

**Meeting of the Housatonic Valley & South Western Region
Metropolitan Planning Organizations
October 20, 2016 at 11:30 am**

New Location Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Assoc., 27 Governor Street, Ridgefield, CT,
06877

Agenda

1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
3. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Transportation Alternatives Program Briefing
 - b. 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program Update
4. ACTION ITEMS*
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - i. June 16, August 12, 2016 (HV) Attachment 4-a
pp. 1-5
 - ii. July 21, August 12, 2016 (SWR) pp. 6-10
 - b. Transportation Improvement Program Attachment 4-b,
pg. 11
 - i. HV – TIP Project #34-305, Danbury pg. 12-14
 - ii. SWR – Project #56-316, Greenwich/Stamford; #56-305,
Greenwich; #135-287, Stamford; #158-214, Westport
 - c. Approval of Draft Public Participation Plan (SWR) Attachment 4-c, pg.15
5. OTHER BUSINESS
6. NEXT MEETING: November 17, 2016 at the Ridgefield VNA
7. ADJOURNMENT

**Separate votes are taken by HV and SWR MPOs*

For language assistance or other accommodations, contact Western Connecticut Council of Governments at least five business days prior to the meeting at help@westcog.org. Para asistencia con el idioma y otras adaptaciones, por favor póngase en contacto con WestCOG por lo menos cinco días hábiles antes de la reunión al help@westcog.org. Para obter assistência língua ou outras acomodações, entre em contato com WestCOG pelo menos cinco dias úteis antes da reunião em help@westcog.org.

Western Connecticut

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



HVMPO

HOUSATONIC VALLEY

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DRAFT MINUTES OF 6/16/2016

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 Rudy Marconi - Vice Chairman Susan Chapman
Secretary Julia Pemberton

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Bethel First Selectman Matthew Knickerbocker
- Bridgewater Absent
- Brookfield First Selectman Stephen Dunn
- Danbury Absent
- New Fairfield First Selectman Susan Chapman
- New Milford Mayor David Gronbach

- Newtown First Selectman Patricia Llodra
- Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton
- Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi
- Sherman First Selectman Clay Cope
- Transit HARTransit Director Eric Bergstraesser
- CTDOT Supervising Planner Roxane Fromson (non-voting)
- MPO Staff Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson, Greenwich First Selectman Peter Tesei, Norwalk Assistant Principal Engineer Mike Yeosock, Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Joshua Benson, Weston First Selectman Nina Daniel, Westport First Selectman Jim Marpe, Wilton Chief Financial Officer Anne Kelly-Lenz, and Norwalk Transit Manager of Planning Stephanie Scavelli.

Also Weston resident Dr. Margaret Wirtenberg, Rick Schreiner and Harrison Wenchell of HARTransit, Ryan Carey and Will Poundstone of the Ridgefield First Selectman's Office, Ellen Graham of Senator Blumenthal's Office, Tracey Alston of Eversource, Ridgefield citizen Isette Brendza, WestCOG staff members Patty Payne, Liz Esposito, Carl Zimmerman, Rob Sachnin, Soumya Sudhakar and Jon Chew.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rudy Marconi called the HVMPO meeting to order at 11:35 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

NEW TRANSPORTATION DATA SETS

A PowerPoint presentation was made on this topic by WestCOG's Senior GIS Manager Dr. Carl Zimmerman. He provided an update on the development of new transportation data sets designed to meet SWRMPO and HVMPO responsibilities.

Tools illustrated included planimetric maps, three dimensional projections, biker and runner use of "on" and "off" road and trail networks, accident data in much greater detail than previously, and maps of "drivesheds" showing relative access by time taken. A discussion followed.

ACTION ITEMS

Approve 5/19/2016 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Matt Knickerbocker and seconded by Clay Cope, the minutes of the HVMPO meeting of 5/19/2016 were unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

It was agreed that the July meeting will be cancelled unless vital action is needed. Then on a motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 PM.

