



MINUTES

**Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
and**

Central Naugatuck Valley MPO

Virtual Video Conference Meeting (with limited in-person attendance)
10 a.m., Friday, May 14, 2021

NVCOG Representatives: Sheila O'Malley, Alternate, Ansonia; Jerry Sitko, Alternate, Cheshire; Rich Dziekan, Mayor, Derby; Ed St. John, First Selectman, Middlebury; Pete Hess, Mayor, Naugatuck; George Temple, First Selectman, Oxford; Jeff Manville, First Selectman, Southbury; Ed Mone, First Selectman, Thomaston; Mackenzie Demac, Alternate, Waterbury; Tom Dunn, Mayor, Wolcott; Barbara Perkinson, First Selectwoman, Woodbury.

Guests/Other: Helen Leung, Town of Oxford; John Field, DEMHS Region 5; Jennine Lupo, Congresswoman Jahana Hayes' office; Sara Radacsi, CTDOT; Samantha LaBonne, Hedy Ayers, Eversource; Joe Violette, Waterbury Regional Chamber; Lou Mangini, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro's office; Tommy Hyde, Naugatuck Valley Development Corp.

Staff: Rick Dunne, Mark Nielsen, Josh Lecar, Joanna Rogalski, John DiCarlo, Michael Szpryngel, Richard Crowther, Jr., Gabriel Filer, Savannah Nicole Villalba, Richard Donovan, Christine O'Neill.

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

Secretary Ed Mone called the meeting to order at 10 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 2021-2024 CNVMPO TIP

i. Approval of CNVMPO Resolution 2021-14

1. Project No. – 0430-XXXX Battery Electric Buses
2. Project No. – 0300-0196 Rehabilitation of Train Bridges
3. Project No. – 0400-XXXX Bus Facility Improvements

ii. Approval of CNVMPO Resolution 2021-16

1. Project No. – 0170-3605 and 0170-3606 CMAQ Statewide Transportation Demand Management

Gabriel Filer described these five projects that CTDOT requested be added to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). All projects are beneficial to the region and no local match is required for any of the projects. On a motion by Tom Dunn, seconded by Sheila O'Malley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt CNVMPO Resolution 2021-14 and 2021-16.

- b. Endorsement of FY 2022-23 Unified Planning Work Program** – Mark Nielsen explained that NVCOG, as the host agency for the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO, is required to prepare a Unified Planning Work Program that describes the planning tasks to be completed over the two-year time period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. 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). The UPWP has four main tasks: Data Collection and Analysis, Transportation Planning, Program Management and Administration, and Other Technical Assistance. 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 George Temple, seconded by Ed St. John, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt CNVMPO Resolution 2021-15 endorsing the FY 2022-2023 UPWP.

- c. *CNVMPO Self-Certification* – Mark Nielsen stated that the Metropolitan Planning Rules require that at least every four years, the Metropolitan Planning Organization certify that the planning process is addressing the major issues facing the area and is being conducted in accordance with applicable federal laws and regulations. Mr. Nielsen said NVCOG conducts its federal transportation planning program and process in accordance with these regulations by maintaining and preparing the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, compiling and updating the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), ensuring its plans, programs and projects adhere and conform to federal air quality regulations and do not cause a violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, and implementing a proactive public involvement process. On a motion by Ed St. John, seconded by George Temple, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt the proposed CNVMPO Resolution 2021-17, certifying that the transportation planning process is being conducted in accordance with federal requirements.

i. NVCOG Administrative Items

- a. *Approval of the Minutes of the April 9, 2021 NVCOG & CNVMPO Meeting* – On a motion by Rich Dziekan, seconded by George Temple, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the April 9, 2021 NVCOG and CNVMPO meeting.

- b. *Approval of Agency Financial Reports and Summaries for the Period Ending 03/31/21* – Michael Szpryngel said NVCOG is 75% through the fiscal year. There is a net position deficit of \$66,177. The two main reasons for this are legal expenses for issues related to the Kinneytown Dam and that the actual indirect rate is outperforming the approved rate. Mr. Szpryngel anticipates a \$10,000 deficit in total, which will be covered by fund balance. On a motion by Ed St. John, seconded by Rich Dziekan, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the NVCOG financial reports and summaries as presented.

