

APPROVED MINUTES OF 04/09/2019

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	Danbury City Traffic Engineer Abdul Barry Mohamed,
• Darien	Director of Planning and Zoning 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	Absent
• Newtown	Director of Public Works Fred Hurley
• Norwalk	Assistant Principal Engineer Michael Yeosock
• Norwalk TD	Manager of Planning and Marketing Dennis O'Connor
• Redding	Director of Public Works Jeff Hanson
• Ridgefield	Absent
• Sherman	First Selectman Don Lowe
• Stamford	Transportation Bureau Chief Jim Travers
• Weston	Director of Public Works Lou Martirano
• Westport	Director of Public Works Peter Ratkiewich
• Wilton	Town Engineer Frank Smeriglio

Also in Attendance:

HARtransit Planner Alex Dashey, Brookfield Project Manager Greg Dembowski, Danbury City Engineer Tom Altermatt, Ali Mohseni from NYMTC, Erica Muniz from GPI, Kathryn Faraci from CT DOT, and Theresa Schwartz from the University of Connecticut Technology Transfer Center. WestCOG staff members; Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kevin Mahoney, Nicole Sullivan, Sam Goater, and Victoria Ricks were in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER/ PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was called to order at 11:00am by Senior Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos. There were no public comments made.

FEATURED PRESENTATION

Traffic Signal Circuit Rider Program: Theresa Schwartz from the University of Connecticut Technology Transfer Center gave a presentation on a program they are offering to help local municipal agencies effectively manage their traffic signals.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

State Matching Grant Program (MGP) for Elderly and Demand Response Transportation: WestCOG Senior Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on the 2020-2022 application process for the MGP, which provides

matching funds for transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities to each municipality. Applications are due to WestCOG by May 3rd.

Transportation Alternative Program Solicitation: WestCOG Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney gave an update on the status of the Transportation Alternative Program Solicitations. The next step is for towns to submit proposals to WestCOG by April 18th.

Unified Planning Work Program Draft: WestCOG Senior Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on the draft for Transportation planning, which were provided to the municipalities last week for review. The draft has also been sent to CT DOT and FHWA for review.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 03/12/2019 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Newtown Director of Public Works Fred Hurley and seconded by Westport Director of Public Works Peter Ratkiewich the minutes of the March 12th meeting were unanimously approved.

Long Range Transportation Plan: WestCOG Senior Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos presented an update on the Long Range Transportation Plan revisions. WestCOG will have a revised draft sent to the TAG and MPO members prior to the MPO meeting. After review and on a motion made by Brookfield Project Manager Greg Dembowski and seconded by Westport Director of Public Works Peter Ratkiewich the Long-Range Transportation Plan and Air Quality Conformity Report was unanimously recommended to be presented to the MPO's for endorsement at the April 18th meeting.

2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program: After review by WestCOG Assistant Planner Nicole Sullivan and on a motion made by Newtown Director of Public Works Fred Hurley and seconded by Darien Director of Planning and Zoning Jeremy Ginsberg both the HVMPO and SWRMPO TIP amendments was unanimously approved.

LOTICIP: Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney presented the updated LOTICIP project commitment list. The TAG members reviewed the progress and status of previously COG committed projects. On a motion made by Westport Director of Public Works Peter Ratkiewich and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe, the TAG unanimously recommended to change the Greenwich Sound Beach Avenue and Laddins Rock Road Project from \$4,900,900 to \$3,900,900 and change the Greenwich Davis Bridge over Indian Harbor Project from \$2,500,000 to \$3,500,000.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion Items as Raised by the TAG: : WestCOG Senior Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos shared a grant opportunity that will be sent to the TAG members in the near future about the FTA Low or No Emission Program which aims to support the transition of the nation's transit fleet to the lowest polluting and most energy efficient vehicles. Proposals are due on May 14th. WestCOG Senior Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on a survey that will be sent out to the municipalities regarding developing a Regional Bicycle Network. Greenwich Deputy Commissioner of Public Works James Michel requested feedback from the municipalities regarding issues with overhead pole installation with the utility company and was inquiring if any other municipalities in the region were having the same issues. He would like this topic added to the TAG agenda in the future. Bethel Director of Public Works Doug Arndt inquired about municipalities having issues with poor quality asphalt relating to increasing RAP percentages. He would like this topic to be added to the TAG agenda in the future.

Future Presentations & Items of Interest: There were none stated.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/ ADJOURNMENT

The next MPO and COG meetings will be held on April 18th. The next TAG meeting will be held on April 30th. On a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 12:04pm.