



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, June 9, 2017

NVCOG Representatives: Chris Bielik, First Selectman, Beacon Falls; Ken Cockayne, Mayor, Bristol; Jerry Sitko, Alternate, Cheshire; Anita Dugatto, Mayor, Derby; Ed St. John, First Selectman, Middlebury; Pete Hess, Mayor, Naugatuck; Joanne Pelton, Alternate, Oxford; Tom Galvin, Alternate, Prospect; Kurt Miller, First Selectman, Seymour; Jeff Manville, First Selectman, John Monteleone, Alternate, Southbury; Ed Mone, First Selectman, Thomaston; Judy Mancini, Proxy, Waterbury; Ray Primini, Town Council Member, Watertown; Tom Dunn, Mayor, Wolcott; Mary Ellen Edwards, Alternate, Woodbury.

Guests/Other: Senator George Logan; Sara Radacsi, Transportation Planner, Neil Patel, Project Manager, Greg Dorosh, Division Chief for Highway Design, Ahsan Saghir, Project Engineer, CTDOT; David Krechevsky, Waterbury Regional Chamber; Matt Ouellette, CT Rides, Ellen Graham, Senator Richard Blumenthal's Office; Lou Mangini, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro's Office; Mack Demac, Congresswoman Elizabeth Esty's Office, members of the public.

Staff: Rick Dunne, Mark Nielsen, Aaron Budris, Joanna Rogalski, Glenda Prentiss, Trish Bauer, Lauren Rizzo, Christian Meyer, John DiCarlo, Max-Tanguay-Colucci, Ben Muller, Bill Leverence.

Prior to the start of the meeting, there was a presentation by Ryan Kocsondy, Director of the Connecticut Education Network, on the benefits of Nutmeg Network connectivity to NVCOG town halls and municipal buildings.

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

Treasurer Tom Dunn called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll was called. There was no public comment.

2. NVCOG Administrative Items

- a. *Approval of the Minutes of the May 12, 2017 NVCOG & CNVMPO Meeting* – On a motion by Ken Cockayne, seconded Ed Mone, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the May 12, 2017 NVCOG & CNVMPO meeting.

- b. *Approval of Financial Report and 2016 Audit Update* – Bill Leverence reviewed the May 2017 financial report. On a motion by Kurt Miller, seconded by Chris Bielik, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the financial report.

Mr. Leverence said the auditor has not yet rescheduled a date to complete his field work. The final audit extension expires at the end of the month.

- c. *Discussion of FY 2018 Budget (Pending CGA Action)* – Since the State has not yet adopted a budget, Mr. Leverence said the NVCOG FY 2018 budget is being presented as a status quo budget, in accordance with Section 2 of the NVCOG Bylaws. Rick Dunne responded to a question from Ed Mone concerning staffing and expenditures.
- d. *Director's Report* – Mr. Dunne reported that FHWA and CTDOT made a determination to send funding for Ansonia, Derby, Seymour and Shelton to the GBVMPO. Agreement has been reached with the GBVMPO to sub-allocate 100% of those funds to the CNVMPO.

Mr. Dunne said the NVCOG personnel policy has been updated to reflect the previously approved retirement plan updates.

He then recognized Aaron Budris, Mark Nielsen, and the rest of the team for receiving a regional achievement award from the Connecticut Greenways Council for work on the Naugatuck River Greenway.

3. **Shared Services/Legislative Update**

- a. *Wastewater Treatment Consolidation Update* – John DiCarlo said seven responses had been received for the RFQ for this project. The selection committee has agreed to interview four firms.
- b. *Update on Legislation* – Mr. DiCarlo reported that much less legislation has come out than in previous years. Numerous stand-alone bills that would have impacted municipalities and regions have been shelved in relation to the upcoming budget negotiations, however, it can be expected that the package of bills that will actually implement the next state budget will contain some of these initiatives. NVCOG will continue to provide updates as they become available.
- c. *Regional Law Enforcement Meeting* – Mr. DiCarlo said this meeting would take place at NVCOG on Tuesday, June 13 at 9 a.m. Mr. Dunne added that NVCOG is planning ahead for any potential municipal shared services that may be necessitated due to budget cuts.

