

MINUTES
Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley

The Meeting Place
30 Center Street
Prospect, CT

Friday, January 8, 2010, 12:00 Noon

COGCNV Members: Susan Cable, First Selectman, Karen Wilson, Alternate, Beacon Falls; Jeff Hamel, First Selectman, Bethlehem; Jerry Sitko, Alternate, Cheshire; Joseph Salvini, Alternate, Middlebury; Robert Mezzo, Mayor, Naugatuck; Mary Ann Drayton-Rogers, First Selectman, Oxford; Robert Chatfield, Mayor, Prospect; Bill Davis, First Selectman, Southbury; Edmond Mone, First Selectman, Thomaston; Michael Jarjura, Mayor, Terry Caldarone, Alternate, Waterbury; Roy Cavanaugh, Alternate, Watertown; Tom Dunn, Mayor, Wolcott.

Speakers and Guests: Kenny Curran, Congressman Chris Murphy's Office; Lou Mangini, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro's Office; Barbara Kalosky, Joe Spina, Peter Vacarelli, North East Transportation; Bruce Wittchen, OPM; Bob Flanagan, public; Mark Piccirillo, Bethlehem Public Works; Kathy McNamara, City of Waterbury; Tom Galvin, Prospect Town Council; Jeff Rouleau, Waterbury Regional Chamber of Commerce; Stephen Livingston, ConnDOT; Leo Frank, Waterbury Development Corporation; Senator Joan Hartley, Paul Nonnemacher, CRRRA.

Staff: Peter Dorpalen, Executive Director; Virginia Mason, Assistant Director; Samuel Gold, Senior Planner; Jeff Cormier, Regional Planner/GIS Specialist; Joe Perrelli, Regional Planner; Lauren Rizzo, Administrative Assistant.

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

Chairman Tom Dunn called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll was called. Barbara Kalosky of North East Transportation stated she had public comment for agenda item 3, which she would reserve until that time.

2. Administrative Items

- a. *Minutes of December 11, 2009 Meeting* — On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Bill Davis, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the December 11, 2009 COGCNV meeting.

- b. *Financial Report* — Peter Dorpalen reported that as of December 31, 2009, COGCNV was 50% through the fiscal year and had expended 45% of its operating budget. Including pass-through funds, 54% of the total budget has been expended. The fiscal year 2009 audit is complete and had one finding concerning how items were posted to the pre-disaster mitigation project. There are new accounting procedures in place which required the auditors to note it. Tom Dunn asked whether this issue had been addressed to prevent a similar finding in the future, and Mr. Dorpalen affirmed that it had. On a motion by Susan Cable, seconded by Mary Ann Drayton-Rogers, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the financial report and the 2009 audit.

- c. *Revised 2010 Meeting Schedule* — Chairman Dunn stated that the February 12 COGCNV meeting should be moved to February 11 to accommodate the Lincoln's birthday holiday. On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Susan Cable, it was unanimously

VOTED: To change the February COGCNV meeting date to February 11.

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

December 14, 2009	Letters to mayors and first selectmen on the FY2010-11 municipal dues.
December 2009	COGCNV flyer announcing upcoming Land Use Planning Seminars for local planning and zoning commissions in January and February.
December 18, 2009	Letter from Sam Gold to DECD with comments on the Waterbury Transportation Center environmental assessment (EA/EIE) document.
December 29, 2009	Email invitation from Virginia Mason to municipal planners, public works directors, COG members, and RPC representatives to a Planners' Lunch on the state's streamflow regulations.
January 5, 2010	Letter to Mayor Bob Mezzo stating that its Small Cities Block Grant application to reconstruct storm drainage in the Nettletown Ave area is in accordance with the COGCNV Regional Plan of Conservation and Development.

3. **Proposed Waterbury Intermodal Transportation Center**

Mayor Michael Jarjura spoke about the proposed Waterbury Intermodal Transportation Center. He stated he was looking for a clear showing of support for the project, which he believes will provide benefit not only for Waterbury, but for the towns in the Central Naugatuck Valley area.. Without clear support for the project, he feels the federal and state delegation will have trouble competing for the scarce resources currently available. He believes it could be decades before the area could see a project of this magnitude again. He discussed the need to improve the condition of the current Waterbury train station and to coordinate transportation.

