

*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 / 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:** Thursday, January 29, 12:00 p.m.

**Location.** Ridgefield Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, CT

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 Eric Gsell COG/HVMPO  
Brookfield ..... First Selectman Steve Dunn COG/HVMPO  
Danbury ..... Absent COG/HVMPO  
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 Pat Del Monaco COG/HVMPO  
New Milford..... Absent COG/HVMPO  
Newtown ..... First Selectman Bruce Walczak COG/HVMPO  
Norwalk..... Absent  
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..... First Selectman Kevin Christie COG/SWRMPO  
Wilton..... Absent  
Transit Representative..... Absent  
Transit Representative..... HARTransit CEO Bob Yastremski HVMPO  
CTDOT ..... CTDOT Transportation Planner II Matthew Abbott  
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

**Others in Attendance:** Senator Julie Kushner, State Representative Jonathan Steinberg, State Rep. Raghil Allie-Brennan, State Rep. Mitch Bolinsky, State Rep. Anne Hughes, State Rep. Steve Meskers, State Rep. Hector Arzeno, State Rep. Savet Constantine, State Rep. Lucy Dathan, State Rep. Ken Gucker, State Rep. Tracy Marra, Greenwich Selectwoman Rachel Khanna, Sarah Lopez from Senator Murhy's office, Ellen Graham from Senator Blumenthal's office, Genevieve Perruccio from Senator Murphy's office, Wendy Moore from Habitat for Humanity, PACE member Patrice Gillespie, and James Root from the Sierra Club.

WestCOG Staff: Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kevin Mahoney, Kristin Floberg, Todd Fontanella, Betsy Paynter, Kristin Floberg, Nicholas Trabka, Amal Malik, Sagnik Chand, Eddie Provitz, Garrett Reed, Vicky Ricks, and Cricket Carpenter.

### **Call to Order**

The COG meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Chairman Rudy Marconi  
The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Chairman Julia Pemberton  
The SWRMPO meeting did not have quorum.

### **Public Comment**

A member of the public spoke out against the Margerie Trail project.

### **COG Action Items**

#### **Approval of the January 8<sup>th</sup> 2026 meeting minutes**

After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn the minutes of the January 8, 2026 meeting were unanimously approved.

#### **LOTICIP Adjustment**

WestCOG Senior Project Manager 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 adjustment was unanimously approved.

### **MPO Action Items**

#### **Approval of the January 8, 2026 meeting minutes**

After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe the minutes of the January 8, 2026 HVMPO meeting minutes were unanimously approved. The minutes of the January 8 2026 SWRMPO meeting were not approved because quorum was not met.

## **FY25-FY28 Transportation Improvement Program**

SWRMPO - #0173-0560, Various

SWRMPO quorum was not present.

HVMPO - #0096-0212

WestCOG Associate Planner Amal Malik provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by New Fairfield First Selectman Pat Del Monaco the HVMPO - #0096-0212, Newtown amendment was unanimously approved.

## **Information Items**

CTDOT FY2025 Section 5310 Program Release

WestCOG Principal Planner Todd Fontanella provided an update.

## **Other Business**

## **Adjournment**

On a motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

## **Next meeting**

Thursday February 19<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00p.m.