Unified Planning Work Program

for the
South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (SWRMPO)
FY 2022 & FY 2023

MPO Endorsement: 5/20/2021
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Introduction
Transportation systems in urban areas are regional by nature. This is certainly true for the SWRMPO area as the transportation systems of its eight municipalities are closely linked. I-95 operates as the primary artery through five of the municipalities and by all measures its volumes are well over capacity. The Route 7 Expressway in Norwalk and the Merritt Parkway are other major transportation features. CTDOT studies of all three facilities are closely monitored by the MPO.

As older East Coast cities, the primary local roadways in Norwalk and Stamford were laid out before the automobile age. Compared to newer urban areas in other parts of the nation, retrofitting to modern capacity standards here is a higher priority.

In pursuit of better mobility, economic vitality and improved travel times, planning for capacity enhancement and improved safety are continuous concerns. And the “livability” of all of the MPO’s proposed investments in transportation must reflect context sensitive design, pedestrian and bike access.

The SWRMPO area has significant commuter rail service, primarily oriented towards New York City. Local bus service operates in the denser areas. Planning for transit-oriented development is being undertaken in the vicinities of several rail stations. The integration of all transportation modes, not always fully considered in the past, is now acknowledged as essential for the efficiency of the area’s transportation system.

Structure of Transportation Planning in the South Western Region:
Federal transportation funding programs allow for input from the leadership of regions. Representatives of a region then work alongside state and federal officials to shape the scope of the transportation investments to be funded in the area.

The South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), has been designated by federal and state governments to conduct transportation planning in the south western region of Connecticut. This includes the eight municipalities of Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston, Westport and Wilton; in addition to transit and state representation.
To manage the regional component of a transportation planning program, every two years the MPO updates a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), documenting upcoming metropolitan transportation planning activities and processes to comply with the federal planning requirements.

As the federally mandated and funded transportation policy-making organization, the MPO is to carry out a “continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive” multimodal transportation planning process in accordance with 23 U.S. Code 134 and 49 U.S. Code 5303. This includes the development of a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Detailing of transportation planning activities conducted under the UPWP is documented in quarterly reports submitted to USDOT and CTDOT. These are available to the public.

The authorizing and funding of regional transportation planning by MPOs serves to maximize the cost-benefit of federal expenditures on transportation. In pursuit of this objective, detailed technical studies and a constrained capital improvement program are produced by the MPO. The UPWP provides the framework to execute such activities.

Through its approval power over federally funded transportation capital projects and services in the TIP, the MPO maintains a significant partnership with USDOT and CTDOT. In addition, the MPO is responsible for solicitation, prioritization and submission of funding applications under a variety of federal transportation programs.

The South Western Region MPO maintains an agreement with the Western CT Council of Governments (WestCOG) for it to serve as host agency for staffing and administrative matters. While housed together, the two organizations maintain policy independence from one another; actions by the MPO relating to federal transportation matters are not subject to an override by votes at WestCOG.

Interregional coordination of these and other MPOs within Connecticut is facilitated by CTDOT monthly meetings. Interregional cooperation with nearby MPOs in New York State, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania is facilitated by an updated agreement in 2017.

**Priorities to Address Issues and Deficiencies**

The transportation system is complex in both size and breadth. A core objective of the UPWP is to identify opportunities to mitigate deficiencies in the MTP and describe the work activities intended to fulfill them. This information is provided below, with more detail included as part of each UPWP Task.

**Important Activities:**

1. **MAP-21 and FAST Act Implementation:** The Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) are federal transportation legislation that identifies specific policies and requirements for MPOs, including a transition to performance-based planning. The MPO will work with CTDOT and others to implement these provisions.
2. **Models of Regional Planning**: The MPO will continue to work with CTDOT and adjoining MPOs to coordinate regional plans and other activities where possible to ensure a regional approach to transportation planning. This may also include performance-based planning activities. Coordination between HVMPO and SWMPO on work products and joint meeting formats will also continue.

3. **Congestion and Air Quality**: a core activity of the MPO, which is a Transportation Management Area (TMA). The MPO will continue coordination with CTDOT and others to identify congestion and develop appropriate mitigation strategies. In the South Western Region, emphasis areas for congestion include I-95, the Merritt Parkway, U.S. Routes 1 and 7, among others. Use of the National Performance Management Research Dataset (NPMRDS) and others, including GIS network analyst routing, will support congestion management and planning.

4. **Safety**: the MPO will continue to analyze safety data for purposes of identifying areas for improvement and project development planning. Efforts are incorporated into the MTP and will be evaluated in the Regional Transportation Safety Plan, while also assisting with MPO safety targets. Staff will continue to identify opportunities to partner with the UConn T2 Center for efforts to enhance safety planning.

5. **Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)**: Work with CTDOT, municipal partners, and other stakeholders along the New Haven main line and branch lines to explore areas for future TOD and economic development. Support recommendations of TOD studies that have been endorsed by municipalities.

6. **System Investment and Performance**: the MPO will continue to place emphasis on safety, operations and maintenance initiatives, including:
   a. **Highways**: support FHWA and CTDOT’s efforts to ensure that deficiencies along I-95, Routes 1 and 7, and the Merritt Parkway are addressed. This includes existing and future efforts related to safety and congestion, such as interchange improvements along I-95 in Norwalk and Stamford.
   b. **Transit**: Continue to support activities that maintain a state of good repair. Seek opportunities to improve the New Haven Line and branch lines in the region.

7. **Connectivity**: continue planning efforts to improve connectivity across all modes. The MPO will continue to:
   a. Incorporate *Complete Streets* principles for all users into project development and planning
      Identify opportunities for expansion or infill of on- and off-road *bicycle and pedestrian networks* to access transit and other destinations. Staff will work on developing a regional bicycle network and continue connectivity analyses to develop strategies to enhance mobility.
8. **LOTCIP:** Staff will continue efforts for this state-funded program, which provides funding for regionally significant municipal projects. Staff will work alongside CTDOT and member municipalities to continue advancing existing projects while also developing new projects that will improve the transportation system. Work associated with this program will not be charged against the UPWP work tasks.

9. **Freight Planning:** Staff will continue efforts in collecting and analyzing freight data in support of developing a regional freight profile. The MPO will continue to participate in freight planning initiatives with neighboring MPOs through coordination with NYMTC and the MAP Forum Multi-State Freight Working Group.

10. **Resilience:** Efforts to analyze, assess and improve the transportation system’s vulnerability to natural hazards such as flooding, will continue. This includes both inland impervious areas, riverine and coastal flooding. Of importance is working to “harden” critical transportation assets near the shoreline, which may be vulnerable to storm surge. Staff to the MPO will continue to work with CTDOT, DEMHS, municipalities and other partners to help advance these efforts.

**Planning Factors:**
The FAST Act provides planning guidelines for MPOs, citing ten primary planning factors to guide the process. The MPO directs its transportation planning to incorporate these guiding national principles, defined as follows:

1. **Economic Vitality.** Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.

2. **Safety.** Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.

3. **Security.** Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.

4. **Mobility.** Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight.

5. **Environment and Planning.** Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and state and local planned growth and economic development patterns.

6. **System Integration.** Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes for people and freight.

7. **System Management.** Promote efficient system management and operation.

8. **System Preservation.** Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.

9. **Resiliency.** Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.

10. **Travel and Tourism.** Enhance travel and tourism.
Planning Emphasis Areas:
The UPWP also incorporates USDOT emphasis areas, including:

1. Climate Change and Resiliency: improve resiliency of the transportation system in the face of climate change, sea level rise, and severe storm events. Coordinate and support similar efforts by others.

2. MAP-21 and FAST Act: transition to performance-based planning and programming.

3. Models of Regional Planning: promote cooperation and coordination across MPO and state boundaries.

4. Ladders of Opportunity: identify transportation connectivity gaps in access to essential services.

Transportation Performance Management
Transportation Performance Management (TPM) as a strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decisions to achieve national performance goals. The UPWP incorporates TPM in the transportation planning and programming process by addressing the following performance areas:

- Pavement
- Bridge
- Safety
- Mobility
- Freight Movement
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality
- Transit Asset Management
- Transit Safety

The UPWP lays out the transportation planning work the MPO expects to undertake in 'state' fiscal years 2022 and 2023 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023), including the following descriptions of work by task:

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Tasks

1: Management of The Planning Process

Objective
To administer the transportation program funded by FHWA, FTA, CTDOT and MPO members and conform to all applicable federal and state laws, regulations and guidance.

