



NAUGATUCK VALLEY COUNCIL of GOVERNMENTS

49 Leavenworth Street, 3rd Floor, Waterbury, CT 06702 • 203-757-0535 • 203-735-8688 • nvcogct.org

MINUTES

Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments and

Central Naugatuck Valley MPO

NVCOG Conference Room

49 Leavenworth St., 3rd Floor

Waterbury, CT

10 a.m., Friday, September 13, 2019

NVCOG Representatives: Sheila O'Malley, Alternate, Ansonia; Chris Bielik, First Selectman, Beacon Falls; Len Assard, First Selectman, Bethlehem; Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Mayor, Bristol; Jerry Sitko, Alternate, Cheshire; Rich Dzieken, Mayor, Derby; Ed St. John, First Selectman, Middlebury; George Temple, First Selectman, Oxford; David Merchant, Mayor, Plymouth; Bob Chatfield, Mayor, Prospect; Mark Lauretti, Mayor, Shelton; John Monteleone, Alternate, Southbury; Ed Mone, First Selectman, Thomaston; Mackenzie Demac, Alternate, Waterbury; Tom Dunn, Mayor, Wolcott; Barbara Perkinson, First Selectman, Woodbury.

Guests/Other: Kate Cannie, Mike Dugan, Josh Hughes, Public Agency Retirement Services; Sara Radacsi, CTDOT; Hedy Ayers, Eversource; April Chaplin, Meg Haffner, The Kennedy Center; Ellen Graham, Senator Richard Blumenthal's Office; Lou Mangini, Congresswoman Rose DeLauro's Office; Desra Blanchard, members of the public.

Staff: Rick Dunne, Mark Nielsen, Aaron Budris, Joanna Rogalski, Glenda Prentiss, Lauren Rizzo, Christian Meyer, John DiCarlo, Karen Svetz, Michael Szpryngel, Richard Crowther, Jr., Gabriel Filer, Keith Rosenfeld.

Prior to the start of the meeting, there was a presentation by Kate Cannie of Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS), concerning the PARS OPEB Trust Program.

1. Commencement of Meeting (Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Public Comment)

Ed Mone called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll was called. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of 9/11.

For public comment, April Chapman of The Kennedy Center introduced Meg Haffner who is the Southwestern CT Regional Motility Manager for The Kennedy Center. Hedy Ayers provided information on a series of meetings Eversource is hosting for emergency response plans. She also said a small scale development workshop hosted by CT Main Street in partnership with Eversource will be held on October 10, 2019.

2. CNVMPO Meeting (*Voting members for these items are limited to the 15 CEOs in the CNVMPO area*)

- a. *Approval of the Minutes of the July 31, 2019 CNVMPO Special Meeting* – On a motion by Len Assard, seconded by Tom Dunn, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the July 31, 2019 CNVMPO Special Meeting.

- b. *Safety Performance Targets Established by CTDOT*

- i. Approval of CNVMPO Resolution 2020-01 to Endorse Safety Performance Targets – Christian Meyer reviewed the state performance goals and targets established by CTDOT for safety measures that cover all public roadways regardless of ownership or functional classification. NVCOG staff recommends adoption of the state-developed safety performance measure

targets as the targets for the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO. On a motion by Chris Bielik, seconded by Len Assard, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve CNVMPO Resolution 2020-01 – Endorsement of Targets for Safety Performance Measures Established by CTDOT.

3. **NVCOG Administrative Items**

- a. *Approval of the Minutes of the June 14, 2019 NVCOG & CNVMPO Meeting* – On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Ed St. John, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the June 14, 2019 NVCOG and CNVMPO meeting.

- b. *Approval of Agency Financial Report for Period Ending 6/30/19 and 7/31/19* – Michael Szpryngel reviewed the NVCOG financial report for the period ending 6/30/19. On a motion by Mark Lauretti, seconded by Chris Bielik, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the NVCOG financial report for the period ending 6/30/19.

Mr. Szpryngel then reviewed the financial report for the period ending 7/31/19. On a motion by Tom Dunn, seconded by Barbara Perkinson, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the NVCOG financial report for the period ending 7/31/19.

- c. *Review of Brownfields RLF Report* – Mr. Szpryngel then reviewed the EPA Revolving Loan Fund and Program Income Report through June 30, 2019. This report had been reviewed at an earlier date with the Revolving Loan Fund Committee. No NVCOG action was required. Rick Dunne noted that the grant would be expiring in 2020. NVCOG will be applying for a new grant.
- d. *Approval of Revised Budget per Executive Committee Recommendation* – Mr. Szpryngel explained that after the budget was originally adopted, an internal formula error was discovered that had miscalculated the dues on the budget. Dues billing, however, was done for the correct amount. Mr. Szpryngel noted that he had made a couple of other adjustments to the budget as firmer funding figures became available. He has broken out the current PL funds from the carryover PL funds, and RSG funding is at a higher amount than had been originally budgeted. Household hazardous waste was adjusted to include the administration fee. Upon a question from Ed Mone, Mr. Szpryngel confirmed that none of these adjustments impact the dues paid by the municipalities. On a motion by Sheila O'Malley, seconded by Jerry Sitko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the revised budget.