- c. *Designation of Annual Auditor* – Mr. Szpryngel said that on March 24, the audit committee voted to accept the cost proposal from the audit firm King, King & Associates under the condition that the contract stipulates that each year's amount is "Not to Exceed." It was noted that this was the only proposal received. On a motion by Tom Dunn, seconded by Rich Dziekan, it was unanimously

VOTED: To designate King, King & Associates, P.C., CPAs as the NVCOG auditor and empower the Chair to sign the contract for the amount submitted in the proposal.

- d. *Year End Projections* – Mr. Szpryngel explained that last year’s indirect rate was low, the budget included full staffing but was not fully staffed until recently. A higher indirect rate to cover more costs will improve things moving forward.
- e. *Director’s Report* – Rick Dunne introduced new staff members. A legislative “hot list” of bills was emailed to NVCOG representatives earlier in the week. Regarding Kinneytown Dam, Mr. Dunne said good progress had been made. CT DEEP has laid out conditions and a timeline for the dam owner to follow for compliance with the requirements for fish passage. CT DEEP staff met on-site with staff from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the dam operators on May 7, 2021 to begin the comprehensive field investigation of the project fish passage facilities as directed by FERC. CT DEEP has indicated they will keep an open line of communication with NVCOG and coalition partners.

4. Municipal Shared Services Update

John DiCarlo said municipal solid waste and recycling disposal is of strong interest to many mayors and first selectmen. A regional working group will be established. Mr. DiCarlo asked the CEOs to give some thought as to whom they would like to appoint to this committee. NVCOG will also be represented in CCM’s solid waste working group. A statewide approach will be necessary to address some of the issues.

4. Emergency Management Update

- a. *COVID-19 Response Update* – John Field said the Governor’s executive orders will be extended to 6/20. CDC has made some modifications to their recommendations regarding face masks, etc., and he believes the Governor will follow their lead. Testing is ongoing but has been reduced. There are two FEMA mobile vaccine units in the state. He spoke about impacts caused by the situation with the Colonial pipeline. He also said nursing home strikes have been postponed. DEMHS will provide any support it can. On June 1, all normal public business with DEMHS will reopen. All State of Connecticut employees will return to their offices on July 1.
 - *Long Term Recovery Update* – Joanna Rogalski said the steering committee met on May 12. Unmet immediate response needs are plateauing. There will be a pivot from the more immediate response of health and human services to long term economic recovery.
- b. *Regional Emergency Planning Team Update* – Ms. Rogalski said 2021 projects will focus on soft targets and crowded places. Active shooter training may also be included. Variable message signs were recently inspected; the plan is for out-of-service units to be used for parts to fix units that are being salvaged.
- c. *Community Emergency Response Team Update* – Ms. Rogalski said the annual CERT training day is still being discussed. Further information about this will be available after the June 17 CERT meeting.

5. NVCOG Planning/Transportation

a. *LOTICIP*

- i. Adoption of NVCOG Resolution 2021-17: New Project – Provide Supplemental Funding for Improvement of Local Roads Impacted by the Route 34 Reconstruction Project, State Project No. 0036-0184, Derby – Rick Dunne said this project has been in design for 10 years. CTDOT has requested a TIP amendment be approved by the GBVMPO for a local share of \$9 million. Costs associated with local roads were analyzed and Mr. Dunne said the expectation was to present the board with a staff recommendation to allocate \$4 million in funds from the LOTICIP program to the local roads associated with this project. However, the \$9 million request was just received. Mr. Dunne told CTDOT that he would put the request before the NVCOG board for discussion. Mayor Rich Dziekan of Derby said he would like to get this project moving and asked that the board support it. George Temple, while in support of the project, expressed concerns about truck traffic and bridges. Mr. Dunne said he was comfortable that the design would accommodate the truck traffic but was more concerned about the section from downtown Derby to Oxford. He said the question before the board was if they felt comfortable spending \$4 million of the LOTICIP allocation. Mark Nielsen said supplemental LOTICIP funding for this project could be accomplished without impacting the schedule of current projects. Increasing the funding to \$9 million could create a problem. On a motion by Rich Dziekan, seconded by George Temple, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt NVCOG Resolution 2021-17 committing regionally apportioned LOTICIP funds at a level of \$4 million to the Route 34 reconstruction project in the City of Derby.

