

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT
SPECIAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
ETD OFFICES, 91 N. Main Street, Middletown, CT with Remote Option
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024, AT 2:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Leslie Strauss, ETD Board Chair, acting as temporary chair, due to illness of Joan Gay, regular chair, at 2:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was established with the following committee members present: Joan Gay (ZOOM), John Hall, and Christine Marques (ZOOM)

Absent: Jim Irish

Also in attendance: Staff: Joe Comerford and Christina Denison

Board Members: Leslie Strauss, ETD Board Chair (ZOOM) and Charles Norz, ETD Board Member, Old Saybrook (ZOOM)

CT DOT: Graham Curtis, Bus Capital Programs, Asst. Administrator (ZOOM)

FACILITIES PLAN WITH DOT

A copy of the Facilities Progress Plan was included in the meeting packet.

Graham Curtis reported:

Architecture & Engineering

Facilities Master Plan –

- The plan has been completed.
- Calculations regarding the amount of compensatory fill needed have been submitted.
- DOT will engage an on-call consultant to design the building once approval for the fill is received.
- More public outreach will be done as the design progresses. Some neighbors have expressed concerns with the City of Middletown. DOT has been responsive to the comments. Some landscaping and fencing may be needed.
- Electrification of buses –
 - Infrastructure has been completed.
 - The district's 2 electric buses have been delivered to Hartford and are undergoing final inspections before being delivered to Middletown. Portable chargers are being delivered to Middletown later in the day.

Comerford reported that the Governor is giving transit districts some relief when it comes to purchasing diesel buses; waivers will be granted on a case-by-case basis.

Shoreline Facility –

- A long list of 10 properties was identified and reduced to 5. Towns are being contacted regarding possible economic development which may already be planned for the sites. If none, the sites will be toured, and property owners contacted.
- The Westbrook feasibility study will be used.

Middletown Terminal Renovation –

- CTDOT will schedule a meeting with stakeholders for the end of the month.
- Possible alternate designs are being looked at.

Hall made a motion, seconded by Gay, to approve the Facilities Plan with DOT Plan report. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Bus Shelter Program— CTDOT is waiting for design approval from the City of Middletown.

Tap and Ride - Comerford attended a press conference earlier in the day to kick-off the Tap and Ride pilot program; also in attendance were representatives from USDOT and the FTA Regional office. Comerford reported that the program was soft launched on Monday with few issues. He discussed long-term goals for the program and answered questions from the committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Joan Gay made a motion, seconded by John Hall, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Middletown Terminal Expansion/Renovation at 2:45 p.m. All attendees were invited into the session. Regular session resumed at 3:00 p.m. No motions were made.

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Meeting Schedule - The committee will continue to meet on the second Tuesday of every other month at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Denison
Clerk