

Disclaimer: These interim minutes of the Technical Advisory Group (“TAG”) of the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (“WestCOG” or “COG”) 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 TAG 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 TAG.

INTERIM MINUTES OF 9/8/2020

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

Held via Zoom videoconference

• Bethel	Director of Public Utilities Tom Villa
• Bridgewater	Absent
• Brookfield	Project Manager Greg Dembowski
• Danbury	Project Engineer Tom Altermatt
• Darien	Director of Public Works Ed Gentile
• Greenwich	Deputy Commissioner of Public Works James Michel
• Transit Representative – HV	Chief Executive Officer Rick Schreiner
• New Canaan	Director of Public Works Tiger Mann
• New Fairfield	Absent
• New Milford	Absent
• Newtown	Absent
• Norwalk	Assistant Principal Engineer Michael Yeosock
• Transit Representative – SWR	Chief Executive Officer Kimberly Morton
• Redding	Absent
• Ridgefield	Absent
• Sherman	Absent
• Stamford	Traffic Engineer Frank Petise
• Weston	Director of Land Use Tracey Kulikowski
• Westport	Town Engineer Kelth Wilberg
• Wilton	Assistant Director of Public Works Frank Smeriglio

Also in Attendance:

Jennifer Carrier from FHWA, Ali Mohseni from NYMTC, Kathryn Faraci from CTDOT, Meg Haffner from the Kennedy Center, Westport Operations Director Sara Harris, New Canaan Town Engineer Maria Coplit, Wilton Town Planner Michael Wrinn, and Alex Dashev from HARTransit. WestCOG staff members: Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Kevin Mahoney, Nicole Sullivan, Tucker Beckett, Mike Towle and Victoria Ricks were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER/ PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 am by Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos. There were no public comments made.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

MS4 Update: WestCOG GIS Analyst Tucker Beckett gave an update on the MS4 infrastructure mapping project. WestCOG will be reaching out to all municipalities to verify the status of their infrastructure mapping and will be sending a link to a survey to all TAG members. If you have any additional questions, please contact WestCOG staff members.

Community Connectivity Grant Program: WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on the Community Connectivity Program, which seeks to improve safety and accommodations for bicyclists and pedestrians. This grant program will provide funding up to \$600,000 for local municipalities for construction cost related to these projects. All engineering, design, etc. must be covered by the municipality. Grant applications are due to CTDOT by Friday, October 16th. If you have any additional questions, please contact WestCOG staff members.

2021-2024 Draft HVMPO and SWRMPO TIP Schedule: WestCOG Associate Planner Nicole Sullivan gave an update on the draft HVMPO and SWRMPO 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The draft TIP will be considered for endorsement at the October 15, 2020 MPO meetings. All materials for the draft 2021-2024 HVMPO and SWRMPO TIP are available on the WestCOG website.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 8/18/2020 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Greenwich Deputy Commissioner of Public Works James Michel and seconded by New Canaan Director of Public Works Tiger Mann, the minutes of the August 18th meeting were unanimously approved.

2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program: After a review by WestCOG Assistant Planner Nicole Sullivan and on a motion made by Brookfield Project Manager Greg Dembowski and seconded by New Canaan Director of Public Works Tiger Mann, the SWRMPO TIP Amendment #2020-0917: *CTTransit – Stamford Facility Upgrades, Bus to Bus Discretionary Spending, Fiscal Year 2020* were unanimously approved as presented in the memo.

Updated Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Priority: Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney reported that the Town of Brookfield has withdrawn its application for federal Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside funds. By previous HVMPO resolution, the Brookfield and Danbury applications were ranked #1 and #2, respectively. Given Brookfield's action, the HVMPO should designate a new #1 priority. On a motion made by Brookfield Project Manager Greg Dembowski and seconded by Greenwich Deputy Commissioner of Public Works James Michel, TAG members unanimously approved a motion recommending that the HVMPO designate the Danbury City-Wide Enhancement of Pedestrian Mobility as its top priority for Transportation Alternative Set-Aside funding.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion Items as Raised by the TAG: There were none stated.

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS/ ADJOURNMENT

The next TAG meeting will be held on September 29th. The next MPO and COG meetings will be held September 17th. On a motion duly made the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:23 am.