

Executive Committee Notes

Wednesday November 5th at 3:00 p.m.

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

Meeting Started at 3:01 PM | Meeting Ended at 4:01 PM

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Brookfield	First Selectman Steve Dunn
Darien	First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky
Redding	First Selectman Julia Pemberton
Ridgefield	First Selectman Rudy Marconi
Wilton	First Selectman Toni Boucher

OTHERS ATTENDING: WestCOG Staff: Executive Director Francis Pickering, Deputy Director Mike Towle, and Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos.

COG Agenda Review

Mike Towle presents the proposed content for the November COG Meeting Agenda.

Executive Updates

A discussion of topics to be brought before the Executive Committee.

Annual Dues. Francis Pickering reviewed the previously approved dues formula and level.

Recruitment. Francis Pickering provides an update on new hires at WestCOG. Data Scientists Sagnik Chand and Edward Provitz.

Legislative Committee Update. Francis Pickering presents proposed legislative items and dates for the upcoming legislative committee meeting.

PURA. Francis Pickering gave an update on current proceedings and a request for cost sharing.

Program Updates

A discussion on the status of ongoing projects.

Transportation

RAISE (Western CT Trail Bicycle and Pedestrian Project) – In negotiations with consultant, expect to execute a contract this month.

SS4A (Regional Safety Improvements) – FHWA updated WestCOG that the agreement is expected to be signed by USDOT in November.

Regional Transit Study – Coordination with FTA and CTDOT on grant administration.

FY2027-FY2030 TIP – Meeting with CTDOT for the Air Quality Conformity Process.

Traffic Calming Plan – Project Advisory Committee held in October and nine municipalities and CTDOT participated. The consultant reviewed the regional status quo and best practices.

Norwalk Route 1 – Held a Project Advisory Committee meeting in October to review concepts and planning for public engagement later this fall. Final Report is on track for completion in December.

Congestion Reduction Project Scopes – Consultants are finalizing the report based on municipal feedback.

Quiet Zone – Coordinating with CTDOT on scope review.

Microgrants – Coordinating with CTDOT on eligible items and recipients on quarterly reporting.

LOTCHIP – Accepting proposals through November 14th.

Transportation Performance Management – CTDOT has updated the annual Highway Safety Targets and staff will present this information at the next COG Meeting.

Regional Planning/Services Project Updates

ADA Transition Plans – Consultant is continuing municipal site visits and presenting draft report at municipal meetings.

Firearms Training Facility – Will be requesting chiefs to meet with CEOs, Scheduling to convene a working group with CEOs and chiefs to explore solutions without grant support.

Economic Development – Ongoing. Providing economic development support in grants, plan development, and networking. Next WCEDD Meeting scheduled for January 8th.

Flood Assistance Program – Ongoing. WestCOG is hosting a webinar this week on how to deal with municipal flooding through zoning and land use.

Stormwater– Developing a new service for municipalities, culvert infrastructure mapping. Concept for service expected in December 2025. Preparing for new MS4 permit standards. Developing service concepts with the other COGs. Service concepts planned for March 2026.

Regional Waste Authority. Ontrack. Plan completed on October 31 2025. Now initiating phase 2 of contract, implementation of items within the plan. [Greenwich] [Stamford] [Darien] [Norwalk] [Westport] [New Canaan]

Sewer Study. Exploring extension to capture Redding's capacity estimates. Existing deadline is December 31, 2025. [Redding] [Ridgefield].

Hazard Mitigation Plan. Ontrack. Submitted for grant funding. Project initiated through RSG funds. Expected for completion December 2026

Parcel CAMA Updates. Ontrack. Scheduled for completion by 10/6/2026

Noise Ordinance Inventory & Initial Report. Delayed. Receiving feedback from DEEP prior to public release. Target was October release. Expected release now anticipated for November 2025.

Climate Action Plan. Ontrack. Expected for completion December 1, 2025. Exploring options to use remaining funds through 2027 for implementation.

Zoning Nonconformities Report. Scheduling zoning commissioner training.

WestCOG Office Cyber Security Improvement. Ontrack. Expected completion on November 30, 2026.

POCD Support - Public Act 25-33. On track. POCDs adopted after September 30, 2027, require additional content. WestCOG is preparing that content for municipalities to utilize. Current deadline set for April 2026.

Grant Applications

A discussion of grant applications in development and pending.

- a. **CTDEEP Recreational Trails Grant Program** – WestCOG will be resubmitting last year's application for the East-West Trail Study. Requesting \$400,000 with a \$100,000 match (to be split by WestCOG and NVCOG).
- b. **HMGP Grant (for HMP)** Grant submitted to DEMHS for review and then to be submitted to FEMA. Grant turnaround time around 3-4 months. Requesting \$200,678 with a \$66,892 match.
- c. **Trees for Communities Grant – Trees for Transit.** To plant shade trees at bus stops. Requested \$93,732 Submitted September 2, 2025. Expected Response by October 31, 2025. [Norwalk][Stamford][New Milford]

Upcoming meetings

- a. **TAG Meeting** *Wednesday, November 12, 2025 @ 11:00 AM
- b. **COG Meeting:** Thursday, November 20, 2025 @ 12:00 PM
- c. **Executive Committee Meeting:** Wednesday, December 3, 2025 @ 2:00 PM