



AGENDA

Greater Waterbury Transit District Board Meeting
Virtual Video Conference Meeting
December 13, 2023 at 10:00 am

1. Commencement of Meeting (*Betty Bajek*)
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. Approval of Minutes of the September 20, 2023 Meeting (*motion*)
 - d. Approval of Meeting Schedule for 2024 (*motion*)
2. Election of Treasurer (*Betty Bajek*) (*motion*)
3. GWTD Administrative Items (*Joanna Rogalski*)
 - a. Financial Update
 - b. Ridership Update
4. Northeast Transportation Update (*Maria Vacarrelli*)
5. NVCOG Items
 - a. Discussion [Transportation Guide 2023](#) (*Tayo Olaleye*)
 - b. Discussion of Waterbury Senior Center Outreach November 6, 2023 (*Joanna Rogalski*)
6. Open Discussion
7. Adjournment (*motion*)

Called by
Betty Bajek, Chair

Any member of the public wishing to address the GWTD members at a GWTD virtual meeting should send an email to info@nvcogct.gov with the following information:

- Your name, address and any professional affiliation (for the public record)
- Your phone number (only if you are using the phone dial-in option)
- The item number on the agenda you plan to address in your comments

Your information must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the day before the meeting. Because of the need for stable meetings and public security, anyone who does not provide the above information cannot be admitted to our online meetings.

*A language or sign translator can be requested five days in advance of the meeting.
Un traductor de idiomas puede ser solicitado al menos cinco días previos a una reunion.
Tłumacza języka lub języka migowego można poprosić pięć dni przed spotkaniem.*



DRAFT MINUTES

Greater Waterbury Transit District (GWTD)

10:00am, September 20, 2023

Directors in Attendance: Betty Bajek, Debbie Bournival, Lisa Carew, Karen Harvey, Mira Levasseur, Aleta Looker, Mary Morrone, Stefanie Theroux, and Maria Vaccarelli

Others Attending: Joanna Rogalski (NVCOG), Trish Bauer (NVCOG), Patricia Bruder (NVCOG), Richard Nakatsuka (CTDOT), John Wardzala (Kennedy Collective)

1. Commencement of Meeting

- The meeting was called at 10:05 a.m. by Betty Bajek.
- No Public Comment
- Approval of minutes from June 14, 2023 meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 14, 2023, meeting.

On a motion by Lisa Carew; Seconded by Karen Harvey, it was unanimously:

VOTED: To approve the minutes of June 14, 2023.

2. GWTD Administrative Items

- Ms. Rogalski presented the Financial Update. No discussion.
- Ms. Rogalski reviewed the Ridership Update. Ms. Harvey asked why there is a non-ADA category and expressed that this category is on the rise. After discussion it was determined that the tracking of these categories has to do with the funding streams. Maria Vaccarelli from NET explained that for Non-ADA, the State contributes half, and the towns contribute half. Trish Bauer explained that GWTD pays NET to run Dial-a-Ride and that ADA funding does not come from GWTD. Ms. Rogalski believes that ADA is also being tracked and she will reach out to the members tomorrow with the answer to that. Ms. Vaccarelli sends most of the reports to NVCOG and perhaps they can distribute them to this group.

3. Northeast Transportation Update

- Ms. Vaccarelli reported that Northeast has acquired 14 new vans in the last two weeks. They are out on the road now. Ms. Harvey noted that the new vans are wonderful.

4. Open Discussion

- Chairwoman Bajek noted that it's difficult for the towns to get bus drivers and asked that the members pass along any info that may help the situation.
- Ms. Rogalski noted that October 2-8 will be National Week Without Driving Challenge through CT Rides. This is an exercise for people to understand how those that don't have personal transportation may have to function – what their life is like if they don't have a car.
- John Wardzala, Director of Mobility Services at The Kennedy Collective (TKC) introduced himself to the Committee. He noted that TKC conducts free travel training, funded by CTDOT and CT Transit. They provide mobility management and ADA services. TKC will be tabling at the Veterans Stand Down this Friday at the Bridgeport, Rocky Hill, Danbury and Norwich locations. They are contacting transit districts to offer to distribute their information, including seeking drivers. Mr. Wardzala provided his email address to the Committee so they can forward any information they'd like distributed at these events. Chairwoman Bajek asked that NVCOG forward brochures that Kevin created for GWTD to Mr. Wardzala.

(CONT.)

- Ms. Harvey raised concerns regarding ADA transportation, particularly for senior citizens. She noted safety issues including extended waiting for pickup, broken seatbelts, and debris on the floors of the vans. Mira Levasseur explained that the Waterbury Senior Center doesn't manage the Senior shuttle. The City of Waterbury went out to bid and the new provider, Ambassador, will start on October 1st. The person to contact regarding the Waterbury senior shuttle is Nancy at 203-346-3810 – ext. 7274. Ms. Harvey recommended some kind of spot check for safety for all providers of this service.
- Chairwoman Bajek thanked outgoing member Lisa Carew for her service to the Committee. Ms. Carew thanked her fellow Committee members for the honor and privilege of serving with them.

5. Next Meeting Date

- Next meeting date is on December 13, 2023.

6. Adjournment

- At 10:35 AM, on a motion by Lisa Carew, seconded by Mary Morrone, it was unanimously:
VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Bruder, Executive Administrative Clerk
Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments



2024 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Greater Waterbury Transit District (GWTD)

Meets quarterly on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. The default location is virtual using the NVCOG ZOOM account.

