

Executive Committee Notes

Wednesday January 7th at 2:00 p.m.

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

Meeting Started at 2:03 PM | Meeting Ended at 3:10 PM

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel	First Selectman Dan Carter
Brookfield	First Selectman Steve Dunn
Darien	First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky
Redding	First Selectman Julia Pemberton
Ridgefield	First Selectman Rudy Marconi

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

COG Agenda Review

Mike Towle presented the proposed content for the January COG Meeting Agenda.

Executive Updates

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

Legislative Committee Update – Legislative proposals will be shared ahead of the meeting this month.

Legislative Reception – Scheduled for January 29.

Nominating Committee – Will convene and hold election of officers during the February meeting.

Special Meeting – Will be hosted on January 8th to discuss SS PA 25-1 (nee HB 8002).

Program Updates

A discussion on the status of ongoing projects.

Transportation

RAISE (Western CT Trail Bicycle and Pedestrian Project) Executed contract with consultant in December and project team has started on tasks. WestCOG will coordinate with municipal staff and trail groups on next steps.

SS4A (Regional Safety Improvements) – Grant agreement with FHWA was executed in December. Staff are working on updating procurement and solicitation documents.

Regional Transit Study – CTDOT has agreed to remain the recipient of grant funds and will execute an agreement with WestCOG to be the sub-recipient to manage the project.

FY2027-FY2030 TIP – Staff are working on a draft report.

Traffic Calming Plan – Held Project Advisory Committee and workshop in December to review the draft plan. Consultants are revising the final documents based on feedback received.

Norwalk Route 1 – Study was completed in December, all materials are posted on the project webpage.

Quiet Zone – MetroNorth staff are reviewing the scope of work.

Microgrants – Staff met with CTDOT to discuss the program and revise guidelines in anticipation of a new funding round.

LOTCIP – Staff reviewed 14 proposals and will provide recommendations to the TAG and COG members.

Regional Transportation Safety Plan – Staff are working on an update of the 2021 plan and beginning to analyze crash data.

Regional Planning/Services Project Updates

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

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

Flood Assistance Program – Ongoing. Outreach mailing effort commencing soon.

Stormwater – Ongoing. Coordinating with COGs on stormwater resources, Stormwater Utility Research.

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. Extension granted. Coordinated with towns for updated capacity totals and project study area. Updated deadline is June 31, 2026. [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. Complete, preparing for public release.

Climate Action Plan. Extended deadline to January 2026. Using remaining funds out until 2027 to develop implementable resources.

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

POCD Support – Public Act 25-33. Ontrack. 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:

CTDEEP Recreational Trails Grant Program – WestCOG resubmitted last year's application for the East-West Trail Study. Requested \$520,000 with a \$130,000 match (to be split by WestCOG and NVCOG).

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.

DEEP Climate Resilience Fund. Stormwater Utilities & Climate Resilience Districts Feasibility Study. Preparing for January submission.

Upcoming meetings

- a. **Special COG/MPO Meeting:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 @ 9:00 AM
- b. **TAG Meeting** Tuesday, January 13, 2026 @ 11:00 AM
- c. **COG/MPO Meeting & Legislative Reception:** Thursday, January 29, 2026 @12:00 *Lunch @ 11:30AM
- d. **Executive Committee Meeting:** Wednesday, February 4, 2025 @ 2:00 PM