

South Central Regional Transportation and Transportation Technical Committee

Meeting Notice & Agenda Wednesday, March 12, 2025 – 12:00.

This is a hybrid meeting with in-person attendance at the SCRCOG Office and remote access via Zoom.
Office Location: 127 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor West, North Haven, CT 06473

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81855035822>

Call-In Number: +1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 818 5503 5822

Presentation:

[New Haven TMA Certification Review](#)

Jennifer Brady, FHWA CT Division Office

Pages 2,3

Action Items:

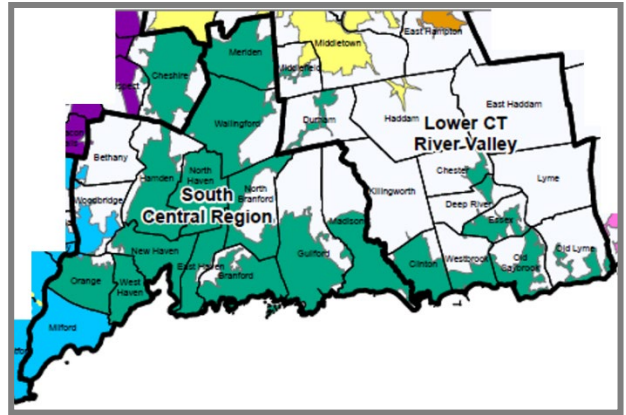
1. [Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2025](#) Page 4,5
2. [2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Six](#) Pages 6-8
Recommend SCRCOG adoption of Resolution- Kellie Kingston
3. [Draft FY26 and FY27 Unified Planning Work Program Document](#)
James Rode

Informational Items:

4. [LOTICIP Program Update](#)
5. [Other Business and Municipal Updates](#)

2025 Federal Certification Review

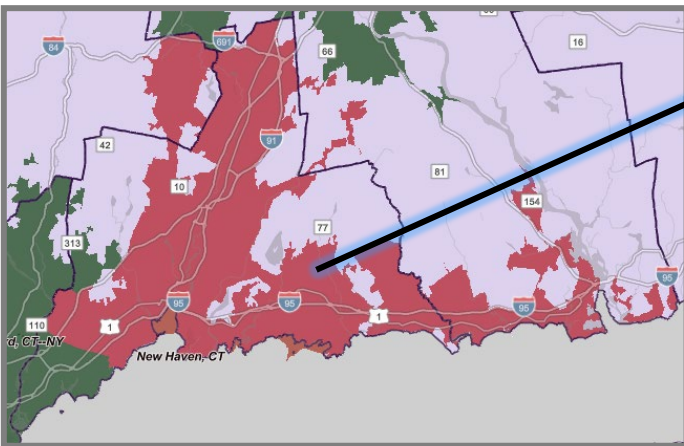
of the
South Central Region Council of Governments MPO and the Lower CT River Valley MPO
 for the
New Haven Transportation Management Area



Overview

At least once every four years, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) must certify that a metropolitan planning organization (MPO) serving a Transportation Management Area (TMA) – an urbanized area with a population over 200,000 – is carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning process in adherence with federal requirements under [23 U.S.C. 134](#) and [49 U.S.C. 5303](#). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) jointly conduct this review, make a certification determination, and produce a report that may include compliance issues (corrective actions), areas for improvement (recommendations), and/or notable practices (commendations). Based on these findings, the MPO will either be “certified,” “certified with conditions or restrictions,” or “not certified”.

New Haven TMA



Primarily Served By:

South Central
 CT MPO
 and
 Lower CT River
 Valley MPO

Comprised Of:

SCRCOG

Lower Connecticut River Valley
 Council of Governments

Local Elected Officials



Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process

A **continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive** (3-C) process that informs transportation decisions, including how projects are selected and prioritized for implementation within a region.

With limited funds, this is critical for prioritizing regional needs and identifying projects that best meet performance goals and objectives while providing public benefit. The process assists in developing a framework for the future transportation system.

3-C Planning Process

Continuous: Regularly addressing short-term needs and long-term regional goals

Cooperative: Involving all interested parties through a public participation process

Comprehensive: Multimodal in scope and consistent with other regional and statewide planning products and federal planning factors

Four Key MPO Planning Documents

Please note that there are other federal requirements applicable to MPOs, these are four core planning documents that frame the metropolitan transportation planning process.

