

*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 04/22/2021 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	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 Jeremy Ginsberg, New Canaan, Kevin Moynihan, Stamford Mayor David Martin, Westport First Selectman James Marpe, Weston First Selectman Chris Spaulding, and Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice were in attendance, WestCOG staff members in attendance were Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Nicole Sullivan, Kristin Floberg, Kevin Mahoney, Charles Vidich, Victoria Ricks, and Cricket Carpenter. Norwalk Transit CEO Kim Morton, Meg Haffner from the Kennedy Center, Tracey Alston and Samantha LaBonne from Eversource, Ellen Graham from Senator Blumenthal’s office, Darien Planning and Zoning Director Jeremy Ginsberg, Greenwich Planning & Zoning Commission Chair, Margarita Alban, Stamford Mayor’s Chief of Staff Mike Pollard, Westport Operations Director Sara Harris Bridget, Boucaud from VN Engineers, Steve O’Neill and Eric Tang from VHB were also in attendance.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order at 12:03.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

### FEATURED PRESENTATION:

Bridget Boucaud from VN Engineers along with Eric Tang and Steve O'Neill from VHB gave a presentation on the WestCOG Regional Transportation Safety Plan 2021. Comments will be accepted by the Municipalities through May 7th. Any questions should be directed to WestCOG Associate Planner Nicole Sullivan at: [nsullivan@westcog.org](mailto:nsullivan@westcog.org)

### INFORMATION ITEMS

**Unified Planning Work Program:** WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an update on the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Fiscal Year 22 and 23. The draft has been completed for both the SWRMPO and the HVMPO and sent to the CTDOT. WestCOG will review comments update the work program. The final version will be shared with the TAG and MPO members at the May meetings. Please contact WestCOG staff if you have any questions.

**USDOT Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Grant Program:** WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an overview of the RAISE program. USDOT will be hosting a series of webinars to discuss the application process. Applications are due on July 12<sup>th</sup> and are to be submitted through the Grants.GOV portal. Please contact WestCOG staff if you have any questions.

**CTDOT Corridor Study Solicitation:** WestCOG Senior Planner Todd Fontanella gave an update on the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) Corridor Study Solicitation. All municipalities in the WestCOG region are eligible to submit a corridor study concept. Applications along with a letter of commitment signed by their municipal office, are to be submitted to WestCOG by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. WestCOG will review and prioritize the applications in May. The findings will be presented at the June meeting. WestCOG will be able to submit up to three (3) applications to the CTDOT in July 2021. Digital copies may be sent to Todd Fontanella at: [tfontanell@westcog.org](mailto:tfontanell@westcog.org)

**State Matching Grant Program:** WestCOG Planner Todd Fontanella gave an overview on the State Matching Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to provide funding to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities. The required materials are due to WestCOG and CTDOT by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Todd.

### ACTION ITEMS

**HVMPO Approval of 03/18/2021 Meeting Minutes:** After review and on a motion made by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker, the minutes of the 03/18/2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

**2021-2024 HV Transportation Improvement Program:**

After a review by WestCOG Associate Planner Nicole Sullivan, a motion was made by New Milford First Selectman Pete Bass and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker to unanimously approve the HVMPO TIP Amendment for Project #0034-0354 Replace stone box culvert on South Street in Danbury under Rte. 53 with a new culvert approximately 200 feet west of Town Hill Ave. Project #0116-0135 Replace bridge 01015 over Saugatuck Reservoir in Redding. Project #0174-0443 Traffic signal LED re-lamping in district four.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next MPO meeting will be held on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. On a motion duly made by Jeremy Ginsberg and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:44 pm.

**INTERIM MINUTES SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL BY HVMPO MEMBERS**