- b. *LOTICIP Update and Status* – Mark Nielsen said bids have come in for four projects. Contract awards are expected to occur soon.
- c. *Approval of Proposed Corridor Planning Studies*
 - i. Ansonia – Planning and Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Assessment for the Relocation of Route 334
 - ii. Woodbury – US Route 6 Safety and Traffic Assessment Study

Mark Nielsen said NVCOG solicited proposals from its municipalities for transportation corridor planning studies. The City of Ansonia and the Town of Woodbury submitted proposals. Funding to conduct the corridor studies is being provided by CTDOT from the Federal Surface Transportation Urban Block Grant Program. The Ansonia proposal is for the planning and preliminary environmental assessment of the proposed relocation of Route 334, and the Woodbury proposal is for a safety assessment of US Route 6. On a motion by Ed St. John, seconded by Barbara Perkinson, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt NVCOG Resolution 2021-18 endorsing the corridor planning study proposals submitted by the City of Ansonia and Town of Woodbury and authorize NVCOG to submit the applications from both communities to CTDOT for consideration of funding.

6. **Other**

Mr. Dunne said NVCOG will wait on the state's directives regarding public meetings. The executive committee will meet and come up with policy and protocol. The assumption is that in-person meetings will resume at some point this summer.

7. **Adjournment**

At 10:55 a.m., on a motion by Rich Dziekan, seconded by George Temple, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

a.

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 2021-14

**AMENDMENT
FFY 2021-2024 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 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program for the Central Naugatuck Valley Planning Region (TIP)* at its October 9, 2020, meeting; and the US Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration) have approved the *State FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)*.

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation is requesting amendment of the FFY 2021-2024 TIP to allocate Section 5339 Low or No Emissions (LoNo), Section 5337 State of Good Repair and Section 5339 grant funds for projects 0430-XXXX, 0300-0196 and 0400-XXXX.

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 2021-2024 TIP to allocate federal aid funds as listed and described in the attachment to this resolution.

This resolution shall become effective as of May 14, 2021.

I do hereby certify that the resolution adopted by the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO at a public meeting held on May 14, 2021, at which a quorum was present and that the same is a correct and true transcript from the original thereof.

Ed Mone, Secretary

May 14, 2021

Date



**CENTRAL NAUGATUCK VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

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

RESOLUTION 2021-15

**ADOPTION
FY 2022-2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
CENTRAL NAUGATUCK VALLEY MPO**

WHEREAS, the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO is required to conduct the federal metropolitan transportation planning process in accordance with federal planning regulation.

WHEREAS, the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments is the designated host agency for the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO and has prepared the *FY 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program* in accordance with the federal planning guidelines.

WHEREAS, the draft UPWP lists and describes the planning tasks to be completed over the next two fiscal years and has developed task allocation budgets to accomplish such tasks.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Central Naugatuck Valley Region MPO approves, endorses and authorizes the *Unified Planning Work Program*, as prepared by NVCOG and negotiated with the State Department of Transportation, as the CNVMPO's Transportation Work Plan for FY 2022 and FY 2023.

This resolution shall become effective as of May 14, 2021.

I do hereby certify that the resolution adopted by the CNVMPO at a public meeting held on May 14, 2021, at which a quorum was present and that the same is a correct and true transcript from the original thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Mone, Secretary

Date



**CENTRAL NAUGATUCK VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

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RESOLUTION 2021-16

**AMENDMENT
FFY 2021-2024 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 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program for the Central Naugatuck Valley Planning Region (TIP)* at its October 9, 2020, meeting; and the US Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration) have approved the *State FFY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)*.

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation is requesting amendment of the FFY 2021-2024 TIP to allocate Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program grant funds for projects 0170-3605 and 0170-3606.

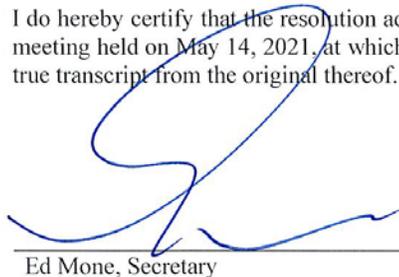
WHEREAS, the proposed projects do not necessitate a new Air Quality Conformity Determination.

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 2021-2024 TIP to allocate federal aid funds as listed and described in the attachment to this resolution.

