

**SWRMPO**  
**SOUTH WESTERN REGION**  
**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

APPROVED MINUTES OF 5/19/2016

Meeting held at the Ridgefield Library  
472 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877

Public access by phone was also available from the WestCOG Stamford Office

Chairman Jayme Stevenson - Vice Chairman Robert Mallozzi

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

- Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson
- Greenwich Absent
- New Canaan First Selectman Robert Mallozzi
- Norwalk Alternate Assistant Principal Engineer Mike Yeosock
- Stamford Absent
  
- Weston Absent
- Westport Absent
- Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice
- Transit Norwalk Transit District CEO Kimberlee Morton
- CTDOT Appointment Pending (non-voting)
- MPO Staff Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Bethel First Selectman Matthew Knickerbocker, Brookfield First Selectman Stephen Dunn, Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton, New Fairfield First Selectman Susan Chapman, New Milford Mayor David Gronbach, Newtown First Selectman Patricia Llodra, Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi, Sherman First Selectman Clay Cope, Transit Representative HARTransit Director Eric Bergstraesser, Weston resident Dr. Margaret Wirtenberg and CT DOT Supervising Planner Roxane Fromson.

In addition, Stephanie Scavelli of Norwalk Transit, CT State Safety Engineer Joseph Ouellette, Town of Ridgefield Interns Brendan Pallant, Gwendolyn Ellis and Catherine Crespo, Andrea Rynn of the Western CT Health Network, Norwalk Resident Jo-Anne Horvath, from the CT Conference of Municipalities Director of Government Finance and Research George Rafael, Advocacy Manager Randy Collins and Senior Legislative Associate Daniel Luigi, and WestCOG staff members David Hannon, Patty Payne, Rob Sachnin and Jon Chew.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

## INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

**LOTICIP Update:** Rob Sachnin provided an update on the CTDOT Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program, with further information and proposed actions to be presented at the WestCOG meeting to follow.

## ACTION ITEMS

**Approve 4/21/2016 Minutes:** After review and on a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and seconded by Lynne Vanderslice, the minutes of the SWRMPO meeting of 4/21/2016 were unanimously approved, as amended.

**Annual Federal Certification:** The Chairman noted that federal regulations require the MPO to annually self-certify that its regional transportation planning program complies with all applicable federal regulations and guidance.

A resolution was presented stating that the metropolitan transportation planning process is being carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of:

- (1) 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303, and this part (23 CFR 450);
- (2) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, sections 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 (c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93;
- (3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;
- (4) 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- (5) Section 1101(b) of the SAFETEA-LU (Pub. L. 109-59) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in USDOT funded projects;
- (6) 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- (7) The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;
- (8) The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- (9) Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender;
- (10) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and
- (11) All other applicable regulations and guidance pertaining to metropolitan transportation planning.

There was discussion. Then seconded by Kimberlee Morton, resolution #2016-004 entitled "Annual Certification of Metropolitan Transportation Planning by the South Western Region MPO" was unanimously approved.

**FTA 5310 Program Project Priorities:** Dave Hannon reviewed this topic, noting that the Federal Transit Administration's Section 5310 Program provides capital and operating grants to private non-profit corporations and public agencies to **help** meet the **transportation** needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Grants from this CTDOT managed federal program provide up to 50% of operating costs and 80% of capital costs for a broad spectrum of transit projects **and services**, he said. Further that CTDOT requires MPOs to prioritize 5310 applications affecting their regions, and that this year, thirteen applications affecting the two MPOs within the WestCOG area were submitted for consideration.

At the request of WestCOG staff, the thirteen applications were independently reviewed and prioritized by staff from the Norwalk Transit District and HARTransit, both utilizing standard scoring criteria provided by CTDOT. The two staffs then met and reached consensus on recommended priorities as shown below:

RANK FOR SWRMPO 5310 CAPITAL VAN GRANT PROGRAM  
No applications submitted

RANK FOR SWRMPO 5310 OPERATING PROGRAMS  
1. ITN Coastal CT  
2. Kennedy Center (regional)  
3. At Home in Darien  
4. United Way (regional)

There was discussion of the recommended rankings. Then on a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and seconded by Lynne Vanderslice, the rankings were approved for utilization by CTDOT. Staff was then thanked by members for their work on this issue followed by applause.

**Transportation Improvement Program Amendment:** Rob Sachnin reviewed a requested TIP amendment for a new CTDOT project in Wilton at the intersection of Route 7 and Grumman Hill Road, labeled in the agenda attachment as Project #161-141.

This proposed traffic improvement is to address safety and operational issues by providing exclusive left turns in both directions on Route 7 to access intersecting Grumman Hill Road. A complete traffic signal replacement is also planned to help reduce congestion at this intersection. A new sidewalk is also proposed at the northeast section of the intersection.

He stated that the project cost estimate is \$4.170 million at 80% federal, 20% state. Details on project phasing and a recommended resolution of endorsement were referenced in the agenda packet, the resolution numbered #2016-005 and entitled "Resolution to Endorse the SWR FY2015-2018 TIP."

There was discussion. Lynne Vanderslice expressed the Town of Wilton's support for the project. Then on a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and seconded by Kimberlee Morton, the TIP amendment and accompanying endorsement resolution were unanimously approved.

**State and Transit Representation on MPOs:** Referencing the MPO Operating Procedures approved at the 3/17/2016 meeting, staff stated that establishing CT DOT and transit operator representation on the MPOs is nearing completion.

On April 21 SWRMPO requested CT Commissioner James Redeker to appoint himself or another as the CTDOT member, as well as to also appoint CT DOT Supervision Planner Roxane Fromson as the CTDOT alternate. Roxane Fromson then reported that the CTDOT recommendation is for CTDOT Policy & Planning Bureau Chief Thomas Maziarz to serve as the SWRMPO member with herself as the alternate.

After brief discussion of the CTDOT SWRMPO representation recommendation a motion to approve it was made by Lynne Vanderslice and seconded by Rob Mallozzi, voted all aye.

In review a SWRMPO transit appointment made at the April 21 meeting was Norwalk Transit District CEO Kimberlee Morton with a transit alternate remaining to be appointed at this meeting. Kimberlee Morton then made a recommendation on this matter, requesting that Stephanie Scavelli of the Norwalk Transit District staff be appointed as the transit alternate, in doing so reviewing her qualifications to serve.

After brief discussion of the transit alternate representation recommendation a motion to approve Stephanie Scavelli as the SWRMPO transit member alternate was made by Rob Mallozzi, seconded by Lynne Vanderslice, voted all aye.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Jayme Stevenson stated that the next SWRMPO meeting would be held at 11:30 AM before the WestCOG meeting scheduled for 6/16/2016. It was requested that a category for other business be added to future agendas.

Then on a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and a second by Lynne Vanderslice, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the SWRMPO meeting at 12:05 PM.