

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.

WestCOG / HVMPO / SWRMPO Interim 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: Wednesday, September 24 @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 Mayor Roberto L, Alves COG/HVMPO
Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky COG/SWRMPO
Greenwich..... Planning and Zoning Chairperson Margarita Alban 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 Capece 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..... Chief of Staff Bridget Fox SWRMPO
Weston..... Absent
Westport..... Absent
Wilton..... Absent
Transit Representative..... Director of Service Planning NTD Rick Schreiner SWRMPO
Transit Representative..... Acting HARTransit CEO Bob Yastremski HVMPO
CTDOT CTDOT Transportation Planner II Matthew Abbott
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

Others in Attendance: Newtown Director of Planning and Land Use Rob Sibley, FHWA Transportation Planner Jennifer Brady, Stamford Traffic Engineer Jianhong Wang, Stamford Director of Operations Matt Quinones, and President|CEO at Western CT Area Agency on Aging, Inc. Spring Raymond.

WestCOG Staff: Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kevin Mahoney, Nick Trabka, Jaci Giannini, Vicky Ricks, and Cricket Carpenter

Call to Order

The COG meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Chairman Rudy Marconi

The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Vice Chairman Dan Carter

The SWRMPO meeting was called to order at 12:06 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 the July 2025 COG Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter the minutes of the July 2025 meeting were unanimously approved.

Agenda Addition

After review and on a motion made by Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson the Agenda was amended to include the action item: **Approval of the SWRMPO July 2025 meeting Minutes** to the agenda. After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the agenda was amended to include the action item: **Approval of the HVMPO July 2025 Meeting Minutes**

09/24/2025 #01 Dewberry Contract Amendment – Memo & Resolution

WestCOG Project Manager Jaci Giannini provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter the 09/24/2025 #01 Dewberry Contract Amendment Memo and Resolution was unanimously approved.

LOTICIP Project Solicitation

WestCOG Program Director Kevin Mahoney provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter the LOTICIP Project Solicitation was approved with abstentions made by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capecci and Redding First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton and Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe voting no.

Trees for Communities Grant – Concur with our submission

WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capecci and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the Trees for Communities Grant Submission was unanimously approved.

09/24/2025 #02 Parcel CAMA Improvement Resolution – with CAMA Parcel Improvement Grant Spending Memo

WestCOG GIS Senior Data Scientist Nick Trabka provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagodzky and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the 09/24/2025 #02 Parcel CAMA Improvement Resolution – with CAMA Parcel Improvement Grant Spending Memo was unanimously approved.

USDOT Rural and Tribal Assistance Program – WestCOG Application

WestCOG's Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagodzky and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the USDOT Rural and Tribal Assistance Program – WestCOG Application was unanimously approved.

Public Safety Training Facility Direct to Cancel

WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagodzky and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read the Public Safety Training Facility Direct to Cancel was unanimously approved.

MPO Action Items

Approval of the SWRMPO July 2025 meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagodzky the minutes of the July 2025 SWRMPO Meeting were unanimously approved.

Approval of the HVMPO July 2025 Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by New Fairfield First Selectman Melissa Lindsey the minutes of the July 2025 HVMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

Information Items

2026 Proposed Meeting Dates (Executive Committee, TAG, MPO/COG)

WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering provided an overview.

Other Business

The recent editorial on the merger of Aquarion and the Regional Water Authority was discussed. The Housing Roundtable discussion with a focus on 830g was discussed.

Adjournment

On a motion duly made the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 1:37

Next meeting

Thursday October 16, 2025

INTERIM MINUTES SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL BY THE COG MEMBERS