

**BUREAU OF PUBLIC WORKS
SPECIAL MEETING**

555 Main Street, Hartford
January 28, 2026

Present: Commissioners John Avedisian, John Bazzano, William DiBella, David Drake, Byron Lester, James Woulfe and District Chairman Donald Currey (7)

Remote

Attendance: Commissioners Richard Bush, Joan Gentile and Gary Johnson (3)

Absent: Commissioners James Healy, Maureen Magnan, Bhupen Patel and Alvin Taylor (4)

Also

Present: Commissioner John Gale
Commissioner Dominic Pane
Commissioner Christopher Tierinni
Commissioner Byron Lester (Remote Attendance)
Citizen Member Awet Tsegai
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
Christopher Stone, District Counsel
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Christopher Levesque, Chief Operating Officer
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer
Jonathan Perugini, Chief Financial Officer/Director of Finance
Sue Negrelli, Director of Engineering
Dave Ruty, Director of Operations
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Systems (Remote Attendance)
Tom Tyler, Director of Facilities (Remote Attendance)
Michael Curley, Manager of Engineering
Jason Waterbury, Assistant Manager of Engineering
Jessica Coelho, Senior Project Manager
Annie Dengler, Project Engineer 1
Victoria Escoriza, Assistant Administrative Officer and Special Assistant
Julie Price, Executive Assistant
Kevin Sullivan, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Matt McAuliffe, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Elizabeth Tavelli, Independent Consumer Advocate (Remote Attendance)

CALL TO ORDER

District Counsel Christopher Stone called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

District Counsel Christopher Stone called for the election of the Chairperson. Commissioner Bazzano placed Commissioner Calixto Torres' name in nomination, the nomination was duly seconded by Commissioner Avedisian.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner Torres was elected Chairman of the Bureau of Public Works for 2026 and 2027 by unanimous vote of those present. Chairperson Torres assumed the Chair and thanked the Bureau of Public Works.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

Chairman Torres called for the election of the Vice Chairperson. Commissioner DiBella placed Commissioner John Bazzano's name in nomination, the nomination was duly seconded by Commissioner Woulfe.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner Bazzano was elected Vice Chairman of the Bureau of Public Works for 2026 and 2027 by unanimous vote of those present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

INDEPENDENT CONSUMER ADVOCATE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

Independent Consumer Advocate Elizabeth Tavelli did not have any comments or questions relative to agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On motion made by Commissioner DiBella and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of November 19, 2025 and public hearing minutes of December 1, 2025 were approved. Commissioner Drake abstained.

REPORT OF HEARING AND LAYOUT & ASSESSMENT WOLCOTT HILL ROAD, WETHERSFIELD

Annie Dengler, Project Engineer I, and Jessica Coehlo, Senior Project Manager, briefed the Bureau on the public hearing and potential layout and assessment of a Wolcott Hill Road sewer extension.

Without objection, Chairman Torres tabled item #7 "Report of Hearing and Layout & Assessment - Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield", until after agenda item #10 "Summary of Assessable Sewer Fund and Priority Assessable Projects" is discussed.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSABLE SEWER FUND AND PRIORITY ASSESSABLE PROJECTS

Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering, provided a report on the assessable sewer fund and priority assessable projects. No action was taken.

Commissioner Bush entered the meeting remotely at 6:09PM

REPORT OF HEARING AND LAYOUT & ASSESSMENT WOLCOTT HILL ROAD, WETHERSFIELD

To: Bureau of Public Works for consideration on January 26, 2026

The Metropolitan District received a petition from the property owners of 283, 290, 295, 296, and 298 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, on April 18, 2024, requesting public sanitary sewer service.

On November 14, 2025, a preliminary schedule of assessments for the above captioned project was mailed to all property owners who would be involved in a proposed sewer layout serving a portion of Wolcott Hill Road.

A public hearing was held on Monday, December 1, 2025, chaired by Commissioner Peter Gardow. Of the three property owners who attended the hearing (one in person and two virtually), all three spoke in favor, citing the need for sewers due to their aging and failing septic systems and not enough property to expand their existing septic systems. The property owner who was opposed to the project from the canvass did not attend the public hearing or submit a formal comment following the public hearing.

The current overall opinions regarding the need and desirability of public sanitary sewers, including those received by canvass and at the public hearing, are as follows: four (4) in favor, one (1) opposed, and zero (0) did not respond.