4. **Brownfields Funding Opportunities**

Max Tanguay-Colucci said NVCOG had been fortunate enough to receive one of the few EPA FY 2016 grants. Two projects have recently been started and approximately \$255,000 remains available for assessments. There is an open application cycle, 90/10 funding (10% municipal match), and Phase 1 must be current with the current owner within six months. He noted that he would be in contact with municipalities concerning this funding opportunity.

Additionally, the annual Regional Brownfields Partnership (RBP) meeting will take place in September. Each CEO will receive a notice with the name of the current RBP appointee. All final RBP appointments must be made by July 10, 2017.

5. **Emergency Management Update**

Joanna Rogalski advised that the Citizens Emergency Response Teams (CERT) will have a statewide training day on October 28, 2017. A backpack survey has been distributed to solicit input on most useful items for CERTs. REPT (Regional Emergency Planning Teams) will have a Region 5 field day on June 14, 2017, and a Region 5 CEO meeting will take place on August 21, 2017. The Region 5 website includes a calendar of upcoming events.

6. NVCOG Planning/Transportation

- a. *Authorization to Issue Letters of Support for OPM Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Applications from the Town of Oxford, the Borough of Naugatuck, and the Town of Seymour* – Mark Nielsen explained that letters of support are part of the application process for this grant. On a motion by Ed Mone, seconded by Ken Cockayne, it was unanimously

VOTED: To authorize NVCOG staff to write letters of support for the OPM Transit Oriented Development grant applications of Oxford, Seymour and Naugatuck.

- b. *LOTICIP – Authorization for the Executive Director to Enter into a Contract with WMC for Professional Design Review of the Reconstruction of Todd Road Project* – Mr. Nielsen reported that WMC was the lowest qualified bidder for this project. Ed Mone had a question on not-to-exceed amounts. On a motion by Pete Hess, seconded by Ed Mone, it was unanimously

VOTED: To endorse the selection of WMC from the NVCOG on-call consultant list to conduct the professional design review for the Reconstruction of Todd Road Project and to authorize the Executive Director to execute any and all agreements with WMC related to the professional design review of the Reconstruction of Todd Road Project.

Additionally Mr. Nielsen reviewed the status of LOTICIP projects. Mr. Dunne offered comments concerning appropriations and programming up to the funding limits. Mr. Nielsen replied to Mr. Mone's questions concerning allocations and funding for future projects. He encouraged the municipalities to continue submitting LOTICIP applications, but acknowledged that future projects might be delayed until additional funding is received.

- c. *CTDOT Community Connectivity Program* – Mr. Nielsen reported that CTDOT has opened up the second phase of its Community Connectivity Program (CCP), which is a competitive grant for pedestrian and bicycle-related capital improvements. Applications will be accepted until August 1, 2017. NVCOG staff may be able to provide technical assistance.

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

- a. *Discussion with Neil Patel of CTDOT concerning Proposed Relocation of Rt. 34 crossing Housatonic River (Project No. 0084-0114)* – Mr. Dunne said the issues for NVCOG members, as discussed at the May meeting, were impacts downstream, the potential for increased truck traffic, and whether the project is an appropriate use of federal funds given the 1919 and 1920 agreements between First Light and the State concerning maintenance of the structure crossing the river.

Mr. Patel discussed the importance of the roadway and its current condition, which is well past its service life. He said a new bridge that meets current standards and has a different alignment is necessary and the project needs to keep moving forward. Design needs to be started in order to meet deadlines. Meetings have been held with First Light, and CTDOT will provide a written response of its interpretation of the agreements.

Rick Dunne and Mark Nielsen explained the cycle of the Transportation Improvement Program and its documents and amendments. There is an item on the agenda that will allow for an amendment to the 2015 TIP which will allow CTDOT to get started on the project. The 2018 TIP

is out for public comment and does not include this project, but if the project is approved, the 2018 TIP would be amended to include it. Ed St. John had questions about design costs. Mr. Patel said the amount is \$15 million. Mr. St. John suggested that it would not be in the best public interest to invest such money in a project that may never be built. He did agree that the road needs improvement, but that financial obligations by First Light need to be determined before committing taxpayer dollars. Mr. Patel said CTDOT's interpretation of the 1919 and 1920 agreements is that First Light is responsible for maintaining the structure on the dam, but a new structure would need to have a new alignment and new crossing. Greg Dorosh of CTDOT said there was a possibility that the road could be shut down due to its poor condition. Following discussion, it was determined that approval of this TIP amendment would be tabled and further information was obtained.

b. *Approval of TIP Amendments –*

- i. Project No. 0170-3403 – Maintenance of Transit Capital Plans, Project No. 0300-xxxx – New Haven Line Track Program, and Project No. 0300-xxxx – New Haven Line Signal Replacement Program. On a motion by Ed Mone, seconded by Ed St. John, it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the proposed Resolution 2017-12 (Project Nos. 0170-3403, 0300-xxxx, and 0300-xxxx).

