

**MINUTES**  
**Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley**

Aria Wedding & Banquet Facility  
45 Murphy Road  
Prospect, CT 06712  
12:00 Noon, Friday, June 14, 2013

**COGCNV Members:** Gerard Smith, First Selectman, Dominick Sorrentino, Alternate, Beacon Falls; Jeff Hamel, First Selectman, Bethlehem; Jerry Sitko, Alternate, Cheshire; Ed St. John, First Selectman, Joseph Salvini, Alternate, Middlebury; Bob Mezzo, Mayor, Naugatuck; George Temple, First Selectman, Oxford; Bob Chatfield, Mayor, Tom Galvin, Alternate, Prospect; Ed Edelson, First Selectman, Southbury; Garrett Casey, Alternate, Joe McGrath, Alternate, Waterbury; Ray Primini, Town Council Chairman, Watertown; Tom Dunn, Mayor, Wolcott.

**Speakers and Guests:** Michael Sanders, Lisa Rivers, Stephanie Brahamian, CTDOT; Rich Minnick, RPC Chairman; John DiCarlo, Waterbury Regional Chamber; Maria Vaccarelli, Pete Vaccarelli, North East Transportation; Virginia Mason; Dr. Yvonne Smith-Isaac; Mary Dorpalen, Erica Dorpalen, Tyler Hanson.

**Staff:** Peter Dorpalen, Executive Director; Samuel Gold, Assistant Director; Joe Perrelli, Senior Planner; Pat Gallagher, Regional Planner; Glenda Prentiss, GIS Coordinator; Aaron Budris, GIS Planning Assistant; Trish Bauer, Financial Manager; Lauren Rizzo, Administrative Assistant.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Public Comment**

Chairman Bob Mezzo called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll was called. Executive Director Peter Dorpalen was honored for his 41 years of service and Chairman Mezzo presented him with a plaque from the COG members. Bob Chatfield noted Dorpalen's many accomplishments and along with everyone in attendance, wished him well on his retirement. RPC Chairman Rich Minnick also presented him with a plaque on behalf of the Regional Planning Commission.

**2. Administrative Items**

- a. *Minutes of the May 10, 2013 Meeting and May 1, 2013 Executive Committee Meeting* —  
On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Jeff Hamel, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the May 10, 2013 meeting and the May 1, 2013 executive committee meeting.

- b. *Financial Report Including FY2012-13 Budget Revisions* — Peter Dorpalen reported that as of May 31, 2013, COGCNV was 92% through the fiscal year and had expended 81% of its operating budget. Including pass-through funds, 79% of the total budget has been expended. He also reviewed recommended changes to the FY2013 budget that had been approved at the June 2012 meeting. He explained the changes in income and expenses as summarized in Memorandum 060513F (Revised 6/12/13). On a motion by Jerry Smith, seconded by Bob Chatfield, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the financial report and the FY2012-13 budget revisions as outlined in Memorandum 060513F (Revised 6/12/13).

c. *Correspondence* — Peter Dorpalen summarized recent correspondence:

June 12, 2013 Letter from Waterbury Mayor Neil O’Leary stating that he has appointed Senior Advisor Garrett Casey as his alternate for the June 14, 2013 COGCNV meeting

3. **Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers**

Bob Chatfield said the nominating committee, consisting of Bob Chatfield, Tom Dunn, Jerry Smith and Ed St. John, recommends the following COGCNV members as officers and executive committee members as the slate for Fiscal Year 2013-14:

*Officers:*

Chairman	Edward Edelson
Vice-Chairman	Gerard Smith
Treasurer	Edmond Mone
Secretary	Robert Chatfield

*Executive Committee:* Thomas Dunn  
Robert Mezzo  
Neil O’Leary

On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Jeff Hamel, it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the nominating committee report and election of officers for Fiscal Year 2013-14.

4. **Administrative Actions**

a. *COGCNV Budget: FY2013-14* — Peter Dorpalen reviewed the recommended FY2013-14 operating budget, as outlined in Memorandum 060713F. He noted that the budget will need to be revisited to reflect new funding from the recently approved RPO legislation. On a motion by Ed Edelson, seconded by Tom Dunn, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the fiscal year 2013-14 budget, as presented in Memorandum 060713F.

b. *COGCNV Work Tasks: FY2013-14* — Peter Dorpalen reviewed the COGCNV work tasks projected for FY2013-14, as outlined in agenda item 4b revised, entitled “COGCNV Work Tasks: FY2013-14.” On a motion by Jerry Smith, seconded by Ed Edelson, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the COGCNV work tasks: FY2013-14.

- c. *Capitol Region Purchasing Council* — Peter Dorpalen said that COGCNV had been approached again this year to be the regional administrator for the Capitol Region’s purchasing council program. Having COGCNV as administrator results in a cost savings for the towns in the region that choose to participate in the program. On a motion by Ed Edelson, seconded by Bob Chatfield, it was unanimously

VOTED: To have COGCNV continue in its role as the region’s administrator for the Capitol Region Purchasing Council for 2013-14.