This resolution shall become effective as of May 14, 2021.

I do hereby certify that the resolution adopted by the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO at a public meeting held on May 14, 2021, at which a quorum was present and that the same is a correct and true transcript from the original thereof.


Ed Mone, Secretary

May 14, 2021
Date



**CENTRAL NAUGATUCK VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

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RESOLUTION 2021-17

**URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING CERTIFICATION
CENTRAL NAUGATUCK VALLEY MPO**

WHEREAS, the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO (CVNMPO) is required by the *Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act)* and related US Department of Transportation regulations to certify that the metropolitan transportation planning process is being carried out in accordance with all US Department of Transportation requirements and regulations and must submit such certification concurrent with the submittal of the entire proposed Transportation Improvement Program to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration as part of the STIP approval.

WHEREAS, the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments is the designated host agency for the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO and conducts the transportation planning process in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the US Department of Transportation and specified in the *FAST Act*, by preparing a Unified Planning Work Program, conducting and performing the transportation planning activities contained in the UPWP, preparing, maintaining and amending the endorsed short-range Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), preparing and updating the metropolitan transportation plan (MTP), assessing the air quality impacts of the proposed transportation improvement projects included in the TIP and MTP, and proactively involving the public in the metropolitan transportation planning process.

WHEREAS, the *CNVMP*O adheres to the principles of non-discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity, as specified in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Older Americans Act, and regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in USDOT funded projects and the implementation of an equal opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO, the metropolitan planning organization for the Central Naugatuck metropolitan planning area and the Waterbury urbanized area hereby certifies that the urban transportation planning process has been and is being conducted in accordance with the terms and provisions of the rules and regulations promulgated by the US Department of Transportation under the FAST Act and all applicable provisions relative to public and private providers of mass transportation, civil rights, involvement of minority business enterprises, special efforts for elderly and disabled persons, the Clean Air Act and amendments, 23 USC and 49 USC have been satisfied.

This resolution shall become effective as of May 14, 2021.

I do hereby certify that the resolution adopted by the CNVMPO at a public meeting held on May 14, 2021, at which a quorum was present and that the same is a correct and true transcript from the original thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



Ed Mone, Secretary

May 14, 2021

Date



**NAUGATUCK VALLEY
COUNCIL of GOVERNMENTS**

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RESOLUTION 2021-17

LOTICIP

**ALLOCATE NVCOG ATTRIBUTABLE FUNDS FOR
ROUTE 34 RECONSTRUCTION LOCAL ROAD ELEMENTS, DERBY**

I certify that the following is a true copy of the vote of the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments at its virtual meeting on May 14, 2021, 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 up to \$4,000,000 in Program funds attributable to the Naugatuck Valley planning region to supplement funding for the Route 34/Main Street Reconstruction project, designated as State Project No. 0036-0184, as described and modified in Memorandum 05142024-LOTICIP-New Project.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut, on May 14, 2021

Agency: Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

Signed

Ed Mone, Secretary

RESOLUTION 2021-18

**ENDORSEMENT
CORRIDOR PLANING STUDIES**

I certify that the following is a true copy of the vote of the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments at its virtual meeting on May 14, 2021, at which a quorum was present.

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation requested the submittal of corridor planning studies from the NVCOG for consideration of funding under the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant program. The CTDOT is responsible for selecting projects.

WHEREAS, the NVCOG notified member municipalities about the opportunity to conduct corridor planning studies and requested members to provide project proposals.

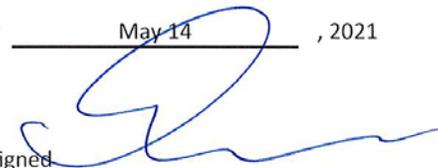
WHEREAS, the NVCOG received project proposals from the City of Ansonia and Town of Woodbury, and determined both projects meet the purpose and needs as identified in the program solicitation and would be eligible for funding under the program.

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia and Town of Woodbury have committed to providing the requisite non-federal share of project costs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NVCOG endorses the proposed corridor planning studies, as presented and described in the memorandum attached to this resolution, and authorizes staff to submit the applications to CTDOT for consideration.

Dated at Waterbury, Connecticut, on May 14, 2021

Agency: Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

Signed 

Ed Mone, Secretary