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# SOUTH WESTERN REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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## **SWRMPO AGENDA – AUGUST 20, 2015 at 1:30 pm**

**Location: New Canaan Town Hall**

**77 Main Street**

**New Canaan, CT 06840**

1. **South Western Region MPO Minutes – July 16, 2015 \*** (*pages 1-4*)
2. **Public Involvement** – *Comments and questions from the public are welcome at this time.*
3. **Transportation Improvement Program: FFY2015-2018\*** (*pages 5-7*)  
*Amendment of the TIP is requested by CTDOT and the City of Norwalk.*  
**Resolution #2015-015\* FFY2015-2018TIP Endorsement\*** (*page 6*)
4. **Information Items**
  - a. **Upcoming Meetings**

9/1/15	10:00 a.m.	TTAG- WestCOG Stamford Office
9/17/15	8:15 a.m.	South Western Region MPO – WestCOG Stamford Office ( <i>if needed</i> )
9/17/15	11:30 a.m.	Housatonic Valley MPO- Redding Town Hall ( <i>if needed</i> )
9/17/15	12:00 noon	Western CT COG – Redding Town Hall ( <i>if needed</i> )
  - b. **Solicitation for Candidate Planning Studies** (*page 8*)
5. **Adjournment** **\* Action Item**

*For language assistance or other accommodations, contact Western Connecticut Council of Governments at least five business days prior to the meeting at [help@westernctcog.org](mailto:help@westernctcog.org).*

*Para asistencia con el idioma y otras adaptaciones, por favor póngase en contacto con Western Connecticut Consejo de Gobiernos por lo menos cinco días hábiles antes de la reunión al [help@westernctcog.org](mailto:help@westernctcog.org).*

**South Western Region  
Metropolitan Planning Organization  
July 16, 2015  
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Chief Elected Officials:	Hon. William Brennan, Wilton; Hon. Gayle Weinstein, Weston; Hon. Jayme Stevenson, Darien; Hon. James Marpe, Westport; Hon. Peter Tesei, Greenwich;
Transit District Officials:	Ms. Kimberlee Morton, Norwalk Transit District; Mr. Mani Poola, Stamford Transit District; Mrs. Jennifer Johnson, Westport Transit District;
Official Voting Members:	Mr. Michael Pollard for Hon. David Martin, Stamford;
WestCOG:	Ms. Sue Prosi, Sr. Transportation Manager; Mr. Rob Sachnin, Sr. Planner; Mr. Michael Towle, Associate Planner;
CTDOT:	Ms. Roxane Fromson, Supervising Transportation Planner;
USDOT:	No one
Other:	No one

Mr. William Brennan called the meeting to order at 8:17a.m. The place of meeting was the WestCOG Stamford Office, 888 Washington Avenue, Stamford, CT 06901.

**1. South Western Region MPO Minutes – June 25, 2015\***

Mr. Brennan made a motion to approve the June 25, 2015 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tesei.

**2. Public Involvement**

There were no comments from the public.

**3. Transportation Improvement Program FFY2015-2018\***

Ms. Sue Prosi briefly reviewed the CTDOT requested TIP amendments. Highlights of the MPO discussion are provided.

Mr. Michael Pollard explained that the Stamford Mill River Bridge project was based on grants awarded to the City of Stamford a few years ago. TIP approvals are needed to keep the grants viable. The West Main Street bridge over the popular Mill River Park was formerly a bridge that carried vehicle traffic. The rehabilitated bridge will serve as a pedestrian bridge that provides pedestrian connectivity to downtown Stamford and the transportation center. Ms. Prosi added the FHWA discretionary grants included the High Priority Projects (HPPS) and Transportation Community System Preservation (TCSP).

Ms. Kim Morton described the proposed NTD projects, highlighting the need for all project. She explained the two planning studies include a Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) and a Facility Needs Analysis. The studies aimed to identify long-term efforts to ensure NTD can continue to serve existing and future transit demands. She explained the third project involved immediate short-term State of Good Repair repairs/improvements in order to continue existing operations.

Mrs. Jennifer Johnson inquired about the bridge rehabilitation in Stamford (Project #135-0334), asking for more detail regarding project efforts. Ms. Prosi indicated has been on the CTDOT needs list for quite some time, adding that design work has been slated for FY2015 and 2016, at which point more information regarding project details would be identified. She also added that construction was currently anticipated to begin in 2018.

Additional TIP project details are provided below:

### **FHWA Amendments (SWRTIP#A2015-005)**

#### Project #412-0143 - Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA):

Funding for these bridge inspections is increased by \$440,000 each year and STP-Anywhere BRX (Bridges) rather than the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP- BRX) funding. The increase in project funding is similar to Project 170-3223, endorsed by the SWRMPO last month, which was also related to MAP-21 changes. This project was recommended by the TTAG for MPO endorsement on May 5, 2015.

