

SWRMPO  
**SOUTH WESTERN REGION**  
**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
APPROVED MINUTES OF 4/21/2016

Meeting at the Ridgefield Library  
472 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877  
Public access was also available at the WestCOG Stamford Office

Chairman Jayme Stevenson • Vice Chairman Robert Mallozzi

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

- Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson
- Greenwich First Selectman Peter Tesei
- New Canaan First Selectman Robert Mallozzi
- Norwalk Absent
- Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Joshua Benson
  
- Weston Absent
- Westport First Selectman James Marpe
- Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice
- Transit Appointment Pending
- CTDOT Appointment Pending (non-voting)
- MPO Staff Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Bethel First Selectman Matthew Knickerbocker, Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read, Brookfield First Selectman Stephen Dunn, Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton, New Fairfield First Selectman Susan Chapman, Newtown First Selectman Patricia Llodra and Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton.

Also Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi, Sherman First Selectman Clay Cope, Weston resident Dr. Margaret Wirtenberg, CT DOT Supervising Planner Roxane Fromson, Rick Schreiner of HARtransit, Norwalk Transit District CEO Kim Morton, WestCOG staff members David Hannon, Patty Payne, Rob Sachnin and Jon Chew.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order at 11:40 AM.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**FUNDING AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

Rob Sachnin reviewed the following funding opportunities the details for which were provided in the agenda packet:

USDOT TIGER - Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Program: \$500 million discretionary grant program, awarding projects that advance USDOT's strategic goals. Primarily geared towards capital projects. Application deadline April 29, 2016.

USDOT ATCMDT - Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMDT) Program: \$60 million in annual discretionary funding through 2020, awarding projects that implement and operate advanced transportation technologies. Application deadline June 3, 2016.

FTA 5310 Program: Seeks to enhance mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. There is approximately \$3.1 million in statewide funding. Applications are due to CTDOT (original) and WestCOG (copy) April 29, 2016. Questions regarding the WestCOG solicitation for this program may be directed to Rick Schreiner of HARTransit at ricks@hartransit.com.

FTA 5339b and Low-No Programs: Approximately \$266 million in competitive grant funding, including \$211 million for buses and related facilities projects (5339b) and \$55 million for the Low and No Emission (Low-No) bus program. Approximately 100 project awards are anticipated nationwide.

STSFSA: Surface Transportation System Funding Alternatives Program: Funding totals of \$15 million (FFY16) and \$20 million annually (FFY17-20) has been made available to states to demonstrate user based alternative revenue mechanisms to maintain the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund.

## **LOCAL TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**LOTICIP Projects:** Robert Sachnin distributed a spread sheet defining the LOTICIP funded capital program with regional balance by program year, summarized as follows:

### **A: EXISTING COMMITMENTS**

Stamford - Fiber Trunk Cable \$5,459,061  
Norwalk - SoNo Streetscape \$2,069,045  
Greenwich - Frontage Road \$1,080,000  
Greenwich - Sound Beach \$3,900,900

### **B: FY14-15 SOLICITATION RESULTS WITH MUNICIPAL RANK**

Norwalk (1) - Alternative Enhancements \$600,000  
Stamford (1) - West Avenue and West Main Street \$2,000,000

### **C: FY16 SOLICITATION RESULTS WITH MUNICIPAL RANK**

Darien (1) - Noroton Avenue and West Avenue \$1,200,000  
Westport (1) - Riverside Avenue \$300,000  
Westport (2) - Compo Road South \$400,000  
Stamford (2) - Greenwich at Pulaski \$1,000,000

### **D: FY17 SOLICITATION RESULTS WITH MUNICIPAL RANK**

New Canaan (1) - Locust Avenue Parking \$2,000,000  
Greenwich (1) - Davis Avenue \$2,500,000  
Greenwich (2) - Glenville Road and Brookside Drive \$1,750,000  
Stamford (3) - Strawberry Hill Road at Rock Spring Road \$1,750,000  
Westport (3) - Main Street \$300,000

### **E: FY16 AND 17 PROJECTED 20%**

#### **OVER-PROGRAMMING WITH MUNICIPAL RANK**

Greenwich (3) - Lake Avenue at Rock Ridge Avenue \$1,000,000  
Stamford (4) - Atlantic and Main Street \$2,000,000  
Stamford (5) - Atlantic at Broad \$500,000  
Stamford (6) - Broad Street at Summer Street \$500,000

There was discussion. Jayme Stevenson thanked staff for its management of the LOTICIP program.

**LOTICIP Consultant Task Based Services:** Rob Sachnin reviewed this item, stating that as part of the responsibilities assigned by CTDOT for administering LOTICIP, WestCOG has completed a request for qualifications process for the needed planning, engineering and program management services. He also thanked the staff involved during the process for their efforts.

