

**Transportation Technical Advisory Group**  
**October 8, 2014**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Participants**

<b>TTAG:</b>	<i>Mr. Jeremy Ginsberg, Darien; Mr. James Michel, Greenwich; Mr. Mike Yeosock, Norwalk; Pete Ratkiewich, Westport; Mr. Mani Poola, Stamford; Mr. Robert Nerney, Wilton; Mr. Louis Schulman, Norwalk Transit District; Ms. Jennifer Johnson, Westport Transit District; Ms. Roxane Fromson, CTDOT;</i>
<b>SWRPA:</b>	Ms. Sue Prosi; Mr. Ryan Hall; Mr. Robert Sachnin
<b>Other:</b>	<i>Ms. Roxane Fromson, CTDOT; Ms. Rose Etuka, CTDOT</i>

*\*italics indicate participation via telephone*

At 10:02 a.m. Ms. Susan Prosi called the meeting to order. This telephonic meeting was held at SWRPA Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Stamford Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT.

**1. TTAG Meeting Minutes: September 8, 2014**

The meeting minutes were approved as amended following a motion by Mr. Robert Nerney and a second by Mr. Mani Poola. Mr. Louis Schulman and Ms. Jennifer Johnson abstained from the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

**2. Public Involvement**

There were no members of the public present.

**3. FFY2012 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments\***

Ms. Prosi returned to CTDOT's request for an amendment to the TIP which was discussed at the previous TTAG meeting on September 8, 2014. CTDOT proposes to fund a marketing program for CTFAstrak by using transferring funding from the CMAQ NY-NJ-CT Moderate Air Quality program for Statewide Marketing (Project 170-3106). Additional Statewide Marketing funding will be transferred from the Greater CT Moderate program. The combination of the NY-NY-CT and Greater CT funding will bring the total funding for the Fastrak marketing project to \$3,659,000.

During the last TTAG meeting, the issue was tabled in order to consult with CTDOT over questions TTAG members had concerning the reallocation of funds. In that time, SWRPA has reached out to Mike Sanders of CTDOT but has so far has been unable to reach him. Ms. Prosi suggested that TTAG put this item on hold again until SWRPA is able to get some clarification from CTDOT on three particular issues. One, will funding for marketing bus transportation services in the South Western Region be available going forward? Two, will there be an opportunity for SWRPA to help shape the CTRides TDM and Marketing programs in the future? Finally, will CTDOT provide greater transparency on performance metrics for the marketing program?

Mr. Jeremy Ginsberg added that he would like to know whether the funds for Fastrak marketing will continue to come from CMAQ money. Ms. Jennifer Johnson questioned why money that was dedicated for marketing in the South Western Region was being redirected to a system that will primarily serve the Hartford area. CTDOT's response to that question is that commuters from the New York-New Jersey area will be using CTFAstrak and bus services that connect to Fastrak, and the intent is to market to those commuters to increase utilization of the service. As a follow up, Ms. Johnson asked how commuters would connect to CTFAstrak if the new BRT service didn't connect to the existing Metro-North system. Ms. Roxane Fromson answered that CTFAstrak will connect to commuter stations along the future New Haven-Hartford-Springfield commuter rail line.

Ms. Johnson then asked why money dedicated for marketing transit services in the South Western Region would be rededicated towards a project that wasn't principally serving the South Western Region. Ms.

Fromson said that money from the Statewide TDM Program (CTRides) had achieved efficiencies through a single contractor rather than the three ridesharing brokerages and another contractor that were previously used. One efficiency was marketing of CTRides and the TDM programs which then freed up the Statewide Marketing project funding. Without any transfer of funds toward CTFastrak, the funds would not have been used. With these savings, CTDOT would like to dedicate the majority of the remaining funds on media purchases for CTRides throughout the state with an emphasis on advertising the upcoming CTFastrak project.