Project #412-0143 - Facility Needs Analysis: currently overcapacity, the NTD facility is in need of an analysis to identify opportunities to future expansion and the necessary on-going State of Good Repair. Details of the study include, but are not limited to: review of storage and circulation space for vehicles in fleet and the associated maintenance requirements, introduction of new technologies in the facility, assessment of current building systems and recommended improvements, including preliminary engineering and design schematics, as well as corresponding cost estimates.

Similar to the NTD COA described above there is no local match. The federal share for this analysis is provided via the 5307 program (transferred from remaining STPBS funding) and the state supplying the remaining match. This project was recommended for MPO endorsement by the TTAG on June 30, 2015.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	STPBS	0412-0143	X6	NORWALK TD	NORWALK	NORWALK TD - STUDY OF FACILITY NEEDS AND FACILITY ANALYSIS - TRANSFER TO FTA	OTH	2015	350	280	70	0	NEW PROJECT
01	5307S	0412-0143	X6	NORWALK TD	NORWALK	NORWALK TD - STUDY OF FACILITY NEEDS AND FACILITY ANALYSIS - TRANSFER FROM FHWA	OTH	2015	350	280	70	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC X6 = exempt

#### Project #412-0144 – Facility Improvements/Repairs:

State of Good Repair maintenance is immediately required and approved by CTDOT. This does not conflict with or duplicate the Facility Needs Assessment will determine future improvements, costs and the timetable for improvement. Proposed improvements include, but are not limited to: minor interior painting, flooring repairs, facility and maintenance component repairs, roof patching, building security repairs, rock retention (to address outdoor rock slope deterioration), and signage.

It is important to note NTD understands and will only perform work necessary to ensure safe and efficient transit operations, with major long-term solutions pending until the completion of the facility analysis and future programmed funding sources. Federal project financing is provided via the FTA Urbanized Area Formula Program (FTA 5307), which provides assistance for transit capital and operating expenses for transportation related planning. The remaining project funding will be provided by the state.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	5307C	0412-0144	X6	NORWALK TD	NORWALK	NORWALK TD - FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS/REPAIRS (SGR) FY 15	CON	2015	150	120	30	0	NEW PHASE

AQC X6 = exempt

#### Project #: 0135-0307, 0310, 0334, 0335 – Stamford Bridge Replacements

A series of bridge replacements are proposed within the City of Stamford, including information from CTDOT, where provided:

Project #135-0307: involves the movement of funding from the bridge program to the Surface Transportation Program (STPA-BRX) for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 15. No changes in scope or design are currently proposed.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	STPA-BRX	0135-0307	X6	US 1	STAMFORD	REPLACE BRIDGE 00315 O/ NOROTON RIVER	FD	2015	441	353	88	0	MOVE FUNDING FROM BRIDGE TO FFY '15 STPA-BRX
01	STPA-BRX	0135-0307	X6	US 1	STAMFORD	REPLACE BRIDGE 00315 O/ NOROTON RIVER	ROW	2015	285	228	57	0	MOVE FUNDING FROM BRIDGE TO FFY '15 STPA-BRX
01	STPA-BRX	0135-0307	X6	US 1	STAMFORD	REPLACE BRIDGE 00315 O/ NOROTON RIVER	CON	2016	7,400	5,920	1,480	0	MOVE FUNDING FROM BRIDGE TO FFY '15 STPA-BRX

AQC X6 = exempt

Project #135-0335: proposes the replacement of Bridge #02212 along West Main Street over the Mill River. The new bridge will carry pedestrian traffic, enhancing the connectivity to downtown Stamford and to the transportation center. The existing bridge was closed due to poor structural condition. The funding is from FHWA discretionary funding programs: High Priority Project (HPPS) and Transportation Community System Preservation (TCSP).

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	HPPS	0135-0310	X6	WEST MAIN STREET	STAMFORD	REPLACE BRIDGE 02212 O/ MILL RIVER	CON	2017	-1,370	-1,096	0	-274	DELETE PROJECT
01	TCSP	0135-0335	X6	WEST MAIN STREET	STAMFORD	REPLACE BRIDGE 02212 O/ MILL RIVER	PD	2015	863	690	0	173	NEW PROJECT
01	TCSP	0135-0335	X6	WEST MAIN STREET	STAMFORD	REPLACE BRIDGE 02212 O/ MILL RIVER	FD	2016	142	114	0	28	NEW PROJECT
01	HPPS	0135-0335	X6	WEST MAIN STREET	STAMFORD	REPLACE BRIDGE 02212 O/ MILL RIVER	CON	FYI	4,148	1,350	0	2,798	NEW PROJECT

