

*Disclaimer: These interim minutes of the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (“WestCOG” or “COG”) are released and “available for public inspection” and “posted” on WestCOG’s website, in accordance with C.G.S. §1-225(a). Said interim minutes are subject to review and approval by the COG members, after which time the final approved minutes will be available and posted in accordance with laws. Accordingly, the interim minutes may contain inaccuracies and do not reflect the final action of the COG.*

## INTERIM MINUTES

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

1 Riverside Rd, Sandy Hook, CT 06482 Phone: 475-323-2057

for the 04/18/2024 Meeting

The Ridgefield Town Hall Annex 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877

COG Chairman Rudolph Marconi / Vice Chair- Dan Carter

Treasurer -Jon Zagrodzky / Secretary Julia Pemberton

HVMPO Chairman Julia Pemberton / Vice Chairman Dan Carter

SWRMPO Chairman Toni Boucher/ Vice Chairman Jon Zagrodzky

#### MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel..... Absent  
Bridgewater..... First Selectman Curtis Read- COG/HVMPO  
Brookfield ..... First Selectman Steve Dunn- COG/HVMPO  
Danbury ..... Mayor Roberto Alves- COG/HVMPO  
Darien ..... First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky- COG/SWRMPO  
Greenwich..... Selectwoman Lauren Rabin COG/SWRMPO  
New Canaan..... First Selectman Dionna Carlson- COG/SWRMPO  
New Fairfield ..... First Selectman Melissa Lindsey- COG/HVMPO  
New Milford..... Absent COG/HVMPO  
Newtown ..... First Selectman Jeff Capeci- 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 COG/SWRMPO  
Weston..... Absent- COG/SWRMPO  
Westport..... First Selectwoman Jen Tooker COG/SWRMPO  
Wilton ..... First Selectman Toni Boucher - COG/SWRMPO  
Transit Representative..... Rick Schreiner- HVMPO  
Transit Representative..... Absent-SWRMPO  
CTDOT ..... Transportation Planner Kevin Tedesco (Non-voting MPO member)  
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise, WestCOG Staff: Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Kristin Floberg, Mike Wilson, Charles Vidich, Nicole Sullivan, Betsy Paynter, Jaci Reelick, Vicky Ricks, and Cricket Carpenter. Also in attendance were: Ellen Graham from Senator Blumenthal's office, Meg Haffner from the Kennedy Collective, and James Root from the Sierra Club.

The COG meeting was to order at 12:01 p.m. by Chairman Rudy Marconi.

The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m. by Chairwoman Julia Pemberton

The SWRMPO meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m. by Chairperson Toni Boucher

**\*\*Approval of the 03/21/2024 COG Meeting Minutes:** After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the minutes of the March 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 COG meeting were unanimously approved.

**\*Approval of the SWRMPO/HVMPO 03/21/2024 Meeting Minutes:** After review and on a motion made by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the minutes of the March 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 SWRMPO meeting were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capeci and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the minutes of the March 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 HVMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

#### **\*\*COG Action Items**

**DEMHS Region 1 REPT- WestCOG Representative:** WestCOG Planner Nicole Sullivan provided the overview. Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky nominated himself. After review and on a motion made by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capeci and seconded by New Fairfield First Selectman Melissa Lindsey, Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky was unanimously appointed the WestCOG Representative DEMHS Region 1 REPT.

**Quarterly Financial Update:** WestCOG Financial Director Vicky Ricks provided the update. After review and on a motion made by Darien first Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the Quarterly Financial Update was unanimously approved.

**Norwalk SS4A Letter of Support:** WestCOG Senior Planner Mike Wilson provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher the Norwalk SS4A Letter of support was unanimously approved.

**LOTICIP Adjustments:** WestCOG Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney provided the review. On a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read and seconded by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn the LOTICIP Adjustments were unanimously approved.

## **MPO Action Items**

**2021-2024 SWR TIP Amendment:** WestCOG's Nicole Sullivan provided the review. After review and on a motion made by Greenwich Selectwoman Lauren Rabin and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the 2021-2024 SWR TIP Amendments were unanimously approved.

**2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Programs:** Nicole Sullivan provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read and seconded by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn the HVMPO 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program was unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Westport First Selectwoman Jen Tooker the SWRMPO 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program was unanimously approved.

## **MPO Information Items**

**Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program:** WestCOG Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview. The application deadline for this program is June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**FY 2025-2028 MGP Program for Transportation of Seniors and Persons with Disabilities:** WestCOG Principal Planner Todd Fontanella provided the update.

**Transportation Alternatives Program Project Solicitation:** WestCOG's Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview. The deadline for proposals is April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program:** Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview.

## **COG Information Items**

**New and Expanding Assistance (Flood Mitigation, Brownfields Support, Dam Safety):** WestCOG Project Manager Jaci Reelick provided the review.

**Branchville/Georgetown Sewer Feasibility Study:** WestCOG's Todd Fontanella provided the review.

**Next Steps for Regional Waste Management:** Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview.

**The Municipal ADA Transition Plans:** Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview.

**Other Business:** Todd Fontanella provided an update on the Noise Abatement Feasibility Study. WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering provided an update on the Legislative Session.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Adjournment:** On a motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.