- d. *Purchase of New Color Copier* — Bob Mezzo said the Executive Committee had unanimously authorized the Executive Director to investigate the purchase or lease of a new copier for the COGCNV office. The lease option is newly added. On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Jerry Smith, it was unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the COGCNV Executive Director to investigate the lease or purchase of a new copier for the COGCNV office.

## 5. **Transportation Planning Actions**

- a. *Transportation Improvement Program Amendments* — Joe Perrelli summarized the June 2013 amendments to the 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program, as outlined in Memorandum 060713. On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Jerry Sitko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the June 2013 amendments to the 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program listed in Memorandum 060713.

- b. *Local Road Accident Reduction Projects – Priority List* — Joe Perrelli said the Local Road Accident Reduction Program (LRARP) funds safety-related road projects through CTDOT’s Federal Hazard Elimination Program. The LRARP is intended for improvements with construction costs ranging from \$50,000 to \$370,000. The total cost of the project should not exceed \$500,000. Each RPO can submit up to four locations for statewide ranking. This year, COGCNV received only one proposal. This proposal was from Waterbury and is for a coordinated traffic light system with pedestrian signals on North Main Street at the intersections with Grigg Street and Tudor Street.

Ed Edelson requested a modification to the submission to include a Main Street South Crosswalk project in Southbury.

On a motion by Jerry Smith, seconded by Jerry Sitko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Local Road Accident Reduction Program proposal as presented in Memorandum 060713L for submittal to the Connecticut Department of Transportation for review and ranking under the Local Road Accident Reduction

Program 2013, with the addition of a second project in Southbury, tentatively called the Main Street South Crosswalk/Pedestrian project.

- c. *Air Quality Conformity Resolution* — Joe Perrelli explained that due to changes in federal regulations and the redesignation of ozone attainment areas, Resolutions on Conformity with the Clean Air Act - Ozone need to be voted on again. The resolutions were originally approved in 2011, based on CTDOT's air quality conformity reports. CTDOT has asked that COGCNV base its approval on the analysis presented in the 2011 reports. On a motion by Ed Edelson, seconded by Jerry Smith, it was unanimously

VOTED: Resolution on Conformity with the Clean Air Act - Ozone (Greater CT)

WHEREAS,

the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley is required to submit an Air Quality Conformity Statement to the US Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with the final conformity rule promulgated by EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93) when adopting an annual Transportation Improvement Program or when effecting a significant revision of the Region's Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS,

Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) states that conformity of transportation plans and programs will be demonstrated if:

1. the plans and programs are consistent with recent estimates of mobile source emissions;
2. the plans and programs provide for the expeditious implementation of certain transportation control measures;
3. the plans and programs contribute to annual emissions reductions consistent with the Clean Air Act of 1977, as amended; and

WHEREAS,

it is the opinion of the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley that the plans and programs approved today, June 14, 2013, and submitted to FHWA and EPA conform to the requirements of Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) as interpreted by EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93); and

WHEREAS,

The State of Connecticut has elected to assess conformity in the Greater Connecticut Ozone Marginal Nonattainment area (Litchfield, Hartford, Tolland, New London and Windham Counties) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation has jointly assessed the impact of all transportation plans and programs in the Nonattainment area (Ozone Air Quality Conformity Report November 2011); and

WHEREAS,

The Connecticut Department of Transportation's assessment (above) has found that plans and programs jointly meet mobile source emissions guidelines advanced by EPA pursuant to Section 7506 (3) (A).

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley that the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley finds that the Central Naugatuck Valley Long Range Regional Transportation Plan 2011-2040 and the Central Naugatuck Valley Transportation Improvement Program: 2012 - 2015 and all Amendments conform to air quality requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Administration (40 CFR 51 and 93), related U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines (23 CFR 450) and with Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) and hereby approves the existing November 2011 Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination contingent upon no major adverse comments being received during the public comment period.

VOTED: Resolution on Conformity with the Clean Air Act - Ozone (NY-NJ-CT)

WHEREAS,

the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley is required to submit an Air Quality Conformity Statement to the US Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with the final conformity rule promulgated by EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93) when adopting an annual Transportation Improvement Program or when effecting a significant revision of the Region's Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS,

Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) states that conformity of transportation plans and programs will be demonstrated if:

1. the plans and programs are consistent with recent estimates of mobile source emissions;
2. the plans and programs provide for the expeditious implementation of certain transportation control measures;
3. the plans and programs contribute to annual emissions reductions consistent with the Clean Air Act of 1977, as amended; and

WHEREAS,

it is the opinion of the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley that the plans and programs approved today, June 14, 2013, and submitted to FHWA and EPA conform to the requirements of Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) as interpreted by EPA (40 CFR 51 and 93); and

WHEREAS,

The State of Connecticut has elected to assess conformity in the Connecticut portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT Ozone Marginal Nonattainment area (Fairfield, New Haven and Middlesex Counties) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation has jointly assessed the impact of all transportation plans and programs in these Nonattainment areas (Ozone Air Quality Conformity Report November 2011); and

WHEREAS,

The Connecticut Department of Transportation's assessment (above) has found that plans and programs jointly meet mobile source emissions guidelines advanced by EPA pursuant to Section 7506 (3) (A).