AQC X6 = exempt

Project #135-0334: is a new project to rehabilitate Bridge #00032, which carries I-95 and its ramps over the Metro-North Railroad in the vicinity of I-95. The inspection ratings of the bridge deck and substructure have necessitated the need for this new project, which requires no local match. Federal funding is provided via the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP), with the state share funded through the Interstate Bond program.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	NHPP-BRX	0135-0334	X6	I-95	STAMFORD	REHAB BR 00032 OVER METRO NORTH RR	PD	2015	1,200	1,080	120	0	NEW PROJECT

01	NHPP-BRX	0135-0334	X6	I-95	STAMFORD	REHAB BR 00032 OVER METRO NORTH RR	FD	2016	2,000	1,800	200	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP-BRX	0135-0334	X6	I-95	STAMFORD	REHAB BR 00032 OVER METRO NORTH RR	CON	2018	32,000	28,800	3,200	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC X6 = exempt

#### Project #0170-3362 – Sign Support Replacements

Overhead sign support replacements are proposed statewide at various locations, which will be determined based on a priority list prepared and submitted to CTDOT Bridge Safety. The replacements are proposed as a result of deterioration and/or the exceedance of their useful life. Federal funding for this project is provided as part of the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP), accounting for 80% of the cost. The remaining 20% will be provided by the State of Connecticut.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
70	NHPP	0170-3362	X6	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	SIGN SUPPORT REPLACEMENTS	PD	2016	190	152	38	0	NEW PROJECT
70	NHPP	0170-3362	X6	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	SIGN SUPPORT REPLACEMENTS	FD	2016	10	8	2	0	NEW PROJECT
70	NHPP	0170-3362	X6	VARIOUS	STATEWIDE	SIGN SUPPORT REPLACEMENTS	CON	2017	4,000	3,200	800	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC X6 = exempt

The motion to approve **Resolution #2015-014 FFY2015-2018 TIP Endorsement – July 2015** was made by Ms. Stevenson and seconded by Ms. Weinstein. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. Information Items**

##### a. Upcoming Meetings

Mr. Brennan reviewed the upcoming meetings which were included on the agenda.

##### b. TTAG Meeting Minutes – June 30, 2015

All items related to the TTAG minutes were covered during the discussion of item 3, 3. Transportation Improvement Program FFY2015-2018\*.

##### c. Other

No other items were discussed.

#### **5. Adjournment**

The MPO meeting was adjourned at 8:27. The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Brennan.

## FFY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)\*

### MPO Action Requested:

- Review and endorsement of FFY2015 TIP amendments and actions using SWRMPO Resolution #2015-015.

### Background

The FFY2015-2018 South Western Region TIP was endorsed by the MPO on October 23, 2014. The TIP was incorporated into the larger Statewide TIP, which was approved by USDOT and EPA on January 21, 2015.

### Amendments

WestCOG has received CTDOT requests for the following FHWA TIP amendments:

#### **FHWA Amendments (SWRTIP#A2015-006)**

##### 0102-0358 – Norwalk Route 7 and 15 Interchange

CTDOT is proposing preliminary and final engineering design (PD, FD) for a project which would provide full interchange access from all directions at the junction between U.S. Route 7 and CT-15 (Merritt Parkway). Currently only a partial interchange exists, which has contributed to area traffic congestion. The preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) is also included in the scope of work.

Funding will be split with 80% of funding provided through the federal National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) and the remaining 20% to be provided by the State of Connecticut. The NHPP provides support for the condition and performance of the National Highway System (NHS), and both Route 7 and the Merritt Parkway are part of the NHS. Total engineering project costs amount to \$20 million dollars, with the specific breakdowns provided in the table below.

Completion of the Route 7 and 15 Interchange is a priority project for the South Western Region MPO, and is included in the South Western Region Long Range Transportation Plan 2015-2040. In the last interchange design and environmental project, SWRPA (now WestCOG), on behalf of the South Western Region MPO, was a “cooperating agency” in the design and environmental assessment. This enables the region with the ability to receive project information and communications, while also providing critical input. WestCOG, on behalf of the South Western Region MPO, should request participating agency status. WestCOG is a cooperating agency in the Danbury Branch Line Environmental Assessment, which is still active.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC ENTRY	PD	2015	0	0	0	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC CONVERSION	PD	2015	5,000	4,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC CONVERSION	PD	2016	5,000	4,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC ENTRY	FD	2017	0	0	0	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC CONVERSION	FD	2017	5,000	4,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC CONVERSION	FD	2018	5,000	4,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC M = modeled for air quality analysis