- e. *Authorization for Executive Director Rick Dunne to Execute MOU with the Western CT Council of Governments and the Northwest Hills Council of Governments Regarding Functions and Responsibilities for DEMHS Region 5 under FFY 2019 Homeland Security REPT Grant Program* – On a motion by Rich Dziekan, seconded by Ed St. John, it was unanimously

VOTED: To authorize Executive Director Rick Dunne to execute an MOU with the Western CT Council of Governments and the Northwest Hills Council of Governments regarding

functions and responsibilities for DEMHS Region 5 under the FFY 2019 Homeland Security REPT grant program.

- f. *Authorization for Executive Director Rick Dunne to Execute Agreements for Previously Approved Program Applications* – Rick Dunne stated that this is an annual authorization that allows him to execute agreements and paperwork for any projects previously endorsed, authorized, or approved by NVCOG. On a motion by George Temple, seconded by Sheila O'Malley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt NVCOG Resolution 2020-03 authorizing Executive Director Rick Dunne to sign any and all documents required in the acceptance and execution of state or federal assistance grants or programs already applied for and approved by the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments and offered by the Grantor.

- g. *Director's Report*

- County Equivalents – Rick Dunne explained that OPM had sent a letter to the U.S. Census Bureau. The letter changes the geographic and political administration unit for reporting census data information from counties (an artificial construct in Connecticut) to planning regions (i.e., the COGs).

Additionally, Mr. Dunne reviewed the NVCOG staffing plan and revised organizational chart. The three positions that were vacant have been filled.

Mr. Dunne asked the CEOs that have Naugatuck River Greenway area running through their towns for assistance in facilitating the installation of greenway signage. The signage has been delivered to the towns.

4. **NVCOG Planning/Transportation**

- a. *Overview of the Regional Transportation Safety Plan* – Mark Nielsen stated that CTDOT has hired VN Engineers, Inc. to develop the Regional Transportation Safety Plan for NVCOG. He reviewed the tasks included in the scope of the study and noted that the safety plan will serve as a road map and strategy to save lives and reduce severe injuries. The consultant has initiated the study and will be contacting all towns in the region to set up meetings with key stakeholders.
- b. *Transportation Alternatives Program* – Mr. Nielsen explained that the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant sets aside funds for various non-traditional transportation projects and is referred to as the Transportation Alternatives program. Federal regulations require MPOs within the designated urban areas to develop a process identifying and selecting eligible projects. In urban areas served by more than one MPO, the process needs to include collaboration and consultation among the MPOs. Accordingly, NVCOG coordinated with adjacent COGs to develop a project selection process and identify priorities. Because the NVCOG region is located in four urbanized areas, collaboration occurred with CRCOG, MetroCOG, RiverCOG, and WestCOG. Projects are based on the assumption of a new transportation bill that will replace FAST Act.
- i. *Hartford TMA Projects* – Thomaston is part of the Hartford urbanized area and has the Naugatuck River Greenway East Main Street to Watertown Road project listed as Project #3 in the Hartford UZA priority ranking.

- ii. Bridgeport-Stamford TMA Projects – Beacon Falls and Seymour are part of the Bridgeport-Stamford urbanized area and have the Beacon Falls & Seymour Multi-use Trail in two towns, alternative to Routes 67 and 42 project listed as Project #5 in the Bridgeport-Stamford UZA priority ranking.
- iii. Waterbury Urbanized Area – Naugatuck and Watertown are part of the Waterbury/Danbury urbanized area. Naugatuck has the Naugatuck River Greenway Phase II – Naugatuck to Waterbury project listed as Project #1 under the Waterbury UZA priority ranking, and Watertown has the Watertown, Completion of Steele Brook Greenway – Lower Segment project listed as Project #2 under that priority ranking.

c. *LOTICIP*

- i. Exchange Place Street Revitalization – Christian Meyer said a new cost estimate for the NVCOG-endorsed revised scope of this project had been put together by the consultant. The revised cost estimate is outlined in Memorandum 20190913-LOTICIP1. Staff recommends endorsement by the NVCOG board. On a motion by George Temple, seconded by Tom Dunn, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve NVCOG Resolution 2020-01, allocating NVCOG attributable funds for the Exchange Place reconstruction and pedestrian improvements project in Waterbury.

