Western Connecticut
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

WestCOG / HVMPO/ SWRMPO Approved Special 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, September 24, 2026 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..... Absent
Brookfield..... Absent
Danbury..... Absent
Darien..... First Selectman Jon Zagrodzky
Greenwich.....Selectwoman Lauren Rabin
New Canaan..... First Selectman Dionna Carlson COG/SWRMPO
New Fairfield..... First Selectman Pat Del Monaco
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..... Absent
Sherman..... Absent
Stamford.....Chief of Staff Bridget Fox
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..... Acting HARTransit CEO Bob Yastremski HVMPO
CTDOT..... Matthew Abbott
MPO Staff..... Francis Pickering (Non-voting MPO member)

Others in Attendance: Greenwich Selectwoman Rachel Khanna, Wilton Selectman Ross Tartell, CTDOT Transportation Planner II Matthew Abbott, CTDOT Transportation Planner Kevin Arnold, CTDOT Financial staff Darren Meyers, CTDOT Dir. of Federal Affairs Jennifer Arienti, Sarah Lopez from Sen. Murphy's Office, Meg Haffner from the Kennedy Collective, James Westlake, James Root from the Sierra Club, Debra Franceschini-Gatje and Jeanne K.

WestCOG Staff: Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Nick Trabka, Farnaz Kamyab, Todd Fontanella, Mike Wilson, Amal Malik, Edward Provitz, Harrison Lewis, Kristin Floberg, Garrett Reed, and Cricket Carpenter.

Call to Order

The COG meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Vice Chairman Dan Carter
The SWRMPO meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Chairman Jon Zagrodsky
The HVMPO meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by Chairwoman Julia Pemberton

Public Comment

No comment was made during the public comment period.

A motion was made by Toni Boucher and seconded by Jon Zagrodzky to amend the agenda to add item: 4b, SWRMPO TIP Amendment 0173-0565 Merritt Parkway Corridor Management Plan to the agenda.

COG Action Items

Approval of July Meeting Minutes

After review and a motion made by Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Dionna Carlson the minutes of the July 2026 meeting were unanimously approved with the following correction. Wilton First Selectman Toni Boucher was recorded as representing Westport. First Selectman Kevin Christie was present and represented Westport.

LOTCIP Adjustment

WestCOG Program Director Kevin Mahoney provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Bruce Walczak the LOTCIP Adjustment was unanimously approved.

2026-09-24-#01 Greenwich Greyfields Resolution

Francis Pickering provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Lauren Rabin the 2026-09-24-#01 Greenwich Greyfields Resolution was unanimously approved.

LOTCIP Project Solicitation

Kevin Mahoney provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Jon Zagrodzky and seconded by Dionna Carlson the LOTCIP Project Solicitation was unanimously approved.

MPO Action Items

Approval of the July 2026 Meeting Minutes

After review and on a motion made by Pat Del Monaco and seconded by Dan Carter the minutes of the July 2026 HVMPO meeting were unanimously approved. After review and on a motion made by Dionna Carlson and seconded by Jon Zagrodzky the minutes of the July 2026 SWRMPO meeting were unanimously approved.

SWRMPO TIP Amendment 0173-0565 Merritt Parkway Corridor Management Plan

Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview. After review and on a motion made by Dionna Carlson and Bridget Fox the SWRMPO TIP Amendment 0173-0565 Merritt Parkway Corridor Management Plan was unanimously approved.

Information Items

Legislative Committee update
Francis Pickering provided the update.

Federal Funding (Transportation Reauthorization/CR)
Francis Pickering provided an update.

Housing Update
WestCOG Planner Farnaz Kamyab provided an update.

AMPO 2026 Conference Recap
Francis Pickering provided the recap.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update
Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the update.

Western CT Regional Trail Project Update
Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the update.

CT Port Authority SHIPP Grant Program
Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the update.

USDOT PROTECT Grant Program
Kristin Hadjstylianos provided the update.

Bridge & Culvert Mapping
WestCOG Senior Data Scientist Nick Trabka provided an update.

New Staff – Kathleen Maeder
WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle introduced new WestCOG Planner Kathleen Maeder.

Forestry Peer Learning Exchange
Mike Towle provided an overview.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

8. Adjournment

On a motion duly made the meeting was adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

9.Next meeting

Thursday, October 22nd 2026 @12:00 pm