

HVMPO
HOUSATONIC VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE 11/17/2016 MEETING

Held at the WestCOG Office
1 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, CT 06482
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 Absent
- New Milford Mayor David Gronbach
- Newtown Alternate Director of Public Works Fred Hurley
- Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton
- Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi
- Sherman Absent
- Transit HARTransit Development Director Richard Schreiner
- CTDOT Supervising Planner Roxane Fromson (non-voting)
- MPO Staff Deputy Director David Hannon (non-voting)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson, New Canaan First Selectman Robert Mallozzi, Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling, Weston First Selectman Nina Daniel, Westport First Selectman Jim Marpe, Norwalk Chief of Staff Laoise King, WestCOG staff members Robert Sachnin and Jonathan Chew.

CALL TO ORDER

Secretary Julia Pemberton called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(Note: Agenda included notice of opportunity for public comment on CTDOT Ozone and Particulate Matter 2.5 Air Quality Determinations). There was no public comment.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on the Transportation Alternatives Program: Rob Sachnin reviewed the status of the FFY 2016-2020 Transportation Alternatives Program solicitation. He stated that eighteen preliminary applications had been received, these from Brookfield, New Fairfield, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield, Stamford and Wilton. Final applications will be due on November 28, he said.

As the next step the applications will be reviewed with the Technical Advisory Group on December 6. Recommendations as to priorities will then be made to the MPO at the December 15 meeting.

Draft 2017 Meeting Schedule: The draft meeting schedule for upcoming calendar 2017 was reviewed, attached to the agenda and entitled "Draft 2017 COG and MPO Meeting Schedule." Approval will be requested at the December 15 meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 10/20/2016 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Julia Pemberton and seconded by Matt Knickerbocker, the minutes of the HVMPO meeting of 10/20/2016 were unanimously approved.

Air Quality Conformity Concurrence: Rob Sachnin explained that federal law requires all transportation projects “conform” to established air quality goals and standards. He noted that this applies to the regional transportation plans and transportation improvement programs, and the MPO is required to submit periodic Air Quality Conformity Statements to the US Federal Highway Administration and to the US Environmental Protection Agency.

To do this, it is first necessary for technical analyses of the two documents to certify that a positive determination of air quality conformity by the MPO is justified. To assist, CT DOT, prepares the two analyses on behalf of all MPOs in the state as a group. The results of the CTDOT analysis confirm that air quality concurrence by the MPO is appropriate, he said.

The two CTDOT documents entitled “September 2016 Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination” and “September 2016 Particulate Matter Air Quality Conformity Determination” were made available to the public for review prior to this meeting, he noted.

Mr. Sachnin then presented the requested approval of the resolutions as attached to the agenda and titled as follows:

--- HVMPO Resolution of Conformity with the Clean Air Act for Limiting Ozone Pollution dated November 17, 2016

--- HVMPO Resolution of Conformity with the Clean Air Act for Limiting Fine Particulate Air Pollution (PM 2.5) dated November 17, 2016

There was discussion. Then on motion made by Rudy Marconi and seconded by Julia Pemberton, the air quality conformity resolutions as titled above were unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Rudy Marconi stated that the next meeting would be held at 11:30 AM before the WestCOG meeting scheduled for 12/15/2016 at the Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Association in Ridgefield.

Then on motion made by Matt Knickerbocker and seconded by Steve Dunne, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 PM.