Kristen Amodio, R.S., Supervising Sanitarian at the Central Connecticut Health District, in an email from September 29, 2025, stated "Yes, we are in support of the sewer extension as it will provide a sanitary condition to the disposal of sewage. It appears these homes are currently served by a private subsurface sewage disposal system. Once their septic system fails, then the property would need to connect to the sanitary sewer. We would request documentation from the homeowner stating that the septic tank was properly abandoned."

District staff and the Commissioner present at the public hearing recommend that this project be approved due to the public health issue in the area.

The estimated cost and benefit summary for this project is as follows:

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST:

310 feet of 8-inch sewer main and 220 feet of 6-inch laterals	\$609,600.00
Contingencies (25%)	<u>\$152,400.00</u>
Total Estimated Construction Cost	\$762,000.00

ESTIMATED OTHER COSTS:

Total Estimated Other Costs (Advertising, Inspections, etc.)	<u>\$138,000.00</u>
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TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST: \$900,000.00

~~The source of funding summary is as follows:~~

~~Estimated Direct Assessments to be Accrued to
the Assessable Sewer Fund~~ \$82,780.00

~~Deficit to be charged to the Assessable Sewer Fund~~ \$817,220.00

~~TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST: \$900,000.00~~

The deficit on this project is high due to the high construction cost as a direct result of the existing rock within the soil profile of the project area that requires removal for construction of a new sanitary sewer main and laterals.

After consideration of the above and any other comments by the Commissioner present at the public hearing, it is RECOMMENDED that it be

VOTED: That a layout and schedule of assessments for construction of sanitary sewers in a portion of Wolcott Hill Road in Wethersfield, be published using the schedule of flat rates adopted December 5, 2016 and effective January 1, 2019, at \$111.50 per front foot or adjusted front foot; \$4,420.00 per inlet or lateral; and, in addition, for property used or zoned for single residential dwelling units at \$1,655.00 per dwelling unit or dwelling unit allowed by zoning on a buildable lot, with notice to any property owner aggrieved by these proceedings that he or she may appeal from the actions of the Metropolitan District and its Bureau of Public Works to the Superior Court.

AND

VOTED: That the Controller be requested to make tentative allocations for this project pending passage of the layout by the District Board, and pending determination of actual costs, in accordance with the following schedule, which schedule is based on the Engineer's estimated cost and on the estimated assessment, as follows:

Direct Assessment ~~to be Accrued to
the Assessable Sewer Fund~~ \$82,780.00

Deficit ~~to be charged to the Assessable
Sewer Fund—~~

\$817,220.00

Total Estimated Project Cost:

\$900,000.00

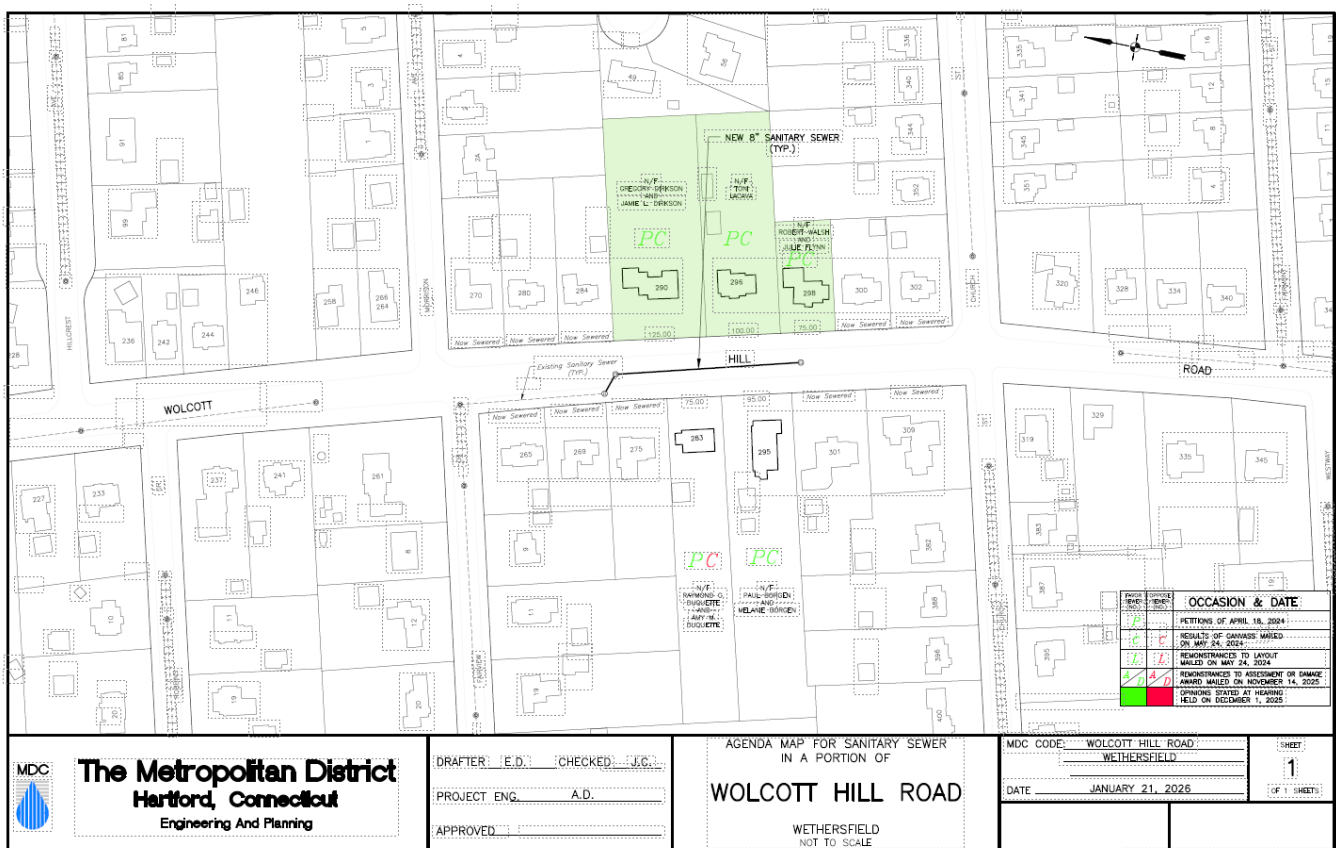
AND

VOTED:

To transmit to the District Board a resolution to layout and authorize construction of public sanitary sewers in a portion of Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, as set forth in the layout and schedule of assessments by the Bureau of Public Works; ~~and payment for the same is authorized from the Assessable Sewer fund.~~

Respectfully submitted,

John Mirtle
John S. Mirtle
District Clerk



District Chairman Currey made a motion to approve the project going forward striking all reference to funding in the resolution presented to the Bureau and it be referred to the Board of Finance with their charge being making a recommendation of funding source to the District Board. The amendment was duly seconded and approved by unanimous vote of those present. The resolution, as amended, was adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

EASEMENT AT LOOMIS CHAFFEE SCHOOL IN WINDSOR – ISLAND ROAD PUMP STATION

Without objection, agenda item #8 “Easement at Loomis Chaffee School in Windsor – Island Road Pump Station” was skipped because it was not ready.

POTENTIAL PROGRAM FOR STORMWATER CONNECTIONS IN SEPARATED MEMBER TOWNS

Assistant Manager of Engineering Jason Waterbury led a discussion on a potential program for stormwater connections in member towns.

CLOSEOUT OF DORMANT SEWER PETITIONS

To: Bureau of Public Works for consideration on January 28, 2026

Staff is recommending the closure of the petitions on the list provided.

VOTED: That the Bureau of Public Works recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That, in accordance with Section S10a of the District Ordinances, the attached list of sewer petition requests previously received by the Board and referred to the Bureau of Public Works for study, shall be closed without further action:

Date Received	Project Name	Town
4/5/2004	331 Tunxis Avenue	Bloomfield
11/19/2001	261 Ridgewood Rd	West Hartford
7/1/2001	551 South Main Street	West Hartford
10/18/2001 & 5/20/2013	Evans Road & Laurel Road	Rocky Hill
1/7/2013	201 Stoner Dr	West Hartford
3/19/2012	104 Latimer St	East Hartford
6/28/2004	Shady Brook Drive	West Hartford

8/29/2008	122-132 Wintonbury Avenue	Bloomfield
5/5/2021	536 Prospect Hill Road	Windsor
7/1/2019	377 Simsbury Road	Bloomfield
2/4/2019	6 Victor Street	Bloomfield

FURTHER RESOLVED: That, in accordance with Section S10a of the District Ordinances, the attached list of sewer petition requests previously received by the Board and referred to the Bureau of Public Works for study, shall be closed. Owners will be contacted and have the option to re-petition at a later time:

Date Received	Project Name	Town
5/16/2008	Ten Acre La/Sunset Meadows Assoc	West Hartford
4/8/2002	West Dudley Town Rd	Bloomfield
11/4/2008	62 Orchard Road	West Hartford
7/9/2001	65 Adams Rd	Bloomfield

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

On motion made by District Chairman Currey and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

Date of Approval

**Video of the full January 28, 2026 Bureau of Public Works meeting is available at
<https://www.youtube.com/@MetropolitanDistrictCommission> **