Activities

1.1. **Primary Administration and Interagency Coordination.** Develop the UPWP as the administrative instrument for coordinating metropolitan transportation planning activities in the MPO area.

1.2. **Financial Management.** Prepare the program budget and financial documents, including an annual audit, quarterly invoices, communications, and other materials necessary to financially manage the MPO program.

1.3. **MPO Meeting Administration.** Prepare MPO agendas, meeting minutes and other documentation associated with management of the planning program.

1.4. **Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Administration.** The TAG works closely with the MPO staff on program coordination and technical exchange. It also reviews proposed TIP amendments and makes recommendations upon them to the MPO. The TAG is also utilized as the interface between MPO member and CTDOT program staffs. Preparation of agendas and minutes mirror processes utilized for the MPO.

1.5. **Quarterly Reporting.** Within its quarterly reports to USDOT and CTDOT, the MPO will document staff activities in terms of meetings attended, data disseminated, technical assistance, traffic and transit plans reviewed, progress with the program year’s specific technical studies, etc.

1.6. **TMA Certification.** The MPO will review its latest certification review findings and continue activities and preparation for the next TMA Certification process. The TMA Certification process will begin in early 2022 and will be completed in July 2022.

1.7. **Other Administration.** The completion of an annual MPO process recertification; review and revision of an annual Affirmative Action Plan; and as necessary, work connected with MPO redesignation. The MPO will monitor the Census 2020 effort with regards to any impacts to Urbanized Area (UZA) and TMA designations. The MPO will review, adjust and incorporate any potential changes that will occur with Census 2020 information becomes available.

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<td>Quarterly &amp; Annual Progress Reports</td>
<td>October, January, April and June</td>
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Annual Audit          November
Affirmative Action Plan  April
Annual MPO recertification September
TMA Certification       July 2022
Narrative Reports & Memoranda Throughout the year

2: Data Collection & Analysis
Objective
Develop and apply research and analysis tools to aid in forecasting transportation needs, including the ability to provide impact studies.

Collect and share relevant transportation system data and ensure federal transportation planning requirements are satisfied. Coordinate data collection with other local, regional, state, and federal agencies.

Enhance the technical capacity of transportation systems, staff, and other stakeholders in the region.

Activities
Collect, monitor, and analyze data for highway, transit, bike and pedestrian systems and transportation demand management performance as a means of identifying deficiencies, developing plans and improving programs, strategies, and projects.

2.1 Data Collection & Analytic Efforts:

- **Commuter Lot Inventory**: Assist the CTDOT Bureau of Public Transportation by conducting quarterly vehicle utilization counts.

- **Regional Traffic Counting Service**: Continue utilization of cameras to count traffic and record multi-modal behavior for area intersections and corridors. The MPO will share traffic count data as requested by CTDOT.

- **Regional Trail Counting Service**: Continue utilization of counters to collect data on trails in the region.

- **Congestion**: Utilize data from relevant data sources (e.g. National Performance Management Research Dataset [NPMRDS]) to support theCongestion Management Process (CMP) by: defining congestion; identifying congestion links; and monitoring the network. Analyses will also assist identification of improvement strategies, including Transportation Demand Management (TDM).

- **Safety**: Retrieve, review, and analyze crash data from relevant sources (e.g. CT Crash Repository.) Safety data and analyses will support other initiatives such as Road Safety Audits (RSAs), Regional Engineering Services, and a Regional Transportation Safety Plan.
• **Performance Measures:** Continue efforts to develop a performance-based management approach to transportation planning, including associated targets in accordance with MAP-21 and FAST Act guidance. Continue coordinating with CTDOT on the development of performance targets.

• **Creation of a Comprehensive Street Network:** The MPO intends to develop a street single network that can be used for network analyses and to display various road information, such as lanes, direction, functional class.

• **Other:** Additional efforts to support the transportation process may be undertaken, as applicable. Where possible, data from the latest Census and American Community Survey will be applied. Staff will also support system investment and performance for HPMS, FHWA 536 reports, and functional classification efforts.

2.2 **Utilize and Expand Geographic Information Systems (GIS):** Maintain and expand the transportation-related components of the WestCOG GIS system and its applications to support MPO activities.

• Develop and maintain a GIS web portal to facilitate effective data exchange, public accessibility and viewing of transportation datasets. GIS assets include:
  
  o Map viewer
  
  o Data dashboards
  
  o Data download portal

• Expand the delivery and use of visualization products.

• Integrate transportation analytics with spatial data, including environmental factors.

2.3 **Expansion of Technical Capacity**

• Offer support for advanced GIS, transportation, and planning training to staff and other stakeholders

• Acquire data collection technology and field equipment that provides new collection, research, and analysis capabilities.

• Develop automated solutions for transportation activities.

• Regional Partnership: coordinate with CTDOT and other stakeholders on state and regional data standards to better serve the data in transportation planning needs.

**Product Schedule**

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3: Planning Activities

Objectives

To develop and implement short- and long-term transportation plans and projects. Priorities within this activity will relate closely to addressing issues and deficiencies identified in the MTP, including:

- Increase safety and security for all modes and users, especially for vulnerable users;
- Improve the usability and performance of the transportation system across all modes;
- Decrease congestion through use of TDM, access to transit and nonmotorized transportation;
- Improve the environment, including air quality, by reducing the impacts of transportation projects and systems where possible;
- Promote responsible land use and development that is considerate of all users of the transportation system, including bicyclists and pedestrians. Incorporate complete streets concepts where possible;
- Continue development of tools and strategies to better analyze the performance, operation, maintenance, and preservation of the transportation system, including financial considerations; and
- To deepen stakeholder involvement in the planning process.

As part of this Task, the MPO will integrate the ten federal planning factors and USDOT Planning Emphasis Areas into the planning process. Much of this policy-oriented activity will rely upon the Data and Analysis Task detailed in the previous section.

Activities

3.1 Update Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The MPO will prepare an update to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) in consultation with all relevant stakeholders. Covering a 20+ year planning horizon, the MTP will be inclusive of all modes and financially constrained, comply with air quality consultation/conformity and public participation requirements, be consistent with
current and forecast land use and transportation conditions, and comply with MAP-21, FAST Act 23 CFR Part 450 and other further updated federal regulations and guidance.

3.2 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Formulation, Amendment and Adoption. The TIP is a staged, fiscally constrained multi-year program of projects approved for funding by federal, state, and the MPO. The TIP will be prepared through a consultative process between FHWA, FTA, CTDOT, and the MPO. Opportunities for public involvement will also be provided.

The TIP will respond to current needs, reflect available resources, and be compliant with federal and CTDOT guidance, including air quality conformity and consultation. The TIP will be periodically amended and maintained with CTDOT and the MPO to ensure accurate and timely delivery of information for informed decision making. All TIP amendments are presented to the TAG and MPO members for discussion and endorsement.

Projects included in the TIP align with the goals and strategies as identified in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

3.3 Models of Regional Coordination. The MPO will continue working to promote cooperation and coordination across MPO boundaries, and across state boundaries where appropriate to reinforce a regional approach to transportation planning. The MPO currently coordinates with neighboring MPOs and RTPOs for data collection (e.g. TRANSCOM) and programmatic activities in the Urbanized and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (UZA, MSA). Recent examples include the TAP project/program coordination in the Bridgeport-Stamford UZA. The MPO also conducts joint meetings with the HVMPO.

Activities will continue to assist with 3C objectives and federal requirements for MPO coordination with respect performance measures, and the TIP where applicable. Participation in the multistate Metropolitan Area Planning (MAP) forum, NYMTC (New York) Freight Working Group, and other 3C activities will continue.

The MPO coordinates with the other MPOs in the Bridgeport-Stamford Urbanized Area. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been developed to identify how the planning process and corresponding planning products will be coordinated and opportunities for joint planning efforts.

3.4 Coordination with CTDOT. The MPO will coordinate with CTDOT on transportation planning and programming activities. These efforts are outlined in the “Statement of MPO Planning Roles and Responsibilities” which may be found in the Appendix.

3.5 Congestion Management Process (CMP). As part of a federally defined Transportation Management Area, SWRMPo will continue its CMP efforts consistent with federal and state guidance, including the following six elements:

- determine the highway and transit CMP network;
- define congestion, including parameters to be measured and associated thresholds;
• identify and develop strategies to address congested links: geometric, operational and transit elements;
• implement short- and long-term strategies and include in MTP and TIP;
• monitor the network, including improvements; and
• share any specialized traffic information collected with CTDOT’s Traffic Analysis Unit

Outputs from the Task 2: Data Collection and Analysis will be utilized to support the CMP, including performance measures. Strategies, including those consistent with the ten planning factors and federal emphasis areas, will be incorporated into the TIP where possible.

A congestion study will be prepared to incorporate the CMP elements and develop concept designs to mitigate congestion.

3.6 Limited Access Roadway Policy Development. The MPO will assist CTDOT in on-going development of policies for I-95, the Merritt Parkway and the Expressway portion of Route 7. This activity will involve technical exchange and attendance at CTDOT stakeholder meetings.

3.7 Assistance with Transit Planning. The MPO will support transit district management, identify rail parking needs, rail and local transit interfaces, also seek to improve coordination of inter-regional and intra-regional transit and paratransit services. Activities which strive to improve bus stops, signage, shelters, and transit security and safety will also be conducted. The MPO will assist with counts of vehicles using the commuter parking lots.

The MPO will also coordinate and cooperate with CTDOT’s Bureau of Public Transportation on the continuing development of an updates to the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan and on the selection of projects for the various programs covered by the plan. The MPO will engage with public transit providers operating in the region, including CTtransit, Norwalk Transit District, and CTDOT Office of Rail. The MPO will participate in meetings, assist with outreach, identify gaps and strategies, and review documents as needed.

With respect to potential affordable housing, the MPO will seek to identify areas, including reclaimed brownfields, near existing and proposed rail and bus routes and along potential future public transit corridors, which may be suitable for the construction of affordable housing. These analyses will support the development of WestCOG’s Regional Housing Affordability Plan which will factor in transportation needs and cost.

Additional transit supportive activities will be initiated through alternative channels, such as TIP updates, travel demand management, freight, mobility and accessibility, in addition to others.

3.8 Support Multimodal Components, Livability. The MPO will conduct integrated multi-modal transportation planning and foster development of sound public policy. It will promote bicycle and pedestrian travel and initiatives, incorporate Complete Streets policies, facilitate commuter parking and ridesharing.
The MPO will promote safe, livable communities and environmental sustainability. Activities will also support livability principles such as: mobility and accessibility, connectivity to town, city and neighborhood centers, first and last mile connections, congestion management, food security relative to the transportation system, journey-to-work analysis, and the environment. The MPO will include Complete Streets elements in the transportation planning of all modes to identify the needs for users of all abilities, demographics, and ages. In cooperation with CTDOT, staff will explore use of the INVEST tool for Sustainable Highways.

The MPO will maintain a Regional Bicycle Network plan that will facilitate a connected bicycle network and build on the recommendations from existing transportation studies. The plan will identify and support North-South and East-West bicycle connectivity corridors to become the “backbone” of the regional network. The goal is to make streets safer for bicyclists and improve the off-road trail system to make bicycling a more viable means of transportation in the region. The MPO will also continue inventory trails in the region, identifying gaps and connections to major destinations to support multi-modal transportation.

The MPO will coordinate with CTDOT to educate municipalities on their relevant responsibilities under ADA and Section 504 to ensure all programs, activities, and services under the municipality’s jurisdiction are examined to identify barriers to access.

3.9 **Freight and Goods Movement.** The MPO will continue freight planning activities that:

- expand data collection and analysis;
- engage freight users and providers;
- maintain a list of freight stakeholders in the MPO area;
- maintain a list of major freight generators;
- provide GIS data, including: freight generators and stakeholders in the MPO area, freight supportive land uses;
- identify and maintain a list of system constraints for freight movements (local geometric challenges, local bridge height, weights, turning radii, etc); and
- evaluate truck parking locations and identify opportunities for parking

These efforts will aid the MPO in the development of a Regional Freight Profile, which will provide an overview on all modes of freight including: truck, rail, air, and maritime activities. The MPO will coordinate with CTDOT to support the development of the Statewide Freight Plan.

The MPO will continue to participate in freight planning initiatives in coordination with regional partners, including NYMTC and through the MAP Forum Multi-State Freight Working Group. Staff will participate in meetings and workshops, review planning documents and data analyses.
3.10 **Promote Safety of System Components.** The MPO will work with other stakeholders to advance infrastructure projects and initiatives that promote safety of all modes for people and goods. Staff will continue to aggregate and analyze data, including use of relevant sources (e.g. expanded CTDOT-UConn Crash Repository) and in-house geospatial analyses, among others. Staff will conduct reviews of related data, goals, objectives, and strategies to promote safety with the State’s transportation system.

The MPO will continue to support and promote Road Safety Audits within the region, which help identify areas of concern and appropriate countermeasures. The CT Strategic Highway Safety Plan was incorporated by reference into the 2019 Long-Range Transportation Plan, and will be incorporated in the upcoming updated Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Staff will continue to serve as a member of the Steering Committee for the CT Strategic Highway Safety Plan and participate in the development of the update of the plan. The MPO will integrate safety considerations into all applicable planning project development efforts.

The MPO will evaluate the Regional Transportation Safety Plan and will assist with safety targets.

3.11 **Economic Vitality, Land Use, and Transportation Models.** Within the region, major growth corridors, projected land uses, and related transportation improvements will be analyzed and assessed, including the correlation with economic development. The MPO will promote consistency with the MTP and with planned state and local development patterns. MPO staff will also evaluate the transportation system to provide context for the maintenance of the WestCOG Regional Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). The MPO staff will support the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and the Western Connecticut Economic Development District (WCEDD). The POCD and CEDS provide input and context for regional transportation planning. The MPO will incorporate principles of complete streets, traffic calming, context sensitive design and smart growth into transportation planning, programs, projects and processes. The MPO will host ad-hoc committee meetings with municipal commission members to discuss transportation planning initiatives. Opportunities to enhance tourism, where feasible, will also be considered.

3.12 **Assist with Security Procedures.** The MPO will plan for the multi-modal security of transportation systems, including identification of critical facilities and review of emergency plans to ensure that critical facilities and transportation systems are identified, and the roles of key players are identified. Staff will continue to engage in hazard mitigation, evacuation planning, and emergency management activities. Staff will support the development and maintenance of the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The MPO will pursue transportation-based strategies identified in the HMP, as well as strategies that support transportation-planning initiatives.

The MPO will continue building digital infrastructure capabilities to help identify, assess, and mitigate vulnerable areas and assets. The MPO will assess digital infrastructure and cyber security relative to the transportation system. This includes the resiliency and reliability of transportation infrastructure to stormwater and other hazards. Staff will cooperate with Connecticut Department
of Emergency Management & Homeland Security (CT DEMHS), Metro-North and other stakeholders to maintain and improve security and safety in the MPO area.

Staff will continue to serve where needed to the DEMHS Region 1 Transportation Emergency Support Function group, a subset of the Regional Emergency Planning Team. In partnership with adjacent MetroCOG, meetings of this group will be held to identify transportation emergency planning needs in the MPO area, demonstrating a successful model of regional planning.

3.13 Protect and Enhance the Environment. The MPO will work to protect the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns. Coordination with Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) and others regarding climate change, sea level rise, extreme storm events, stormwater impacts, greenhouse gas emissions, environmental and historic resource assessments, energy conservation, brownfields mitigation and other environmental matters relating to transportation and in support of CTDOT’s climate change and resiliency planning efforts will continue.

The MPO will work with CTDOT in to consider transportation system impacts on overall quality of life and opportunities to enhance livability, including regional air quality and conformity determinations. The MPO will also coordinate and participate with the National Environmental Policy Act process for transportation planning studies.

The MPO will work with CTDOT regarding electric vehicle charging infrastructure projects and programming.

Staff will continue to prepare high resolution land cover analyses, helping identify stormwater runoff, flood mitigation opportunities, and ecologically sensitive areas along the transportation network. The MPO will look at the transportation-based stormwater infrastructure and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit requirements and support the municipalities to meet these requirements.

The MPO will work with CTDOT and other partners to assess and mitigate impacts of deicing materials on drinking water. These efforts include informing municipal maintenance staff on best management practices related to road salt use.

The MPO will research synergies for transportation and conservation efforts (e.g. pollinator pathways).

Other eligible activities that may relate to sustainability and environmental planning in transportation include: cultural and historic resources, construction of scenic viewing areas, environmental mitigation, aquatic habitat connectivity, vegetation management, vehicle-caused wildlife mortality, multi-purpose trails, and bicycle and pedestrian activities.

3.14 Operations and Systems Preservation. The MPO will identify capital and operational improvements needed to preserve mobility and safety within existing transit and highway networks. In addition, intelligent transportation systems (ITS) and updates to the ITS architecture
will continue to be incorporated into planning activities wherever possible, specifically TDM. A TDM analysis will evaluate telework, remote education, wired and wireless broadband infrastructure, and additional emphasis areas for data collection, planning and analysis.

3.15 Planning and Environmental Linkages. Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) is a study process that is typically used to identify transportation issues, along with environmental concerns in a corridor or a specific location. It is generally conducted before any project construction phasing is identified, and before specific problems and solutions are known. The MPO will participate in any PELS that the Department is conducting.

3.16 Staff Training and Development. The MPO will participate in training and professional development opportunities to strengthen internal resources to carry out the work outlined in this work program. Staff will participate in trainings through CTDOT, FHWA, FTA, and other federal partners and organizations.

Product Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Release date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TIP amendments and actions</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Models of regional planning</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congestion Management Process</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Transportation Safety Plan Evaluation</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Bicycle Network Update</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Travel Demand Management Analysis</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Transportation Plan</td>
<td>5/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Freight Profile</td>
<td>12/21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4: Other Technical Assistance

Objective

To address the issues and deficiencies identified in the MTP, address the ten FAST Act planning factors, USDOT emphasis areas, and transportation performance management. As part of the process, the MPO will:

- Participate in corridor, area, locational and topical studies and working groups;
- Provide technical assistance to studies, analyses, and other services to state, regional, transit, municipal, and other transportation stakeholders; and
- Development of studies to identify and mitigate system deficiencies.

An important component of the task will be to assist stakeholder with transportation funding programs and coordination. Also, assistance with economic and community development, incorporating climate
change, coastal resilience, and other considerations into transportation plans. This task will also enhance the technical capabilities of regional and municipal planners, as well as other stakeholders.

Many of the activities in this section will draw from data collection and analyses described in Task 2. Funding coordination and project development will leverage this data and assist Regional Engineering Service activities. This service will benefit the region and its municipalities by thoroughly vetting project concepts and help ensure transportation investments target existing deficiencies. Such technical assistance will also bridge the gap between planning and implementation.

**Activities**

4.1 **General Technical Support.** The MPO will also provide program coordination, guidance in grant execution, monitoring of project schedules and project implementation when requested. Legislation will be monitored as it affects the region's transportation program, including the final rule for MPO coordination.

4.2 **Assistance with Funding Programs.** The MPO will assist stakeholders in the development of projects and priorities for relevant programs such as: the STP Urban Program, the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), FTA 5307, FTA 5310, Locally Coordinated Public-Transit Human Services Transportation Program (LOCHSTP), State Matching Grant Program for Demand Responsive Transportation for Elderly and People with Disabilities, the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTCIP), and other programs as appropriate. The MPO will also continue researching new grant and funding opportunities for transportation projects.

4.3 **Complete Technical Studies.** The MPO will work with municipalities and other partners on future corridor studies.

The MPO will work with federal and state partners to complete the Regional Value Capture Mechanism Study which was awarded planning grant funds through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants Program.

4.4 **Technical Assistance in Support of the Transportation Planning Program.** Consultant services will be contracted in support of the transportation planning program's items that exceed available in-house staffing. For any planning studies that will use PL funds, the MPO will complete a DOT Planning Study Application. Efforts may involve studies of selected traffic and transit problems to identify deficiencies, alternatives and concepts for improvements or countermeasures, and performance measures. Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning:** in support of multi-modal initiatives, activities are likely to improve access and mobility to other transportation modes, enhance livability and quality of life, reduce congestion, as well as improve air quality. Activities may include, but are not limited to:
  - Municipal Pedestrian Plans
• **Public Space Improvement Plan**
• **Wayfinding plans**
• **Expanded regional bicycle and pedestrian plans**
• **Pedestrian Safety Strategies**
• **Norwalk: Bike and Pedestrian Mobility Study**
• **Norwalk River Valley Trail Routing and Concept Design Study**

**Transit and Passenger Rail Planning**: Analyzing fixed route service; enhancements to paratransit; inter-transit district and other coordination; bus rapid transit; first and last mile connectivity, relationships to economic development. Activities may include, but are not limited to:

• Multi-modal transit-oriented development studies around train stations
• **Norwalk: Autonomous Vehicle Shuttle Feasibility Study**
• **Transportation Demand Management Studies**
• Study to expand passenger rail service
• Study of access from train stations to commercial centers
• **New Canaan Branch Noise Pollution Abatement Feasibility Study**

**Transportation Optimization, Congestion, and Access Management**: use computer-aided analysis of transportation routes to optimize a variety of activities. Efforts will support many planning emphasis areas such as reducing congestion and emissions, improving multi-modal connectivity, as well as safety considerations, and project development. Activities may include but are not limited to:

• **Signal Optimization Analysis**
• Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity and Route Optimization Analysis: pair with suitability analysis and identify gaps in the network.
• **Applications of Intelligent Transportation Systems**
• **Regional Travel Demand Management Study**
• **Ramp Metering Study**
• Study of Route 7 in Norwalk and Wilton
• **Stamford: Long Ridge Road and High Ridge Road Intersection Improvements**
- Stamford: North State Street Optimization
- Stamford: Access to Employment in North Stamford
- Stamford: Cove Road Corridor Study
- Westport: Study of Route 136 and Route 57 intersection (including access to Route 15)
- Congestion Management Strategy Concept Designs
- Others, as identified with relevant stakeholders.

**Transportation Security** Activities may include, but are not limited to:
- Evacuation Plan
- Inventory of transportation, evacuation and disaster-related plans

**Transportation and Environmental Planning** Activities may include, but are not limited to:
- Air Quality Monitoring
- Stormwater Quality Mapping
- Study using solar power to charge electric vehicles
- Brownfields assessment

**Other efforts, as identified with relevant stakeholders, including, but not limited to:**
- Transit Oriented Development (review and promote opportunities that support TOD)
- Study of Alternative Revenue Sources to Support Transportation Infrastructure
- Regional Value Capture Mechanism Study along the Metro-North Danbury and New Canaan Branch Lines
- An Analysis of Vulnerable Population's Access to Parks and Open Space
- Aging in Place and Mobility Study
- Access Management
- Telecommuting Study
- Local School Bus Study
- Connected Vehicles Study
- Scenic Roads Inventory and Plan
- Traffic Calming Plan
Parking Analyses
Noise Pollution

Any external services utilized will follow CTDOT RPO Procurement Procedures, or its successor.

4.5 **Stakeholder Coordination.** The MPO will coordinate with all stakeholders, including, CTDOT, advisory committees, local social service agencies, elderly and disabled transportation providers, and appropriate citizen advocacy groups.

As a key coordination task, staff will participate in the quarterly coordination meetings and monthly teleconferences organized by CTDOT. Review other materials where applicable.

The MPO will provide a representative to:

- Norwalk Routes 7 and 15 Project Advisory Committee
- Merritt Parkway Advisory Committee
- CTDOT and NYMTC Freight Working Groups
- Metropolitan Area Planning Forum (MAP Forum)
- Transportation Operations Coordinating Committee (TRANSCom)
- Other stakeholder groups, as identified

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Release date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical support*</td>
<td>October, January, April and June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance with funding programs*</td>
<td>October, January, April and June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete consultant studies</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other studies, as identified and agreed upon with federal and state partners</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Included in quarterly progress reports

5: **Public Participation**

Objective
To promote effective public participation in transportation planning by coordinating and collaborating with federal, state, regional, local agencies and other stakeholders. Also, to provide timely and user-friendly information to the public, and facilitating a dialog with public officials, citizens, organizations, not-for-profits, and businesses.
The MPO will utilize visualization techniques wherever possible, to assist the dissemination of complex information to stakeholders and the public alike. Public participation activities will adhere to all MAP-21/FAST Act requirements.

Activities

5.1 Report on Public Involvement. The status of public involvement activities will be reported on within the MPO’s comprehensive quarterly reports. Public involvement at MPO meetings will be recorded within MPO minutes.

The effectiveness of the public involvement process outlined in the MPO’s Public Participation Plan (PPP) will be reviewed on an annual basis and the results of the evaluation will be shared with FHWA and FTA. The PPP will be updated in 2021.

5.2 Web Site. maintain and enhance the MPO website. Ensure access to transportation sections are clearly delineated on home page. Posting of public notices and detailed transportation related materials to the web, including visualizations, will be continued.

5.3 Title VI, Environmental Justice, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP). MPO public participation activities will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, MPO Environmental Justice policies, all state and federal laws, requirements and guidance. The MPO program will ensure full and fair access to participation by all potentially affected in the transportation decision-making process, including LEP Populations.

5.4 Transportation Equity. The MPO will ensure transportation equity throughout all phases of project development, identify needs and concerns at regional and neighborhood level affecting target communities, and measure impacts and define how projects will benefit underserved communities.

5.5 Citizen Participation in Consultant Studies. Citizen participation will be included in contracted consultant studies and reported on quarterly in the report sections for those studies.

5.6 Technical Assistance Regarding Public Involvement. Where applicable, staff to the MPO will provide technical assistance to stakeholders to promote effective public involvement and technical capacity to deliver quality outreach, information, and public involvement.

5.7 DAS/DBE Compliance. Requirements for reporting and assessment will be met.

Product Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Release date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quarterly public involvement and stakeholder coordination reports*</td>
<td>October, January, April and June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web site to assist transportation planning program</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title VI and EJ policies, updated as needed</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles and press releases for community and media sources</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translated documents upon request</td>
<td>On demand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Position Descriptions

Descriptions of the WestCOG staff positions that are to be supported by federal funding for MPO activities are as follows:

Executive Director
With strategic policy established by the SWRMPO Board, the Executive Director plans and organizes the activities of the SWRMPO, provides strategic leadership to SWRMPO activities, participates in the implementation of UPWP tasks, serves as point of contact for federal, state, and municipal officials on all legislative and policy matter, represents the SWRMPO in meetings with governmental agencies, businesses, non-profits, profession and other public organizations at the national and state levels, serves as lead staff to and reports to the SWRMPO board.

Deputy Director
The Deputy Director provides overall project coordination between the MPO and WestCOG. Has liaison duties between local, regional, state and federal agencies. Assists with staff matters, outreach and communications for the MPO. Provides leadership, guidance and coordination in support of the MPO’s transportation planning program, including serving as a back-up in the oversight of the MPO’s administrative process. Lastly the Deputy Director may fill in for the duties outlined for the principal Planner or Principal Data Scientist depending on staffing needs.

Principal Planner
As chief transportation planner for the MPO, the Principal Planner, has direct responsibility for management of the MPO’s transportation planning program. Serves as primary MPO liaison with CTDOT and USDOT and is responsible for the oversight of the region’s Technical Advisory Group (TAG). Works with CTDOT and area municipalities to advance the planning and implementation of transportation projects and oversees the MPO’s administrative process.

Senior Planner
Provides advanced technical planning support for Unified Planning Work Program activities. Conducts research and performs analyses, assists in the analysis and interpretation of transportation related state policies and regulations, prepares maps and other graphics, assists in the preparation of the MTP, the TIP, grant research and writing, and organizing forums and workshops for related transportation planning issues for the MPOs of the WestCOG region. Manages individual transportation planning programs, projects, and studies with minimal supervision. Has leadership and liaison duties between state, federal, and local agencies and assists with MPO administration requirements.
Senior Project Manager/Project Manager
Assists in the development and management of the MPOs of the WestCOG region transportation programs and projects, has liaison duties between local, regional, state and federal agencies, and is assigned responsibility for managing individual transportation planning programs and projects. Undertakes data research, analysis and report preparation activities, provides technical planning assistance to area municipalities, provides leadership in the application of GIS resources for transportation planning, and provides assistance in fulfilling the MPO’s administrative requirements.

Planner
Provides technical planning support for the MPOs of the WestCOG’s Unified Planning Work Program activities, conducts research and performs analyses, assists in the analysis and interpretation of transportation related state policies and regulations, prepares maps and other graphics, assists in the preparation of the MTP, the TIP, and organizing forums and workshops for related transportation planning issues. Assists with the management of individual transportation planning programs, projects and studies.

Associate Planner
Provides technical planning support for the MPOs of the WestCOG’s Unified Planning Work Program activities, conducts research and performs analyses, assists in the analysis and interpretation of transportation related state policies and regulations, prepares maps and other graphics, assists in the preparation of the MTP, the TIP, and organizing forums and workshops for related transportation planning issues.

Assistant Planner
Provides general planning support to assist the MPOs in carrying out the tasks outlined in the Unified Planning Work Program with close supervision and guidance from other planners and staff.

Planning Aide
Performs similar functions to, but under supervision of the other planners and staff.

Principal Data Scientist
The Principal Data Scientist oversees WestCOG’s Data Science work program and closely coordinates with the Principal Planner to implement the MPO’s transportation planning program. The Principal Data Scientist is responsible for overseeing all data science projects, coordination (local, regional, state, federal) data initiatives, staff training/hiring, administrative duties, and the maintenance/implementation of WestCOG’s data science work program. Under the Data Scientist track, the Principal Data Scientist also performs research, analyses, data visual/map/ reports development, workshops, pursue grants, and project oversight at the highest levels of complexity and nuance with no supervision required.

Senior Data Scientist
Senior Data Scientists are responsible in administering/overseeing data science projects for Unified Planning Work Program activities. Data science efforts include research, analyses, data visual/map/
reports development, workshops, pursue grants, and project oversight with high levels of complexity and nuance. They would oversee multiple projects from start to finish, requiring minimal supervision from the Principal Data Scientist. The Senior Data Scientist would also provide training where applicable for Data Scientists and Associate Data Scientists.

**Data Scientist**
Data Scientists are responsible in administering data science projects for Unified Planning Work Program activities. Data science efforts include research, analyses, data visual/map/report development, workshops, pursue grants, and project oversight at moderate levels of complexity and nuance. They would oversee projects from start to finish, requiring moderate supervision from the Senior and Principal Data Scientists.

**Associate Data Scientist**
Associate Data Scientist assist with data science projects for Unified Planning Work Program activities. Data science efforts include research, analyses, data visual/map/report development, workshops, and pursue grants at moderate levels of complexity under the supervision of Senior or Principal Data Scientists.

**Assistant Data Scientist**
Assistant Data Scientists provide general analytical support to assist the MPOs in carrying out the tasks outlined in the Unified Planning Work Program with close supervision and guidance from other planners and staff.

**(Senior) Finance Manager/Finance Director**
Under minimal supervision, provides administrative support to the Executive Director and Policy Board, and is responsible for overall office activities including automated recordkeeping, financial reports/presentations for the WestCOG and its programs - including the South West Region MPO, accounts payable/receivable function, budgeting, annual government audit, facilities management, grant tracking, capital purchases and all duties relating to financial management; also coordinates work programs with the Office Manager in all responsibilities for payroll and human resources benefit coordination; assists others as assigned, including website maintenance and IT support. This position reports to the Executive Director.

**Office Manager**
Under direct supervision, performs a variety of office administration duties for WestCOG and clerical tasks to support the needs of the Executive Director, the Council Board, the MPOs of the WestCOG region and professional staff. Types correspondence, memos, meeting notices and reports; data entry in various computer applications, including Excel and Access; responsible for managing office equipment, i.e. fax, copier, postage meter, telephone system etc. Other duties include: maintaining organizational records, Outlook database, organizes logistics for various meetings, files and office supply inventory, as well as placing public notices and media releases. This position reports to the Executive Director.
Communications Associate/Assistant
Provides administrative support to Executive Director, Finance Director, and general staff as needed; assists in the development, communication, and distribution of MPO and COG meeting materials; supports the needs of the transportation planning work program, while maintaining records for regional TIP processing; maintain general files, contact lists, office management administration duties; Legislative tracking on pertinent transportation and regional issues to RPOs; and correspondence with chief elected officials, legislators, and other local administrators.
### Funding Tables

#### FUNDING-SWMPO FHWA/PL

**Fiscal Year 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures by Staff</th>
<th>Executive &amp; Deputy Director</th>
<th>Transportation Planning Staff</th>
<th>GIS Planning Staff</th>
<th>Administrative Staff</th>
<th>Carryover &amp; Direct Expenses</th>
<th>Totals</th>
<th>% of Total Contract</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1: Management of the Planning Process</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$4,390</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>$8,157</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: Data Collection and Analysis</td>
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<td>$17,539</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>$14,573</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>70</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Total Hours:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>4,275</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>780</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>150</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Subtotal Direct Salary | $74,628 |            | $355,249 | $20,257 | $6,367 |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Add BFO @ [113.21%-audited rate] | $84,486 | $176,312 | $22,932 | $7,208 |        |        |        |        |        |        | $290,950 |        |
| **Total Salary & BFO:** | $159,114 | $531,561 | $43,189 | $13,574 |        |        |        |        |        |        | **$547,550** |        |

#### Expenditures by Direct Cost

- Direct Costs include such things as travel, meetings, professional development, equipment purchases, legal notice, etc...

#### Budget Estimated by CTDOT (February 2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY2022</th>
<th>Federal 10%</th>
<th>State 10%</th>
<th>Local 10%</th>
<th>Carryover 10% State 10% Local 10%</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$653,204</td>
<td>$61,650</td>
<td>$81,650</td>
<td>$816,504</td>
<td>$179,067</td>
<td>$22,384</td>
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<td><strong>Total Agreement Amount:</strong></td>
<td>$1,306,408</td>
<td>$163,300</td>
<td>$163,300</td>
<td>$1,631,008</td>
<td>$1,246,024</td>
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</table>

#### Two Year Agreement (FY22 & FY23)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY22 &amp; 23 Grant</th>
<th>Carryover</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount of CTDOT Reimbursement:</td>
<td>$1,468,708</td>
<td>$402,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount of Local Match Required:</td>
<td>$163,300</td>
<td>$44,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount of 2 Yr. Program:</td>
<td><strong>$1,635,008</strong></td>
<td><strong>$447,667</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Funding Tables | 27
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Executive &amp; Deputy Director</th>
<th>Transportation Planning Staff</th>
<th>GIS Planning Staff</th>
<th>Administrative Staff</th>
<th>Carry over &amp; Direct Expenses</th>
<th>Totals</th>
<th>% of Total Contract</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: Management of the Planning Process</td>
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<td>$4,631</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>$8,648</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>2: Data Collection and Analysis</td>
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<td>3: Planning Activities</td>
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<td>$105,700</td>
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<td>$1,918</td>
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<tr>
<td>4: Other Technical Assistance</td>
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<td>$17,296</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>$3,014</td>
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<tr>
<td>5: Public Participation</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>$13,894</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>$17,296</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal Direct Salary:

Add BFO @ [113.21%-audited rate]:

Total Salary & BFO:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURES BY DIRECT COST</th>
<th>All Other Direct Costs *</th>
<th>Technical Support (outside consultants)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$167,865</td>
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<td>$420,000</td>
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</table>

Total Direct Costs:

Grand Total:

| Total | $167,865 | $350,337 | $45,564 | $14,321 | $1,040,338 |

Budget Estimated by CDOT (February 2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal 80%</th>
<th>State 10%</th>
<th>Local 10%</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Carryover</th>
<th>10% State</th>
<th>10% Local</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY2022</td>
<td>$653,204</td>
<td>$81,650</td>
<td>$81,650</td>
<td>$816,504</td>
<td>$179,067</td>
<td>$22,384</td>
<td>$228,431</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY2023</td>
<td>$653,204</td>
<td>$81,650</td>
<td>$81,650</td>
<td>$816,504</td>
<td>$179,067</td>
<td>$22,384</td>
<td>$228,431</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Grand Total | $1,306,408 | $163,300 | $163,300 | $1,633,008 | $358,133  | $44,767   | $447,677 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Two Year Agreement (FY22&amp;23)</th>
<th>FY22 &amp; 23 Grant</th>
<th>Carryover</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Amount of CDOT Reimbursement</td>
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<td>Total Amount of Local Match Required</td>
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<td>$44,767</td>
<td>$208,067</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Amount of 2 Yr. Program</td>
<td>$1,633,008</td>
<td>$447,677</td>
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</table>
BUILD Grant
Funding Source

Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023

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<th></th>
<th>Federal 80%</th>
<th>Local 20%</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>FY2023</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Agreement Amount:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$100,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$500,000</strong></td>
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**Maximum Hourly Rates: FY2022 & FY2023**

*maximum hourly rates shall not exceed:

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Appendices
Planning Roles and Responsibilities

CTDOT REQUIRED APPENDIX:
STATEMENT OF COOPERATIVE SWRMPO/STATE/TRANSIT
OPERATORS’ PLANNING ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Purpose

The purpose of this statement is to outline the roles and responsibilities of the State, the South Western Region MPO and appropriate providers of public transportation as required by 23 CFR Sec. 450.314(a), (h) “Metropolitan Planning Agreements”.

General Roles & Responsibilities

The South Western Region MPO will perform the transportation planning process for their region and develop procedures to coordinate transportation planning activities in accordance with applicable federal regulations and guidance. The transportation process will, at a minimum, consist of:

1. Preparation of a two-year Unified Planning Work Program that lists and describes all transportation planning studies and tasks to be completed during this two-year period.
2. Preparation and update of a long range, multi-modal metropolitan transportation plan.
3. Preparation and maintenance of a short-range transportation improvement program (TIP).
4. Financial planning to ensure plan and program are financially constrained and within anticipated funding levels.
5. Conduct planning studies and system performance monitoring, including highway corridor and intersection studies, transit system studies, application of advanced computer techniques, and transportation data collection and archiving.
6. Public outreach, including survey of affected populations, electronic dissemination of reports and information (website), and consideration of public comments.
7. Ensuring the transportation planning process evaluates the benefits and burdens of transportation projects and/or investments to ensure significant or disproportionate impacts on low income and minority populations are avoided and/or mitigated. This will be accomplished using traditional and non-traditional outreach to Title VI populations, including outreach to LEP populations.
9. Ensuring plans, projects and programs are consistent with and conform to air quality goals of reducing transportation-related emissions and attaining National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
10. Self-certify the metropolitan planning process at least once every four years, concurrent with TIP adoption and submittal, certifying the planning process is being conducted in accordance with all applicable federal requirements and addressing the major issues facing the area.

**Long Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan**

1. **South Western Region MPO** will be responsible for preparing and developing the long range (20–25 years) metropolitan transportation plans for their respective region.

2. **South Western Region MPO** may develop a consolidated transportation plan summary report for the planning region that includes the key issues facing the area and priority programs and projects.

3. CT DOT will provide the following information and data in support of developing the transportation plan:
   a. Financial information – estimate of anticipated federal funds over the 20–25 year time frame of the plan for the highway and transit programs.
   b. Trip tables – for each analysis year, including base year and the horizon year of the plan by trip purpose and mode. *(CT DOT will provide this only if requested since South Western Region MPO may maintain their own travel forecast model.)*
   c. Traffic count data for state roads in the South Western Region MPO region, and transit statistics as available.
   d. List of projects of statewide significance by mode, with descriptions, so that they can be incorporated into the long range metropolitan transportation plans.
   e. Assess air quality impacts and conduct the regional emissions assessment of the plan. Will provide the results of the assessment in a timely manner to allow inclusion in the plan and to be made available to the public at public information meetings. *(Refer to air quality tasks.)*

4. **South Western Region MPO** may conduct transportation modeling for the area.