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley that the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley finds that the Central Naugatuck Valley Long Range Regional Transportation Plan 2011-2040 and the Central Naugatuck Valley Transportation Improvement Program: 2012 - 2015 and all Amendments conform to air quality requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Administration (40 CFR 51 and 93), related U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines (23 CFR 450) and with Title 42, Section 7506 (3) (A) and hereby approves the existing November 2011 Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination contingent upon no major adverse comments being received during the public comment period.

- d. *FTA 5310 Minibus Program - Proposed Funding Policy* — Samuel Gold said the new federal transportation act, MAP 21, changed the federal Section 5310 minibus grant program. CTDOT is no longer the recipient of 5310 funds for Connecticut's four large urbanized transportation management areas (TMAs). The TMAs can now get their money directly from the Federal Transit Administration and have it administered by an entity other than CTDOT. Beacon Falls, Cheshire, Middlebury, Oxford, Prospect, Southbury, Thomaston, and Woodbury may be affected by this change. CTDOT will continue administering 5310 grants for the remainder of the region's municipalities. Staff recommends that the TMAs give responsibility for Section 5310 to CTDOT for the duration of the federal transportation act. On a motion by Ed Edelson, seconded by Jerry Smith, it was unanimously

VOTED: To support the designation of the Connecticut Department of Transportation as the recipient and administrator of Section 5310 funds for Connecticut's four Transportation Management Areas (Bridgeport-Stamford, Hartford, New Haven, and Norwich-New London) for the duration of the MAP-21.

On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Jerry Sitko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To add Appointment of an Acting Executive Director as a new item to the agenda.

6. **Appointment of an Acting Executive Director**

On the recommendation of the executive committee and on a motion by Ed Edelson, seconded by Jerry Smith, it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Samuel Gold as Acting Executive Director effective September 1, 2013.

7. **Regional Planning Legislation**

Peter Dorpalen said the General Assembly approved the Regional Planning Organization (RPO) legislation. Details of the legislation include that all RPOs must become Councils of Governments by January 1, 2015 (COGCNV is a regional council of elected officials, not a COG). OPM is to complete a study of regional boundaries by January 1, 2014. If a municipality objects to the proposed redesignation, it can appeal to OPM. Regional boundaries become final on January 1, 2015. If two or more existing regions consolidate voluntarily by December 31, 2013, they will be exempt from the OPM boundary study and will receive extra funding for the consolidation.

Starting in FY2013-14, RPO funding will come from the State's Regional Planning Incentive Program, which is funded through the hotel tax. Additionally, CTDOT will complete an analysis to redesignate Metropolitan Planning Organizations for transportation planning by July 1, 2014.

Various options for RPO consolidation and resulting regional planning incentive account funding are found in Memorandum 061113.

Dorpalen also said that the RPO's Future Committee will be meeting with neighboring regions over the summer.

Bob Chatfield offered comments regarding the legislation.

8. **CTfastrak – Proposed Service Plan, Community Outreach**

Lisa Rivers of CTDOT spoke about CTfastrak which combines the fast, traffic-free advantages of a train with the frequent, direct-to-destination flexibility of a bus. Express and feeder routes will use a new dedicated roadway for bus commuters to avoid traffic congestion on local streets and on I-84. CTfastrak is designed to benefit a large geographic area, and will connect with 19 Hartford express routes, 37 Hartford local routes, 12 New Britain/Bristol local routes, 28 Waterbury local routes, Amtrak service in Hartford and future New Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail service in Hartford, West Hartford, and Newington, and with the Waterbury Branch Line Metro-North service to Bridgeport, Stamford, and New York City. Additionally, a five mile multi-use trail for pedestrians and cyclists will offer more transportation choices.

Michael Sanders of CTDOT noted that the project was the preferred, less costly alternative for the I-84 West of Hartford traffic study. CTfastrak will divert some commuter traffic from I-84 to the busway.

A question and answer period followed.

**9. Emergency Planning**

a. *DEMHS Update* — Joe Perrelli said the REPT approved the FY 2012 budget for DEMHS Region 5. Also, the 2013 Statewide Severe Weather Exercise is scheduled for June 20, with an alternate weekend exercise day of June 22.

b. *School Security Grant* — Joe Perrelli said DEMHS recently notified municipalities of the release of the Connecticut School Security Competitive Grant Program. These grants may reimburse school districts for a portion of the costs associated with making safety and security improvements to schools. Eligible projects completed on or after April 4, 2013 may be applied for under this program. School safety assessments are required in order to apply for these school security grants. Application materials must be received on or before July 29, 2013.

**10. Regional Business**

There was no regional business.

**11. Other**

On behalf of COGCNV, Ed Edelson presented Bob Mezzo with a plaque in appreciation of his service as COGCNV Chairman.

**12. Adjournment**

At 1:30 p.m., on a motion by Jeff Hamel, seconded by Tom Dunn, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting

Respectfully submitted by  
Lauren Rizzo  
Administrative Assistant  
for  
Ed Mone  
Secretary