

**Approved Minutes
Regular Meeting
Greater Bridgeport & Valley
Metropolitan Planning Organization**

**Tuesday, October 14, 2014
Mayor's Conference Room
Margaret E. Morton Government Center
City of Bridgeport
999 Broad Street, Bridgeport, CT**

Name

Representing

Mark Lauretti, Mayor (Rick Dunne, Proxy)
David Casseti, Mayor (Chris Timniac, Proxy)
Bill Finch, Mayor
Anita Dugatto, Mayor
Adam Dunsby, First Selectman
Mike Tetreau, First Selectman (Tom Dubrusky, Proxy)
Steve Vavrek, First Selectman
Kurt Miller, First Selectman
Timothy Herbst, First Selectman & GBVMPO Chair

Shelton & VTD
Ansonia
Bridgeport
Derby
Easton
Fairfield
Monroe
Seymour
Trumbull

Meghan Sloan, Senior Transportation Planner
Mark Nielsen, Planning Director
Colleen Kelleher, Administrative Assistant
Patrick Carleton, Transportation Planner
Matthew Fulda, Transportation Planner
Steve DeMichele, Transportation Planner

GBRC
VCOG
GBRC
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Minutes

I. Call to Order

This was a regular meeting of the GBVMPO. The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Herbst, Chairman, at 12:29pm. The roll of the MPO was called and proxies were received and accepted. A quorum was declared.

II. Public Participation

First Selectman Herbst asked if there was anyone from the public who wanted to address the MPO. There was none.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by First Selectman Miller and seconded by First Selectman Vavrek. The motion carried unanimously.

Everyone was asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Action Items (Attachment B)

1. Endorsement: PM2.5 Air Quality Conformity Determination, Resolution 2015-01
Mr. Dunne asked Mr. Nielsen to explain items 1 and 2 together.

Mr. Nielsen explained the requirement to demonstrate air quality conformity with goals that are based on existing conditions as well as future transportation improvements. The EPA ratifies and certifies budgets. The air quality conformity determination is a requirement every time a new Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is endorsed. Conditions will be less than the EPA budget as shown in a handout that was provided to everyone at the beginning of the meeting. The conclusion is that the program and plan conform to the goals.

2. Endorsement: Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination, Resolution 2015-02
Mr. Nielsen explained that the Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination is the same procedure as the PM2.5. The EPA approved the budgets and the test emissions need to be less than the budget allotment. The PM2.5 determination is an annual assessment while the ozone determination takes place over an 8 hour period.

Mayor Finch inquired if there was a change since the last test.

Mr. Nielsen said that the EPA made the amount of emissions more stringent so it is tougher to meet the standards. The new model is more accurate in estimating emissions and the region is still meeting the requirements.

Mayor Finch asked how the new model would compensate for large changes.

Mr. Nielsen explained that this determination only deals with the transportation system.

Mr. Dunne stated that manufacturers are meeting the tougher standards.

A motion to approve Resolutions 2015-01 and 2015-02 was made by Mayor Finch and seconded by First Selectman Miller. The endorsement carried unanimously.

3. Endorsement: FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program, Resolution 2015-03 *

Mr. Nielsen gave an update on the TIP and gave a list of transportation improvement projects over the next four years. The TIP is valid for four years and amendments can be made throughout. The attachments provided in the beginning of the meeting show the planned improvements to the rail and bus lines. The program includes local and regional projects. State and regional projects sponsored by the DOT are included in the proposed TIP. Transit projects includes bus improvements and New Haven rail line improvements to the main and branch lines. Mr. Nielsen went over the financial tables in the back of the packet and stated that a big portion of the money would go to the New Haven line.

A motion to approve the endorsement was made by Mayor Finch and seconded by First Selectman Miller. The endorsement carried unanimously.

4. Amendment: FFY 2012-2015 TIP/STIP, FHWA Programs, Resolution 2015-04

Mr. Nielsen explained the first amendment to the TIP, to add a new project to rehabilitate a bridge in Bridgeport. This project would repair and strengthen the piers that are in poor condition. This is the only amendment to the highway side.

A motion to approve the amendment was made by First Selectman Vavrek and seconded by First Selectman Miller. The amendment carried unanimously.

5. Amendment: FFY 2012-2015 TIP/STIP, FTA Programs, Resolution 2015-05

Mr. Nielsen explained the projects to be added to the transit side of the TIP.

1. A statewide marketing program to promote ridesharing and transit.
2. A fund to conduct long range investment analysis to the New Haven line including, improvements to the New Haven main rail line and improvements to connect the New Haven line to Penn Station. This project would determine the feasibility and costs to complete the line connection.

An application has been submitted but the reward has not been received.

A motion to approve the amendment was made by First Selectman Vavrek and seconded by Mayor Dugatto. The amendment carried unanimously.

6. Endorsement: Urban Transportation Planning Certification, Resolution 2015-06

Mr. Nielsen announced that the MPO needs to certify that they are conducting the metropolitan planning process in accordance with the DOT requirements. It is a self-certification process that needs to be done every year. The TIP and long range transportation plan endorse the program and the resolution will certify it.

A motion to approve the endorsement was made by First Selectman Vavrek and seconded by First Selectman Miller. The endorsement carried unanimously.

V. Other Business

Mr. Dunne announced that sometime shortly after November 4th, there will be guidance from CTDOT regarding future alignment of MPOs. Mr. Dunne further explained that according to the statutes, state government does not have the power to force the re-alignment of current MPO regions. It is matter that is only dealt with at the municipal level, with a 75% majority (weighted by population of each municipality within the region) needed from the existing region and the proposed region for re-alignment to take place. Additionally, the largest city within the existing, as well as proposed region has veto power over any potential re-alignment. Guidance will be issued before the end of the year.

Having no further business a motion to adjourn was made by First Selectman Vavrek and seconded by First Selectman Miller. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:54pm

Respectively submitted

Brian Bidolli, Executive Director, GBRC
MPO Co-Secretary

Rick Dunne, Executive Director, VCOG
MPO Co-Secretary