

APPROVED MINUTES OF 03/06/2018 Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

Held at 11am at the Comstock Community Center
180 School Road, Wilton, CT 06897

• Bethel	Director of Public Works Douglas Arndt
• Bridgewater	Absent
• Brookfield	Director of Public Works Ralph Tedesco
• Danbury	Director of Public Works Antonio Iadarola
• Darien	Planning & Zoning Director Jeremy Ginsberg
• Greenwich	Deputy Commissioner of Public Works James Michel
• HARTransit	Development Director Richard Schreiner
• New Canaan	Director of Public Works Tiger Mann
• New Fairfield	Absent
• New Milford	Grants Coordinator Tammy Reardon
• Newtown	Director of Public Works Fred Hurley
• Norwalk	Assistant Principal Engineer Michael Yeosock
• Norwalk TD	Manager of Planning Dennis O'Connor
• Redding	Director of Public Works Jeff Hanson
• Ridgefield	Absent
• Sherman	Absent
• Stamford	Transportation Bureau Chief James Travers
• Weston	Absent
• Westport	Director of Public Works Peter Ratkiewich
• Wilton	Director of Planning and Land Use Management Bob Nerney

Also in Attendance:

WestCOG staff members, Robert Sachnin, Kristin Floberg, Bob Brinton, Jamie Bastian, Kristin Hadjstylianos, and Nicole Sullivan were in attendance. As well as, Harrison Wenchell of HARTransit, Ali Mohseni of MHSTCC, Kerry Ross of CTDOT, Garrett Bolella of the City of Stamford, Tom Altermatt and Abdul Barry Mohamed of the City of Danbury, Greg Dembowski of the Town of Brookfield, and Paul Woodell of GeoDesign, Inc.

CALL TO ORDER / PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was called to order at 11:01am by Principal Planner Robert Sachnin. There was no public comment made.

FEATURED PRESENTATION

Principal Planner Sachnin welcomed and sincerely thanked Principal Engineer Hugh Hayward, Transportation Supervising Engineer Bill Grant, and Project Engineer Jeff Pfaffinger of CTDOT for taking the time to speak with the TAG regarding the LOTCIP Program. A discussion ensued. CTDOT staff indicated that existing projects that have received a CTDOT commitment to fund letter and are scheduled to complete final design by September 2018

may continue to proceed as long as there remains sufficient existing funding within the region. CTDOT also stated that further information on the future of LOTCIP is anticipated after the 2018 Legislative session ends.

**In the interest of time, Principal Planner Sachnin entertained a motion to carry out the action items before the information items. On a motion made by Deputy Commissioner of Public Works James Michel and seconded by Director of Public Works Peter Ratkiewich, the change of order on the agenda was unanimously approved.*

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 01/30/2018 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Transportation Bureau Chief James Travers and seconded by Director of Public Works Ralph Tedesco, the minutes of the TAG Meeting of 01/30/2018 were unanimously approved - except with abstentions made by Director of Planning and Land Use Management Bob Nerney, Assistant Principal Engineer Michael Yeosock, and Grants Coordinator Tammy Reardon.

Transportation Improvement Program: Associate Planner Jamie Bastian introduced the HVMPO TIP amendments for project #117-161; Ridgefield-Branchville TOD Bike/Pedestrian Improvements and project #300-XXXX; New Haven Line Bridge Timber Replacement Project. On a motion made by Director of Public Works Fred Hurley and seconded by Grants Coordinator Tammy Reardon, the amendments were unanimously recommended to the HVMPO for endorsement. Furthermore, Associate Planner Bastian introduced the SWRMPO TIP amendments for project #300-XXXX; New Haven Line Bridge Timber Replacement Project, project #0102-0363; Rehabilitation of Bridge #00061 in Norwalk, and project #0161-0141; Intersection Improvements at Grumman Hill Road in Wilton. On a motion made by Planning & Zoning Director Jeremy Ginsberg and seconded by Director of Public Works Peter Ratkiewich, the amendments were unanimously recommended to the SWRMPO for endorsement.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Commuter and Rail Parking Study: There was discussion regarding commuter lots located on roadways and at train stations in the Region.

FTA 5310 Prioritization Schedule: Principal Planner Sachnin noted that the deadline for applications has passed and that the review process is underway.

State Matching Grant Program/13b-38bb: The deadline for submissions is May 18th, there was discussion regarding the matching program.

Proposed CTDOT Fare Increases and Service Reductions: a recap of the proposed fare increases and service discussions was provided. .

State Funding Update: The status of the Special Transportation Fund was discussed.

USDOT 2018 Quadrennial Certification Review: Principal Planner Sachnin provided an overview of the process, noting that the Quadrennial Review pertains to the South Western Region MPO only..

Snow Plow Update: Associate Planner Kristin Floberg gave an update on the Snow Plow Study. This state-funded study must adhere to grant schedule and as such, municipalities that have not scheduled walkthroughs were advised to do so this week, otherwise the project schedule would not permit them thereafter. Additionally, municipalities were asked to send first-round routing edits to the consultant by March 16th.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion Items as Raised by the TAG: There were no other discussion items.

Future Presentations & Items of Interest: There was no discussion.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/ADJOURNMENT

The next MPO and COG meetings will be held on March 15th. The next TAG meeting will be held on April 3rd. The meeting was then unanimously adjourned at 12:25pm.