

**Transportation Technical Advisory Group
January 6, 2015
Meeting Minutes**

Participants

TTAG:	Mr. Jeremy Ginsberg, Darien; Mr. James Michel, Greenwich; Mr. Mike Yeosock, Norwalk; Mr. Pete Ratkiewich, Westport; Mr. Veera Karukonda, Stamford; Mr. Robert Nerney, Wilton, Ms. Kimberlee Morton, Norwalk Transit District;
WestCOG:	Ms. Sue Prosi; Mr. Alex Karman; Carl Zimmerman;
Other:	Mr. Anthony Lorenzetti, UCONN Technology Transfer; Ms. Melissa Evans, Greenwich; Mr. Frank Petise, Greenwich; Roxane Fromson, CTDOT.

**italics indicate participation via telephone*

Ms. Sue Prosi called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. The meeting was held in the Norwalk Emergency Operations Center located in the Norwalk Fire Department, 121 Connecticut Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06854. Ms. Prosi introduced Ms. Kimberlee Morton, Norwalk Transit District CEO, who succeeds Mr. Schulman who retired. Ms. Morton greeted the TTAG and provided some information on her background.

1. TTAG Meeting Minutes: November 17, 2014*

The meeting minutes were approved as revised following a motion by Mr. James Michel and a second by Mr. Michael Yeosock.

2. Public Involvement

There were no members of the public present.

3. Transportation Improvement Program: FFY2015-2018 Amendments and Actions*

Ms. Prosi reviewed the TIP amendment and action requests received from CTDOT. The projects include:

FHWA Amendments (SWRTIP#2015-001)

- 102-0355 – Pedestrian Safety Improvements in the Vicinity of the Roton Middle School
PE (2015): \$40,000 federal; CON (2016): \$465,000 federal Total: \$505,000 federal
This project will implement pedestrian safety improvements to Norwalk’s Roton Middle School using Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding. SWRPA’s Roton Middle School Plan is the basis for the project which will be designed and constructed by the City of Norwalk.
- 173-0451 – Design and Installation of STPA Traffic Control Signals at Various Locations in District 3
PE (2015 & 2016): \$550,000 federal; ROW (2016): \$100,000 federal CON (2017): \$2,500,000
Total: \$3,150,000 federal (*As a safety project this is eligible for 100% federal funding.*)

Funding has been requested for the design and installation of traffic control signals at eleven (11) locations in CTDOT District 3. Two locations are located in the South Western Region:

- New Canaan: Route 123 at Lakewood Avenue Exit & Little Brook Road
- Norwalk: Route 136 at Strawberry Hill Avenue

FHWA Actions (SWRTIP#2015-002)

135-270 – Route 15 (Merritt Parkway Resurfacing/Safety Improvements, Stamford to New Canaan
CON (2015): \$8,528,000 federal, \$2,132,000 state Total (2016): \$10,660,000

This funding request will add to previously obligated funding for the construction phase of the Merritt Parkway improvements between Stamford and New Canaan. The 2012 TIP for FY2014 indicated \$26.5M CON funding.

After a discussion about the projects, the TTAG unanimously recommended that the SWMPO approve the TIP amendments and actions using Resolution #2015-001. The motion to approve was made by Mr. Pete Ratkiewich and seconded by Mr. Bob Nerney.

Requested FHWA Amendments – SWRTIP#2015-001

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	SRSI	0102-0355	X6	SRTS	NORWALK	PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE ROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL	PE	2015	40	40	0	0	NEW PROJECT
01	SRSI	0102-0355	X6	SRTS	NORWALK	PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE ROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL	CON	2016	465	465	0	0	NEW PROJECT
73	STPA	0173-0451	X6	VARIOUS	DISTRICT 3	DESIGN & INSTALL OSTA TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN DISTRICT 3	PD	2015	385	385	0	0	NEW PROJECT
73	STPA	0173-0451	X6	VARIOUS	DISTRICT 3	DESIGN & INSTALL OSTA TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN DISTRICT 3	FD	2016	165	165	0	0	NEW PROJECT
73	STPA	0173-0451	X6	VARIOUS	DISTRICT 3	DESIGN & INSTALL OSTA TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN DISTRICT 3	ROW	2016	100	100	0	0	NEW PROJECT
73	STPA	0173-0451	X6	VARIOUS	DISTRICT 3	DESIGN & INSTALL OSTA TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN DISTRICT 3	CON	2017	2,500	2,500	0	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC X6 = exempt

Requested FHWA Administrative Actions – SWRTIP#2015-002

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	NHPP	0135-0270	X6	CT 15	STAMFORD	RESURF/SAFETY, STAMFORD TO NEW CANAAN	CON	2015	0	0	0	0	ADD FFY '15 NHPP AC ENTRY
01	NHPP	0135-0270	X6	CT 15	STAMFORD	RESURF/SAFETY, STAMFORD TO NEW CANAAN	CON	2015	10,660	8,528	2,132	0	ADD FFY '15 NHPP AC CONV.

