey is chair of the Planning and Development Committee and also serves on the Finance, Revenue and Bonding and Program Review and Investigations Committees.

Rep. Sharkey was born in Orange, New Jersey and later moved to Connecticut in 1971. He attended Georgetown University, graduating in 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts in English/Philosophy. He later graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1989. He currently is an attorney and co-owner of AmeriZone, LLC, a consulting firm specializing in zoning and permit expediting for national retail, restaurant and telecommunications companies.

Currently, Sharkey is a member of Hamden Chamber of Commerce and the CT Bar Association. He also serves on the board of the Boys and Girls Club of New Haven.