Western Connecticut Council of Governments

Housatonic Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization

APPROVED HVMPO MINUTES
For the 01/21/2021 Meeting
Held via videoconference
Chairman Rudolph Marconi - Vice Chairman Julia Pemberton

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE
Bethel       First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker
Bridgewater  First Selectman Curtis Read
Brookfield   First Selectman Steve Dunn
Danbury      Mayor Joe Cavo
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, Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling, 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 Hadjystylianos, Todd Fontanella, Nicole Sullivan, Kristin Floberg, Kevin Mahoney, Nick Trabka, Tucker Beckett, Patty Payne, Charles Vidich, and Victoria Ricks. Stamford Mayor’s Chief of Staff Michael Pollard, Norwalk Transit CEO Kim Morton, Alex Dashev from HART Transit, Meg Haffner from the Kennedy Center, Tracey Alston from Eversource, and Greenwich Planning and Zoning Chairman Margarita Alban were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order at 12:05pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
There was no public participation.

INFORMATION ITEMS
Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program: WestCOG Principal Planner
Kristin Hadjystylianos gave an update on the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

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1 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, CT 06482  Tel/Fax: 475-323-2060
Program (CMAQ), which is a federal program that provides funds to transportation projects and programs that contribute to maintenance of air quality standards. WestCOG staff discussed that applications must be prioritized by the MPOs, the top three priorities will advance to CTDOT for consideration and will compete against applications from other MPOs in the state, with preference given to projects that have regional significance. At the December meeting, MPO members expressed an interest in completing a region-wide application for electric vehicles and charging stations. A municipality must sponsor the application and New Milford has agreed to sponsor the HVMPO application for this initiative. WestCOG staff have begun working on this application. All other completed applications are due to WestCOG by February 21st, 2021. WestCOG will provide an overview of the submitted applications and recommendations at the March MPO meeting for endorsement.

FTA Transit Safety Targets: Highway Safety Performance Targets for 2021: WestCOG Planner Todd Fontanella gave an update on CTDOT’s proposed FTA transit safety targets for 2021. WestCOG staff have coordinated and established targets in consultation with HART Transit. The next step is for MPO members to review the safety targets presented and recommend endorsement at the February MPO meeting.

Unified Planning Work Program: WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjistylianos gave an update on the work beginning around developing the Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 22 and 23, which is a federal requirement for MPOs.

ACTION ITEMS
HVMPO Approval of 12/17/2020 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker, the minutes of the 12/17/2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

FHWA Highway Safety Performance Targets for 2021: After review by WestCOG Associate Planner Nicole Sullivan and on a motion made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by New Fairfield First Selectman Pat Del Monaco, the FHWA 2021 Highway Safety Performance Targets were unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS
There was no other business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT
The next MPO meeting will be held on Thursday, February 18th. On a motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:40pm.