March 13, 2024

June 12, 2024

September 11, 2024

December 11, 2024



Financial Update – December 2023

July 2023 through November 2023

Revenues

Local Revenue (Municipal Dues)	\$5,800
Local Revenue (Non-ADA Match)	\$17,750
Municipal Grant Program*	\$212,190

Total Revenues	\$235,740
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Expenses

North East Transportation	\$97,330
Liability Insurance	\$1,441
Financial Audit**	\$2,000

Total Expenses	\$100,771
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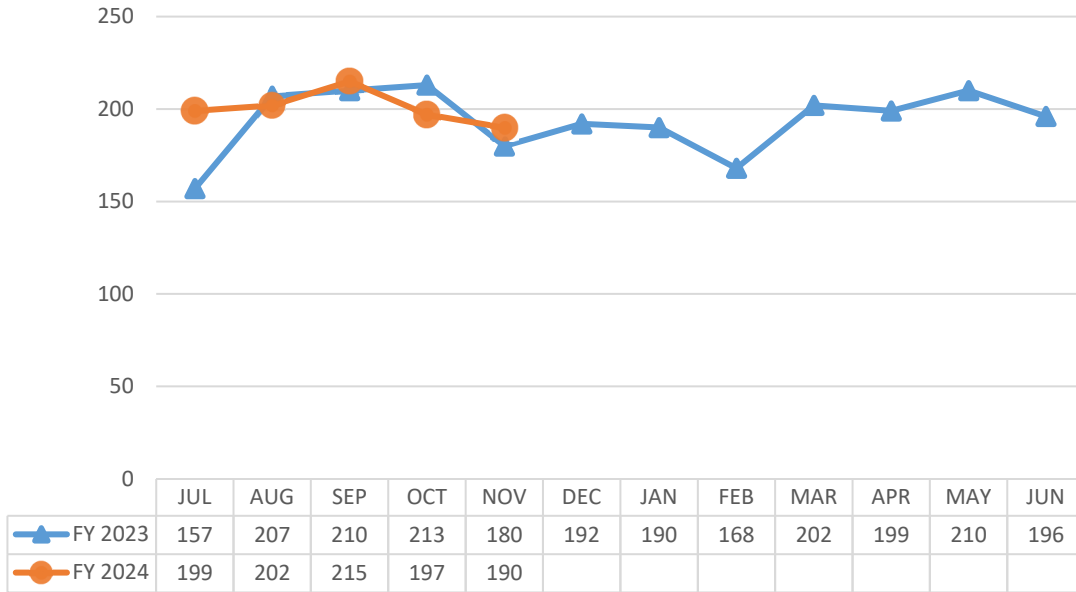
*Pending CT DOT approval – anticipated income

** Obligated expense

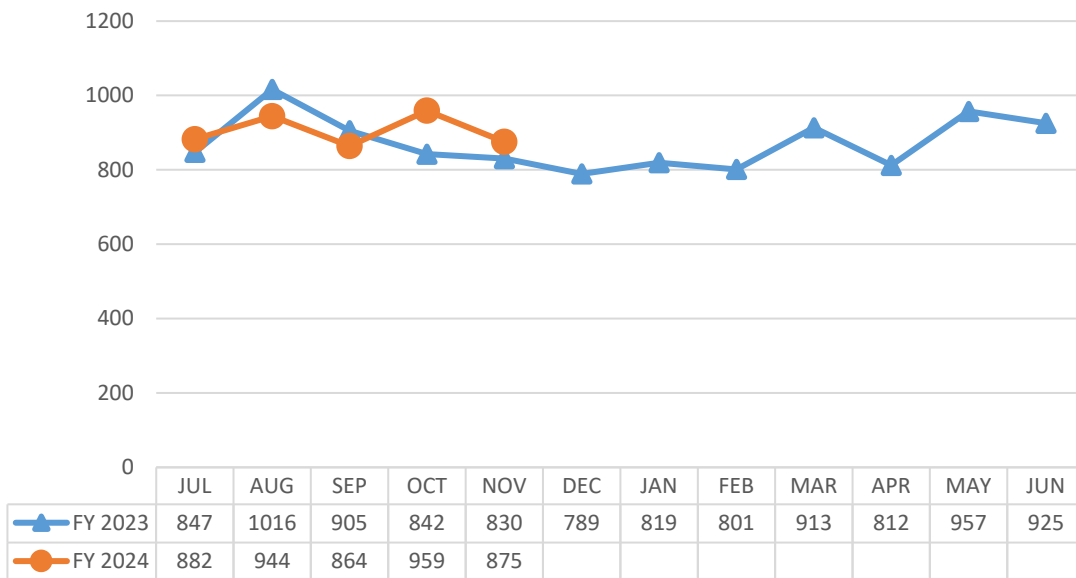


Ridership Update – December 2023 Meeting

Dial-A-Ride Ridership FY 2023 vs. FY 2024



Non-ADA Ridership FY 2023 vs. FY 2024



Comments and Questions about the GWTD from the Waterbury Senior Center attendees during the NVCOG Public Outreach event on November 6, 2023.

1. There were questions about inter-district transit. For example, how to arrange transportation to New Haven or Hartford and back.
2. There were questions about time needed to schedule a service. I.e.. Must it be exactly 24 hours before the intended departure time or just the day prior? It was determined to be as late as the evening of the day prior.
3. There were questions about delays at the hospital which will interfere with the previously scheduled time to return and how to resolve this.
4. There was a comment about how we intend to publicize the Transportation Guide.
5. There was a question raised to understand if the phone calls to GWTD were automated with a robot. Additionally, there was a concern about potential long wait times on the call.
6. There were questions about how to get to the Naugatuck Greenway Trail in Waterbury and best way to access Platt Park.
7. A question about how do I find the trail map online?
8. There were questions about how to register with the GWTD system and to ensure someone is using the proper service (dial-a-ride vs. paratransit).
9. There were questions about the cost of the service.