

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: Thursday, May 21, 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 Jon Zagrodzky / Vice Chairman Dionna Carlson

Members Attending

Bethel..... First Selectman Dan Carter COG/HVMPO
Bridgewater..... First Selectman Eric Gsell COG/HVMPO
Brookfield Absent
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 Absent
New Milford..... Mayor Pete Bass COG/HVMPO
Newtown First Selectman Bruce Walczak COG/HVMPO
Norwalk..... Chief of Staff Corey Frate SWRMPO
Redding..... First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton COG/HVMPO
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi COG/HVMPO
Sherman..... First Selectman Don Lowe COG/HVMPO
Stamford..... Mayor Caroline Simmons COG/SWRMPO
Weston..... First Selectman Samantha Nestor COG/SWRMPO
Westport..... First Selectman Kevin Christie COG/SWRMPO
Wilton..... First Selectman Toni Boucher COG/SWRMPO
Transit Representative..... NTD Director of Service Planning Rick Schreiner SWRMPO
Transit Representative..... Absent
CTDOT CTDOT Transportation Planner II Matthew Abbott
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

Others in Attendance: Bethel Director of Public Works Eric Swenson, Newtown Director of Planning and Land Use Rob Sibley, Jill Soderholm Newtown P&Z, Outreach Manager for Congressman Himes Sophie Khanna, Ellen Graham from Senator Blumenthal's office, HARTransit Chief Financial Officer Lori Wilk, Jonathan Dean, Joe Belrose, and Neil Patel Greg Palmer, Obesebea Aye-Addo, Joe Lombardi, and Kevin Ng. from CTDOT and James Root from the Sierra Club.

WestCOG Staff: Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kristin Floberg, Todd Fontanella, Mike Wilson, Amal Malik, Vicky Ricks, and Cricket Carpenter.

Call to Order

The COG meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.m. by Chairman Rudy Marconi

The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.m. by Vice Chairman Dan Carter

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

Public Comment

No comment was made during the public comment period.

Featured Presentations

Greg Palmer, Obesebea Aye-Addo, Joe Lombardi, and Kevin Ng from CTDOT provided a presentation on CTDOT's Traffic Operations:

Jonathan Dean, Joe Belrose, and Neil Patel from CTDOT presented on the I-95 Planning and Environmental Linkages Studies for Greenwich and Stamford.

COG Action Items

Approval of April Meeting Minutes

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

2026-05-21-#01 Mason Street Partners, LLC Brownfield Resolution

WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Newtown First Selectman Bruce Walczak and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter the 2026-05-21-#01 Mason Street Partners, LLC Brownfield Resolution was unanimously approved.

Greenwich SS4A Application Letter of Support

WestCOG Transportation Director Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky the Greenwich SS4A Application Letter of Support was unanimously approved.

Appointment of Auditor Selection

WestCOG's Francis Pickering 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 Appointment of Auditor Selection was unanimously approved.

LOTICIP Adjustment

Program Director Kevin Mahoney provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass, the New Milford LOTICIP adjustment was unanimously approved. The Ridgefield LOTICIP Adjustment is tabled for a future meeting.

2026-05-15-#09 Resolution Authorizing Financial Adjustments for Regional Water Planning and State Coordination

Francis Pickering provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe, the 2026-05-15-#09 Resolution Authorizing Financial Adjustments for Regional Water Planning and State Coordination was unanimously approved.

MPO Action Items

Approval of the April 2026 Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Wilton First Selectman and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson the minutes of the April 2026 SWRMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

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 April 2026 HVMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

FY 2025 Section 5310 Application Rankings

WestCOG's Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher the SWRMPO FY 2025 Section 5310 Application Rankings were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter the HVMPO FY 2025 Section 5310 Application Rankings were unanimously approved.

FY25-FY28 Transportation Improvement Program

SWRMPO - #0170-FAREBX; Various, #0400-2026EQ; Various

Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher the **FY25-FY28** Transportation Improvement Program SWRMPO - #0170-FAREBX; Various, #0400-2026EQ; Various was unanimously approved.

HVMPO and SWRMPO FY2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program

2026-05-21-#02 Resolution to Endorse the HVMPO FFY2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program

2026-05-21-#06 Resolution to Endorse the SWRMPO FFY2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program HVMPO Air Quality Conformity Resolutions (#03, #04, #05)

SWRMPO Air Quality Conformity Resolutions (#07, #08)

Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview.

After review and on a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Dan Carter and seconded by Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi the HVMPO 05-21-#02 Resolution to Endorse the HVMPO FFY2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program was unanimously approved.

After review and on a motion made by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson the SWRMPO 05-21-#02 Resolution to Endorse the SWRMPO FFY2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program and the 2026-05-21-#06 Resolution to Endorse the SWRMPO FFY2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program were unanimously approved.

After review and on a motion made by Redding First Selectwoman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi the HVMPO Air Quality Conformity Resolutions (#03, #04, #05) were unanimously approved.

After review and on a motion made by Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher and seconded by New Canaan First Selectman Dionna Carlson the SWRMPO Air Quality Resolutions (#07, #08) were unanimously approved.

Information Items

CTDEEP Volkswagen NOx Mitigation Program Round 4
Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an update.

Draft RSG Regional Services Grant Spending Plan.
Francis Pickering provided an update.

Draft Agency Budget.
Francis Pickering provided an update.

Housing Update
This item was tabled.

Legislative Update
This item was tabled.

Summer Staff for 2026
WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle provided an update.

Other Business

Adjournment

On a motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 2:07

Next meeting

Thurs. June 18, 2026 @12:00 pm