Ms. Prosi reiterated Ms. Johnson’s sentiments that there is a need for transit marketing in the South Western Region for interregional routes that connect with Metro-North and are similar in scope to Fastrak. Ms. Prosi then asked for consensus to postpone the TTAG’s recommendation on the proposed TIP amendment until CTDOT was able to provide further clarification on the TTAG’s concerns with the transfer of funds. The TTAG gave its consent that the motion be tabled for now. *(Note: CTDOT and SWRPA did confer on the outstanding issues. CTDOT has agreed to include the region in discussions about the scope of CTRides and Statewide Marketing for the next RFQ, CTRides will meet with SWRPA to discuss the current work program, and CTDOT will work on establishing a funding source for local transit marketing services.)*

**Requested FHWA/FTA Amendments**

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
75	CMAQ	0170-3106	X6	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	FY13: STATEWIDE MARKETING (NY-NJ-CT MODERATE) - TRANSFER TO FTA (5307S)	OTH	2015	1,525	1,220	305	0	MOVE FROM FFY '13 TO FFY '15, INCRE. EST. FROM FED. \$553K & TRANSFER TO FTA (5307S)
75	5307S	0170-3106	X6	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	FY13: STATEWIDE MARKETING (NY-NJ-CT MODERATE) - TRANSFER FROM FHWA (CMAQ)	OTH	2015	1,525	1,220	305	0	TRANSFER FROM FHWA (CMAQ)

**Code Key:**  
AQC X6 = exempt

**4. Annual Metropolitan Transportation Planning Certification**

Ms. Prosi directed the TTAG to the Annual Metropolitan Transportation Planning Certification (Resolution #2014-014). Federal regulations require that the MPO self-certify that the regional transportation planning program complies with all applicable regulations and guidance. An annual certification is required when long range transportation plans and new TIPs are approved. Ms. Prosi asked for a motion to recommend approval of the region’s transportation planning program. Mr. Poola made a motion for approval which was seconded by Mr. James Michel. Ms. Johnson abstained from the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

**5. FFY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

**5a. Air Quality Conformity Determinations**

The South Western Region is required to submit an Air Quality Conformity Statement when adopting a new Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Prosi said that according to CTDOT modeling, the region was in compliance for all projects in the 2015-2018 TIP. Ms. Prosi said that the SWRPA website provides more information on Air Quality Conformity Determinations. She then asked for a motion to approve Air Quality Conformity Determinations for Ozone and PM2.5 (Resolutions #2014-015 & Resolution 2014-016). Mr. Schulman made a motion to approve which was seconded by Mr. Poola. Ms. Johnson abstained from the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

**5b. 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program**

Ms. Prosi referred the TTAG to the 2015-2018 TIP and the 2015-2018 STIP and asked TTAG members to comment or request clarification on any projects. The 2015 projects for TDM, Statewide Marketing and Fastrak Marketing will be identified as excluded from the region’s 2015 TIP. Ms. Prosi said that any

follow-up comments on the TIP or STIP should be sent to her by October 14, 2014 so that they could be added to the documentation for the MPO meeting. Ms. Prosi then asked for a motion to recommend approval of the TIP. Mr. Schulman made a motion to approve which was seconded by Mr. Jeremy Ginsberg. Ms. Johnson abstained from the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Further information about the new TIP will be provided at TIP public information sessions at SWRPA offices in Stamford Government Center. Two information sessions are scheduled for October 16, 2014 at 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

## **6. CTDOT Capital Plan Update to 2015-2019**

Ms. Prosi referred the TTAG to the draft CTDOT 2015-2019 Capital Plan. SWRPA has created an extract of this document that identifies region specific projects which is posted on the TTAG webpage at: <http://www.swrpa.org/default.aspx?About=33>

Ms. Prosi asked for feedback that she could send to CTDOT about projects listed during the 2015-2019 period. She also asked the TTAG to comment on projects that have not been included in the Capital Plan. As an example, she mentioned the exclusion of transportation incident management and highway operations projects for replacement traffic cams (CCTV) and variable message signs for the South Western Region.

## **7. CTOPM TOD Funding Request Allocations**

Ms. Prosi referred the TTAG to OPM's 2014 TOD Grant request for applications. She said that SWRPA will provide technical assistance to municipalities that are applying for the grant. She added that SWRPA will be asking WCCOG to approve any TOD funding applications at their first operational meeting at Ridgefield Town Hall on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The MPO meeting will be in the same location immediately following the first meeting of the COG. She asked that if any town is going to apply for the OPM TOD grant to inform SWRPA staff so that all the requirements of the grant could be met.

Ms. Johnson asked if there was any issue for an MPO meeting being held outside the MPO region. Ms. Prosi responded that there was not prohibition on the location of the meeting place and that those planning the logistics of the meetings feel that the best way to increase participation among the CEOs is to hold back-to-back meetings in the same location. She added that the leadership of HVCEO and SWRPA were proposing to alternate meetings between Ridgefield Town Hall and a location in Wilton.

