



Operations Committee - Board of Representatives

Virgil de la Cruz, Chair

Carmine Tomas, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, March 20, 2025
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held remotely.*

The Operations Committee met as indicated above.

In attendance were Chair de la Cruz, Vice-Chair Tomas and Committee Member Reps. Boeger, Graham, Ley, Mays, Sherwood, and Stella. Also in attendance were Reps. Adams, Campbell, Camporeale, Figueroa, Matheny, Moore, Strain, Summerville, Walston, Williams, Lou Casolo, City Engineer, Scott Butch, Director of Facilities and members of the public. Absent/excused was Rep. Watkins.

Chair de la Cruz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Invitee(s) or Designee(s)
1. <u>O31.068</u>	RESOLUTION for Public Hearing; for selecting the alternative for replacement of the West Main Street Bridge. 02/04/25 – Submitted by Rep. de la Cruz 02/20/25 – Approved as amended 6-3-0 03/03/25 – Recommitted to Steering by full Board 03/20/25 – Approved by committee 6-2-0	APPROVED 6-2-0

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:33 p.m. A total of 21 members of the public spoke both in support of and in opposition of Item O31.068: Resolution for selecting the alternative for replacing the West Main Street Bridge (Option 4A). Additional written testimony from the public was emailed to the Board of Representatives and was added to the legislative file for this item. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:51 p.m.

Additional discussion regarding this item was held between the committee members and the ex-officio members of the Board of Representatives present at the meeting. Some points of discussion in both the Public Hearing and the discussion period afterwards were:

- The size and weight capacity of the existing pedestrian bridge in comparison to the size and weight of Stamford's largest emergency response vehicles
- Inaccessibility of the pedestrian bridge for individuals with mobility aides
- Crime and trash found by the bridge
- Having a dead-end road (with the pedestrian-only bridge) in the middle of downtown
- Safety (pedestrian, children, and neighborhood) and air pollution impacts of vehicular traffic around the West Main Street Bridge
- Redlining and gentrification of the West Side of Stamford
- The original historic bridge had both pedestrian and vehicular traffic for its 110+ year history before being replaced with the current pedestrian only bridge.

A motion to approve Item 1 as written was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 6-2-0 (Chair de la Cruz, Vice-Chair Tomas, Reps. Boeger, Graham, Sherwood, and Stella in favor, Reps. Ley and Mays not in favor).

2. O31.049 REVIEW; Obligations of City to Maintain and Repair Unaccepted Roads.

03/06/24 – Submitted by Rep. Pierre-Louis

03/11/24 – Held at Steering

04/15/24 – Recommitted to Steering 7-0-0

05/20/24 – Recommitted to Steering 5-0-0

06/17-24 – No Action Taken

07/15/24 – Held at Steering

08/12/24 – Held at Steering

02/20/25 – Held by Committee 8-0-0

03/20/25 – Recommitted to Steering 8-0-0

**RECOMMIT
TO
STEERING
8-0-0**

Chair de la Cruz notified the committee of Director Quiñones' email stating he could not attend the meeting to discuss Items 2, 3, 5 or 6. Questions were asked if Director Quiñones provided any information in the email to update these items, which there was not.

A motion to recommit Items 2, 5 and 6 to Steering was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Chair de la Cruz, Vice-Chair Tomas, Reps. Boeger, Graham, Ley, Mays, Sherwood and Stella in favor).

3. O31.069 REVIEW; status and update on the South End Community Center Repairs.

03/05/25 – Submitted by Reps. Adams and Graham

03/20/25 – Recommitted to Steering 8-0-0

**RECOMMIT
TO
STEERING
8-0-0**

Director Butch answered questions from the submitters of the item regarding the status of the different work required to reopen the South End Community Center, with working including:

- Why a redesign of the hot water heaters, boilers and electrical systems instead of 1:1 replacement of affected systems was required
- Asbestos remediation
- Construction schedule

A motion to recommit Item 3 to Steering was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Chair de la Cruz, Vice-Chair Tomas, Reps. Boeger, Graham, Ley, Mays, Sherwood and Stella in favor).

4. [O31.070](#) APPROVAL; of 1st amendment to an agreement with Wengell, McDonnell & Costello, Inc. DBA WMC Consulting Engineers for construction engineering inspection services for the replacement of Hunting Ridge Road Bridge. No. 135009.
2/27/2025 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
03/17/25 – To be Considered by the Board of Finance
03/17/25 – Approved by Board of Finance 6-0-0
03/20/25 – Approved by committee 8-0-0
- APPROVED
8-0-0**

City Engineer Casolo was available for questions regarding the item. A motion to approve Item 4 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Chair de la Cruz, Vice-Chair Tomas, Reps. Boeger, Graham, Ley, Mays, Sherwood, and Stella in favor).

5. O31.064 REVIEW; status of opening day for cafeteria at government center
01/07/25 – Submitted by Rep. Figueroa
01/13/25 – Moved to pending
03/20/25 – Recommitted to Steering 8-0-0
- RECOMMIT
TO
STEERING
8-0-0**

A motion to recommit Items 2, 5 and 6 to Steering was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Chair de la Cruz, Vice-Chair Tomas, Reps. Boeger, Graham, Ley, Mays, Sherwood and Stella in favor).

6. O31.065 REVIEW; organizations allowed to use city hall for public meetings and the money generated from it.
01/07/25 – Submitted by Rep. Figueroa
01/13/25 – Moved to pending
03/20/25 – Recommitted to Steering 8-0-0
- RECOMMIT
TO
STEERING
8-0-0**

A motion to recommit Items 2, 5 and 6 to Steering was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Chair de la Cruz, Vice-Chair Tomas, Reps. Boeger, Graham, Ley, Mays, Sherwood and Stella in favor).

Chair de la Cruz adjourned the meeting at 10:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Virgil de la Cruz, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).