HVMPO
HOUSATONIC VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DRAFT MINUTES OF 8/12/2016

Meeting held at the Ridgefield Community Center
316 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877
Public access by phone was also available from the WestCOG Stamford Office

Chairman Rudy Marconi - Vice Chairman Susan Chapman
Secretary Julia Pemberton

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Bethel First Selectman Matthew Knickerbocker
- Bridgewater Absent
- Brookfield First Selectman Stephen Dunn
- Danbury Alternate Chief of Staff Dean Esposito
- New Fairfield First Selectman Susan Chapman
- New Milford Alternate Development Director Kevin Bielmeier

- Newtown First Selectman Patricia Llodra
- Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton
- Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi
- Sherman First Selectman Clay Cope
- Transit Absent
- CTDOT Supervising Planner Roxane Fromson (non-voting)
- MPO Staff Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

CT Fifth District U.S. Representative Elizabeth Esty, CT Fourth District U.S. Representative James Himes, CT State Senator Tony Hwang, CT State Representatives Terrie Wood and Gail Lavielle, Killingworth First Selectman Catherine Iino, Darien Selectman Susan Marks, New Canaan Selectman Nick Williams, Xholina Nano of Representative Esty's Office and Shante Hanks of Representative Himes Office.

In addition, Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson, Greenwich First Selectman Peter Tesei, New Canaan First Selectman Robert Mallozzi, Norwalk Director of Public Works Bruce Chimento, Stamford Mayor David Martin, Westport Selectman Avi Kaner, Wilton Director of Planning Robert Nerney and Norwalk Transit Manager of Planning Stephanie Scavelli.

Also, George Linkletter of Sherman, Ellen Graham of Senator Blumenthal's Office, WestCOG Counsel Steve Mednick, Will Poundstone and Paul Kim of the Ridgefield First Selectman's Office, RiverCOG Deputy Director J.H. Torrance Downes, Stamford Chief of Staff Michael Pollard, Jim Cameron and John Ararilios of Darien TV79, and WestCOG staff members Carl Zimmerman, Mike Towle, Rob Sachnin and Jon Chew.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rudy Marconi called the HVMPO meeting to order at 12:10 PM. CT Fifth District U.S. Representative Elizabeth Esty and CT Fourth District U.S. Representative James Himes were welcomed. Introductions were made.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

ACTION ITEM

USDOT Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Coordination and Planning Area Reform: Francis Pickering provided an introduction to this issue, explaining that Congress mandates that transportation planning and the use of federal transportation funds be governed by a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in all sizable urban areas.

MPOs were largely created to ensure that states build projects and spend funds in ways that are supported by municipalities, he said, HVMPO in place since 1981.

He then briefed members on the US DOT's proposed rule on MPO boundary changes and distributed several background items. The proposed rule would initially impact 120 of the 420 MPOs nationally, with the potential for further impacts in successive years. This includes us, yet SWRMPO and HVMPO jointly are already larger than 80% of MPOs nationwide, and already successfully coordinate many activities and processes, such as conducting joint meetings.

Mr. Pickering then made a PowerPoint presentation on this topic, noting that the primary focus of the new regulations is to require merger of MPOs that share an "Urbanized Area" by 2018. He explained that Urbanized Areas are constructs designed by the U. S. Census bureau for statistical use only, not transportation planning.

Also that SWRMPO and HVMPO were created after the dissolution of the much larger Manhattan based MPO known as the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission. As that arrangement had a dramatic collapse due to internal conflict and overextension, we should be wary of returning to such a large MPO, he said.

Most current HVMPO members could lose their voting rights. There would be a dilution of local influence and a reduction in the ability of MPOs to set local priorities and impact use of federal transportation funds. Part of the presentation then reviewed ways in which MPOs in Connecticut and New York State already effectively coordinate.

The resulting new MPOs would certainly not correspond to any of Connecticut's "master regions" the nine new Council of Governments boundaries, he said. "Those would be scrambled."

The specifics are that HVMPO would grow from 10 municipalities to 13 split across two states and two COG/MPO areas. There is no information as to who would fund the permanently higher administrative costs of such a transition.

Mr. Pickering noted that the new rules do provide an option but it is still not attractive. Should the Governors and MPOs agree not to merge, HVMPO would still be required to develop, with others, a single Long Range Transportation Plan and a single Transportation Improvement Program for each of the new much broader areas, a highly complex process.

He added that the proposed guidance does not articulate what happens should the Governor and MPO not reach agreement, or the logistics of multi-state MPOs.

