



NAUGATUCK VALLEY COUNCIL of GOVERNMENTS

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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, November 8, 2019

NVCOG Representatives: Chris Bielik, First Selectman, Beacon Falls; Len Assard, First Selectman, Bethlehem; Ray Rogozinski, Alternate, Bristol; Rich Dziekan, Mayor, Derby; Pete Hess, Mayor, Naugatuck; Kristyn Rosa, Proxy, Oxford; Bob Chatfield, Mayor, Prospect; Ed Mone, First Selectman, Thomaston; Mackenzie Demac, Alternate, Waterbury; Tom Dunn, Mayor, Wolcott; Barbara Perkinson, First Selectman, Woodbury.

Guests/Other: Andy Brydges, Eversource; Kristen Brown, Waste Zero; Sara Radacsi, CTDOT; Hedy Ayers, Samantha LaBonne, Eversource; April Chaplin, Meg Haffner, The Kennedy Center; Kurt Salmoiraghi, Program Team Leader, FHWA; members of the public.

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

Prior to the start of the meeting, there was presentation entitled "Saving Money and Energy – Eversource Municipal Energy Efficiency Program" by Andy Brydges of Eversource.

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

Secretary Ed Mone called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll was called. There was no public comment.

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

a. *Approval of Amendments to the 2018-2021 CNVMPO TIP*

- i. Add State Project No. 0017-0194, Route 229 Corridor Study – Christian Meyer explained this project will study traffic operations along CT Route 229 from US Route 6 in Bristol to I-84 Interchange 31 in Southington. The intent of the study is to develop conceptual engineering drawings for spot improvements along the length of the corridor that will address safety and traffic flow concerns and provide for improved pedestrian, bicycle, and transit-user accessibility. On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Ray Rogozinski, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve CNVMPO Resolution 2020-03 concerning State Project No. 0017-0194, Route 229 Corridor Study.

3. NVCOG Administrative Items

- a. *Approval of the Minutes of the October 11, 2019 NVCOG and CNVMPO Meeting* – On a motion by Chris Bielik, seconded by Pete Hess, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the October 11, 2019 NVCOG and CNVMPO meeting.

- b. *Approval of Agency Financial Report for Period Ending 9/30/19* – Michael Szpryngel said NVCOG is 25% through the fiscal year. There have not been any unexpected reductions in NVCOG’s funding sources. A few expenses are running high, however, most of that will be reimbursed by grants and does not affect the indirect rate. The first two quarter RSG payments are expected any day now. On a motion by Ray Rogozinski, seconded by Len Assard, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the agency financial report for the period ending 9/30/19.

- c. *Review of Brownfields RLF Report* – Mr. Szpryngel said the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund financial report is included in the monthly meeting package as a point of reference, however, no action is required. There were no questions or comments regarding this report.
- d. *2019 Audit Update* - Mr. Szpryngel reported that the agency’s audit should be completed by the end of the month. Once the auditor issues the report, an audit committee meeting will be scheduled.
- e. *Director’s Report* – Rick Dunne spoke about the following items:
- The Waterbury Branch Line Rail Working Group of NVCOG will meet on 11/14/19 to plan for a public session with the legislative delegation. The public session will take place in December in Naugatuck.
 - April 2020 Meeting Date – Mr. Dunne stated that the regularly scheduled April CNVMPO/NVCOG meeting date falls on the Good Friday holiday in 2020. Due to this, the membership will need to decide whether to meet on 4/9/20 or 4/17/20. An email will be sent to NVCOG members to determine preference, and the meeting schedule will be voted on at the December meeting.
 - Regional Planning Commission Discussion – Mr. Dunne reported that the RPC continues to experience difficulty in achieving a quorum for its meetings. He noted that the RPC is an advisory body under NVCOG and is comprised of appointees from the Planning and Zoning Commissions. Despite various attempts and best efforts, there continues to be insufficient participation to hold the meetings. Mr. Dunne said that staff will develop another alternative, which will most likely use the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) model. It would involve professional planning and zoning staff meeting during the day, as opposed to volunteers meeting at night.
 - Mr. Dunne said that First Selectman St. John, who was unable to attend the meeting, wished to convey his thanks to everyone for adopting the fire training school resolution, with special thanks to First Selectman Chris Bielik for his help with coordination.
 - LOTCIP Funding Update – Mr. Dunne said the COGs are currently not receiving funding commitment letters from CTDOT for the next group of projects intended to move into the design phase. Discussions are ongoing with OPM, and OPM is consulting with CTDOT. Mr. Dunne displayed a slide showing the percentage of available LOTCIP funds committed compared to those funds that have been expended by the COGs. Mr. Dunne does not foresee a permanent problem and hopes the situation will be resolved relatively quickly, otherwise COGs may have

