

South Western Region
Metropolitan Planning Organization

APPROVED SWRMPO MINUTES

For the 10/15/2020 Meeting

Held via videoconference

Chairman Jayme Stevenson - Vice Chairman James Marpe

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Darien	First Selectman Jayme Stevenson
Greenwich	Selectman Laruen Rabin
New Canaan	First Selectman Kevin Moynihan
Norwalk	Chief of Staff Laoise King
Stamford	Mayor David Martin
Weston	First Selectman Chris Spaulding
Westport	First Selectman James Marpe
Wilton	Absent
Transit Representative	Chief Logistics Officer Lori Hammill
CTDOT	Transportation Planning Supervisor Kathryn Faraci
MPO Staff	Executive Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi, Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker, Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn, New Fairfield First Selectman Pat Del Monaco, Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton, Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Jim Travers were in attendance. WestCOG staff members in attendance were Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Nicole Sullivan, Kristin Floberg, Kevin Mahoney, Nick Trabka, Tucker Beckett, Patty Payne, Charles Vidich, Paula Burton and Victoria Ricks. Rick Schreiner and Alex Dashev from HARTransit, Greenwich Planning and Zoning Chairman Margarita Alban and Jennifer Johnson were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order at 12:06pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Westport resident Jennifer Johnson thanked the WestCOG staff for the work done on the TIP and asked MPO members to consider keeping in the DOT fund allocation of \$40 million dollars for the Cribari Bridge.

INFORMATION ITEMS

CTDOT Draft 2021-2025 Capital Plan: WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on the CTDOT Draft 2021-2025 Capital Plan. This is a document developed by CTDOT and is a 5-year outline of federal and state transportation projects.

Municipalities may review the document and submit their comments to WestCOG by Monday, October 26th.

US EPA DERA School Bus Rebate Program: WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on a funding opportunity for assistance for municipalities and private fleet owners to replace diesel fueled school buses with new buses certified to EPA's clean emission standards. Selected applicants can receive a rebate of \$20,000-\$65,000 per bus. Applications are limited to 10 buses per entity and are due to DERA by October 30, 2020. If you have questions, please reach out to WestCOG Staff.

CTDEEP 2020 State DERA Program: WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on the 2020 State DERA Program, which is seeking grant proposals from municipalities for diesel emission reduction projects. Some example of projects include replacement or repowering of construction and commercial vehicles and equipment idle reduction projects. Applications are due to CTDEEP by November 18, 2020. If you have questions, please reach out to WestCOG Staff.

ACTION ITEMS

SWRMPO Approval of 9/17/2020 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan and seconded by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Jim Travers, the minutes of the 9/17/2020 meeting were unanimously approved with abstentions made by Norwalk Chief of Staff Laoise King and Greenwich Selectman Lauren Rabin.

2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity: The federal transportation improvement program and corresponding CTDOT air quality conformity determinations for the South Western Region MPO were discussed by WestCOG Associate Planner, Nicole Sullivan. Westport First Selectman James Marpe, stated that the administration of the Town of Westport has proposed the removal of Project #158-214 from the SWR Draft 2021-2024 TIP, pending forthcoming information based on the Environmental Assessment. This includes six line items, four of which are for the construction phase, and one each for final design and right of way. A motion was made by Westport First Selectman James Marpe and seconded by Weston First Selectman Chris Spaulding to amend the TIP with the inclusion of the changes stated above. The motion was approved. A motion was then made by Weston First Selectman Chris Spaulding and seconded by Westport First Selectman James Marpe to approve the amended SWR Draft FFY 2021-2024 TIP project listing, and the corresponding air quality conformity resolutions as amended. The motion was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The next MPO meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19th. On a motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:37pm.