

APPROVED MINUTES

Council/ Housatonic Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization/South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

for the 02/16/2023 Meeting

The Ridgefield Town Hall Annex- 66 Prospect St. Ridgefield, CT 06879

*COG Chairman Rudolph Marconi / Vice Chair- Julia Pemberton
Treasurer -Lynne Vanderslice / Secretary Kevin Moynihan
HVMPO Chairman Rudy Marconi / Vice Chairman Julia Pemberton
SWRMPO Chairman Lynne Vanderslice / Vice Chairman Kevin Moynihan*

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel..... First Selectman Dan Carter- COG/HVMPO
Bridgewater..... Absent – COG/HVMPO
Brookfield Absent – COG/HVMPO
Danbury Absent – COG/HVMPO
Darien First Selectman Monica McNally- COG/SWRMPO
Greenwich..... Selectwoman Lauren Rabin - COG/SWRMPO
New Canaan..... Absent- COG/SWRMPO
New Fairfield First Selectwoman Pat Del Monaco – COG/HVMPO
New Milford..... Mayor Pete Bass – COG/HVMPO
Newtown..... Absent – COG/HVMPO
Norwalk..... Mayor Harry Rilling- COG/SWRMPO
Redding..... First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton- COG/HVMPO
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi- COG/HVMPO
Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe COG/HVMPO
Stamford..... Mayor Caroline Simmons- SWRMPO
Weston..... First Selectman Samantha Nestor- COG/SWRMPO
Westport..... First Selectwoman Jennifer Tooker– COG/SWRMPO
Wilton First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice- COG/SWRMPO
Transit Representative..... Absent
Transit Representative..... NTD Operations Manager Andrew Gallagher -SWRMPO
CTDOT Kevin Tedesco (Non-voting MPO member)
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: New Canaan Grant Writer Greg Reilly, New Canaan Chief Financial Officer Anne Kelly-Lenz, City of Stamford Chief of Staff Bridget Fox, HARTransit Transit Planner Guyauth Gabbidon, WestCOG staff members in attendance were Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kevin Mahoney, Todd Fontanella, Kristin Floberg, Charles Vidich, Mike Wilson, Nicole Sullivan, Victoria Ricks, and Cricket Carpenter. Also in attendance were Sustainable CT Senior Program Director Jessica LeClair, John Wardzala from the Kennedy Collective, Paul Hearn

From Baralmar Advisors, LLC, James Root from the Sierra Club, and Jennifer Johnson from Westport.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meetings were called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Chair Rudy Marconi and SWRMPO Chair Lynne Vanderslice. Dan Carter was welcomed and congratulated as the newly elected First Selectman of Bethel.

Public Participation: Jennifer Johnson from Westport expressed she would like a virtual option for meetings.

FEATURED PRESENTATION: Jessica LeClair Senior Program Director shared how Sustainable CT works to support individual, non-profits, community groups, municipalities, schools, and libraries across Connecticut. For more information, visit their website at: sustainablect.org.

FEATURED PRESENTATION: WestCOG Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos and Senior Planner Kristin Floberg presented Part 2 of the Draft 2023-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan including a discussion of the strategies and investments recommended in the Plan.

Approval of the 01/19/2023 SWRMPO/HVMPO Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling and seconded by Darien First Selectwoman Monica McNally the minutes of the January 19th, 2023 SWRMPO meeting were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe, the minutes of the January 19th, 2023, HVMPO meeting were unanimously approved with an abstention made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter.

Approval of the COG 01/19/2023 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by Darien First Selectman Monica McNally the minutes of the January 19, 2023 COG meeting were unanimously approved with an abstention made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter.

HV/SWR MPO Action Items:

2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (HV & SWR): WestCOG Planner Nicole Sullivan provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the 2021-2024 HVMPO TIP amendments were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Darien first Selectman Monica McNally and seconded by Greenwich Selectman Lauren Rabin the 2021-2024 SWRMPO TIP amendments were unanimously approved.

Resolution for Transit Asset Management (SWR & HV): WestCOG Senior Planner Todd Fontanella gave an overview. After review and on a motion made by Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling and seconded by Darien First Selectman Monica McNally the SWRMPO Resolution for Transit Asset Management was unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and

seconded by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass the HVMPO Resolution for Transit Asset Management was unanimously approved.

Resolution for Transit Safety (SWR & HV): WestCOG's Todd Fontanella gave an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Monica McNally and seconded by Stamford Mayor Caroline Simmons the SWRMPO Resolution for Transit Safety was unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter the HVMPO Resolution for Transit Safety was unanimously approved.

COG Action Items:

Regional Firearm Training Facility: WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle gave an overview. After review and on a motion made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter a motion to obtain an architect's cost estimate for the Regional Firearm Training Facility was unanimously approved.

LOTICIP Adjustments: WestCOG Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney gave an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Monica McNally and seconded by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton the LOTICIP Adjustments were unanimously approved.

USDOT RAISE Grant Application: WestCOG's Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the review. After review and on a motion made by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the USDOT RAISE Grant Application was unanimously approved.

CTDEEP Recreational Trails Grant Program- Town of Brookfield Letter of Support: Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an overview. A motion was made by Greenwich First Selectman Lauren Rabin and seconded by Stamford Mayor Caroline Simmons and unanimously approved to amend the letter of support to include all interested WestCOG municipalities with a March 1st deadline. After review and on a motion made by Julia Pemberton and New Milford Mayor Pete Bass the CTDEEP Recreational Trails Grant Program Letter of Support was unanimously approved.

HV/SWR MPO Information Items:

Unified Planning Work Program: WestCOG's Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an overview.

CTDEEP Recreational Trails Grant Program: Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an overview.

CTDOT Community Connectivity Grant Program: Kristin Hadjstylianos gave an overview.

CTDOT Microtransit Program: WestCOG's Todd Fontanella gave an overview.

State Transportation Improvement Program: WestCOG's Nicole Sullivan gave an overview.

COG Information Items:

Flood Mitigation and Project Management Services Update: Todd Fontanella provided the review.

Cybersecurity Assessments: WestCOG's Mike Towle gave an overview.

Other Business: Francis Pickering made the following comments:

- WestCOG has not heard back on the SMART Grant.
- WestCOG did not receive the SS4A Grant but may consider reapplying following a debrief.
- WestCOG is potentially looking at the Environmental Justice Government-to-Government Program (EJG2G).

Next meeting: MPO/COG/ Foundation meeting: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Adjournment: On a motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.