WestCOG Counsel Steve Mednick also briefed the members. MPO financial endorsements, required by CT DOT, are currently about \$600 million for HVMPO, he said. He has filed a freedom of information request with US DOT to obtain the reasoning behind the proposed rule change, which is to date obscure.

Federal Representatives Estes and Himes then made joint comments. Key points were that utilization by US DOT of a short sixty-day review period was inappropriate. Also that they could see that impacts upon the current MPO arrangements in Connecticut would be substantial.

However, rather than immediate and total opposition to the proposed rule change, they recommended a staged response of first determining the federal intent to better calibrate the response. There was discussion.

The federal representatives agreed to make the high level calls needed to investigate and report back as to the purposes behind the proposed dramatic changes. They advised that once we better understand the federal objectives we may be able to document that current arrangements already meet them.

As for the short review period, both support an extension to 180 days, citing a 60-day comment window during the summer as bad policy deserving of our skepticism. As an administrative matter, it was noted that Director Pickering has already asked for the extension.

Discussion continued. David Martin recommended keeping an open mind as to how alternative MPO arrangements could be preferable if they made the region more competitive. Jayme Stevenson stated her interest in determining how transportation funding resources currently available to suburban and small towns are affected by any MPO changes.

Representatives Esty and Himes both recommended that to protect our interests a letter of comment be submitted regardless of whether an extension beyond 8/26/2016 is granted. They suggested our providing examples of how MPO coordination is already being accomplished.

There was further discussion. Then on a motion made by Clay Cope and seconded by Pat Llodra it was voted unanimously to authorize Director Pickering to draft a letter on behalf of HVMPO to be circulated back to the members for comment, and if need be a teleconference, for revisions before its release.

ADJOURNMENT

It was noted that there will be no WestCOG meeting this later month, with the next COG and MPO meeting scheduled for September 15. Then on a motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn the HVMPO meeting at 1:25 PM.

Western Connecticut

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



SWRMPO

SOUTH WESTERN REGION

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DRAFT MINUTES OF 7/21/2016

WestCOG Office, Stamford Government Center
888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06901
Chairman Jayme Stevenson, Vice Chairman Robert Mallozzi

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson
- Greenwich First Selectman Peter Tesei
- New Canaan First Selectman Rob Mallozzi
- Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling
- Stamford Mayor David Martin
- Weston Absent
- Westport Absent
- Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice
- Transit Absent
- CTDOT Roxane Fromson (non-voting)
- MPO Staff Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Brookfield EDC member Hal Kurfehs, WestCOG staff members Liz Esposito, Rob Sachnin, Soumya Sudhakar and Jon Chew.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jayme Stevenson called the SWRMPO meeting to order at 11:35 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

EARMARK REPURPOSING UPDATE

Rob Sachnin reviewed this topic as an informational item. He noted that FHWA has provided an opportunity for DOT's to repurpose earmark funds allocated to specific projects over ten years old that may be either unused or under-utilized.

Earmarks in the SWRMPO area under review are located in Norwalk and Stamford. WestCOG staff has contacted the affected municipalities and that no major comments on the proposed repurposing plan were warranted. He stated the purpose of this informational item was to further confirm with the MPO that no further earmark related follow ups were needed before the CTDOT deadline for comments. No additional follow ups were requested.

APPROVE 6/16/2016 MINUTES

After review and on a motion made by Peter Tesei and seconded by Rob Mallozzi, the minutes of the SWRMPO meeting of 6/16/2016 were unanimously approved, except for abstentions by Harry Rilling and Lynne Vanderslice.

TIP AMENDMENTS

Rob Sachnin reviewed the two federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant related TIP amendments requested by CTDOT, noting these were the result of applications endorsed by SWRMPO in 2015, as follows:

1. Project #135-337 in Stamford concerns traffic signal modernization at various locations. Its first project segment includes collection of travel data at two hundred intersections citywide in order to develop timing plans to promote efficient traffic operation.

Then the second segment calls for upgrading of obsolete traffic signal hardware on Route 1 and on the I-95 Frontage Road. Costs are \$100,000 for preliminary design, \$100,000 for final design and \$3,000,000 for construction, total \$3,200,000 federal CMAQ, no local or state funds.

