

APPROVED MINUTES OF 6/6/2017 Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

Held at the Comstock Community Center

180 School Road, Wilton, CT 06897

- Bethel Director of Public Works Douglas Arndt
- Bridgewater Absent
- Brookfield Absent
- Danbury Director of Public Works Antonio Iadarola
- Darien Public Works Director Edward Gentile, Jr.
- Greenwich Deputy Commissioner of Public Works James Michel
- HARTtransit Development Director Richard Schreiner
- New Canaan Absent
- New Fairfield Absent
- New Milford Absent
- Newtown Absent
- Norwalk Assistant Principal Engineer Michael Yeosock
- Norwalk TD CEO Kimberly Morton
- Redding Absent
- Ridgefield Town Engineer Charles Fisher
- Sherman Absent
- Stamford Signal Systems Engineer Veera Karukonda
- Weston Land Use Director Tracy Kulikowski
- Westport Town Engineer Peter Ratkiewich
- Wilton Absent

Also in Attendance:

Roxane Fromson, Eric Dorsey, Carolann Belfort and Kerry Ross of CTDOT, HARTtransit Planner Harrison Wenchell, Danbury Traffic Engineer Abdul Mohamed, John Suggs, and WestCOG staff members Robert Brinton, Michael Towle, Kristin Floberg, Robert Sachnin, Carl Zimmerman, Jamie Bastian, Kristin Hadjstyanos, Elizabeth Esposito, and Nicole Sullivan.

CALL TO ORDER / PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 am by Robert Sachnin. He acknowledged Nicole Sullivan from WestCOG, as well as Carol Belforti, Eric Dorsey, and Kerry Ross from CTDOT, thanking them for their participation. There was no public comment.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

OPM Responsible Growth & TOD Grant: Robert Sachnin reviewed this grant category, which offers funding of up to \$2 million for advancing state and local goals for responsible growth and TOD. Further discussion regarding the OPM Responsible Growth and Transit Oriented Development Grant is to follow at the June 15th MPO and COG meetings.

CEDS Project Solicitation: Elizabeth Esposito addressed the TAG, stating that the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy group is asking for contributions to the project identification process for the Region. Potential projects should be submitted by July 11, 2017 for consideration.

Repeal of Federal MPO Coordination Rule: Robert Sachnin addressed this topic, stating that the potential MPO consolidation was repealed at the federal level.

2018–2021 Transportation Improvement Program: Robert Sachnin briefly addressed this topic, stating that the Region will initiate a 30-day public comment period in the near future.

MS4 Briefing/Update: This topic was addressed by Michael Towle. He reviewed the development of MS4 services, reviewing the requirements for the MS4 deadlines and education template. He noted that further information can be found on the storm water page on the WestCOG website. A published Annual Report for Public Review is anticipated for January 31, 2018.

Regional Snow Plow Update & Working Group: Carl Zimmerman and Kristin Floberg spoke to this topic, reviewing the RFP questions proposed to the vendors. The final selection for vendors will be on June 28th. It was suggested that Douglas Arndt and Antonio Iadarola of the TAG are to serve on the consultant selection panel.

LOTCHIP: Robert Sachnin and Robert Brinton gave an update on the program, reviewing options should new funding be made available as part of the FY18 and 19 State Budget. Feedback from the TAG regarding project and funding recommendations is welcomed.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 5/2/2017 Minutes: On a motion made by Tracy Kulikowski and seconded by Peter Ratkiewich, the minutes of the TAG Meeting of 5/2/2017 were unanimously approved.

HVMPO TIP Endorsement Request: A CT DOT request for 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program amendment, labeled as HVTIP #Am2017-005 was reviewed by Rob Sachnin, referring to a summary attached to the agenda entitled “0301-0108: New Haven Line Network Infrastructure Upgrade” and “170-3403: Transit Capital Planning.” A motion to recommend HVMPO TIP amendment endorsement was made by Rick Schreiner and seconded by Doug Arndt. The motion was contingent on CTDOT confirming HVMPO action was required for Project #301-108 and was unanimously recommended.

SWRMPO TIP Endorsement Request: A CT DOT request for 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program amendment, labeled as SWRTIP #Am2017-005 was reviewed by Rob Sachnin, referring to a summary attached to the agenda entitled “0301-0108: New Haven Line Network Infrastructure Upgrade,” “170-3403: Transit Capital

Planning,” and “301-181: CP 243 Interlocking Improvements.” A motion to recommend SWRMPO TIP amendment endorsement was made by Peter Ratkiewich and seconded by Michael Yeosock. The motion was unanimously recommended.

TAP Adjustment (if necessary): Robert Sachnin stated that TAP adjustments were not necessary, with nothing substantial to report on.

FTA State of Good Repair Performance Measures: Robert Sachnin stated that the first performance measure is for FTA State of Good Repair, and referred to the transit and CTDOT participants for further details. Performance measures and the benchmark process was reviewed. For HVMPO, a motion to recommend endorsement was made by Doug Arndt and seconded by Rick Schreiner. A SWRMPO recommendation was motioned by Kimberlee Morton and seconded by Veera Karukonda. Both motions carried unanimously.

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, only two applications can be accepted per COG. A motion to recommend the LRARP priorities was motioned by Douglas Arndt and seconded by James Michel.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion Items, Future Presentations, Upcoming Meetings: The Community Connectivity Grant Program was discussed by Robert Sachnin. Guidelines and applications can be found at <http://ctconnectivity.com> , the program is from Governor Daniel Malloy’s Let’sGoCT!

Antonio Iadarola and Charles Fisher discussed CHRO, with hopes of having a CHRO representative speak at an upcoming TAG meeting.

It was noted that the July TAG meeting will most likely be cancelled, with confirmation to follow.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was then adjourned at 12:03 pm.