to re-federalize their programs, which would cause some project delays. If some regions aren't programming their money, other regions could use those funds and move forward without delaying any projects.

4. Regional and Municipal Shared Services Update

- a. *Presentation on Regional and Statewide Solid Waste Options* - John DiCarlo introduced Kristen Brown of Waste Zero.

Ms. Brown explained why Connecticut should reduce waste, and how the state and the region can play a role in this by utilizing SMART (Save Money and Reduce Trash) programs. She said bag-based SMART treats trash like any other utility. Residents pay for the service based on how much of it they use. Ms. Brown said it is the most effective way to reduce residential trash and that it works with all collection methods. She said CT DEEP has been exploring various pathways for making SMART the norm across the state. One such pathway is a coalition-led one, whereby government coalitions or solid waste planning groups adopt SMART systems for their members. She provided baseline data for NVCOG municipalities, and a SMART benefits analysis of the impact on the annual waste stream and the recycling rate, including tonnage and financial impact. Ms. Brown also provided examples of how bag revenues would cover costs and how reducing the annual amount of trash would have a positive environmental impact.

Responding to questions by Ed Mone, Ms. Brown said the only operating anaerobic digester in the state is located in Southington, which would be a relatively close outlet for food waste. She also replied to his question concerning how the pay-as-you-throw program affects recycling of only appropriate waste, by saying that overall the findings have been that less contaminated recyclable items are included in the waste stream.

5. NVCOG Planning/Transportation

- a. *LOTICIP*
 - i. Approval of Waterbury Road in Prospect Sidewalks – Amendment: Christian Meyer said concept plans for this project had been approved at the January 11, 2019 meeting. This project would construct a 3,300 foot section of sidewalk along the west side of Route 69 from the Prospect Town Hall and the intersections with Route 68 to Hotchkiss Field/Scott Road. Community support for the project has been substantial, specifically community stakeholders and the broader public has requested expansion of the project limits to provide safe pedestrian passage to the commercial attractions farther north of Hotchkiss Field. The current proposal would add an additional 1,300 linear feet of sidewalk to the project. Cost estimate changes are outlined in Memorandum 20191108-LOTICIP. On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Ray Rogozinski, it was unanimously

VOTED: To endorse NVCOG Resolution 2020-06 concerning the LOTICIP Waterbury Road in Prospect sidewalks scope revision.

- b. *Demonstration of Transportation Data Collection (StreetLight Data)* – Mark Nielsen provided an update on the Streetlight Data platform. This platform collects cell phone information in terms of trips. This allows NVCOG a better understanding of where people are traveling to and from. The data is also being used for part of NVCOG's alternative

modes work. Christian Meyer provided examples of how this data can be used to sketch zones that can serve as the trip origin or trip destination. Traffic by trip duration and other attributes can be tracked. The data can also be tracked on a much larger scale, and can look at how local businesses interact with the region, state and mega-region. Local truck activity and local travel patterns can be tracked. The data is beneficial to police departments and for economic development planning.

Discussion ensued as to how StreetLight Data might be used if the governor's toll plan goes through and traffic attempts to divert through towns to avoid tolls. Mr. Mone raised the question of what projects might not be funded because those funds are instead being used for StreetLight Data. Mr. Nielsen said this would need to be revisited in the future, and possible statewide transportation funding sources explored.