2. Project #102-360 in Norwalk is the third phase of the City's traffic signal modernization plan. Installation of message signs is included. Norwalk has been upgrading its intersections to utilize fiber-optic based communications, this project adding ten intersections on East and West Avenues, he said.

Costs are \$375,000 for preliminary design, \$460,000 for final design and \$2,547,000 for construction, total \$3,382,000 federal CMAQ, no local or state funds. Harry Rilling spoke to the importance of the upgrades for traffic management in Norwalk.

It was then noted that on 7/12 the South Western Region representatives to the Technical Advisory Group voted unanimously to recommend that SWRMPO approve the proposed Stamford and Norwalk TIP amendments.

Then on a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and seconded by Lynne Vanderslice, it was voted unanimously to approve Resolution #2016-008 to endorse the Stamford and Norwalk CMAQ funded TIP amendments.

CT DOT LOCAL ROAD ACCIDENT REDUCTION PROGRAM (LRARP)

Staff reviewed the two applications received, one from Stamford for "Summer Street Corridor Safety Improvements," and the other from Norwalk for the "Washington Street and North Main Street and South Main Street Bridge Strike Reduction Plan." A third application had been submitted and then withdrawn.

Rob Sachnin noted that at the 7/12 Technical Advisory Group meeting that Stamford and Norwalk representatives spoke to the merits of their applications. There was at that meeting a consensus that the Stamford application should be the first priority for CTDOT funding and the Norwalk application the second.

There was discussion. Then on a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and seconded by Lynne Vanderslice, it was voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Technical Advisory Group.

OTHER BUSINESS

Rob Sachnin provided updates on a recent meeting of the Merritt Parkway Advisory Committee, and then the draft CTDOT Capital Plan soon to circulate to members for review.

Francis Pickering noted a special meeting on 8/12 to discuss proposed rulemaking regarding MPO jurisdictions and that a background memo would be forwarded before that meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Jayne Stevenson stated that SWRMPO will meet 8/18/2016 at the Ridgefield Library but only if needed.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and seconded by Lynne Vanderslice, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 AM.

SWRMPO
SOUTH WESTERN REGION
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DRAFT MINUTES OF 8/12/2016

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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The resulting new MPOs would certainly not correspond to any of Connecticut's "master regions" the nine new Council of Governments boundaries, he said. "Those would be scrambled."

The specifics are that SWRMPO would grow from 8 municipalities to 40, split across two states and six COG/MPO areas. There is no information as to who would fund the permanently higher administrative costs of such a transition.

Mr. Pickering noted that the new rules do provide an option but it is still not attractive. Should the Governors and MPOs agree not to merge, SWRMPO would still be required to develop, with others, a single Long Range Transportation Plan and a single Transportation Improvement Program for each of the new much broader areas, a highly complex process.

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Representatives Esty and Himes both recommended that to protect our interests a letter of comment be submitted regardless of whether an extension beyond 8/26/2016 is granted. They suggested our providing examples of how MPO coordination is already being accomplished.

There was further discussion. Then on a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and seconded by Peter Tesei it was voted unanimously to authorize Director Pickering to draft a letter on behalf of SWRMPO to be circulated back to the members for comment, and if need be a teleconference, for revisions before its release.

ADJOURNMENT

It was noted that there will be no WestCOG meeting later this month, with the next COG and MPO meeting scheduled for September 15. Then on a motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn the SWRMPO meeting at 1:25 PM.

HVMPO
Transportation Improvement Program
Amendments
(10/20/2016)

HVMPO TIP Amendment #2016-004
Danbury: Route 37 Improvements- Stacey Rd. to Barnum Rd.

1. Purpose:
The purpose of these HVMPO TIP amendments is to program federal and state transportation funding (\$4,500,000) for road and intersection projects on Route 37 in the City of Danbury.
2. Product:
The proposed amendments will provide funding to construct improvements that address traffic flow and safety concerns at the Stacey Road, Pembroke Terrace and Barnum Road intersections on Route 37 in Danbury.
3. Process:
This project has been on the HVMPO’s TIP for many years. Endorsement of the proposed amendments will facilitate the completion of this programmed project.

