# Western Connecticut COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



ALBY SHRIPONIH REPS

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South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

# **INTERIM SWRMPO MINUTES**

For the 6/15/2017 Meeting Held at the Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Association 27 Governor Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877

Chairman Jayme Stevenson - Vice Chairman Robert Mallozzi

## MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson
Greenwich First Selectman Peter Tesei
New Canaan First Selectman Robert Mallozzi
Norwalk Chief of Staff Laoise King

Stamford Signal Systems Engineer Veera Karukonda

Weston First Selectman Nina Daniel
Westport First Selectman James Marpe
Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice

Transit Absent

CTDOT Transportation Supervising Planner Roxane Fromson(non-voting)

MPO Staff Executive Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

# OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

John Suggs of Westport RTM and Martin Fox of the Westport Transit District, Harrison Wenchell of HARTransit, and WestCOG staff members Francis Pickering, Patricia Payne, Robert Sachnin, Carl Zimmerman, Christian Schmidt, and Nicole Sullivan. Ken Shooshan-Stoller and Michelle Hilary from FHWA, Carolann Belforti and Sharon Okoy'e from CTDOT, Jonathan Steinberg from the Connecticut General Assembly, Mark Massaro, Tracy Alston, Garrett Sheehan and Jim Hunt from Eversource- as well as Dan Lingus. Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker, Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read, Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn, Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton, 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, and HARTransit Development Director Richard Schreiner.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

SWRMPO Chairman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order at 11:37 am.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

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#### STAFF PRESENTATION

Regional Electric Vehicle Analysis: Carl Zimmerman presented an analysis on electric vehicles, and described the varying differences between electric vehicle models. He stated that charging stations are a critical component of the electric vehicle (EV) system, and described the relationship between the commute and lifestyle of the driver. He then presented the EV and charging station regional data found in Connecticut, along with the locations of public charging stations. Finally, he described the difference in EV usage in urban and rural areas.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**2018–2021 Transportation Improvement Program:** Robert Sachnin spoke to this topic, and stated that a public comment period will likely commence at the end of June.

Community Connectivity Program: Robert Sachnin stated that this program is a construction funding opportunity from CTDOT that applies to both state and local roads. Each municipality can submit only one application, WestCOG staff are happy to assist in the application process.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

SWRMPO Approval of 5/18/2017 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Lynne Vanderslice and seconded by Peter Tesei, the minutes of the meeting of 5/18/2017 were unanimously approved, with abstentions made by Nina Daniel.

SWRMPO 2015-2018 TIP Endorsement Request: A CT DOT request for TIP amendments by SWRMPO, labeled as SWRTIP #Am2017-005, was reviewed by Rob Sachnin, referring to the summaries attached FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The CTDOT requested TIP amendments pertain to project 300-xxxx: New Haven Line Signal System Replacement, project 300-xxxx: New Haven Line Track Program, project 301-181: CP243 Interlocking Improvements, project 0301-0108: New Haven Line Network Infrastructure Upgrade, project 170-3403: Transit Capital Planning, and project 135-325: Rehabilitation of Bridge 00037 Over I-95. There was discussion. Then on a motion made by Rob Mallozzi and seconded by Nina Daniel, the TIP amendments above were unanimously approved.

Local Road Accident Reduction Program Priorities: Rob Sachnin reviewed the program, and how it seeks to fund highly effective safety improvements. Applications are assessed by CTDOT using their benefit-cost analysis. The target program cap is \$500,000 at 90% for the construction phase, with the remainder as the municipal responsibility. The cities of Norwalk and Stamford will be submitting applications. CTDOT allows only two applications per planning region. On a motion made by Lynne Vanderslice and seconded by Rob Mallozzi, the action item was unanimously approved by the South Western Region.

**SWRMPO FTA SGR Performance Targets:** Rick Schreiner referenced the performance target program from the Federal Transit Administration on the newly implemented federal standard and from the memo attached. On a motion made by Nina Daniel and seconded by Jim Marpe, the action item was unanimously approved.

## **COMMENT AND DISCUSSION**

Roxane Fromson was recognized with a Resolution of Appreciation for her years of service at the CTDOT and dedication to the Region and the State of Connecticut. Jonathan Steinberg spoke briefly regarding the CT budget.

# **SWRMPO ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Jayme Stevenson stated that the July MPO meeting will be canceled. Then on a motion

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