

Disclaimer: These interim minutes of the Housatonic Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (“HVMPO” or “MPO”) 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 HVMPO 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 HVMPO.

Housatonic Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization

INTERIM HVMPO MINUTES

For the 12/17/2020 Meeting

Held via videoconference

Chairman Rudolph Marconi - Vice Chairman Julia Pemberton

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bethel	Absent
Bridgewater	First Selectman Curtis Read
Brookfield	First Selectman Steve Dunn
Danbury	Absent
New Fairfield	First Selectman Pat Del Monaco
New Milford	Mayor Pete Bass
Newtown	First Selectman Dan Rosenthal
Redding	First Selectman Julia Pemberton
Ridgefield	First Selectman Rudy Marconi
Sherman	First Selectman Don Lowe
Transit Representative	CEO Rick Schreiner
CTDOT	Transportation Planning Supervisor Kathryn Faraci
MPO Staff	Executive Director Francis Pickering (non-voting)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson, New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan, Weston First Selectman Chris Spaulding, Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, Westport First Selectman James Marpe and Greenwich Selectman Lauren Rabin 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, Charles Vidich and Victoria Ricks. Stamford Mayor’s Chief of Staff Michael Pollard, Alex Dashev from HARtransit, Meg Haffner from the Kennedy Center, Ellen Graham from Senator Blumenthal’s office, and Greenwich Planning and Zoning Chairman Margarita Alban were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order at 12:06pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

FHWA Highway Safety Performance Targets for 2021: WestCOG Associate Planner Nicole Sullivan gave an update on CTDOT's proposed safety targets for 2021. CTDOT has proposed returning to the 2014/2015 safety target levels. The next step is for MPO members to consider endorsing the CTDOT safety targets as presented or to develop different safety targets before the 180-day window closes on February 26, 2021.

Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program: WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ), which is a federal program that provides funds to transportation projects and programs that contribute to maintenance of air quality standards. Based on the preliminary schedule, complete applications will be due to WestCOG by February 21, 2021. MPO members expressed an interest in completing a region-wide application for electric vehicles and charging stations.

ACTION ITEMS

HVMPO Approval of 11/19/2020 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by New Fairfield First Selectman Pat Del Monaco and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, the minutes of the 11/19/2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

WestCOG Senior Planner Todd Fontanella gave an update on the 5310 Grant Applications, which supported programs to improved mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. On December 15th WestCOG was notified by email that the WHEELS of New Milford, Ability Beyond Disability, and ARI of Connecticut Section 5310 Traditional Project applications (accessible vehicles) were awarded.

ADJOURNMENT

The next MPO meeting will be held on Thursday, January 21st. On a motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:28pm.