



# Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments

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## Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments and Lower Connecticut River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization

### MINUTES OF REGIONAL HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 – 2:00 PM

**Members & Alternates Present:** Bonnie Bennet (Chester), Daniel Smith (Deep River), Thomas Pinkowish (Essex), Bill Warner (Haddam), David Lahm (Lyme), Jim Irish (Middlefield), Marek Kozikowski (Middletown), Michael Fogliano (Old Lyme), Kathy Sugland (Old Saybrook),

**Others Present:** Ben Lovejoy (CT Dept. of Housing), Karla Lindquist (HOPE Partnership), John Guskowski (Tyche), Bill Neale (Westbrook), Julia McGrath (Congressman Courtney's Office)

**RiverCOG Staff Present:** Eliza LoPresti, Susie Beckman, Kevin Armstrong, Marcos Gonzalez

#### Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fogliano at 2:02 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom video conference.

#### Approval of Minutes of August 27, 2024 & September 24, 2024 Meetings

No quorum to approve minutes

#### RHNA Update

**Recap of RHP:** Components of the regional housing plan (RHP) were reviewed, the document can be found [here](#). This was due to some of the comments received on the RHNA were looking for information that has already been included in the RHP.

**Comments Received:** Eliza summarized the comment matrix and responses. That document can be found [here](#).

**Next Steps:** The group attempted to come to consensus on the following questions about the determination equation:

**What population projection should we use?** Many of the members had already left the call by the time this question came around, but a few members expressed the opinion that we should use 0% population growth. There was discussion that using one number for the whole region may not be desirable and questions on whether we should break the region into subregions when it comes to population project.

**RiverCOG**

**What household size should we use?** A few people mentioned that we could stay with a household size of 2. There was a suggestion to use a higher number, which would show a negative amount of units, therefore illustrating that we need a different type of housing, not less housing. There was discussion on showing existing unit size and somehow showing what mix of unit size will be needed in the future. COG staff is unsure as to whether there is a way to figure this out with the available data.

**How to talk about the RHNA cheat sheet:** There was not enough time to discuss this, it will be sent out to members after the meeting. The document can be found [here](#).

**Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Eliza LoPresti