Requested Action: Consider Endorsement of the below HVMPO TIP Amendments.

HVMPO 2015 TIP												
CTDOT REQUESTED AMENDMENTS												
Region	Funding	Proj#	Rte/Sys	Municipality	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
HVMPO	STP-O	0034-0305	CT 37	DANBURY	REALIGNMENT @ STACEY RD., PEMBROKE TER. AND BARNUM RD.	CONST.	2017	1,655	1,324	331	0	NEW PROJECT
HVMPO	EARMARK	0034-0305	CT 37	DANBURY	REALIGNMENT @ STACEY RD., PEMBROKE TER. AND BARNUM RD.	CONST.	2017	2,845	2,276	569	0	NEW PROJECT

SWRMPO FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

MPO Action Requested: Review and endorse TIP amendments using Resolution #2016-009.

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 (SWRTIP #Am2016-007):

56-316: I-95 Improvements from New York State Line to Exit 7

CTDOT has requested amendments to add project #56-316 to the TIP, which pertains to improvements along I-95 in Greenwich and Stamford. The majority of funding is derived from the federal National Highway Performance Program (NHPP), which provides support for the condition and performance of the National Highway System.

The project includes pavement rehabilitation, bridge rehabilitation and safety appurtenance upgrades. Current scope includes over seven miles of pavement rehabilitation, with additional improvements to the underlying concrete slabs as needed. Pavement rehabilitation helps restore the roads structural integrity, extending pavement life and functionality.

Portions of the median barrier will be replaced with taller barrier for uniformity and the roadside illumination will be replaced with luminaires in the median. These improvements should improve roadway visibility and safety. Lastly, bridge rehabilitation along the corridor will also be implemented based on CTDOT’s maintenance preliminary listing of deficiencies. Project estimates currently approach \$180 million dollars, which includes design and construction phases.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	NHPP	0056-0316	X6	I-95	GREENWICH/ STAMFORD	I-95 IMPROVEMENTS FROM NEW YORK STATE LINE TO EXIT 7 - AC ENTRY	PD	2017	0	0	0	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0056-0316	X6	I-95	GREENWICH/ STAMFORD	I-95 IMPROVEMENTS FROM NEW YORK STATE LINE TO EXIT 7 - AC CONVERSION	PD	2017	5,000	4,500	500	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0056-0316	X6	I-95	GREENWICH/ STAMFORD	I-95 IMPROVEMENTS FROM NEW YORK STATE LINE TO EXIT 7 - AC CONVERSION	PD	2018	5,000	4,500	500	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0056-0316	X6	I-95	GREENWICH/ STAMFORD	I-95 IMPROVEMENTS FROM NEW YORK STATE LINE TO EXIT 7 - AC ENTRY	FD	FYI	0	0	0	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0056-0316	X6	I-95	GREENWICH/ STAMFORD	I-95 IMPROVEMENTS FROM NEW YORK STATE LINE TO EXIT 7 - AC CONVERSION	FD	FYI	10,000	9,000	1,000	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0056-0316	X6	I-95	GREENWICH/ STAMFORD	I-95 IMPROVEMENTS FROM NEW YORK STATE LINE TO EXIT 7 - AC ENTRY	CON	FYI	0	0	0	0	NEW PROJECT
01	NHPP	0056-0316	X6	I-95	GREENWICH/ STAMFORD	I-95 IMPROVEMENTS FROM NEW YORK STATE LINE TO EXIT 7 - AC CONVERSION	CON	FYI	157,532	141,779	15,753	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC X6 – exempt

56-305: Replace Bridge #1872 over Greenwich Creek

CTDOT has requested amendments to add project #56-316 to the TIP, involving the replacement of bridge #1872 which carries traffic along Route 1 over Greenwich Creek. The bridge has been rated as structurally deficient due to the poor condition of the superstructure, and functionally obsolete due to poor deck geometry and is scour critical.