AQC X6 = exempt

4. FY2015 South Western Region Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Adjustments*

Ms. Prosi advised that the FY2015 Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWPs) of the South Western Region and the Housatonic Valley Region would be revised to take into account changes attributable to the merger of the two regions into the Western CT Council of Governments. The UPWP adjustments will: revise the staff listing to identify the COG staff roster; adjust the burden fringe and overhead rate; and, for the South Western Region UPWP will note the possibility of using the Housatonic Transit District (HART) planning staff to perform some transit grant coordination similar to tasks they perform for the Housatonic Region. The COG will also be identified as the “transportation planning agency” for the South Western and Housatonic Regions replacing SWRPA and HVCEO which no longer exist.

5. South Western Region Long Range Transportation Plan Update 2015

Mr. Alex Karman advised that the update of the *South Western Region Long Range Transportation Plan 2011-2040 (LRTP)* to 2015-2040 is underway. Meetings are being scheduled to discuss the update and the municipalities and transit operators. Ms. Prosi recommended that municipal and transit input identify

municipal projects as well as state projects. The TTAG was encouraged to review the CTDOT Capital Plan 2015-2019 found at: <http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=1383&Q=454340>

As recommended by Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) this will be a minor update of the plan. As a consequence, the format and content of the 2015 L RTP will be similar to the 2011 L RTP with some changes in order to meet the latest Federal requirements and to keep the Plan content current. THE 2015 L RTP will include the latest available demographic and travel data, narrative updates, a revised project list, and a new section related to performance measures. A basic requirement is that the Plan be financially constrained. The Plan update schedule is:

2015

- January – Public outreach; continue drafting document; develop financial plan; begin equity review
- February – Complete first draft of document; staff review; complete equity review
- March – TTAG presentation; MPO presentation and beginning of thirty day review; public outreach
- April – South Western Region MPO Endorsement (by April 30, 2015)
- June – Final FHWA/FTA/EPA review (by June 16, 2015)

6. STP-Urban and LOTCIP Status Report – December 11, 2014

The TTAG reviewed the STP Urban program report issued December 11, 2014. Mr. James Michel reported on the November 25, 2014 meeting that he and Ms. Prosi had with CTDOT. Because CTDOT encouraged the region to submit projects for funding consideration, both he and Ms. Prosi recommend that the TTAG submit one page project concepts for STP-B and/or LOTCIP that can be sent to CTDOT for consideration. Mr. Michel noted that CTDOT has had the Greenwich Frontage Road LOTCIP application for consideration since July. Ms. Roxane Fromson will check on the status of CTDOT's review and response.

Mr. Karman reported on the RFQ for LOTCIP engineering and administrative services as well as planning task based services. (Note: the RFQ was issued on January 12, 2015 with responses due February 11, 2015. The RFQ is posted at: <http://www.westernctcog.org/procurement.html>)

Ms. Prosi indicated that CTDOT is soliciting CMAQ projects. The CTDOT CMAQ Guidance was updated. Each region may submit up to 3 projects. The South Western and Housatonic regions may each submit 3 projects. The regional submittals with priorities are due at CTDOT by April 30, 2015. The CTDOT guidance will be sent out with the region's schedule. CMAQ project possibilities should be sent to Ms. Prosi for confirmation of eligibility as soon as possible.

7. Information Items

7a. Upcoming Meetings

- 1/22/15 12:00 noon Western CT COG – Sherman Fire Department
- 2/2/15 8:15 a.m. South Western Region MPO – place of meeting COG Stamford office
- 2/3/15 10:00 a.m. TTAG – Darien Town Hall – meeting canceled.

7b. CTDOT Capital Plan 2015-2019

As mentioned in agenda item #4, CTDOT has issued the final 2015-2019 Capital Plan. It lists programmed and future projects. The link is: <http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=1383&Q=454340>

8. Featured Speaker: UCONN Technology Transfer Safety Circuit Rider

Mr. Tony Lorenzetti, the UCONN Technology Transfer Program Safety Circuit Rider, described the program's services and equipment available for loan. He also showed the TTAG how to use the UCONN-CTDOT Crash Data Base. This was supplemented by crash data printouts for each town, and a binder with UCONN services and technology briefs.

- The program services are posted at: <http://www.t2center.uconn.edu/circuitrider.php>

- The Crash Data Base is available through: <http://www.cti.uconn.edu/connecticut-transportation-safety-research-center/>

Mr. Lorenzetti let the TTAG know that the UCONN Traffic Signal Circuit Rider program would be initiated in the near future.

9. Adjournment

The TTAG meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Handouts:

- *UCONN Safety Circuit Rider information*
- *UCONN Crash Data Base printouts for each municipality*

Approved by the TTAG: 3-12-15