- ii. New Project Endorsements: Ansonia, State Street; Oxford, Oxford Road; Watertown, NRG – Mr. Meyer said these three new projects have been reviewed by TTAC and staff. Ansonia's project involves mixed roadway reconstruction and pedestrian improvements. Watertown's project will upgrade an informal path and unpaved access road to multi-use trail standards, as part of the multi-regional Naugatuck River Greenway Trail. Oxford's project provides an active transportation connection between the Quarry Walk development and the pedestrian infrastructure at the town line in Seymour. On a motion made by Tom Dunn, seconded by George Temple, it was unanimously

VOTED: To endorse NVCOG Resolution 2020-02, committing regionally apportioned LOTICIP funds for the reconstruction of roadway and active transportation facilities in the municipalities of Ansonia, Watertown, and Oxford as described in Memorandum 20190913-LOTICIP2.

- 5. **LUCA Update** – Richard Crowther, Jr. explained that LUCA stands for Local Update of Census Addresses. He further explained that in 2018 all NVCOG municipalities had participated in the process. Mr. Crowther found 4,932 additional addresses, and the census bureau accepted 91% of them. This means that an additional estimated 11,700 people will be counted for the upcoming census that were missing in 2010. With new construction, he expects there to be further additions. The benefit of the increased census numbers is to get more people counted, which increases federal funding and political representation.
- 6. **New NVCOG Web Apps** – Mr. Crowther described the new web applications. One covers tourism and agriculture in the region and represents all 19 towns. All the information is available for the towns to use on their own websites. The other application is a partnership with the Yale Griffin Prevention Research Center at Griffin Hospital. NVCOG staff worked with the hospital on its Active Valley CT program which is intended to get individuals in the lower valley area active and healthy by highlighting

locations for outdoor activities such as walking, hiking, and off-road biking. Mr. Crowther will do outreach to get links to the apps to the municipal webmasters.

7. **Sustainable CT Municipal Certification Program Update** – Joanna Rogalski reported that the City of Bristol has applied for Silver certification under this program, and the Town of Woodbury has applied for Bronze certification. There are now seven NVCOG municipalities registered for the program. In total, over half of all Connecticut municipalities are now participating. Additionally, Sustainable CT is now offering a community match fund, with matching funds of up to \$25,000.

8. **Emergency Management Updates**

Ms. Rogalski stated that CTDOT is managing diversion route plan updates, and has hired a consultant to digitize existing maps. I-84 updates are complete, and the COGs will be setting up workshops with EMDs to review the updates.

With regard to REPT 5 parcel mapping for emergency response, COGs will be working together and with a consultant to standardize parcel data across 43 municipalities in Region 5 and will include training for emergency responders.

NVCOG will be awarded a FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant (FFY 18) to write a multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The grant award is for \$300,000, with \$100,000 non-federal match.

Ms. Rogalski also said that a statewide CERT training day will take place on October 26, 2019 in Windsor Locks.

9. **Other**

George Temple suggested a special meeting be held, possibly at the end of November, to discuss the opioid crisis on a regional basis, with outside sources brought in as speakers. Rick Dunne said he would speak with Chairman O’Leary regarding this.

Ed St. John brought up the topic of fire schools, which are built for the training of firefighters. Two schools have not yet been built; one is in Beacon Falls and other is in Wolcott. He said these are shovel ready projects and there is a pressing need to train both volunteer and professional firefighters. On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by George Temple, it was unanimously

VOTED: To add discussion and action on fire schools to the agenda.

Rick Dunne suggested the board adopt a resolution asking the bond commission to approve the funding for fire training schools that are shovel ready. On a motion by Mark Lauretti, seconded by Sheila O’Malley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt a resolution in support of bond commission approval of funding for shovel-ready fire school projects.

Additionally, Joanna Rogalski introduced municipal shared planner Keith Rosenfeld, and Rick Dunne noted that meetings will be held for Waterbury Branch Line CEOs to discuss issues and strategies.

10. Adjournment

At 11:13 a.m., on a motion by Tom Dunn, seconded by Chris Bielik, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Lauren Rizzo
Administrative Services Coordinator
for
Ed Mone
Secretary



**CENTRAL NAUGATUCK VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

49 Leavenworth Street, 3rd Floor, Waterbury, CT 06702 • 203-757-0535 • 203-735-8688

RESOLUTION 2020-01

**ENDORSEMENT
TARGETS FOR SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES ESTABLISHED BY THE
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO has been designated by the Governor of the State of Connecticut as the Metropolitan Planning Organization responsible, together with the State, for the comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative transportation planning process for the Naugatuck Valley planning region; and,

WHEREAS, the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) final rule (23 CFR Part 490) requires States to set targets for five safety performance measures by August 31, 2018, and,