The recommended rehabilitation will replace the existing bridge with a new 32-foot clear span bridge with a prefabricated steel girder superstructure. The steel girder superstructure is anticipated to better support utilities, and is likely to improve protection of utilities during high water events.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	STPB	0056-0305	X6	RT 1	GREENWICH	REPLACE BR 01872 OVER GREENWICH CREEK	FD	2017	175	140	35	0	MOVE FROM FFY '16 TO FFY '17
01	STPA-BRX	0056-0305	X6	RT 1	GREENWICH	REPLACE BR 01872 OVER GREENWICH CREEK	ROW	2017	1,600	1,280	320	0	MOVE FROM FFY '16 TO FFY '17 AND INCREASE FROM ESTIMATE FED \$160K

AQC X6 – exempt

135-287: Intersection Improvements at CT Route 106

The purpose of this existing project is to provide safety and operational improvements along Rt. 106/Courtland Ave, including the intersection with Rt 1. Exclusive left turn lanes will be provided along Rt. 106 at the intersections with Rt. 1 and Hamilton Ave.

Project funding has been switched from state to federal funding sources, which has prompted the amendment to add this project to the TIP. Total construction cost is estimated at \$5.5 million.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	STPB	0135-0287	X7	US 1	STAMFORD	INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT AT CT 106	CON	2017	5,500	4,400	1,100	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC X7 – exempt

158-214: Major Rehab/Replacement of Bridge #1349 Over the Saugatuck River

The requested TIP amendments for this project build off of existing efforts, which were involved proposed minor rehabilitation to damaged portions of the bridge. Following further review, a need for more rigorous improvements are warranted to address structural and functional deficiencies.

A total of \$2 million has been allocated for preliminary design (PD) efforts, which will further explore viable alternatives for both rehabilitation and replacement options. Future TIP amendments for final design (FD) and construction (CON) efforts are anticipated in the future.

Region	FACode	Proj#	AQCd	Rte/Sys	Town	Description	Phase	Year	Tot\$(000)	Fed\$(000)	Sta\$(000)	Loc\$(000)	Comments
01	STPB	0158-0214	X6	CT 136	WESTPORT	MAJOR REHAB/REPLACEMENT OF BR 01349 OVER THE SAUGATUCK RIVER	PD	2017	2,000	1,600	400	0	NEW PROJECT

AQC X6 – exempt

**SOUTH WESTERN REGION
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

DARIEN•GREENWICH•NEW CANAAN•NORWALK•STAMFORD•WESTON•WESTPORT•WILTON

RESOLUTION #2016-009

**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 2015-2040*, 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 2015 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, March 2015, and*
- *Connecticut Department of Transportation PM 2.5 Air Quality Conformity Determination; of the 2015 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_{2.5} Attainment/Maintenance Area, March 2015.*

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 October 20, 2016.

Date: October 20, 2016.

Jayme Stevenson, Chairman

SWRMPO Draft Public Participation Plan (PPP)

MPO Action Requested: Review and approve revised Draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) to initiate the public review and comment period.

Background: The SWRMPO PPP was last revised in 2009 and provides a framework for public involvement in transportation policy, projects, and planning in the region. Core objectives of the plan are to educate, inform, and involve the public; ensure information is easily accessible; as well as to improve decision making processes.

The goals and objectives of the PPP are interrelated with Title VI requirements. Title VI prohibits the discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance.

Given the similarity in goals and objectives, public participation and Title VI have been combined into one document to more effectively engage all members of the public.

Purpose of Revisions: the region has changed since 2009 and while demographic and socioeconomic data is periodically conducted for Title VI, results of these changes have not be implemented into formal public participation policy. A new PPP merged with Title VI efforts will afford SWRMPO opportunities to more effectively target the public, including minority and Limited English Proficiency populations.

The current SWRMPO plan also sources the swrpa.org website for policy and project information. The new draft plan reflects the new location of such documents, and brings other relevant information up to existing conditions.

Following the consolidation of HVCEO and SWRPA to form WestCOG, the new host agency for both MPOs, the region operated with similar, but different public participation and operating procedures. This draft PPP and Title VI plan is intended to also be adopted by HVMPO and WestCOG, allowing for uniform procedures and less administrative logistics, saving staff time that may be utilized for more effective public outreach.

Next Steps: due to differences between existing plans, the SWRMPO PPP has two extra steps than HVMPO and WestCOG. TAG recommendation and subsequent SWRMPO approval of a draft PPP and Title VI document will bring all three agencies to the same point in the process, allowing for the 45-day public comment period to commence.