



NAUGATUCK VALLEY COUNCIL of GOVERNMENTS

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MINUTES

Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments

Hybrid Meeting

NVCOG Conference Room

49 Leavenworth Street, 3rd Floor

Waterbury, CT 06702

10 a.m., Friday, April 21, 2023

NVCOG Representatives: David Cassetti, Mayor, Ansonia (virtual); Gerry Smith, First Selectman, Michael Krenesky, Alternate, Beacon Falls (both virtual); Jeff Caggiano, Mayor, Bristol (virtual); Rich Dziekan, Mayor, Derby (virtual); Ed St. John, First Selectman, Middlebury (in-person); Pete Hess, Mayor, Naugatuck (in-person); Bob Chatfield, Mayor, Prospect (virtual); Annmarie Drugonis, First Selectwoman, Seymour (virtual); Mark Lauretti, Mayor, Shelton (in-person); Jeff Manville, First Selectman, Southbury (virtual); Ed Mone, First Selectman, Thomaston (in-person); Neil O’Leary, Mayor, Waterbury (in-person); Mark Raimo, Alternate, Watertown (virtual); Tom Dunn, Mayor, Wolcott (in-person); William Agresta, Alternate, Woodbury (virtual).

Guests/Other: Commissioner Katie Dykes, James Alba, Chris Nelson, CTDEEP; Lisa Kidder, CT Comptroller’s Office; Rep. Mary Welander; Ellen Graham, Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal; Lou Mangini, Office of Rep. Rosa DeLauro; Tommy Hyde, NVRDC; Meg Hafner, The Kennedy Collective; Betty Bajak, GWTD (all virtual); Kevin Tedesco, CTDOT; Daniel Davis, Eversource; John Wardzala, The Kennedy Collective; Emely Ricci, Heba Naqvi (all in-person).

Staff: Rick Dunne, Lauren Rizzo, Michael Szpryngel, Richard Crowther, Jr, Ricardo Rodriguez, Christine O’Neill, Josh Lecar, Desira Blanchard, Kevin Ellis, Steven Perry, Savannah-Nicole Villalba, Drew Baklik (all in-person); Joanna Rogalski, Faith Thurmond, Keith Rosenfeld, Richard Donovan, Elliot Wareham, Eyitayo Olaleye (all virtual).

Prior to the start of the meeting, CTDEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes spoke about municipal solid waste management and the waste crisis. Also prior to the meeting, Lisa Kidder, Strategic Communications Manager of the Connecticut State Comptroller’s Office, gave a presentation about MyCTSAVINGS. The discussion, presentation, and meeting may be viewed at the NVCOG YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@nvcogct>.

1. Commencement of Meeting

Chairman Neal O’Leary called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll was called. There was no public comment. Executive Director Rick Dunne introduced two UConn Master’s candidates, Emely Ricci and Heba Naqvi, who were there to observe the meeting. Mayor O’Leary spoke about organizing a tour of a recycling facility in Berlin, CT.

2. CNVMPO Meeting

- a. *Approval of CNVMPO Resolution 2023-16, TIP Amendments – Project Nos. 0170-3688, 0174-0466, 0170-5025, and 0080-0135* – On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Ed Mone, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adopt CNVMPO Resolution 2023-16 approving the TIP amendments listed above.

3. NVCOG Administrative Items

- a. *Approval of the Minutes of the March 17, 2023 CNVMPO and NVCOG Meeting* – On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Pete Hess, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the March 17, 2023 CNVMPO and NVCOG meeting.

- b. *Approval of Agency Financial Reports and Summaries for the Period Ending 3/31/23* – On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Pete Hess, it was unanimously

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

- c. *Director’s Report* – Rick Dunne said Drew Baklik had emailed a legislative update to all NVCOG representatives. Drew Baklik said a statewide opioid advisory committee, of which Mayor O’Leary is co-chair, will be considering the spend of the opioid settlement funds which will be sent directly to municipalities. There are restrictions on how the settlement funds may be spent.

4. Emergency Management

Joanna Rogalski said the federal disaster declaration for COVID will be lifted on May 11, 2023. FEMA has issued guidance for pandemic related public assistance programmatic deadlines. One program that will continue is the FEMA funeral assistance program. Memorandums of Agreement for the Homeland Security Grant Program for FY22 are due September 1, 2023. The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Emergency Management Symposium will be held on April 25 at Aria in Prospect.

- a. *Regional Emergency Planning Team Update* – There were no REPT updates.
- b. *Community Emergency Response Team Update* – The next CERT meeting is April 25 at 7 p.m. in Naugatuck. The new meeting format will include guest speakers, and this meeting will have a speaker from the FBI. The next quarterly meeting of the Statewide Citizen Corps Council is April 26, 2023.

5. NVCOG Planning/Transportation

- a. *Sustainable CT Fellow* – Christine O’Neill said the Sustainable CT fellow will be assigned to support municipalities pursuing Sustainable CT certification. The fellow will be starting in June. Ms. O’Neill outlined the steps municipalities must take to attain or maintain their certifications status.
- b. *Waterbury Line Station Projects Update* – Rich Donovan said that over the next couple of years there will be upgrades to every station on the Waterbury Line. The stations will receive 350-foot platforms, which is the new standard. They will all have canopies capable of holding solar panels. There will be real-time arrival boards, ticketing, and the platforms will be fully ADA accessible.

6. Environmental Planning

- a. *Solid Waste Management Update* – Christine O’Neill said the first Household Hazardous Waste event of the year will take place on April 22 at Shepardson Community Center in Middlebury.

- b. *MSW & Recycling Update* – Ms. O’Neill said the online store for composters and rain barrels is now open and accepting orders from residents throughout the region. Items will be distributed at the former Sears Auto Center in Waterbury on May 13. A recycling training event for public works professionals will take place on May 24 at Waterbury City Hall. CT DEEP staff will be the presenters.
- c. *Environmental Sustainability Forum on Invasives* – Ms. O’Neill said an environmental sustainability forum on invasive species management will take place at NVCOG on April 27. Experts from the CT Agriculture Experiment Station and CT DEEP’s Wildlife Division will explain how to manage harmful, non-native wildlife.

7. **Other**

There was no other business.

8. **Adjournment**

At 11:12 a.m., on a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Pete Hess, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Lauren Rizzo, Administrative Assistant
for
Pete Hess, Secretary



**CENTRAL NAUGATUCK VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

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RESOLUTION 2023-16

**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 within the Waterbury Urbanized Area and is required to maintain a fiscally constrained program of priority projects; and

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)*; and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation is requesting amendment of the FFY 2021-2024 TIP as shown in the attached page; and

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

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;

BE IT RESOLVED that Central Naugatuck Valley MPO approves the amendment of the FFY 2021-2024 TIP.

This resolution shall become effective as of April 21, 2023.

I do hereby certify that the resolution adopted by the Central Naugatuck Valley MPO at a public meeting held on April 21, 2023, at which a quorum was present and that the same is a correct and true transcript from the original thereof.

N. Warren Hess, Secretary, III

April 21, 2023
Date