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation has established targets for five performance measures based on five year rolling averages for:

- (1) Number of Fatalities,
- (2) Rate of Fatalities per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT),
- (3) Number of Serious Injuries,
- (4) Rate of Serious Injuries per 100 million VMT, and
- (5) Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries, and

WHEREAS the CTDOT coordinated the establishment of safety targets with the eight Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in Connecticut at the June 2019 COG Coordination meeting; and,

WHEREAS, the CTDOT has officially adopted the safety targets in the Highway Safety Improvement Program annual report dated August 31, 2019, and the Highway Safety Plan dated July 1, 2019; and,

WHEREAS the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO may establish safety targets by agreeing to plan and program projects that contribute toward the accomplishment of the aforementioned State's targets, or establish its own target within 180 days of the State establishing and reporting its safety targets,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Central Naugatuck Valley MPO has agreed to support CTDOT's 2020 targets for the five safety performance targets as attached herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Central Naugatuck Valley MPO will plan and program projects that contribute to the accomplishment of said targets.

This resolution shall become effective as of September 13, 2019.

I do hereby certify that the resolution adopted by the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO at a public meeting held on September 13, 2019, at which a quorum was present and that the same is a correct and true transcript from the original thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



Ed Mone
CNV MPO Secretary

9/13/18

Date



**NAUGATUCK VALLEY
COUNCIL of GOVERNMENTS**

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RESOLUTION 2020-01

LOTICIP

**ALLOCATE NVCOG ATTRIBUTABLE FUNDS FOR THE EXCHANGE PLACE RECONSTRUCTION AND
PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, WATERBURY**

I certify that the following is a true copy of the vote of the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments at its meeting on September 13, 2019, in Waterbury, Connecticut, at which a quorum was present.

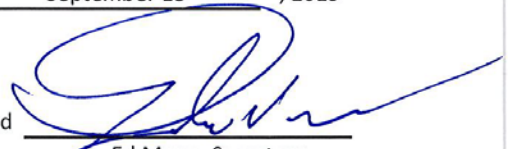
WHEREAS, The NVCOG is responsible for selecting and distributing funds to member municipalities under the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program ("Program").

BE IT RESOLVED, that the NVCOG approves the allocation of \$6.83 million in Program funds attributable to the Naugatuck Valley planning region to fully fund the Exchange Place Reconstruction project as described and modified in Memorandum 20190913-LOTICIP1.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut, on September 13, 2019

Agency: Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

Signed


Ed Mone, Secretary

ANSONIA • BEACON FALLS • BETHLEHEM • BRISTOL • CHESHIRE • DERBY • MIDDLEBURY • NAUGATUCK • OXFORD • PLYMOUTH
PROSPECT • SEYMOUR • SHELTON • SOUTHURY • THOMASTON • WATERBURY • WATERTOWN • WOLCOTT • WOODBURY



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RESOLUTION 2020-02

LOTICIP

**ALLOCATE NVCOG ATTRIBUTABLE FUNDS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY AND
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF ANSONIA, WATERTOWN
AND OXFORD**

I certify that the following is a true copy of the vote of the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments at its meeting on September 13, 2019, in Waterbury, Connecticut, at which a quorum was present.

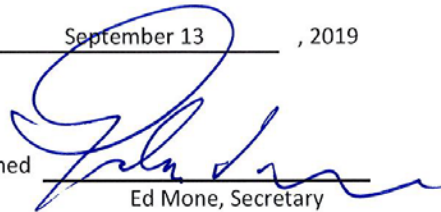
WHEREAS, The NVCOG is responsible for selecting and distributing funds to member municipalities under the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program ("Program").

BE IT RESOLVED, that the NVCOG approves the allocation of Program funds attributable to the Naugatuck Valley planning region to fully fund the proposed projects in the municipalities of Ansonia, Watertown and Oxford as described in Memorandum 20190913-LOTICIP2.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut, on September 13, 2019

Agency: Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

Signed



Ed Mone, Secretary

ANSONIA • BEACON FALLS • BETHLEHEM • BRISTOL • CHESHIRE • DERBY • MIDDLEBURY • NAUGATUCK • OXFORD • PLYMOUTH
PROSPECT • SEYMOUR • SHELTON • SOUTHBRURY • THOMASTON • WATERBURY • WATERTOWN • WOLCOTT • WOODBURY



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**RESOLUTION
OF THE
NAUGATUCK VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
#2020-03**

IT IS RESOLVED BY the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments that its Executive Director Rick Dunne be empowered to sign any and all documents required in the acceptance and execution of state or federal assistance grants or programs already applied for and approved by the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments and offered by the Grantor.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut on this 13th day of September 2019.

Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
Ed Mone, Secretary