Public Participation Plan (PPP)

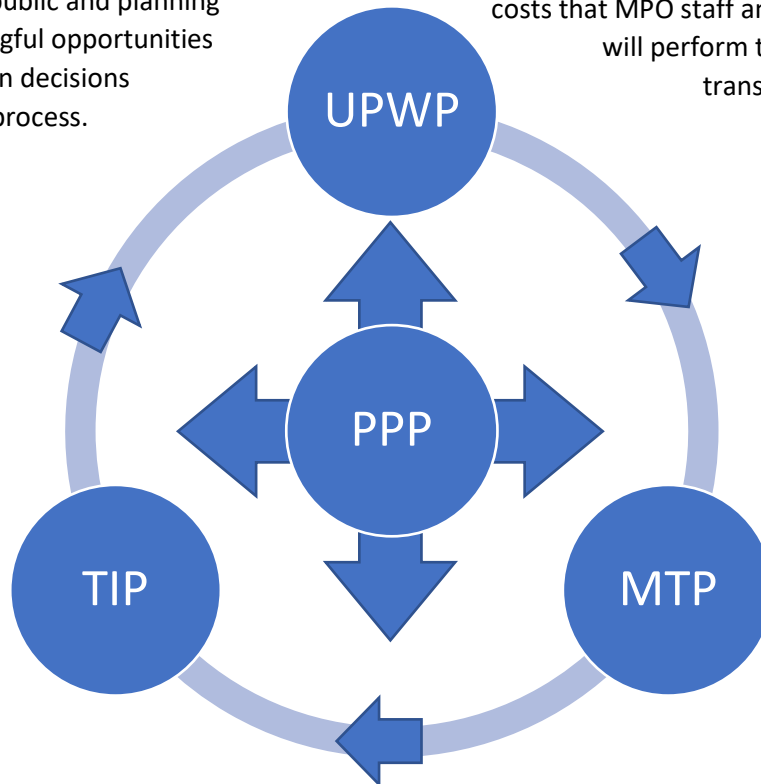
Documents public involvement strategies that provide the general public and planning stakeholders with meaningful opportunities to influence transportation decisions throughout the planning process.

Updated as needed

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Lists transportation tasks, products, and associated costs that MPO staff and other responsible parties will perform to support the metropolitan transportation planning process.

Updated biennially



Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Identifies transportation investments, and associated costs, by year for implementation in the region over the next 4 years. Projects reflect investment priorities from the MTP and activities from the UPWP.

Updated regularly; New TIP prepared every 2-3 years

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Establishes regional goals, strategies, projects, and priorities for an integrated intermodal transportation system that reflect current and future demand over at least 20 years.

Updated every four years

Things to Think About...

What are your views on the planning process?

- What are some challenges?
- What are some strengths?

Do you feel you understand how the planning process works and how to get involved?

Do you feel like you have adequate opportunities to participate and be heard?

How is the Process Going? We Want Your Input!

Written comments can be submitted by 3/28/2025 to:

FHWA: Jennifer Brady, Transportation Specialist
jennifer.brady@dot.gov or
 c/o FHWA Connecticut Division
 450 Main Street, Suite 612; Hartford, CT 06103

FTA: Christina Mendoza, Community Planner
christina.mendoza@dot.gov or
 c/o Federal Transit Administration, Region 1
 220 Binney St, 9th Floor; Cambridge, MA 02142

Transportation Committee Minutes – February 12, 2025

Transportation Committee Members

FS James Cosgrove, Branford
FS Matt Hoey, Guilford
Mayor Lauren Garrett, Hamden
Giovanni Zinn Proxy for Mayor Elicker, New Haven.

Transportation Technical Committee

Branford, John Hoefflerle
East Haven, Jonathan Bodwell
Guilford, Janice Plaziak
Madison, Rob Russo,
Meriden, Brian Ennis
New Haven, Giovanni Zinn
North Branford, Chris Holden
North Haven, Andrew Bevilaqua
Orange, Bob Brinton

Guests

Michael Kurker, Michael Dion, BL
Leena Qureshi, GM2
Laurie McElwee, Kennedy Collective

SCRCOG

James Rode, Kellie Kingston, Colette Kroop,
Drew Thomas

Chairman Cosgrove called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM.

Action Item #1: Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2025

B Ennis made a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 8, 2025 meeting; FS Hoey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Action Item #2: 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Five

K. Kingston introduced 7 project changes in Amendment 5 and turned it over for discussion. Chairman Cosgrove raised concerns with the proposed scope change for project #0043-0133 *Modern Roundabout at US1 and CT 100*. This project is located on the border of East Haven and Branford and was originally focused on stabilizing a rock slope impacting the roadway. The amendment requested would now reconfigure the intersection and add a roundabout. Chairman Cosgrove had spoken with the mayor of East Haven, Branford police and the town engineer. He reported that without seeing the designs and understanding how it would impact traffic, he could not support the change in scope. J Bodwell echoed the chairman's concerns and added that they were in favor of the project as originally imagined they could not support the addition of the roundabout without seeing the design or traffic analysis. Rob Russo next raised concerns over project #0075-0140 *Convert Existing Commuter Lot to Truck Parking Area* in the Madison. This project, as proposed, would replace the commuter parking lot along Route 79 with a truck parking area with space for up to 25 trucks and the construction of an amenity building to support overnight parking. R. Russo explained that the loss of the commuter lot combined with the added trucks in an area that is already congested with traffic. J. Rode added that he had received a call from FS Lyons stating that the town did not support this project. FS Hoey agreed that this was not the appropriate location for a truck parking area and supported Madison's wishes to deny approval of the project. Chairman Cosgrove made a motion to act on TIP amendment 5, with the understanding that the committee will revisit it to clarify our position on 2 of the projects. FS Hoey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. FS Hoey made a motion to remove projects

