

## APPROVED MINUTES

### Council/Housatonic Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization/South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization for the 09/21/2023 Meeting

The Ridgefield Town Hall Annex- 66 Prospect St. Ridgefield, CT 06877 and via Zoom

*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-COG/HVMPO  
Brookfield ..... First Selectwoman Tara Carr – COG/HVMPO  
Danbury ..... Mayor Dean Esposito- COG HV/MPO  
Darien ..... Absent- COG/SWRMPO  
Greenwich..... Absent- COG/SWRMPO  
New Canaan..... First Selectman Kevin Moynihan- 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..... Mayor Harry Rilling COG/SWRMPO  
Redding..... Absent- COG/HVMPO  
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi- COG/HVMPO  
Sherman ..... First Selectman Don Lowe COG/HVMPO  
Stamford..... Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise-SWRMPO  
Weston..... First Selectwoman Sammantha Nestor- COG/SWRMPO  
Westport..... First Selectwoman Jennifer Tooker– COG/SWRMPO  
Wilton..... First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice- COG/SWRMPO  
Transit Representative..... Absent- HVMPO  
Transit Representative..... Matt Pentz -SWRMPO  
CTDOT ..... Kevin Tedesco (Non-voting MPO member)  
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** CTrides Outreach and Engagement Specialist Bryan Walsh, and HARtransit Transit Planner Guyauth Gabbidon. WestCOG staff members in attendance were Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Kevin Mahoney, Kristin Floberg, Nicole Sullivan, Mike Wilson, Victoria Ricks, Charles Vidich, and Cricket Carpenter. Also in attendance were Danbury Admin.

Assistant Lindsay Seti, Newtown Police Chief David Kullgren, John Wardzala from the Kennedy Collective, Adam Goodman from the Nature Conservancy, and James Root from the Sierra Club.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meetings were called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Chair Rudy Marconi and SWRMPO Chair Lynne Vanderslice.

**Approval of the 07/20/2023 HVMPO/SWRMPO Meeting Minutes:** After review and on a motion made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by Danbury Mayor Dean Esposito- the minutes of the HVMPO 07/20/2023 meeting were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan and seconded by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise the minutes of the SWRMPO 07/20/2023 were unanimously approved.

**Approval of the COG 07/20/2023 Meeting Minutes:** After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan and seconded by Danbury Mayor Dean Esposito the minutes of the 07/20/2023 COG meeting were unanimously approved.

**\*\*COG Action Items:**

**Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG):** WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering provided the update. After review and on a motion made by Wilton First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan the Climate **P**ollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) was unanimously approved

**Public Involvement Plan (PIP), Amended:** WestCOG Transportation Planner Nicole Sullivan provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by New Fairfield First Selectwoman Pat Del Monaco and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the Public Involvement Plan (PIP), Amended was unanimously approved.

**USDOT Reconnecting Communities Grant:** WestCOG Application WestCOG Principal Planner Todd Fontanella provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling the USDOT Reconnecting Communities Grant was unanimously approved.

**USDOT SMART Grant: WestCOG Application:** WestCOG Senior Planner Mike Wilson provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Danbury Mayor Dean Esposito and seconded by Wilton First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice the USDOT SMART Grant: WestCOG Application was unanimously approved.

**Reconnecting Communities Letters of Support:** WestCOG Senior Planner Kristin Floberg provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan the Reconnecting Communities Letters of Support were unanimously approved.

**LOTICIP Project Solicitation:** WestCOG Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Wilton First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan the LOTICIP Project Solicitation was approved by a majority with Danbury Mayor Dean Esposito and Westport First Selectwoman Jennifer Tooker voting no.

**LOTICIP Program Funds Management Policy and Guidance:** WestCOG's Kevin Mahoney provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Wilton First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan the LOTICIP Program Funds Management Policy and Guidance was unanimously approved.

**LOTICIP Adjustments:** WestCOG Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney provided the review. After review and on a motion made by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal and seconded by Wilton First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice the LOTICIP Adjustments were unanimously approved.

**Employee Handbook Amendment – Holiday/Office Closure:** WestCOG's Francis Pickering provided the update. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the Employee Handbook Amendment – Holiday/Office Closure was unanimously approved.

**CT DEEP OSWA – Weston Letter of Support:** WestCOG's Francis Pickering provided the update. After review and on a motion made by First Selectwoman Sammantha Nestor and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan the CT DEEP OSWA – Weston Letter of Support was unanimously approved.

**MPO Action Items:**

**Transportation Improvement Program Amendments (HV & SWR):** WestCOG Planner Nicole Sullivan provided the review. After review and on a motion made by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the HVMPO Transportation Improvement Program Amendments were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan and seconded by Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise the SWRMPO Transportation Improvement Program Amendments were unanimously approved.

**COG Information Items:**

**Regional Firearms Training Facility Update:** WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle provided the update.

**Bottle/Can Redemption Centers:** WestCOG's Francis Pickering provided the overview.

**USDOT Thriving Communities Grant Program:** Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview.

USEPA Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA): WestCOG's Todd Fontanella provided the overview.

Other Business:

Next meeting: MPO/COG Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2023

Adjournment: On a motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 2:10pm