The result of the process was three lists of consultants as shown in an agenda attachment and summarized below. The selection process met the standards of CTDOT's qualifications based selection guidelines, that procurement method designed to also satisfy municipal procurement guidelines.

LIST 1 for On Call Design Assistance: Municipalities may select from these firms for assistance with LOTCIP design phases; Fuss & O'Neil, Milone & MacBroom, Stantec and Tighe & Bond. Municipal selection from this list is optional.

LIST 2 for On Call Construction Assistance: Municipalities may select from these firms for assistance with LOTCIP construction phases; GM2, Milone & MacBroom, Tighe & Bond and VHB. Municipal selection from this list is optional.

LIST 3 for WestCOG Project Reviews: The Council has LOTCIP responsibilities separate from those assigned by CTDOT to municipalities. Accordingly, WestCOG has entered into agreements with consultants AECOM and CHA for program management and engineering design review services. The two consultant agreements are effective until 1/31/2019 and not to exceed \$152,550.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

**Transit Operator and CTDOT Representative on MPO:** Referencing the MPO Operating Procedures approved at the last meeting, staff stated that CT DOT and transit operator MPO members now need to be appointed, as required by the recently approved MPO Operating Procedures:

**Transit Operators:** Each MPO will appoint one or more transit operator representatives by a majority vote of the MPO's municipal members. Each representative shall be a member of management, general manager, or equivalent of a public transit system that operates in the region and that is a designated or direct recipient of federal Urbanized Area Formula Program funds from the Federal Transit Administration. Alternates to these members may also be appointed by the MPO.

**State Officials:** The Commissioner of the CT DOT will be requested to appoint a representative and alternate to serve as a non-voting member of the MPO. The CT DOT appointees will serve until their resignation or replacement by the CT DOT Commissioner.

There was discussion of the appointments. Jim Marpe requested that Westport's transit interests be considered by the Norwalk Transit District representative. Ms. Morton stated that if appointed, she would gladly represent all transit interests in the SWRMPO area, and keep other entities apprised of activities that may affect them.

The consensus was to appoint Kimberlee Morton of the Norwalk Transit District as the transit member on a motion made by Lynne Vanderslice, seconded by James Marpe, voted all aye.

Further, to request CT Commissioner James Redeker to appoint himself as the CTDOT member and to appoint CT DOT Supervising Planner Roxane Fromson as the CT DOT alternate. A motion to this effect was made by Peter Tesei, seconded by Jim Marpe, voted all aye.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

**Approve 3/17/2016 Minutes:** After review and on a motion made by Jim Marpe and seconded by Lynne Vanderslice, the minutes of the meeting of 3/17/2016 were unanimously approved, with abstentions by Peter Tesei and Joshua Benson.

**Transportation Improvement Program Amendment:** Robert Sachnin stated that CTDOT was requesting TIP endorsement concerning Stamford's Atlantic Street Railroad Bridge Overpass. Also, three federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) projects to be undertaken by CTDOT, for a total of four projects with TIP amendments.

The purpose of CMAQ is to fund transportation projects and programs that will improve air quality and reduce congestion, he said. The four amendments are summarized as follows:

--- **#0135-0301** FY2016 \$4,962,000, Stamford's Atlantic Street Railroad Bridge Overpass. The CT DOT requested TIP amendment is prompted by a transfer of construction funding and oversight from FHWA to FTA. An increase in the federal funding is also proposed, resulting from more refined project designs and scope.

Movement of the project from FFY15 to the current year FFY16 is also included in this request. Total is 80% federal, 20% state.

Originally endorsed by SWRMPO in March of 2013, the overpass will be widened to increase capacity and sidewalks will also be installed. Additional improvements will be made to the vertical clearance of the bridge, which requires the reconstruction of an I-95 off-ramp at Exit 8. Josh Benson commented that the project was being managed by CTDOT to Stamford's satisfaction.

--- **#170-3399** FY16 \$2,542,000, Statewide Transportation Demand Management; market, educate and provide outreach to employers and individuals in support of regional rideshare programs.

--- **#170-3401** FY16 \$352,000, Telecommuting Partnership; part of the CTRides program to assist employers design and maintain telecommuting programs.

--- **#170-3406** FY16 \$755,000, Statewide Marketing; transit marketing to make public transportation the mode of choice.

There was discussion. Then on a motion made by Peter Tesei and seconded by Jim Marpe, the proposed TIP amendments were unanimously approved.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Jayme Stevenson stated that the next meeting would be held at 11:30 AM before the WestCOG meeting scheduled for 5/19/2016 at the Ridgefield Library.

Then on motion made by Lynne Vanderslice and a second by Josh Benson, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the SWRMPO meeting at 12:15 PM.