



## **RECORD OF MEETING**

Greater Waterbury Transit District Board Meeting  
March 12, 2025 at 10:00 am

### Commencement of Meeting, Roll Call

At 10 a.m., Chair Betty Bajek called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attendance: Betty Bajek, Chair; Aleta Looker, Stefanie Theroux, Jan Mizeski, Debbie Bournival, Karen Harvey, Mary Morrone, Mira Levasseur. NVCOG Staff: Trish Bauer, Joanna Rogalski, Patricia Bruder. Guest: Michael D'Elia, The Kennedy Collective.

### Public Comment

There were no members of the public that wished to speak.

### Approval of Minutes

Deborah Bournival MOVED to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2024 meeting; SECONDED by Karen Harvey. Motion carried unanimously.

### Approval of GWTD 2025 Meeting Schedule

The board discussed the possibility of changing the meeting time from 10 am to 1:30 pm for the remaining meetings of the year. It was the consensus to leave it as is and revisit the time change for 2026. It will be placed on the agenda of the December meeting.

### **Greater Waterbury Transit District (GWTD)**

Meets at 10 a.m. quarterly (March, June, September and December) on the second Wednesday of the month. The default location is virtual using the NVCOG ZOOM account.

March 12, 2025  
June 11, 2025  
September 10, 2025  
December 10, 2025

Betty Bajek MOVED to accept the meeting schedule with the 10 am start; SECONDED by Deborah Bournival. Motion carried unanimously.

## GWTD Administrative Items

### Financial Update

Joanna reported that the finances are in a good position with expenses and revenues. We're still waiting for funding from the municipal grant program from the State of Connecticut for the Dial-a-Ride services. Trish Bauer suggested giving some thought to some advertising for Dial-a-Ride.

Joanna noted that the financial review by the auditor came back totally clean, no problems.

### Ridership Update

Joanna reviewed the Dial-a-Ride and Non-ADA ridership numbers as displayed on a graph for the board. The Dial-a-Ride numbers have increased over the last year. Non-ADA has been less than last year.

In response to a question whether the District is breaking even with expenses, Joanna explained that the municipal grant program funding funds the Dial-a-Ride and goes directly to NET for their services and administrative costs. The non-ADA is matched by the municipalities with the match based on the previous year's ridership.

Joanna offered to review the reports with Aleta after the meeting as she was having trouble understanding them.

### Discussion of GWTD FY26 Budget Adoption Process

In reviewing the by-laws of the GWTD, it was brought to staff's attention by the attorney that the GWTD needs to follow the budget process outlined in CGS 7-273f for transit districts. This involves holding a public hearing before voting on adoption and then publishing the budget before appropriations. GWTD may hold a special meeting before the next quarterly meeting to accept public comment and vote on adoption. The group discussed the need for publication of the budget and possible alternatives to that. Joanna will discuss this with the attorney.

### Northeast Transportation Update

Maria Vaccarelli was not in attendance.

### Discussion of FFT24 5310 Grant Program

Applications for the 5310 grants are due April 1, 2025. If you are applying for a Traditional Capital grant, you need to publish an announcement by this Friday, March 14, 2025. NVCOG is available to review application for completeness.

In response to a question, Joanna explained that the grant will be federally funded in the amounts of 80% for capital, and 50% for operating costs.

### Open Discussion

Karen Harvey asked for an update on the purchase of electric vans. She rode in one in November and felt it was nice but small. She will send an email to Maria asking about it. Joanna will follow up. She continued to say that she enjoys receiving a text confirmation after scheduling a ride, letting her know that the van is enroute and the time of arrival. She is also concerned about the political climate regarding the status of federal funding and DEI, and how it may affect GWTD.

Joanna assured the Board that NVCOG is proceeding with business as usual. We are dedicated to providing multimodal safe, effective, meaningful transportation options for all people.

Betty reported that the CT DOT has an active transportation microgrant program offering small grants up to \$5,000 to communities, schools, and organizations including health districts. They fund projects that encourage walking, biking, and improve safety, fostering an awareness around active transportation. Joanna added, NVCOG can help people apply for that; the deadline is March 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Adjournment

Karen Howard MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Aleta Looker. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:36 am.

The next meeting will be held at 10 a.m. June 11, 2025 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia M. Bruder  
Executive Administrative Clerk