

APPROVED

11/19/2015 MINUTES

**HOUSATONIC VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

MEETING AT DANBURY CITY HALL

155 DEER HILL AVENUE, DANBURY, CT 06810

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Bethel..... First Selectman Matthew Knickerbocker
- Bridgewater.. First Selectman Curtis Read
- Brookfield..... Absent
- Danbury..... Mayor Mark Boughton

- New Fairfield. First Selectman Susan Chapman
- New Milford.. Absent
- Newtown..... Absent

- Redding..... Absent
- Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi, Chairman
- Sherman..... First Selectman Clay Cope

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Richard Schreiner and Stephanie Scavelli of HARTransit, WestCOG staff.

CALL TO ORDER / COMMENT

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by Chairman Rudy Marconi, a quorum was determined to be present, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There was no public comment.

MINUTES FROM 7/16/2015

After review and on a motion made by Matt Knickerbocker and seconded by Susan Chapman, the minutes of the HVMPO meeting of 7/16/2015 were unanimously approved, except for an abstention by Clay Cope.

Concerning the July 16 TIP amendments, Rudy Marconi requested that the staff research the relationship of Project #0170-3227 "Sign Support Inspection" funding, to the dollar amount then specified for Project #0170-3362 "Sign Support Replacement."

Information is needed as to how funds needed for sign support improvements could have been determined so specifically prior to the inspection phase having been completed.

IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

Transportation improvement Program amendments requested by CT DOT were then reviewed, requested amendments summarized as follows:

- **CT DOT Project #0016-0101 Utility Breakout of Bridgewater's Route 133 Upgrade:** \$2,400,000 federal, \$600,000 state, total \$3,000,000, federal grant category STP-R. Relocation of interstate internet main cable as well as traditional utility poles, funding includes detour signing and police, CT DOT survey and inspection. Project construction costs are all state funded at \$10,000,000.

- **CT DOT Project #0174-0407 Replacement of Highway Illumination Systems in various locations in District 4,** total of design and construction phases, \$12,000,000 federal, \$3,000,000 state, total \$15,000,000, federal grant category NHPP.

Curtis Read provided a history of the Bridgewater Route 133 project and stated that the improvements are necessary. A memo from CT DOT detailing the Route 133 project was also provided.

Regarding the replacement of highway illumination systems, an accompanying CT DOT memo identified the 1965 I-84 illumination in Danbury and Bethel and also the 1977 illumination on the Route 7 Expressway in Danbury and Brookfield as project locations within the HVMPO region.

There was discussion. Then on a motion made by Matt Knickerbocker and seconded by Curtis Read, the TIP amendments were unanimously approved.

RECENT AND UPCOMING TRANSPORTATION STUDIES

Jon Chew gave a PowerPoint presentation on this topic. Recently completed and upcoming studies were each summarized. The 9/2015 Brookfield Route 202 Plan was presented with additional detail.

There was discussion, with members commenting upon the Bethel and Ridgefield transit oriented development studies.

Regarding future studies, Mark Boughton stated that a Danbury transportation issue he would like addressed by HVMPO is the relocation of the HARTransit Pulse Point now at the north end of Downtown Danbury to a site more favorable for its patrons and synergy with Downtown activity, near the railroad station suggested.

ENDORSEMENT OF ROUTE 202 PLAN

Members were requested to endorse the recent completed Brookfield Route 202 Plan, as approved in September by Brookfield's Board of Selectmen, Planning Commission, Zoning Commission and Police Commission. The goal is submission to CT DOT to be followed by priority project initiations.

There was discussion. Then on a motion made by Clay Cope and seconded by Mark Boughton, the Brookfield Route 202 Plan was unanimously endorsed and the HVMPO secretary authorized to sign a resolution to that effect.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made by Susan Chapman and seconded by Matt Knickerbocker the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM.