

APPROVED MINUTES OF 11/9/2021

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

Held via Zoom videoconference

• Bethel	Director of Public Works Eric Swenson
• Bridgewater	Absent
• Brookfield	Project Manager Greg Dembowski
• Danbury	Traffic Engineer Abdul Mohamed
• Darien	Director of P&Z Jeremy Ginsberg
• Greenwich	Deputy Commissioner of Public Works Jim Michel
• Transit Representative – HV	HARTransit Chief Executive Officer Rick Schreiner
• New Canaan	Director of Public Works Tiger Mann
• New Fairfield	Absent
• New Milford	Public Works Director Jack Healy
• Newtown	Public Works Director Fred Hurley
• Norwalk	Principal Engineer Mike Yeosock
• Transit Representative – SWR	NTD Manager of Transportation & Planning Paul Chenard
• Redding	Public Works Director Jeff Hanson
• Ridgefield	Absent
• Sherman	Absent
• Stamford	Interim Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise
• Weston	Absent
• Westport	Town Engineer Keith Wilberg
• Wilton	Asst. Director of Public works/ Town Engineer Frank Smeriglio

Also, in Attendance: Brookfield Director of Public Works Ralph Tedesco, Greenwich Sr. Civil Engineer Jason Kaufman, Kathryn Faraci from CTDOT, Guyauth Gabbidon from HARTransit, New Canaan Town Engineer Maria Coplit, Wilton Director of Planning & Land Use/Town Planner Michael Wrinn, Erica Muniz from GPI Construction, Ali Mohseni from NYMTC, WestCOG staff members, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kevin Mahoney, Todd Fontanella, and Cricket Carpenter.

CALL TO ORDER/ PUBLIC COMMENT:

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 am by WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos. There were no public comments.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

CT DEEP 2021 State Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Funding Opportunity: WestCOG Senior Planner Todd Fontanella provided an overview.

Proposed 2022 TAG Meeting dates: WestCOG Principal Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview of the proposed 2022 meeting dates. Kristin polled the TAG members regarding the 2022 meeting format. By majority, it was decided that quarterly in-person meetings with a virtual option will be held at the Comstock Community Center. The schedule may be adjusted by the content of the agenda.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of the October 12th, 2021, Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Newtown Public Works Director Fred Hurley and seconded by Norwalk Principal Engineer Mike Yeosock, the minutes of the October 12, 2021, meeting were unanimously approved with an abstention made by Darien Director of Planning and Zoning Jeremy Ginsberg.

Staff Review/Recommendations of LOTCIP Project Proposals: WestCOG Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney gave an overview. After review and on a motion to concur with the Staff Recommendations of LOTCIP Project Proposals made by Brookfield Project Manager Greg Dembowski and seconded by Westport Town Engineer Keith Wilberg, it was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS and ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Greg Dembowski requested the status on the CTDOT Corridor Study Grant application process. Kathryn Faraci provided an update that CTDOT is still reviewing the applications.

WestCOG has received questions regarding road salt prices. Kristin encouraged the TAG members to raise their questions or concerns. None were stated.

Greg Dembowski inquired about what could be expected with the recent passing of the Federal Infrastructure Bill this week. An overview will be provided to the TAG and MPO members once the entire bill has been thoroughly reviewed.

Jim Michel requested an update on the CMAQ applications. The applications are under review at CTDOT. The recommendations were forwarded to FHWA.

Paul Chenard requested when WestCOG presents on the Infrastructure Bill that items related to active transportation be summarized.

Fred Hurley mentioned that DEEP will have upcoming initiatives and grant programs that the municipalities may be interested in applying to. WestCOG staff will monitor the status of these programs and provide updates to the TAG members as more information becomes available.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

MPO/COG: 11/18/2021

TAG: 12/8/2021

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:31