#0043-0133 and #0075-0140 from TIP Amendment 5 and recommend the remaining projects to the SCRCOG board for approval of the funding. FS Hoey clarified that while funding was denied for project #0075-0140 it was only the scope change for project #0043-0133 that was denied, and the funding remains. With the understanding that CTDOT has an opportunity to address the committee's concerns, and the project could be discussed again. B. Brinton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Informational Item #3 SCRCOG Public Participation Guidelines Update for 2025

C. Kroop gave a brief presentation on the status of the region's Public Participation Guidelines update.

Informational Item #4 UPWP Studies Update

J. Rode gave an update on the current list of transportation studies to be included in the next 2 year cycle of the UPWP.

Informational Item #5: LOTCIP Program Update

J. Rode provided an update. Two new applications for project funding have been received. These were North Haven Safety Improvements at Church Street and Broadway and City of West Haven Sidewalk Project in addition North Branford had requested funding to complete an Application Packet for Sea Hill Road Project. J Rode requested approval from the committee. Chairman Cosgrove asked for a motion. The motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously.

J. Plaziak made a motion to adjourn at 12:45, J Hoefflerle seconded.

2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - Amendment Number 6

Project 0061-0158 – FCHT Phase 2 – Crossing Improvements

Changes: Amendment 6 adds new project

Reason: This project will improve safety at six locations where the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail crosses local roads in Hamden. Funded through the Transportation Alternatives Program, the project includes raised crosswalks, sidewalks, minor drainage work, pavement markings, signs, and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons. Design oversight costs will be covered under separate state and federal projects.

0061-0158 - FCHT PHASE 2 - CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS

Lead Agency	CTDOT
Project Type	FHWA
Region	8
Town	HAMDEN
Air Quality Status	-
Total Cost	\$2,680,000
Project Description	FCHT PHASE 2 - CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS

Phase	Fund Source	Prior	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	Future	Total
Construction	Local Match	-	-	-	\$536,000	-	-	\$536,000
Construction	TAP-FLEX	-	-	-	\$2,000,000	-	-	\$2,000,000
Construction	TAPNH	-	-	-	\$144,000	-	-	\$144,000
Total Construction		-	-	-	\$2,680,000	-	-	\$2,680,000
Total Programmed		-	-	-	\$2,680,000	-	-	\$2,680,000

Resolution

Fiscal Year 2025-Fiscal Year 2028 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Six

Whereas: U.S. Department of Transportation “Metropolitan Planning Regulations” (23 CFR 450) prescribe that each metropolitan planning organization maintain a financially constrained multi-modal transportation improvement program consistent with a *State Implementation Plan for Air Quality (SIP)* conforming to both U.S. Environmental Protection Administration-established air quality guidelines and *SIP*-established mobile source emissions budgets; and

Whereas: The Council, per 23 CFR 450.324 and in cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) and public transit operators and relying upon financial constraints offered by ConnDOT, adopted a *Fiscal Year 2025-Fiscal Year 2028 Transportation Improvement Program* on April 24, 2024, after finding the *Program* conforming per U.S. Environmental Protection Administration (U.S. EPA) final conformity rule (40 CFR 51 and 93) and relevant Connecticut Department of Transportation air quality conformity determinations: *Air Quality Conformity Reports: Fiscal Year 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program* and the Region’s *Metropolitan Transportation Plans—2023 to 2050, (April, 2023)*; and

Whereas: The Council, on April 24, 2024, indicated that periodic *Program* adjustment or amendment was possible; and

Whereas: Projects referenced in the *Program* amendment (below) are consistent with the region’s metropolitan transportation plan *Metropolitan Transportation Plans—2023 to 2050, (April 2023)*; and

Whereas: Council *Public Participation Guidelines: Transportation Planning* have been observed during the development of the proposed *Program* amendment (below); and

Whereas: By agreement between the Council and the Connecticut Department of Transportation, public involvement activities carried out by the South Central Regional Council of Governments in response to U.S. Department of Transportation metropolitan planning requirements are intended to satisfy the requirements associated with development of a *Statewide Transportation Improvement Program* and/or its amendment; and

Resolution

**Fiscal Year 2025-Fiscal Year 2028 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment Six
(Continued)**

Whereas: The Council of Governments' review of transportation goals, projects and opportunities may result in further adjustment or amendment of the *Program*.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Council of Governments:

The Program Amendment Six shall be transmitted to the Connecticut Department of Transportation, for inclusion in the *State Transportation Improvement Program*

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the South Central Regional Council of Governments certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the South Central Regional Council of Governments on **March 26, 2025**

Date March 26, 2025

By: _____

Mayor Dorinda Borer, Secretary

South Central Regional Council of Governments