

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, July 16, 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 First Selectman Steve Dunn
Danbury Mayor Roberto Alves COG/HVMPO
Darien Absent
Greenwich..... Absent
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..... Absent
Weston..... First Selectman Samantha Nestor COG/SWRMPO
Westport..... First Selectman Toni Boucher COG/SWRMPO
Transit Representative..... NTD Director of Service Planning Rick Schreiner SWRMPO
Transit Representative..... Matt Pentz SWRMPO
CTDOT Matthew Abbott
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

Others in Attendance: Newtown Director of Planning and Land Use Rob Sibley, CTDOT Transportation Planner II Matthew Abbott, FHWA Transportation Specialist Jennifer Brady,

WestCOG Staff: Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Mike Wilson, Amal Malik. Sagnik Chand, Princeton Fellow Kameil Crane, and Cricket Carpenter.

Call to Order

The COG meeting was called to order at 12:19 p.m. by Chairman Rudy Marconi

The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:08 p.m. by Chairwoman Julia Pemberton

The SWRMPO meeting was called to order at 12:19 p.m. by Vice Chairman Dionna Carlson

Public Comment

No comment was made during the public comment period.

A motion was made by Dionna Carlson and seconded by Dan Carter to amend the agenda to move item 3 to: Item 8- Guest Speaker Commission Eucalitto The motion was unanimously approved.

Guest Speaker

Commissioner Garrett T. Eucalitto from CTDOT

COG Action Items

Approval of June Meeting Minutes

After review and a motion made by Dan Carter and seconded by Dionna Carson the minutes of the June 2026 meeting were approved with an abstention made by Steve Dunn.

LOTICIP Adjustment

WestCOG Program Director Kevin Mahoney provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Steve Dunn and seconded by Julia Pemberton the LOTICIP Adjustment was unanimously approved.

Quarterly Financial Update

WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering provided an update. After review and on a motion made by Don Lowe and seconded by Dan Carter the LOTICIP Adjustment was unanimously approved.

Resolution to Accept DEEP Climate Resilience Fund 2025 Award

WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle provided an update with commentary provided by Francis Pickering. After review and on a motion made by Don Lowe and seconded by Dan Carter the Resolution to accept DEEP Climate Resilience Fund 2025 Award was unanimously approved.

MPO Action Items

Approval of the June 2026 Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Dan Carter and seconded by Ridgefield First Selectman Rudy Marconi the minutes of the June 2026 meeting were unanimously approved.

FY25-FY28 Transportation Improvement Program

SWRMPO – #0056-0316; Greenwich & Stamford, #0300-3806; Various,

HVMPO – #0300-3806; Various, #0170-3806; Danbury & Newtown, #0170-3818; Danbury & Newtown

WestCOG Transportation director Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Kevin Christie and seconded by Samantha Nestor the SWRMPO TIP amendments were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Steve Dunn and seconded by Bruce Walczak the HVMPO TIP amendments were unanimously approved.

Information Items

2026 DRAFT LOTCIP Project Solicitation

WestCOG's Kevin Mahoney provided an update.

Municipal Legal Notice Assessment

Princeton Inter Kameil Crane provided an overview.

POCD Climate Provisions

WestCOG's Mike Towle provided an overview.

Regional Local Fire Protection Plan Compliance Assistance

Mike Towle provided an overview.

Housing Update

Mike Towle provided an update.

Urban Forestry Peer Exchange

Mike Towle provided an overview.

Legislative Committee Membership

Francis Pickering requested that leaders interested in serving on the legislative committee to email Cricket Carpenter@ ccarpenter@westcog.org

New Staff

WestCOG Planner Harrison Lewis was introduced to the group.

Guest Speaker

Commissioner Garrett T. Eucalitto from CTDOT spoke on the work being done at CTDOT.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

8. Adjournment

On a motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

9. Next meeting

- a. Thursday September 24, 2026 @12:00 pm *****Rescheduled from September 17th***
- b. The August COG Meeting is tentatively cancelled.