TOWN OF BROOKFIELD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Legal voters and residents of the Town of Brookfield are hereby notified that the Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing at the Brookfield Town Hall, Meeting Room 133, Brookfield, CT, on Monday, August 4, 2014, at 7:15 p.m., for the purpose of receiving public comment and opinion concerning a proposed Ordinance regarding adoption of CT General Statutes 4-124i – 4-124p to join the Western Connecticut Council of Governments. The Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials (HVCEO) and the Southwestern Regional Planning Agency (SWRPA) are consolidating into a single planning region which will be called the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WCCOG).

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk and the Town Website www.brookfieldct.gov.

Dated at Brookfield, CT, this 7th day of July, 2014.

William N. Tinsley
Martin E. Flynn, Jr.
William R. Davidson

Brookfield Board of Selectmen

ORDINANCE REGARDING THE WESTERN CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Sec. 1. Creation of Western Connecticut Council of Governments. *Upon the adoption of this ordinance, the Town of Brookfield joins with such other adopting municipalities of the Western Connecticut Planning Region to create a regional council of governments to be known as the Western Connecticut Council of Governments ("WCCOG"), and adopts the provisions of C.G.S. §§4-124i – 4-124P, as amended by Public Act 13-247, and further amended by Public Act 14-217, §§ 228 and 256.*

Sec. 2. Certification by the Secretary of OPM; Transitional Executive Committee and Transitional Period.

(a) Upon certification by the Secretary of OPM that at least sixty percent of the municipalities in the Western Connecticut Planning Region have adopted ordinances creating a regional council of governments, as required by the Connecticut General Statutes, the Western Connecticut Council of Governments shall be established.

(b) Upon such certification, a transitional period (hereafter the "Transitional Period") shall commence, and shall conclude no later than January 1, 2015. During such period the First Selectman shall participate as a member of the Transitional Executive Committee, as defined and for the purposes set forth in Section 4-124l(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended by Public Act 14-217, §§ 228 and 256. The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Brookfield shall appoint, in the manner provided by Charter, an elected official to serve as an alternate member of the Transitional Executive Committee in the absence of the First Selectman. The First Selectman also may send a representative in his or her stead; however, such representative shall not be a member of the Transitional Executive Committee.

(c) Except as provided in Section 6 below, at the conclusion of the Transitional Period, the Transitional Executive Committee shall cease to exist, and the Western Connecticut Council of Governments shall succeed to and be responsible for all of the rights, privileges and obligations of HVCEO and SWRPA, whether statutory or contractual, relating to such active programs as may be recommended by the Transitional Executive Committee and adopted by the Western Connecticut Council of Governments following appropriate due diligence and good faith negotiations during the Transitional Period.

Sec. 3. Membership in the Western Connecticut Council of Governments. *At the conclusion of the Transitional Period, the Town of Brookfield shall be a member of the Western Connecticut Council of Governments.*

Sec. 4. Powers and Duties of the Western Connecticut Council of Governments. *Except as provided in Section 6 below, the Western Connecticut Council of Governments shall have such powers, purposes, rights, duties and responsibilities of regional councils of governments as are set forth in the Connecticut General Statutes, and as amended.*

Sec. 5. Representative to the Western Connecticut Council of Government. *The First Selectman shall be the representative of the Town of Brookfield to the Western Connecticut Council of Governments. The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Brookfield may appoint, in the manner provided by Charter, an elected official to serve as an alternate representative in the absence of the First Selectman. The First Selectman may send the alternate to meetings in his or her stead; and the alternate in that instance shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as the First Selectman. The Town of Brookfield shall notify the Western Connecticut Council of Governments in writing of the appointment of an alternate under this section. Each Town shall be entitled to one vote in the affairs of the Western Connecticut Council of Governments.*

Sec. 6. HVCEO's Continued Existence During Transitional Period. *The Town of Brookfield shall remain a member of HVCEO as it continues to operate and wind down as a regional council of elected officials and regional planning agency until the end of the Transitional Period. After the Transitional Period ends, the Town of Brookfield also may create, together with the other former HVCEO member municipalities, an unincorporated association to assume and administer all rights, privileges and obligations of HVCEO that the Transitional Executive Committee, in its sole discretion, deems unacceptable for assumption by the Western Connecticut Council of Governments. The First Selectman shall be the Town's representative to such association.*

Sec. 7. First Selectman to serve on Transitional Metropolitan Planning Organization Board. *The First Selectman shall serve as a member of the Transitional MPO Board, which has been created by HVCEO to temporarily perform the functions of the MPO for the municipalities in the former Housatonic Valley Planning Region beginning on January 1, 2015 and until such time as the Governor redesignates an MPO to serve that former region or the Western Connecticut Planning Region pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 134.*

Sec. 8. Withdrawal from HVCEO; Repeal of Prior Ordinances. *Pursuant to § 8-36a of the Connecticut General Statutes, as applicable, the Town of Brookfield hereby withdraws as a member of HVCEO, effective as of the expiration of the Transitional Period.*