

Regular MetroCOG Board Meeting  
Thursday May 28, 2026 at 10:00 AM  
Connecticut Metropolitan Council of Governments  
1000 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

Name

Representing

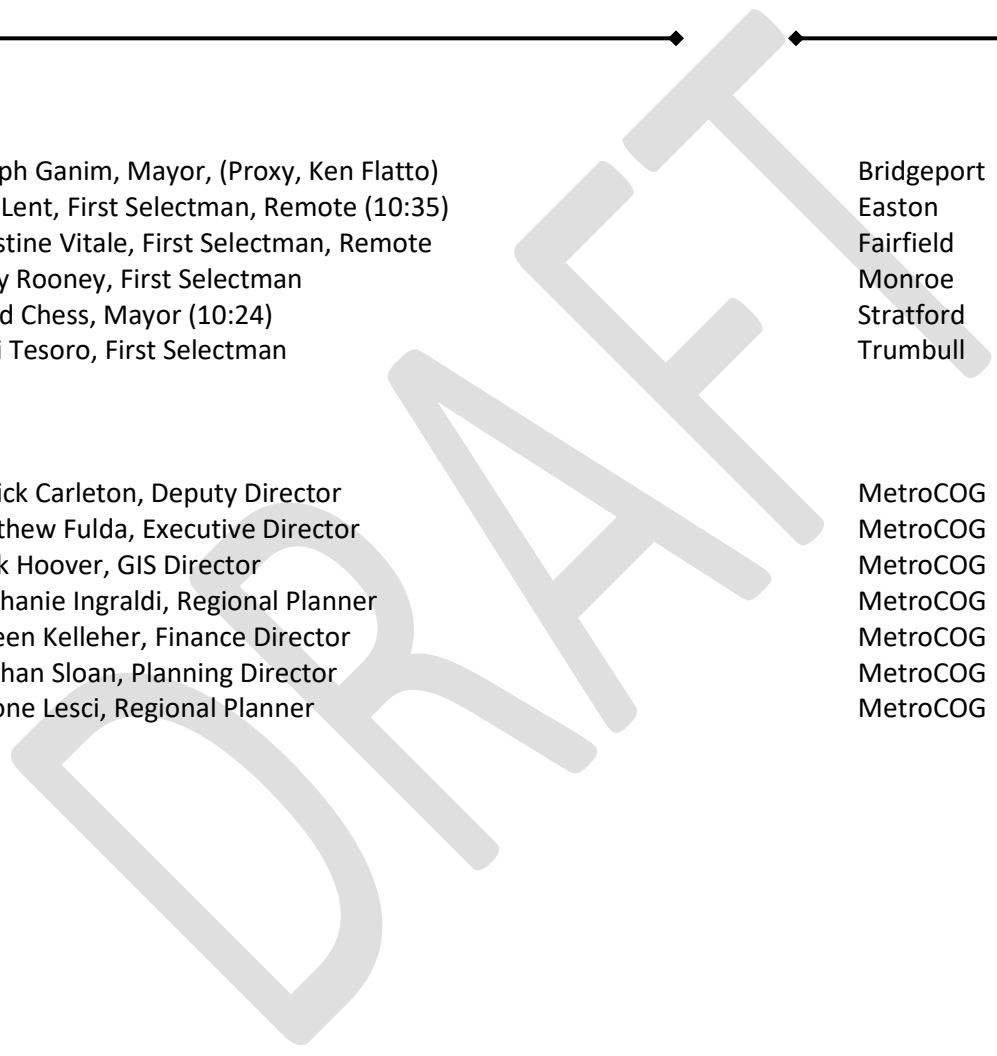


Joseph Ganim, Mayor, (Proxy, Ken Flatto)  
Dan Lent, First Selectman, Remote (10:35)  
Christine Vitale, First Selectman, Remote  
Terry Rooney, First Selectman  
David Chess, Mayor (10:24)  
Vicki Tesoro, First Selectman

Bridgeport  
Easton  
Fairfield  
Monroe  
Stratford  
Trumbull

Patrick Carleton, Deputy Director  
Matthew Fulda, Executive Director  
Mark Hoover, GIS Director  
Stephanie Ingraldi, Regional Planner  
Colleen Kelleher, Finance Director  
Meghan Sloan, Planning Director  
Simone Lesci, Regional Planner

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## Minutes

### I. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, First Selectman Tesoro at 10:18am. Mr. Fulda performed the roll call.

### II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. **Public Participation**

No public comments.