6. 2020 Census New Construction Program Update

Richard Crowther, Jr. provided results of the new construction program. Seven municipalities asked NVCOG to be the liaison to the U.S. Census Bureau. NVCOG staff found 271 newly constructed addresses that will be completed and habitable by April 1, 2020. That brings the total to 4,776 addresses for the LUCA program, adding about 12,400 people to the region.

7. Emergency Planning Update

Joanna Rogalski reported that NVCOG was awarded a FEMA grant in the amount of \$300,000 toward the development of a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for all 19 NVCOG member municipalities. The terms of the grant require a 25% non-federal match, which amounts to \$100,000 of a combination of cash or in-kind services. When NVCOG applied for the grant, it was anticipated the non-federal match would be sourced from the municipalities and NVCOG. NVCOG received signed commitment forms from all 19 member municipalities. NVCOG is developing an RFP to hire a consultant to write the plan. The consultant fee is yet to be determined. Workshops and public outreach events will be held.

REPT Region 5 is developing an RFP for consultant services for regional parcel mapping to enhance emergency response. The next CEO meeting of Region 5 will be on November 18, 2019.

For Community Emergency Response Teams, annual reports for 2019 are due in January 2020, and the next meeting of the Statewide Citizen Corps Council will take place on December 19, 2019.

8. Other

There was no other business.

9. Adjournment

At 11:27 a.m., on a motion by Chris Bielik, seconded by Tom Dunn, 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 Lockenworth Street, 3rd Floor, Waterbury, CT 06702 • 203-757-0555 • 203-755-8668

RESOLUTION 2020-03

**AMENDMENT
FFY 2018-2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
CENTRAL NAUGATUCK VALLEY MPO**

WHEREAS, the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO is authorized by the *Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act)* and related US Department of Transportation regulations to prepare, endorse, and periodically amend a short range Transportation Improvement Program for the 15-town MPO area within the Waterbury Urbanized Area and is required to maintain a fiscally-constrained program of priority projects.

WHEREAS, the CNVMPO endorsed the *FFY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program for the Central Naugatuck Valley Planning Region (TIP)* at its June 9, 2017, meeting; and the US Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration) have approved the *State FFY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)*.

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation is requesting amendment of the FFY 2018-2021 TIP to allocate Surface Transportation Block Grant-Hartford funds for project 0017-0194.

WHEREAS, the proposed projects do not necessitate a new Air Quality Conformity Determination.

WHEREAS, the public notification and review of these amendments was consistent with and followed the procedures set forth in the MPO's public involvement guidelines, and the proposed amendments are consistent with the metropolitan transportation plan for the Central Naugatuck Valley planning region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Central Naugatuck Valley MPO approves the amendment of the FFY 2018-2021 TIP to allocate federal aid funds as listed and described in the attachment to this resolution.

This resolution shall become effective as of November 8, 2019.

I do hereby certify that the resolution adopted by the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO at a public meeting held on November 8, 2019, at which a quorum was present and that the same is a correct and true transcript from the original thereof.

Ed Mone, Secretary

November 8, 2019

Date

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RESOLUTION 2020-06

LOT CIP

**ALLOCATE NVCOG ATTRIBUTABLE FUNDS FOR THE WATERBURY ROAD
PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, PROSPECT**

I certify that the following is a true copy of the vote of the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments at its meeting on November 8, 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 \$1.05 million in Program funds attributable to the Naugatuck Valley planning region to fully fund the Waterbury Road Pedestrian Improvements project as described and modified in Memorandum 20191108-L0TCIP.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut, on November 8, 2019.

Agency: Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

Signed

Ed Mone, Secretary

ANDOVER • BEAUFORT • DEERFIELD • ENFIELD • IPSWICH • LEITCH • MIDDLEBURY • NEW GRAFTON • PLYMOUTH
PROSPECT • STANTON • TULLY • SOUTH BURY • THORNTON • WARREN • WATERBURY • WINDHAM • WINDSOR