

Housatonic Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization

APPROVED HVMPO MINUTES

For the 05/20/2021 Meeting

Held via videoconference

Chairman Rudolph Marconi - Vice Chairman Julia Pemberton

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bethel	Second Selectman Rich Straiton
Bridgewater	Absent
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, Kevin Moynihan, Westport First Selectman James Marpe, and Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice were in attendance. WestCOG staff members in attendance were Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Kristin Floberg, Kevin Mahoney, Victoria Ricks, and Cricket Carpenter. Alex Dashev from HARtransit, Norwalk Transit CEO Kim Morton, John Truscinski and Katie Lund from CIRCA, David Murphy and Victoria Vetre from SLR Consulting and Samantha Nestor were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There was no public participation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

CTDOT's Public Hearings and Public Comment on Rail Service and Fare Changes.

WestCOG Senior Planner Todd Fontanella provided an overview of the CTDOT's Public Hearings and Public Comment Period on Bus and Rail Service and Fare Changes. The public comment period will run from April 29th to May 28, 2021. The proposed bus service and rail

changes as well as information on how to attend the public hearings, can be viewed on the Department of Transportation's website at: www.ct.gov/dot/proposedtransitchanges

Member-directed Community Project Funding Requests.

WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview of the Member-directed Community Project Funding Requests. There are seven regional projects that were submitted and currently up for consideration.

ACTION ITEMS

HVMPO Approval of 04/22/2021 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal the minutes of the 04/22/2021 meeting minutes were unanimously approved with an abstention made by Bethel Second Selectman Rich Straiton.

2021-2024 HVMPO Transportation Improvement Program WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview of the HVMPO FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments #2021-0520

0170-3605: Statewide Transportation Demand Management (NY-NJ-CT Moderate)

The CTDOT-requested amendment would add a new project to the TIP for the TDM program known as CTRides. The project would provide funds for Fiscal Year 2021 and enables CTDOT to market and educate employers in support of the program. The program aims to reduce the number of employee work trips and decrease traffic congestion by helping to form carpools as well as implement teleworking programs. The project total is approximately \$3.35 million with no local match.

After a review by WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos a motion was made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by New Fairfield First Selectman Pat Del Monaco. The 2021-2024 Transportation TIP Amendments #2021-0520 was unanimously approved.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY 22 and 23

After review a by WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos a motion was made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by Bethel Second Selectman Rich Straiton. The Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 22 and 23 was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering announced that there will be a Retreat for the Chief Elected Officials with Camoin Associates in place of the July 22nd 2021 MPO/COG meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

The next MPO meeting will be held on Thursday, June 17th 2021. On a motion duly made and seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:36 pm.