5. **South Western Region MPO** will consult with the appropriate providers of public transportation on local bus capital projects to include in the transportation plan, and will work together to develop local bus improvements for the plan from the 10-year capital program. Through consultation, they will identify future local bus needs and services, including new routes, service expansion, rolling stock needs beyond replacement, and operating financial needs.

**Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

1. The selection of projects in the TIP and the development of the TIP will occur through a consultative process between CT DOT, South Western Region MPO, and the appropriate provider(s) of public transportation.
2. CT DOT will send a draft proposed 5-year Capital Plan to the South Western Region MPO for review and comment. The draft list will reflect input that the CT DOT received from the South Western Region MPO during the consultation process on the previous year’s plan.

3. CT DOT will prepare an initial list of projects to include in the new TIP. This list will be based on the current TIP that is about to expire and the 5-year Capital Plan.

4. CT DOT will consult with and solicit comments from South Western Region MPO and transit providers on the TIP and incorporate where practicable.

5. CT DOT will provide detailed project descriptions, cost estimates and program schedules. The project descriptions will provide sufficient detail to allow the South Western Region MPO to explain the projects to the policy board and the general public.

6. CT DOT will provide a list of projects obligated during each of the federal fiscal years covered by the TIP/STIP. The annual listing of obligated projects should include both highway and transit projects.

7. South Western Region MPO will compile the TIP for the Region, including preparing a narrative. Projects will be categorized by federal aid program and listed in summary tables. The TIP will be converted into a format that will allow it to be downloaded to the Region’s website. South Western Region MPO will maintain the TIP by tracking amendments and changes to projects (schedule, scope and cost) made through the TIP/STIP Administrative Action/Amendment/Notification process.

8. CT DOT will develop the STIP based on the MPOs’ TIPs and projects located in the rural regions of the State.

9. CT DOT will include one STIP entry each for the Bridge program and the Highway Safety Improvement program. This entry will list the total funds needed for these programs for each fiscal year. All Regions will receive back up lists in the form of the Bridge Report and the Safety Report monthly. The one line entry will reduce the number of entries needed in the STIP. Any projects listed in the Bridge and or Safety Report that are over $5m and on the NHS, will be transferred directly into the STIP as its own entry per the TIP/STIP Administrative Action/Amendment/Notification process.

10. CT DOT will provide proposed amendments to the South Western Region MPO for consideration. The amendment will include a project description that provides sufficient detail to allow the South Western Region MPO to explain the proposed changes to the South Western Region MPO board and project management contact information. It will also provide a clear reason and justification for the amendment. If it involves a new project, CT DOT will provide a clear explanation of the reasons and rationale for adding it to the TIP/STIP.

11. When an amendment to the TIP/STIP is being proposed by the South Western Region MPO, the project sponsor will consult with CT DOT to obtain concurrence with the proposed amendment, to obtain Air Quality review and consistency with Air Quality Conformity regulations and ensure financial consistency.
12. CT DOT will provide a financial assessment of the STIP with each update. **South Western Region MPO** should prepare a TIP summary table listing all projects by funding program sorted by year based on CT DOT’s financial assessment, demonstrating and maintaining financial constraint by year.

**Air Quality Planning**

1. CT DOT and **South Western Region MPO** should meet at least once per year to discuss the air quality conformity process, the regional emissions analysis and air quality modeling.

2. CT DOT will conduct the regional emissions analysis, which includes the **South Western Region MPO** area and provide the results to the **South Western Region MPO**. The regional emissions analyses for the build or future years will include the proposed transportation improvements included in the regional long-range metropolitan transportation plans and TIP.

3. **South Western Region MPO** will prepare a summary report of the conformity process and regional emissions analysis for the Region. It will contain a table showing the estimated emissions from the transportation system for each criteria pollutant and analysis year.

4. The summary report on the regional emissions analyses will be inserted into the long-range transportation plan and TIP.

5. **South Western Region MPO** will make the regional emissions analysis available to the public.

**Public Participation Program**

1. The **South Western Region MPO** will annually review and evaluate their public participation program.

2. The **South Western Region MPO** will update and prepare a list of neighborhood and local organizations and groups that will receive notices of MPO plans, programs and projects.

3. The **South Western Region MPO** will work to ensure that low-income, minority and transit dependent individuals are afforded an adequate opportunity to participate in the transportation planning process, receive a fair share of the transportation improvement benefits and do not endure a disproportionate transportation burden. **South Western Region MPO** will comply with federal legislation on these issues.

4. The **South Western Region MPO**’s process for developing plans, projects, and programs will include consultation with state and local agencies responsible for land use and growth management, natural resources, environmental protection, conservation and historic preservation.

5. The **South Western Region MPO** will maintain their website to provide clear and concise information on the transportation planning process and provide an opportunity to download reports and documents. This will include developing project and study summaries, converting
reports into a pdf or text format, and maintaining a list of available documents. The website will provide links to other associated organizations and agencies.

Public Transportation Planning

1. The South Western Region MPO will allow for, to the extent feasible, the participation of transit providers at all transportation committee and policy board meetings to provide advice, information and consultation on transportation programs within the planning region.

2. The South Western Region MPO will provide the opportunity for the transit provider(s) to review and comment on planning products relating to transit issues within the region.

3. The South Western Region MPO will allow for transit provider(s) to participate in UPWP, long-range plan, and TIP development to ensure the consideration of any appropriate comments.

4. The South Western Region MPO and CT DOT will assist the transit provider(s), to the extent feasible, with planning for transit-related activities.

Fiscal/Financial Planning

1. The CT DOT will provide the South Western Region MPO with up-to-date fiscal and financial information on the statewide and regional transportation improvement programs to the extent practicable. This will include:
   a. Anticipated federal funding resources by federal aid category and state funding resources for the upcoming federal fiscal year, as shown in the TIP financial chart.
   b. Will hold annual meetings to discuss authorized funds for the STP-Urban and LOTCIP accounts.
   c. Annual authorized/programmed funds for the FTA Section 5307 Program as contained in the STIP and the annual UZA split agreements.
   d. Monthly updates of STP-Urban Program showing current estimated cost & scheduled obligation dates.

2. The CT DOT will notify the South Western Region MPO when the anticipated cost of a project, regardless of funding category, has changed in accordance with the agreed upon TIP/STIP Administrative Action/Amendment/Notification process.

3. The South Western Region MPO will prepare summary tables and charts that display financial information for presentation to the policy board.

Congestion Management Process (CMP) Program
1. The South Western Region MPO, if located in a TMA, will conduct a highway performance monitoring program that includes the gathering of available traffic counts and travel time information and determination of travel speeds and delay.

2. The South Western Region MPO will conduct congestion strategies studies for critical corridors and identify possible improvements to reduce congestion and delay.

3. The South Western Region MPO will work with CT DOT on programming possible congestion-reducing projects.

4. The South Western Region MPO will, upon implementation of a congestion reduction improvement, assess post-improvement operations and determine level of congestion relief.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Program

1. The CT DOT will maintain the statewide ITS architecture and ensure consistency with the Regional ITS Architecture for the South Western Region MPO.

2. The South Western Region MPO will maintain and update the Regional ITS Architecture for the South Western Region MPO, where appropriate.

Performance Based Planning and Programming

A. Collection of Performance Data

1. All data collected for performance measure goals will be collected by the CTDOT and will meet the MAP 21/FAST ACT provisions and requirements, unless the MPO decides to set its own performance target, in which case the MPO will be responsible for collecting their own data.

2. All data collected for goals for Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA’s) State of Good Repair performance measures and Safety performance measures established under the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) will include data provided by the Transit Districts to the National Transit Database (NTD) and through CTDOT, in accordance with the Transit Asset Management Rule.

3. CTDOT will make the compiled data collected for each performance measure available on a platform accessible by CTDOT and the MPO’s.