### Attachments

- Resolution #2015-015 FFY2015-2018 TIP Endorsement

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# SOUTH WESTERN REGION

## METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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### RESOLUTION #2015-015 Resolution to Endorse the South Western Region FY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program

- WHEREAS:** Present federal regulations governing federal transportation assistance in urban areas prescribe that a Transportation Improvement Program be structured for each urban area which realistically balances need and financial resources over a four year period; and
- WHEREAS:** The *South Western Region FFY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* has been reviewed by the transportation technical and policy boards as well as the public.
- WHEREAS:** The projects are consistent with the *South Western Region Long Range Transportation Plan 2011-2040*, and are financially constrained.
- WHEREAS:** The projects meet the conformity requirements of the Clean Air Act
- *Connecticut Department of Transportation Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination; of the 2011 Regional Transportation Plans and the FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Programs for the Connecticut Portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT Ozone Nonattainment Area and the Greater Connecticut Ozone Nonattainment Area, August 2014, and*
  - *Connecticut Department of Transportation PM 2.5 Air Quality Conformity Determination; of the 2011 Regional Transportation Plans and the FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Programs for the Connecticut Portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT area PM<sub>2.5</sub> Attainment/Maintenance Area, September 2014.*
- WHEREAS:** The TIP is based on a continuing, comprehensive transportation process carried on cooperatively by the State, MPO, and transit operators in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134 and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. 1607).

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby:

Endorses the *South Western Region FFY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*.

This resolution is effective August 20, 2015.

Date: August 20, 2015.

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William Brennan, Chairman

**2015 TIP AMENDMENTS FHWA**  
**SWRTIP #2015-006 South Western Region MPO 8/20/15**  
**Resolution #2015-015**

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments	Change Code	Transmittal
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC ENTRY	PD	2015	0	0	0	0	NEW PROJECT	05	a
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC CONVERSION	PD	2015	5,000	4,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT	05	a
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC CONVERSION	PD	2016	5,000	4,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT	05	a
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC ENTRY	FD	2017	0	0	0	0	NEW PROJECT	05	a
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC CONVERSION	FD	2017	5,000	4,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT	05	a
01	NHPP	0102-0358	M	CT 7/15	NORWALK	NORWALK RT 7/15 INTERCHANGE - AC CONVERSION	FD	2018	5,000	4,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT	05	a
CODE KEY								TRANSMITTAL KEY							
01 Move projects from one year in the STIP to another year in the STIP								a	2015-0728_102-358_2015 STIP Amendments and Actions Region 1						
02 Fiscal constraint issues															
03 Adjust existing projects for design schedule changes															
04 Adjust existing projects for revised cost estimates															
05 New Project															
06 New Phase															
07 Administrative Requirement								AQ CONFORMITY CONSULTATION							
08 Delete phase								The Air Quality Codes identified by CT DOT							
09 Delete project								SELECT FROM THE LIST BELOW (ONLY INCLUDE APPROPRIATE CODE)							
10 Correction								X6 - Projects exempt from the requirement to determine conformity under 40 CFR 93.126 .							
								X7 - Projects exempt from regional emissions analysis requirements under 40 CFR 93.127							
								X8 - Traffic signal synchronization projects under 40 CFR 93.128							
								M - Projects modeled for air quality analysis							
								N - Projects that are not regionally significant and are not modeled							



## South Western Region Solicitation for Candidate Studies

**SWRMPO:** *This is an informational item regarding the opportunity for SWRMPO submission of up to two planning studies, for consideration by CTDOT.*

### Background

Planning studies provide excellent value by helping the region and its municipalities better understand a variety of transportation components, depending on the specific study. Study recommendations often materialize into actual construction projects and/or improvements which serve to benefit the region's vast transportation network. Each year, the SWRMPO is allowed to submit up to two planning studies to CTDOT. Recent studies conducted in the region include the Darien Route 1 Corridor Study, the Route 1 Greenwich-Stamford Study, and the Route 7 Corridor Study.

### Timeline

CTDOT's planning study process requires submittal of proposed planning studies **by October 31<sup>st</sup> 2015** if CTDOT technical reviews and participation are required.

To enable regional discussion and priority setting, the study process and schedule are detailed below:

### Corridor Study Schedule 2015

<b>Date (2015)</b>	<b>Activity</b>
August 4 – 14	Contact Sue Prosi to discuss candidate planning study concept, purpose & need
August 17	Candidate Planning Study Concepts due – to Sue Prosi
September 1	TTAG discussion of planning studies
September 21	Full applications due – to Sue Prosi
October 6	TTAG review and development of priorities
October 22	SWRMPO endorsement of priorities
October 26	Transmittal of two candidate planning studies to CTDOT