

Western Connecticut COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



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, July 17, 2025 @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..... Selectman 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 Capece COG/HVMPO
Norwalk..... Absent
Redding..... First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton COG/HVMPO
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi COG/HVMPO
Sherman..... Absent
Stamford..... Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise SWRMPO
Weston..... First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor COG/SWRMPO
Westport..... Absent
Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher COG/SWRMPO
Transit Representative..... CEO at Housatonic Area Reg. Trans. District 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, DEMHS Regional Coordinator Mike Caplet, Meg Haffner and Mike D'elia from the Kennedy Collective, Debra Franceschini-Gatje, Kat Young and Sarah Lopez.

WestCOG Staff: Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kevin Mahoney, Todd Fontanella, Mike Wilson, Charles Vidich, Vicky Ricks, Cricket Carpenter and Summer Fellow Sreya Mothukuri and Maya Aviles.

1 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Visit us online at **westcog.org**
Telephone/fax 475-323-2060

Call to Order

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

The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Chairwoman Julia Pemberton

The SWRMPO meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Chairman Toni Boucher

Public Comment

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

Featured Presentation:

Municipal Considerations for Alternatively Fueled Vehicles.

WestCOG Principal Planner Todd Fontanella and Associate Planner Amal Malik provided the presentation.

COG Action Items

Approval of COG June 2025 Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capeci the minutes of the June 2025 meeting were unanimously approved.

Western CT Regional Trail Project – Non-federal Match

WestCOG Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher and seconded by Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi to include approval of each Town Budgeting Bodies. The Western CT Regional Trail Project – Non-federal Match was unanimously approved.

LOTICIP Adjustments

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

Quarterly Financial Update

WestCOG Financial Director Vicky Ricks provided the update. After review and on a motion made by Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the Quarterly Financial Update was unanimously approved.

Resolution for CTDOT Microgrants

WestCOG Senior Planner Kristin Floberg provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by New Fairfield First Selectman Melissa Lindsey the Resolution for CTDOT Microgrants was unanimously approved.

MPO Action Items

Approval of SWRMPO/HVMPO June 2025 Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the minutes of the June 2025 SWRMPO meeting were unanimously approved. 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 June 2025 HVMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

FY25-FY28 Transportation Improvement Program

- I. FY25-FY28 Transportation Improvement Program SWRMPO – #0135-0358, Stamford; #0056-0329, Greenwich & Stamford
- II. HVMPO – #0034-0363, Danbury

WestCOG Associate Planner Amal Malik provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Stamford Transportation Bureau Chief Frank Petise and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson the FY25-FY28 Transportation Improvement Program amendments for the SWRMPO were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Jeff Capeci the FY25-FY28 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments for the HVMPO were unanimously approved.

6. Information Items

Aquarion Update

WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering provided an update.

Legislative Update- Senate Bill 9/ Planning Statutes

WestCOG 's Francis Pickering provided an update.

Legislative Committee

Francis Pickering provided an update. The following towns volunteered to serve on the committee: Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter, Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky, New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and Redding First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton. Any towns interested in serving on the Legislative Committee should contact Francis Pickering or Cricket Carpenter

Regional Value Capture Feasibility Study

Due to time constraints this update is tabled to a future meeting.

FEMA Grant Update

WestCOG Project Manager Jaci Reelick provided an update.

Noise Pollution Ordinance Inventory

Francis Pickering provided an overview.

ADA Training Opportunities

WestCOG Senior Planner Mike Wilson provided an update.

2025 DRAFT LOTCIP Project Solicitation

WestCOG Program Director Kevin Mahoney provided an update.

Viable Land for Agriculture

Francis Pickering provided an overview.

Other Business

Ridgefield First Selectman announced the sad news of the passing of Fairfield First Selectman Bill Gerber

Adjournment

On a motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Next meeting

Thursday, August 21, 2025