

APPROVED MINUTES

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

for the 03/16/2023 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..... First Selectman Curtis Read
Brookfield Absent – COG/HVMPO
Danbury Mayor Dean Esposito
Darien First Selectwoman Monica McNally- COG/SWRMPO
Greenwich..... Absent- COG/SWRMPO
New Canaan..... Absent- COG/SWRMPO
New Fairfield First Selectwoman Pat Del Monaco – COG/HVMPO
New Milford..... Mayor Pete Bass – COG/HVMPO
Newtown..... First Selectman Dan Rosenthal – COG/HVMPO
Norwalk..... Absent- COG/SWRMPO
Redding..... First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton- COG/HVMPO
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi- COG/HVMPO
Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe COG/HVMPO
Stamford..... Absent- SWRMPO
Weston..... Absent- COG/SWRMPO
Westport..... First Selectwoman Jennifer Tooker– COG/SWRMPO
Wilton First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice- COG/SWRMPO
Transit Representative..... Rick Schreiner- HVMPO
Transit Representative..... NTD CEO Matt Pentz -SWRMPO
CTDOT Kevin Tedesco (Non-voting MPO member)
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Government Affairs and communications Advisor at the City of Danbury John Kleinhans, Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise, Norwalk Transit District Chief Executive Officer Matt Pentz, HARTransit Transit Planner Guyauth Gabbidon, WestCOG staff members in attendance were Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Kristin Floberg, Charles Vidich, Mike Wilson, Nicole Sullivan, Victoria Ricks, and Cricket Carpenter. Also in attendance

were John Wardzala from the Kennedy Collective, Paul Hearn from Baralmar Advisors, LLC, and Jennifer Johnson from Westport.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meetings were called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Chair Rudy Marconi and SWRMPO Chair Lynne Vanderslice.

Public Participation: Jennifer Johnson requested that there be a virtual option for the MPO/COG meeting.

Approval of the 02/16/2023 SWRMPO/HVMPO Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectwoman Monica McNally and seconded by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise the minutes of the February 16, 2023 SWRMPO meeting were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal the minutes of the February 16, 2022, HVMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

Approval of the COG 02/16/2023 Meeting Minutes: After review and on a motion made by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and seconded by new Fairfield First Selectwoman Pat Del Monaco the minutes of the February 16, 2023 COG meeting were unanimously approved.

HV/SWR MPO Action Items:

Endorsement of the 2023-2050 HVMPO & SWRMPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Ozone and PM 2.5 Air Quality Conformity Determination: WestCOG Senior Planner Kristin Floberg provided the review. After review and on a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read and Seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the Resolution to Approve the HVMPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2023-2050 was unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by New Fairfield First Selectwoman Pat Del Monaco and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal the HVMPO Resolution to Approve the Conformity with the Clean Air Act in the Greater CT Ozone Nonattainment Area, CT portion of the NY-NJ-LI Ozone Nonattainment Area, and the CT portion of the NY-NJ-LI PM_{2.5} Attainment/Maintenance Area was unanimously approved.

After review and on a motion made by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise and seconded by Darien First Selectwoman Monica McNally the Resolution to Approve the SWRMPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2023-2050 was unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise and seconded by Darien First Selectwoman Monica McNally the SWRMPO Resolution to Approve the Conformity with the Clean Air Act in the CT portion of the NY-NJ-LI Ozone Nonattainment Area and the CT Portion of the NY-NJ-LI PM_{2.5} Attainment/Maintenance Area was unanimously approved.

2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (SWR & HV): WestCOG Planner Nicole Sullivan provided the review. After review and on a motion made by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise and seconded by Darien First Selectwoman Monica McNally the 2021-2024 SWRMPO TIP Amendments were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the 2021-2024 HVMPO TIP Amendments were unanimously approved.

SWRMPO Transit Representative: WestCOG Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos provided a review. The Board members decided to nominate CTtransit Director of Rapid Transit & Zero Emissions Programs Barry Diggs and Norwalk Transit District Chief Executive Officer Matt Pentz to both serve as the SWRMPO Transit Representatives with each having one-half vote. After review and on a motion made by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise and seconded by Westport First Selectwoman Jen Tooker the SWRMPO was unanimously approved.

Adjustment of Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Priorities: WestCOG's Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview. This item pertains only to the SWMPO. After review and on a motion made by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise and seconded by Darien First Selectwoman Monica McNally the Adjustment of Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Priorities was unanimously approved.

COG Action Items:

Support of Alternative Funding for TMA Priorities: WestCOG's Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the review. After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the Support of Alternative Funding for TMA Priorities was unanimously approved.

MPO Information Items:

2025–2028 Transportation Improvement Program: WestCOG's Nicole Sullivan provided the overview.

MPO Unified Planning Work Programs: WestCOG's Kristin Hadjstylianos and Executive Director Francis Pickering provided the review. The draft will be out for review next month and will be brought to the MPO in May for approval.

CTDOT Community Connectivity Grant Program: Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the review. The deadline for applications is July 21st to CTDOT.

USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Program: Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the review.

COG Information Items:

Flood Mitigation and Project Management Update: WestCOG Senior Planner Todd Fontanella provided the review.

Other Business:

Francis Pickering provided updates on the following:

- PROTECT Grant Program
- EPA Environment Justice Grant Opportunity
- Noise Pollution
- Forthcoming Climate Pollution Reduction Grant to the greater region (MSA)

Kevin Tedesco from CTDOT announced that the DOT is working with the region on a Bus Shelter Enhancement Program.

Chairman Rudy Marconi announced that the EPA has issued new limits for PFAS.

WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle provided an update on the Broadband Study.

Mike Towle announced that there will be a Data Flyover in 2023.

Next meeting: MPO/COG Thursday, April 20th 2023

Adjournment On a motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.