

Disclaimer: These interim minutes of the Housatonic Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (“HVMPO” or “MPO”) are released and “available for public inspection” and “posted” on WestCOG’s website, in accordance with c.g.s. §1-225(a). Said interim minutes are subject to review and approval by the HVMPO members, after which time the final approved minutes will be available and posted in accordance with laws. Accordingly, the interim minutes may contain inaccuracies and do not reflect the final action of the HVMPO.

Housatonic Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization
INTERIM HVMPO MINUTES
For the 5/18/2017 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	Alternate Selectman Richard Straiton
Bridgewater	Absent
Brookfield	First Selectman Steve Dunn
Danbury	Alternate Planning Director Sharon Calitro
New Fairfield	Absent
New Milford	Mayor David Gronbach
Newtown	First Selectman Patricia Llodra
Redding	First Selectman Julia Pemberton
Ridgefield	First Selectman Rudy Marconi, Chairman
Sherman	Absent
HARTransit	Alternate Development Director Richard Schreiner
CTDOT	Absent (non-voting)
MPO Staff	Executive Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson, Greenwich First Selectman Peter Tesei, New Canaan First Selectman Robert Mallozzi, Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling, Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief James Travers, Weston Town Planner Tracy Kulakowski, Westport First Selectman James Marpe, Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, Norwalk Transit District CEO Kimberlee Morton.

Also Stamford Chief of Staff Michael Pollard, John Suggs of the Westport Transit District, Harrison Wenchell of HARTransit, and WestCOG staff members Francis Pickering, Patricia Payne, Robert Sachnin, Carl Zimmerman, Elizabeth Esposito, Nicole Sullivan and Jonathan Chew. Interns Matt Lametta, Rebecca Agababizan, Alex Burns, and Angelo Bochanis of Weston and interns Liam Riebling, Katie Jasminski, Lucy Briody, and Brandon Wong of Ridgefield. In addition Ellen Graham of Senator Blumenthal’s office and Lauren Elliot from the Town of Greenwich

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

CTDOT Matching Grant Program 13b-38bb: Rick Schreiner reviewed a memo on this program attached to the agenda entitled “State Matching Grant Program for Elderly and Demand Response Transportation.” Application requirements and funding were discussed.

Local Road Accident Reduction Program: Rob Sachnin reported on this funding program, noting that applications are due at WestCOG shortly. The “target” project cap is \$500,000 in federal funding at 90% for the construction phase with the remainder as the municipal responsibility. CTDOT will accept for review two applications per COG region. There was brief discussion.

Repeal of Federal MPO Coordination Rule: Francis Pickering noted that both the House and the Senate had approved legislation revoking these requirements and that the resulting bill awaits the President’s signature.

OPM Responsible Growth and TOD Planning Grants: Francis Pickering reviewed this state grant application, which offers funding of up to \$2 million for advancing state and local goals for responsible growth and TOD. WestCOG is required to comment upon each application, he said. There was discussion.

Transportation Alternatives Program Update: Rob Sachnin noted that the MPOs advanced priorities to CTDOT last December. For the Danbury Urbanized Area, CTDOT has selected the Brookfield Four Corners project. Then for the Bridgeport – Stamford Urbanized Area, where staff is working with the priority project sponsors on next steps.

ACTION ITEMS

HVMPO Approval of 4/20/2017 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Pat Llodra and seconded by Sharon Calitro, the minutes of the meeting of 4/20/2017 were unanimously approved, except for abstentions by Steve Dunn and David Gronbach.

HVMPO TIP Endorsement Request: A CT DOT request for a TIP amendment by HVMPO, labeled as HVTIP #Am2017-004, was reviewed by Rob Sachnin, referring to the summary attached to the agenda entitled “0170-3450: FY17 Statewide Transportation Demand Management (NY-NJ-CT Moderate) and 0170-3451: FY 17 Statewide Transportation Demand Management (Greater CT Moderate).”

There was discussion. Then on a motion made by Steve Dunn and seconded by Pat Llodra, the TIP amendment above was unanimously approved.

Annual Federal Certification: Rob Sachnin reference the attached Resolution #2017-001, certifying that HVMPO has conducted its regional transportation planning program in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Then on a motion made by Steve Dunn and seconded by Pat Llodra, the resolution as referenced was unanimously endorsed.

FY2018 - 19 Unified Planning Work Program: Rob Sachnin commented on the upcoming two-year application for regional transportation planning funds. The application is highly detailed as it must be inclusive of many mandatory federal and state transportation planning procedures, he said.

He then reviewed the attached memo entitled "Approval of Unified Planning Work Programs." After brief discussion and on a motion made by Dave Gronbach and seconded by Pat Llodra, it was voted unanimously to approve the Unified Planning Work Program including the attached HVMPO Resolution #2017-002. Additional MPO comments are welcome and will be addressed during the program year.

Priorities for FTA 5310 Grant Applications: Rick Schreiner addressed this topic, reviewing the "Prioritization of Federal Transit Administration Grant Applications. He noted that each year the Federal Transit Administration announces the availability of the Section 5310 grant program, then CTDOT requires MPOs to prioritize 5310 grant program applications affecting their respective regions.

There was discussion. Then regarding HVMPO priorities, on a motion made by Dave Gronbach and seconded by Pat Llodra, the recommended 5310 grant priorities above unanimously endorsed.

COMMENT AND DISCUSSION

Rudy Marconi discussed the MS President US Program, designed to encourage students in the 4th thru 8th grades to develop leadership skills.

HVMPO ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Rudy Marconi stated that the next MPO meeting will be held at 11:30 am before the WestCOG meeting scheduled for 6/15/2017 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 12:05 pm.

INTERIM MINUTES SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL BY HVMPO MEMBERS