

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, November 21, 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.....Absent COG/HVMPO
Bridgewater.....First Selectman Curtis Read COG/HVMPO
Brookfield.....First Selectman Steve Dunn COG/HVMPO
Danbury.....Mayor Roberto L. 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.....Absent COG/HVMPO
New Milford.....Mayor Pete Bass COG/HVMPO
Newtown.....First Selectman Jeff Capecci COG/HVMPO
Norwalk.....Mayor Harry Rilling COG/SWRMPO
Redding.....First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton COG/HVMPO
Ridgefield.....First Selectman Rudy Marconi COG/HVMPO
Sherman.....First Selectman Don Lowe COG/HVMPO
Stamford.....Stamford Chief of Staff Bridget Fox SWRMPO
Weston.....First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor SWRMPO
Westport.....Absent
Wilton.....First Selectman Toni Boucher COG/SWRMPO
Transit Representative...Vacant-HVMPO
Transit Representative... Norwalk Transit District Dir. of Svc. Planning Richard Schreiner -SWRMPO
CTDOT.....Transportation Planner Jane Dunbar (Non-voting MPO member)
MPO Staff.....Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

Others in Attendance: Danbury Planning Director Waleed Albarky, Chief of Staff to Danbury Mayor Roberto L. Alves- Francesca Capodilupo, Greenwich Deputy Commissioner of Public Works James Michel, Stamford Bureau Chief of Transportation, Traffic, & Parking Bureau Frank Petise, HARTransit Acting CEO Robert Yastremski, WestCOG Staff: Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Mike Wilson, Betsy Paynter,

Kevin Mahoney, Vicky Ricks, Amal Malik, and Cricket Carpenter. Also in attendance was: State Representative Savet Constantine, Ellen Graham from Senator Blumenthal's office, Paul Hearn from Baralmar Advisors LLC, James Root from the Sierra Club, Meg Haffner and Mike D'Elia from the Kennedy Collective, Brian Hawes from Henry, Raymond, and Thompson LLC, former Ridgefield Affordable Housing Chair Dave Goldenberg, and Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging Executive Director Spring Raymond and Kathleen Young.

Call to Order

The COG meeting was called to order at 12:13 p.m. by Chairman Rudy Marconi

The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:13 p.m. by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capeci

The SWRMPO meeting was called to order at 12:13 p.m. by Chairman Toni Boucher

Greenwich Selectwoman Lauren Rabin made a motion to amend the agenda to add item:

4F. Town of Greenwich LOTCIP Adjustment. The motion was seconded by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher and unanimously approved.

Public Participation

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

COG Action Items

Approval of October 2024 COG Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher the minutes of the October 2024 meeting were approved.

Annual Dues

WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher the Annual Dues schedule as presented was unanimously approved.

2025 Meeting Schedule

Francis Pickering provided the update. On a motion made by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the 2025 Meeting Schedule was unanimously approved.

LOTICIP Adjustments

WestCOG Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn the LOTICIP Adjustments were unanimously approved.

Materials Management Infrastructure Grant (MMI)

Francis Pickering provided the overview. On a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read and Seconded by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn, a motion to submit an eventual application under the

Materials Management Infrastructure Grant (MMI) program was unanimously approved, subject to the application being circulated to the COG prior to submission with no objections.

Town of Greenwich LOTCIP Adjustment

Greenwich First Selectman Lauren Rabin provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the Town of Greenwich LOTCIP Adjustment was unanimously approved.

MPO Action Items

Approval of SWRMPO/HVMPO October 2024 Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capeci the minutes of the October 2024 HVMPO meeting were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Greenwich Selectwoman Lauren Rabin the minutes of the October 2024 SWRMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

FY2025-2028 SWR Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

WestCOG Associate Planner Amal Malik provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn and Seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the HV MPO FY2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program amendments were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Greenwich Selectwoman Lauren Rabin the FY2025-2028 SWRMPO Transportation Improvement Program amendments were unanimously approved.

USDOT PROTECT Grant Program

WestCOG Senior Planner Mike Wilson provided the overview. After review and on a motion made by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read and seconded by Redding First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton, the USDOT PROTECT Grant Program for the HVMPO was unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman and seconded by Greenwich Selectwoman Lauren Rabin the USDOT PROTECT Grant Program for the SWRMPO was unanimously approved.

HVMPO Transit Representative

WestCOG Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the overview. On a motion made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read HARTransit CEO Robert Yastremski was unanimously appointed as the HVMPO Transit Representative

MPO Information Items

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) FY25 Program

WestCOG Principal Planner Todd Fontanella provided the update.

FFY 2023 Section 5310 Traditional Applications Update

WestCOG's Todd Fontanella provided the update.

COG Information Items

Legislative Committee

Francis Pickering provided the update.

Legislative Luncheon (Save the Date)

Francis Pickering provided the overview. The Legislative luncheon is scheduled for Thursday December 19th at 12:00pm.

Regional Firearm Training Facility

WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle provided the update.

Other Business

Adjournment

On A motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Next meeting

MPO/COG/Legislative reception Thursday, December 19th, 2024