4. CTDOT will develop a Measures and Deliverables tracking spreadsheet outlining each Performance Measure, the deliverables required, the submittal dates and the CTDOT contact and provide to the South Western Region MPO.

B. Selection of Performance Targets
CTDOT will draft statewide performance targets for each of the FAST Act performance measures and coordinate with the MPOs and Transit Representatives, as required by 23 CFR Parts 450 and 771, as well as 49 CFR Part 613 as outlined below:

1. The CTDOT will discuss performance measures at each of the regularly scheduled monthly meetings (via teleconference or in person meeting).

2. The CTDOT will present data collected for each performance measure and collaborate with the South Western Region MPO and Transit Representatives on assumptions.

3. The CTDOT will provide South Western Region MPO and Transit Representative with 30 days to provide feedback on the data received and the assumptions provided.

4. The feedback received will be discussed at the next scheduled monthly meeting.

5. CTDOT will set targets for each performance measure with consideration of feedback received.

C. Reporting of Performance Targets

1. CTDOT will notify the South Western Region MPO and Transit Representatives by email when final statewide targets are established.

2. CTDOT will send the targets that have been set, the backup information and a PowerPoint presentation to South Western Region MPO for their use in educating the MPO Policy Board. CTDOT will provide region level data summaries, if available.

3. The South Western Region MPO has 180 days after the CTDOT establishes their targets to establish their own targets or endorse the State’s targets and agree to plan and program projects so that they contribute toward the accomplishment of the performance targets.

4. If the South Western Region MPO is establishing their own targets, the South Western Region MPO will report those targets to the CTDOT by email no later than the 180 day timeframe.

5. The South Western Region MPO will share this information with the Policy Board and will require Policy Board resolution to support the targets set by CTDOT or endorse their own targets.

6. The South Western Region MPO will forward the Policy Board resolution to the Performance Measures Unit at the CTDOT before the 180 day limitation for FHWA performance measures via the DOT.Map21@ct.gov email box.

7. For FTA performance measures, it is noted that South Western Region MPO provided a resolution of support for the initial transit State of Good Repair (SGR) performance targets on July 1, 2017. Thereafter, in accordance with FTA, transit providers will continue to share their targets annually with the South Western Region MPO. However, South Western Region MPO targets are not required to be updated annually, only revisited whenever the South Western Region MPO updates their MTP and/or TIP on or after October 1, 2018.

8. For FTA safety performance measures as part of the PTASP, the South Western Region MPO has received the Plan which included safety performance targets and will have 180 days to support...
these initial targets. Each transit provider is required to review its agency Safety Plan annually and update the plan, including the safety performance targets, as necessary.

D. Reporting of progress toward achieving goal

1. CTDOT will document progress towards achieving statewide performance targets annually, and report to the NTD. Information will be available to the South Western Region MPO and transit representatives for use in updates to the Long Range Transportation Plan, the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, the CTDOT TAM Plans and the FTA Annual report by email after the required reports are issued to Federal Agencies.

2. CTDOT will share updated TAM Plans with the South Western Region MPO in a timely manner, and the MPOs will incorporate them into their planning process.

3. South Western Region MPO will document progress towards achieving performance targets and report that information to CTDOT in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Plan as outlined in the Measures and Deliverables tracking spreadsheet via email. The CTDOT will collect this information and file until requested from FHWA/FTA.

E. The collection of data for the State asset management plan for the NHS

1. CTDOT will collect all asset management data required for all NHS routes, regardless of ownership.

### Performance Measures

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<th>Highway Safety</th>
<th>Number of Fatalities - 5-Year Rolling Average</th>
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<td>Highway Safety</td>
<td>Rate of Fatalities per 100 million VMT - 5-Year Rolling Average</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highway Safety</td>
<td>Number of Serious Injuries - 5-Year Rolling Average</td>
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<td>Highway Safety</td>
<td>Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT - 5-Year Rolling Average</td>
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<td>Highway Safety</td>
<td>Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Non-Motorized Serious Injuries - 5-Year Rolling Average</td>
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<td>Category</td>
<td>Indicator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridges &amp; Pavements</td>
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<td>Bridges &amp; Pavements</td>
<td>Percentage of Pavements of the Non-Interstate NHS in Good Condition</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Percentage of Pavements of the Non-Interstate NHS in Poor Condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges &amp; Pavements</td>
<td>Percentage of NHS Bridges classified in Good Condition (by deck area)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridges &amp; Pavements</td>
<td>Percentage of NHS Bridges classified in Poor Condition (by deck area)</td>
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<td>System Performance</td>
<td>Percent of the Person-Miles Traveled on the Interstate That Are Reliable</td>
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<td>Percent of the Interstate System mileage providing for reliable truck travel times</td>
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<td>Percentage of Service (non-revenue) Vehicles that have met or exceeded their Useful Life Benchmark (ULB)</td>
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<td>Percentage of Facilities with an asset class rated below condition 3 on the TERM scale.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transit Asset Management</td>
<td>Infrastructure (rail, fixed guideway, track, signals, and systems) - Percentage of track segments with performance restrictions</td>
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<td>Percentage of Revenue Vehicles within a particular asset class that have met or exceeded their ULB</td>
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<td>Number of fatalities per “vehicle revenue miles.” by mode.</td>
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<td>FTA C 5010.1E</td>
<td>Number of serious injuries per “vehicle revenue miles.” by mode.</td>
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<td>Fatalities (total number of reported fatalities)</td>
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<td>PTASP safety performance targets</td>
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<td>Injuries (total number of reportable injuries)</td>
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<td>PTASP safety performance targets</td>
<td>Injuries (injury rate per total vehicle revenue miles by mode)</td>
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<td>Safety Events (total number of reportable safety events)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PTASP safety performance targets</td>
<td>System Reliability (mean distance between mechanical failures by mode)</td>
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**Amendment**

This Statement on Transportation Planning may be amended from time to time or to coincide with annual UPWP approval as jointly deemed necessary or in the best interests of all parties, including Federal transportation agencies.
Effective Date

This Statement will be effective after it has been endorsed by the South Western Region MPO as part of the UPWP, and as soon as the UPWP has been approved by the relevant Federal transportation agencies.

No Limitation on Statutory Authority

Nothing contained in this Statement is intended to or shall limit the authority or responsibilities assigned to signatory organizations under Connecticut law, federal law, local ordinance, or charter.
## Affirmative Action Plan Approval Listing

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<th>Address #2</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
<th>TELEPHONE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Western Connecticut Council of Governments</td>
<td>1 Riverside Road</td>
<td>Sandy Hook</td>
<td>CT</td>
<td>06482</td>
<td></td>
<td>(475) 323-2080</td>
<td>(475) 323-2060</td>
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SOUTH WESTERN REGION
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
DARIEN+GREENWICH+NEW CANAAN+NORWALK+STAMFORD+WESTON+WESTPORT+WILTON

RESOLUTION #2021-004
Resolution of Endorsement for the FY22 and FY23
SWRMPO Unified Planning Work Program

WHEREAS, the South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (SWRMPO), in cooperation with
the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT), the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal
Transit Administration, and the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG), is responsible for
carrying out the urban transportation planning process for the South Western Region;

WHEREAS, the voting board of the SWRMPO comprises the two mayors and six first selectmen of the area,
which includes Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Weston, Westport and Wilton, CT, as well
as the chief executive officer of the Norwalk Transit District;

WHEREAS, a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to guide the planning process is developed in
cooperation with CTDOT, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), and transportation stakeholders
to serve as the grant application for funds to conduct SWRMPO transportation planning;

WHEREAS, SWRMPO, in cooperation with CTDOT is responsible for adopting the FY22 and FY23 Unified
Planning Work Program for the South Western Region;

WHEREAS, WestCOG, as the Hosting Agency for the SWRMPO, will contract to receive and disperse planning
funds to carry out the adopted UPWP;

RESOLVED, that the SWRMPO hereby endorses the FY22 and FY23 UPWP, contingent upon administrative
and technical adjustments prescribed by the CTDOT and USDOT.

This resolution is in full force and effect as of May 20, 2021

May 20, 2021

[Signature]

Jayme Stevenson, Chairman

1 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Visit us online at westcog.org
T 475-323-2060 • F 253-252-8543