### IV. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

#### a. **March 26 , 2026 (Attachment A)**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from January by First Selectman Rooney and was seconded by First Selectperson Vitale. No further discussion. The motion was carried unanimously.

### V. **Action Item**

#### a. **FY 2027 MetroCOG Health Benefits (Attachment B)**

A motion was made by First Selectperson Vitale and was seconded by First Selectman Rooney. Mr. Fulda provided an explanation, noting that MetroCOG Health Benefits will increase by approximately 15%, based on recommendations from the healthcare consultant. Mr. Fulda stated that the increases are still lower than the current market rates and recommended retaining Anthem. First Selectman Rooney and First Selectman Tesoro discussed health care cost increases occurring across the state and in municipalities. Mr. Flatto discussed partnership plans but noted that higher increases are expected under those arrangements. Mr. Fulda stated that he is looking into partnership plans, although they would likely result in higher health care costs. No further discussion, the motion was carried unanimously.

### VI. **Discussion Items**

#### a. **FY2027 Draft Budget (Attachment C)**

Ms. Kelleher provided an explanation regarding the budget. She noted a \$400,000 increase in funding for stormwater and housing initiatives. Expenses for consultants are reimbursable, and MetroCOG plans to hire one to two additional planners. She also stated that a deficit is expected for PURA legal costs; however, assistance is being provided through WestCOG. Mr. Flatto asked a question regarding legal services, but the matter will be discussed during executive session. First Selectperson Vitale asked a question regarding WPCA line items in the budget. Mr. Fulda and Ms. Kelleher provided a response and stated that administrative changes will be made to the WPCA budget line items. No further discussion.

#### b. **2027 Eagleview Flight (Pictometry)**

Mr. Fulda provided an explanation regarding the aerial flight program. Since 2013, aerial flights have been conducted every three years. Pictometry provides a 360-degree view of the participating towns, and MetroCOG has continued the program on a three-year cycle.

The next flight is scheduled for next spring, and the data will be available to the towns for the following three years. Formal adoption will be brought forward in June. MetroCOG covers the cost during the first year, and the remaining balance is split among the towns over the next two years, pending approval by the towns. Mr. Fulda noted that the program is especially useful for assessors in identifying properties that may not have been properly assessed. No further discussion.

**c. Regional POCD**

Mr. Fulda provided an explanation regarding the ongoing work related to the POCD. He stated that short informational videos are currently being drafted and that work is continuing on the POCD and narrative draft. Ms. Sloan provided additional information regarding the videos. Mr. Fulda noted that, by statute, there will be a public comment period, and notices will also be provided. Following the public comment period, the document may be formally adopted. No further discussion occurred.

**d. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update**

Mr. Fulda and Mr. Carleton provided an explanation regarding the update to the CEDS. Noah Miller (Regional Planner) and Mr. Carleton are working on the update, which will allow access to additional federal funding opportunities. No further discussion.

**e. Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant Update**

Mr. Fulda provided an explanation and stated that MetroCOG is currently working on onboarding a consultant. First Selectman Tesoro asked a question regarding the grant, and Mr. Fulda provided a response. No further discussion.

**f. Housing Bill – Zoning Update**

Mr. Fulda provided an update regarding the July 1<sup>st</sup> Municipal Zoning requirements, noting that the deadline has not been extended by the General Assembly. A consultant has been selected and is currently being onboarded. The consultant will serve as a resource for zoning regulations, and state funding will cover the consultant's costs to assist municipalities. First Selectman Rooney expressed disappointment that the Connecticut General Assembly did not extend the July 1<sup>st</sup> requirements and also discussed concerns regarding the language in the legislation. First Selectman Tesoro expressed appreciation for the assistance being provided by MetroCOG. No further discussion.

**g. CPRG Update**

Mr. Fulda provided an update regarding the CPRG. Mr. Carleton provided an explanation of the CPRG plan and stated that it will be resubmitted in June. The grant is expected to help fund staffing and projects. One of the proposed projects includes assessing energy utilization in municipally owned buildings and conducting energy audits. First Selectman Rooney noted that a Facility Planning Committee has been established and expressed appreciation for these types of projects, particularly as they relate to energy efficiency. No further discussion.

**VII. Executive Session (Legal)**

A motion was made to enter Executive Session at 10:43 a.m. by Mayor Chess and seconded by First Selectmen Rooney.

**VIII. Other Business**

**a. Next Meeting Dates:**

- i. June 25, 2026
- ii. July 30, 2026

**IX. Adjourn**

First Selectmen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. and was seconded by Mayor Chess.

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Christine Vitale, MetroCOG Secretary

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