Senator Joan Hartley spoke in support of the proposed Intermodal Transportation Center, as discussed by Mayor Jarjura. She stated that Waterbury is the only major city in the state without such a hub. She said that the concept must be supported, although details may need to be worked out. She said the state and local delegations are in support of the project.

Leo Frank of the Waterbury Development Corporation also spoke in support of the proposed project. In the interest of economic development, he stated it is imperative that the transportation center be adjacent to the railroad tracks.

Mary Ann Drayton-Rogers asked whether a time table or cost factor had been determined.

Leo Frank said the feasibility study is complete. Sam Gold stated the environmental impact evaluation and the environmental assessment are being conducted by DECD and are expected to be completed by the end of the month. Sam Gold said that according to the EIE, the cost of the project will be \$54 million. Operating costs are estimated at \$4 million per year.

Barbara Kalosky of North East Transportation then spoke about operational concerns with the proposed transportation center, including the impact of moving the bus pulse point, added bus capital and

operating costs, and questions on the ownership and maintenance of the proposed transportation center. Her statement is attached to these minutes.

Chairman Dunn thanked the speakers for discussing the various issues involved.

On a motion by Bob Chatfield, seconded by Susan Cable, it was unanimously

VOTED: To support the concept and development of the proposed Waterbury Intermodal Transportation Center.

4. **Congressional Initiatives Affecting Municipalities**

Lou Mangini of Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro's office spoke about the appropriation funding process. He discussed the spending bills which earmark certain monies for certain projects. Appropriation funding request forms for fiscal year 2010 will be sent to municipalities soon. He also discussed the grant process, available federal grants, and ARRA funds. He provided website addresses that provide further information on funding.

Kenny Curran of Congressman Chris Murphy's office said he did not believe additional funds would be offered under the highway bill this year, as increasing the gas tax would be the only way to increase funding.

5. **Transportation Improvement Program — January Amendments**

Jeff Cormier said there was another amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program, in addition to the one noted on the agenda.

On a motion by Susan Cable, seconded by Gerry Sitko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To add the second January Transportation Improvement Program amendment to the agenda.

Jeff Cormier noted the two January 2010 amendments to the 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program:

- Cheshire — Paving of West Johnson Rd., Construction Phase (Project No. 0025-0142)
- Statewide — Surface Transportation Program funds for engineering/scope and project development (Project No. 0170-2776)

On a motion by Susan Cable, seconded by Edmond Mone, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the January 2010 amendments to the 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program.

6. **Project Updates**

- a. *Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Study* — Joe Perrelli said this study was in final draft form and would be presented to the Regional Planning Commission on January 12, and presented to COGCNV in February.
- b. *Naugatuck River Greenway Routing Study* — Sam Gold said approval was needed to authorize Chairman Dunn to sign agreements with the Connecticut Department of Transportation concerning the Regional Naugatuck River Greenway Routing Study.

On a motion by Susan Cable, seconded by Jeff Hamel, it was unanimously:

VOTED: To authorize Chairman Thomas G. Dunn to act on behalf of the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley in negotiating and executing all appropriate and necessary contractual instruments with the Connecticut Department of Transportation concerning the Regional Naugatuck River Greenway Routing Study.

c. *DEMHS Region 5* — Virginia Mason said GPS units were purchased for municipal police departments; state police departments are also receiving a unit. Each municipality will also receive one permanent and four mobile ITEC/ICALL chargers. A new training session will be held in February for CERT Trainers. From the 2007 grant, cots and comfort kits have been distributed to the Region 5 towns. She reported that DEMHS is closing its facility in Southbury and moving into the Rowland building in Waterbury. Also, Tom Vannini is the new Region 5 Coordinator.

7. **Regional Business**

There was no regional business.

8. **Other**

Peter Dorpalen said the 2009 COGCNV Annual Report, prepared by Regional Planner Joe Perrelli, is now available. Copies were distributed to those attending the meeting.

9. **Adjournment**

At 1:10 p.m., on a motion by Mary Ann Drayton-Rogers, seconded by Joe Salvini, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Lauren Rizzo
Administrative Assistant

for

Robert Chatfield
Secretary