Ms. Johnson said she understood the need for administrative efficiency but voiced her opposition to holding MPO meetings outside the region as a matter of public transparency.

## **8. Western CT COG Status Report**

### **8a. Regional Long Range Transportation Plan Update**

The first organizational meeting of the Western CT COG (WCCOG) is scheduled to take place on October 23, 2014 at Ridgefield Town Hall, 200 Main Street, Ridgefield at 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Following the first WCCOG meeting, HVCEO and SWRPA MPO meetings will be held after the WCCOG meeting. Ms. Prosi added that the WCCOG merger committee is finalizing the selection of an executive director for WCCOG.

## **9. New Business**

### **9a. Upcoming Meetings**

As mentioned during the previous agenda item, the next SWRMPO meeting will be held at the Ridgefield Town Hall following the WCCOG meeting at 12:30 p.m. The next TTAG meeting is currently scheduled for November 19, 2014 at a location TBD.

### **9b. Other**

Ms. Prosi referred to CTDOT's Draft Municipal Master Agreement. She asked that all comments to CTDOT also be sent to both SWRPA staff and to other TTAG members. Ms. Fromson added that she would like to be included on any comments as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

#### *Handouts:*

- *FFY2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*
- *Annual Certification of Metropolitan Transportation Planning*
- *FFY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) & Air Quality Conformity Determination*
- *CTOPM TOD Request for Applications*

Minutes approved by TTAG: November 17, 2014

October 3, 2014

TO: Transportation Technical Advisory Group (TTAG)  
FROM: Sue Prosi, Senior Regional Transportation Coordinator  
SUBJECT: TTAG Meeting – October 8, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting will be held at SWRPA offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Stamford Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford CT 06901.

Directions: <http://www.stamfordct.gov/government-center-facilities/pages/directions-to-the-govenment-center>

The South Western Region MPO meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2014.

### AGENDA

1. **TTAG Meeting Summary for September 8, 2014\*** (pages 1-4)
2. **Public Involvement**  
*Comments and questions from the public are welcome at this time.*
3. **FFY2012 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments\*** (pages 5-7)  
*CTDOT requests approval of a TIP amendments to reprogram CMAQ funding.*  
**Resolution #2014-013 FFY2012-2015 TIP Endorsement\*** (page 7)
4. **Annual Metropolitan Transportation Planning Certification\*** (pages 8-9)  
**Resolution #2014-014 Metropolitan Transportation Planning Certification\*** (page 9)
5. **FFY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)\***
  - 5a. **Air Quality Conformity Determinations\*** (pages 10-16)  
**Resolution #2014-015 Ozone\*** (pages 12-13)  
**Resolution #2014-016 PM2.5 \*** (pages 14-15)
  - 5b. **2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program \***  
**Resolution #2014-017 FFY2015-2018 TIP Endorsement\*** (pages 16)

6. **CTDOT Capital Plan Update to 2015 - 2019**

*CTDOT's proposed capital plan for 2015-2019 now includes funded as well as unfunded projects. TTAG review and comment on the proposed capital plan are requested. CTDOT 2015-2019 Capital Plan. The revised draft CTDOT 2015-2019 Capital Plan is posted on the TTAG meeting page: <http://www.swrpa.org/Default.aspx?About=33>*

7. **CT OPM TOD Funding Request for Applications**

*The CT Office of Policy and Management (CTOPM) issued the 2014 TOD Grant Request for Applications on September 26, 2014. Information on the program is posted at:*

*[http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=3006&Q=383284&opmNav\\_GID=1386&opmNav=|](http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=3006&Q=383284&opmNav_GID=1386&opmNav=|)*

*The application requirements and schedule are summarized in Agenda Item sheet.*

8. **Western CT COG Status Report**

9. **New Business**

**a. Upcoming Meetings**

10/23/14 TBD MPO – Ridgefield Town Hall following the WCCOG 12:30pm  
11/19/14 10:00 a.m. TTAG – Location TBD

**b. Other**

*To arrange for special accommodations or translation services contact SWRPA at least five (5) days prior to the meeting at (203) 316-5190 (voice only)*

*Para organizar especial de alojamiento o los servicios de traducción en contacto con SWRPA al menos cinco (5) días antes de la reunión al (203) 316-5190*