- ii. Project No. 0084-0114 – Proposed Relocation of Route 34 crossing Housatonic River – Motion to table made by Ed St. John, seconded by Ed Mone. Motion tabled.

c. *Approval of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2018-2021* – Mark Nielsen explained that the projects in the existing TIP are brought into the new TIP, and it solicits all projects expected to seek federal aid over the next four years. The TIP is available online and an email address has been set up to receive public comment. A public information hearing will be held on June 20. NVMCOG endorsement today is contingent upon no major adverse comments being received. On a motion by Ed Mone, seconded by Pete Hess, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt CNVMPO Resolution 2017-14 whereby the Central Naugatuck Valley Region MPO endorses the FFY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program for the Central Naugatuck Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization presented and discussed here today. The endorsement of the FFY 2018-2021 TIP covers a four-year period from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2021 and is contingent upon no major adverse comments are received during the public review and comment period between June 1, 2017 and June 30, 2017. The resolution shall become effective as of June 9, 2017.

d. *Endorsement of the Air Quality Conformity Determination* – Mr. Nielsen outlined the requirements of the Air Quality Conformity Determination as referenced in Memorandum 06092017 Air Quality, and noted below in items i, ii, and iii.

- i. Ozone NAAQS – NY-NJ-CT Non-Attainment Area (CNVMPO Resolution 2017-15)
- ii. Ozone NAAQS – Greater CT Non-Attainment Area (CNVMPO Resolution 2017-16)
- iii. PM2.5 NAAQS – NY-NJ-CT Attainment/Maintenance Area (CNVMPO Resolution 2017-17)

On a motion by Chris Bielik, seconded by Ed St John, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the CNVMPO Resolutions 2017-15, 2017-16 and 2017-17.

- e. *Adoption of FY 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program* – Mr. Nielsen reviewed the Unified Planning Work Program that describes the planning tasks to be completed over the two-year time period from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019. The draft UPWP was prepared in accordance with Title 23 CFR Part 420 and Part 450 Section 308. The metropolitan transportation planning activities documented in the UPWP will be performed using funds provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration) under Title 23 U.S.C. and Title 49 U.S.C. 53. The planning tasks and studies are intended to address the transportation issues and constraints facing the metropolitan area and help achieve the goals and objectives listed in the MPO's long range transportation plan. On a motion by Chris Bielick, seconded by Tom Galvin, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve and endorse the FY 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program for the Naugatuck Valley Planning Region.

- f. *Endorsement of State of Good Repair (SGR) Performance Targets set by CTDOT* – Mr. Nielsen explained the state of good repair performance measures as outlined in Memorandum 06092017PM. The four asset categories included are Rolling Stock – Revenue Vehicles, Equipment – Service Vehicles, Facilities – Revenue Vehicles, and Infrastructure – Guideway. On a motion by Jeff Manville, seconded by Ed Mone, it was unanimously

VOTED: To endorse the State of Good Repair Performance Measures established by CTDOT on January 1, 2017.

- g. *Self-Certification* – Mark Nielsen said this is an administrative requirement of USDOT to certify that metropolitan planning area transportation processes are being conducted in accordance with federal regulations. CNVMPO demonstrates that by adopting a transportation improvement program, maintaining a long range transportation plan, adopting air quality conformity determinations, and preparing a UPWP. On a motion by Ed St. John, seconded by Ed Mone, it was unanimously

VOTED: To endorse the Urban Transportation Planning Certification as presented in Resolution 2017-20.

8. **Other**

There was no other business.

9. **Adjournment**

At 11:33 a.m., on a motion by Ed St. John, seconded by Ed Mone, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Lauren Rizzo
Administrative Services Coordinator
for
Ken Cockayne
Secretary