Western Connecticut COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



Housatonic Valley

Metropolitan Planning Organization

APPROVED HVMPO MINUTES

For the 3/16/2017 Meeting

Held at the Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Association 27 Governor Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877

Chairman Rudy Marconi - Vice Chairman Susan Chapman - Secretary Julia Pemberton

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bethel First Selectman Matthew Knickerbocker

Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read
Brookfield First Selectman Stephen Dunn

Danbury Absent New Fairfield Absent

New Milford Mayor David Gronbach

Newtown Public Works Director Frederick Hurley

Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton

Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi, Chairman

Sherman First Selectman Clay Cope

HARTransit Development Director Richard Schreiner

CTDOT Supervising Planner Roxane Fromson (non-voting)
MPO Staff Executive Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson, Greenwich Deputy Public Works Director James Michel (by phone), New Canaan First Selectman Robert Mallozzi (by phone), Norwalk Chief of Staff Laoise King, Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief James Travers, Weston First Selectman Nina Daniel, Westport First Selectman James Marpe, Norwalk Transit District CEO Kimberlee Morton, former Connecticut Congressman Robert Steele and former Weston First Selectman Woody Bliss representing the Coalition Against Casino Expansion in Connecticut.

In addition, Patricia Cimarosa and Martin Fox of the Westport Transit District, Westport Town Meeting Transit Committee Member John Suggs, Kayleigh Lombardi and Sean Gbio of the CT Partnership for Strong Communities, HARTransit Planner Harrison Wenchell, Weston Town Attorney Patricia Sullivan, Eversource representative Garrett Sheehan, Newtown Town Engineer Ronald Bolmer, WestCOG staff members Kristin Hadjstylianos, Michael Sullivan, William Kenny, Nicole Sullivan, Kristin Floberg, Robert Sachnin and Jonathan Chew.

CALL TO ORDER

HVMPO Chairman Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman introduced new staff member Kristin Floberg, who was welcomed by the Council.

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS

Kristin Hadjstylianos and Michael Sullivan then made a PowerPoint presentation on their progress in preparing a federally required Congestion Management Process for the region (CMP). The CMP uses analytical tools to define and identify congestion within the two MPO areas. The point is to have a modern data set meeting federal standards, upon which the transportation planning process can prioritize strategies to address congestion, they said.

The process starts with an analysis of the higher level limited access roadways, with data presented for I-84 and Route 7. An Executive Briefing for each corridor was distributed, then summarized in a PowerPoint presentation.

Funding commitments and opportunities to reduce congestion were summarized. Plans were outlined for future use of CMP analytic tools to promote additional investments. A short question and answer period followed.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

FTA Section 5310 Grant Solicitation: Richard Schreiner reviewed the current Federal Transit Administration 5310 Grant Program solicitation, referring to an agenda attachment dated 2/28/2017 and entitled "Section 5310 Grant Program." Nine applicants have expressed interest thus far, he said.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2/23/2017 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Matt Knickerbocker and seconded by Clay Cope, the minutes of the meeting of 2/23/2017 were unanimously approved.

HVMPO ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Rudy Marconi stated that the next MPO meeting will be held at 11:30 am before the WestCOG meeting scheduled for 4/20/2017 at the Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Association in Ridgefield. Then on a motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 am.