

Executive Committee Notes

Wednesday March 13th at 2:00 p.m.

The Ridgefield Town Hall Annex

66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel	First Selectman Dan Carter
Brookfield	First Selectman Steve Dunn
Darien	First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky
Newtown	First Selectman Jeff Capeci
Redding	First Selectman Julia Pemberton
Ridgefield	First Selectman Rudy Marconi
Wilton	First Selectman Toni Boucher

OTHERS ATTENDING: WestCOG Staff: Executive Director Francis Pickering, Deputy Director Michael Towle, Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos, Project Manager Betsy Paynter, and Project Manager Jaclyn Reelick.

The meeting began at: 2:00

New Staff – WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering introduced Jaclyn Reelick and provided an overview of the projects she will be working on.

USDOT Reconnecting Communities, Neighborhood Access and Equity Grant – USDOT awarded WestCOG a \$1,000,000 grant to complete a Regional Transit Study.

Transportation

Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant – WestCOG had a kick-off meeting with FHWA to begin the grant agreement process.

RAISE Grant – WestCOG held the first working group meeting.

TAP Solicitation – CTDOT announced the next solicitation for the Transportation Alternatives Grant Program; WestCOG will be issuing the regional solicitation for municipalities soon.

Matching Funds – Discussion on the non-federal match required for the discretionary grants.

Section 5310 – Reminder about the open solicitation for traditional and non-traditional projects under the Section 5310 Program.

Microgrant Solicitation – Update on a new grant program from CTDOT which will provide up to \$5,000 for non-infrastructure projects to support active transportation.

Traffic Calming and Complete Streets Best Practices Toolbox – WestCOG extended the RFQ deadline to March 15th

Transportation Improvement Program FY25-28 – The public comment period began March 1st and will close on April 1st and staff are holding public information meetings.

Regional Planning/Services Project Updates

Firearms Training Facility – Working group is meeting bi-weekly and WestCOG will be submitting a Congressionally Directed Spending Request to support this project.

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant and PCAP– WestCOG will be working on an application to support projects identified in the PCAP.

Drone – Staff are working with the municipalities for drone footage requests.

Stormwater Mapping – Mapping technicians are starting work in Norwalk.

DEMHS Region 1 – CEO Rep – Region 1 is looking for a Chief Elected Official to participate in meetings.

Affordable Housing Financing Study – Consultants have completed their report which will be reviewed by the committee and there will be a presentation at an upcoming COG meeting.

EPA Branchville/Georgetown Sewer Feasibility Study – WestCOG received EPA approval; municipalities were reminded about the non-federal match.

Legislative Update – Francis Pickering provided updates on current legislative bills and this will be a presentation at the upcoming COG meeting.

Upcoming meetings

TAG – Tuesday April 9th

MPO/COG Meeting – Thursday, March 21st 2024

The meeting concluded at: 3:40