

WestCOG / HVMPO / SWRMPO **APPROVED Meeting Minutes**

(A Combined Meeting for Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG), Housatonic Valley and South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organizations (HVMPO, SWRMPO) 1 Riverside Rd, Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Scheduled for: Thursday, October 17, 2024 @12:00 p.m.

Location. Ridgefield Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, CT and virtually on Zoom.

*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..... First Selectman Dan Carter COG/HVMPO
Bridgewater..... First Selectman Curtis Read COG/HVMPO
Brookfield..... First Selectman Steve Dunn COG/HVMPO
Danbury..... Absent
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..... Mayor Pete Bass COG/HVMPO
Newtown..... First Selectman Jeff Capeci COG/HVMPO
Norwalk..... Absent
Redding..... First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton COG/HVMPO
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi COG/HVMPO
Sherman..... First Selectman Don Lowe COG/HVMPO
Stamford..... Municipal Staff noted below
Weston..... Town Administrator Karl Kilduff SWRMPO
Westport..... First Selectwoman Jen Tooker COG/SWRMPO
Wilton..... First Selectman Toni Boucher COG/SWRMPO
Transit Representative ...Absent-HVMPO
Transit Representative... CTtransit Director of Service Planning Barry Diggs, -SWRMPO
CTDOT..... Transportation Planner Jane Dunbar (Non-voting MPO member)
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

Others in Attendance: Chief of Staff to Danbury Mayor Roberto L. Alves- Francesca Capodilupo, CCM Advocacy Manager Lindsay Seti, Transit Planner Guyauth Gabbidon, Stamford Bureau Chief of Transportation, Traffic, & Parking Bureau Frank Petise, and CTDEMHS Region 5 Coordinator John Field. WestCOG Staff: Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylian, Charles Vidich, Todd Fontanella, Nick Trabka, Jaci Reelick, Amal Malik, and Cricket

Carpenter. Also in attendance was: Mike D'Elia from the Kennedy Collective, Paul Hearn from Baralmar Advisors LLC, and James Root from the Sierra Club.

Call to Order

The COG meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by Chairman Rudy Marconi.

The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by Chairwoman Julia Pemberton

The SWRMPO meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by Vice Chairman Jon Zagrodzky

Public Participation

No member of the public spoke when asked to do so.

COG Action Items

Approval of September 2024 COG Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capeci the minutes of the July 2024 meeting were approved with an abstention made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn.

Brownfield EPA Community Wide Assessment Grant

WestCOG Project Manager Jaci Reelick provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Reed and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the Brownfield EPA Community Wide Assessment Grant was unanimously approved.

DECD Round 20 Brownfield Grant Applications, Saugatuck

WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter the DECD Round 20 Brownfield Grant Applications, Saugatuck was unanimously approved.

RCN NAE Regional Transit Study Project Resolution

WestCOG Senior Planner Todd Fontanella provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the RCN NAE Regional Transit Study Project Resolution was unanimously approved.

Parcel & CAMA Improvement Grant Resolution

WestCOG Senior Data Scientist Nick Trabka provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the Parcel & CAMA Improvement Grant Resolution was unanimously approved.

MPO Action Items

Approval of SWRMPO/HVMPO September 2024 Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi the minutes of the September 2024 HVMPO meeting were approved with an abstention made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Westport First Selectman Jen Tooker the minutes of the September 2024 SWRMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

FY2025-2028 SWR Transportation Improvement Program

WestCOG Associate Planner Amal Malik provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the FY2025-2028 SWRMPO Transportation Improvement Program amendments were unanimously approved.

Annual MPO Planning Certifications

WestCOG Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capeci the Annual HVMPO Planning Certifications were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Westport First Selectman Jen Tooker the Annual SWRMPO Planning Certifications were unanimously approved.

COG Information Items

AI Assessor Tools Pilot

WestCOG's Nick Trabka provided the overview.

Regional Firearm Training Facility

WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle provided the update.

Climate Protection Reduction Grant (CPRG)

WestCOG's Mike Towle provided the update.

Flood Mitigation Assistance Program: Grant Selections

WestCOG's Jaci Reelick provided the update.

Annual Dues

WestCOG's Francis Pickering provided the overview.

2025 Meeting Schedule

Francis Pickering provided the overview

MPO Information Items

EPA Clean School Bus Program 2024 Rollout

WestCOG's Todd Fontanella provided the overview.

HVMPO Transit Representative

Francis Pickering provided the update.

Other Business

CT Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (CTDEMHS) Region 5 Coordinator John Field provided an update on the flooding event of August 18-19. For more information visit the DEHMS website: <https://portal.ct.gov/demhs/emergency-management/resources-for-individuals/summer-weather-awareness/severe-and-flash-flooding>

Adjournment

On A motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Next meeting

MPO/COG Thursday, November 21, 2024