

Minutes of the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Meeting

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

60 Congress Street, 2nd Floor Large Conference Room

Springfield, Massachusetts 01104

Present were:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Glenn Barrington	University of Massachusetts	Peter Frieri	MassDOT District 1
Mike Bolduc	MassDOT District 2	Laura Hanson	MassDOT District 1
Gary Briere	MassBike	Van Kacoyannakis	Civil Engineer, VHB
Dan Call	Westfield Columbia Rail Trail	Andy Krar	Town Engineer, Longmeadow
Jeremy Cigal	Civil Engineer, City of Westfield	Derek Krevat	Transportation Planner, MassDOT
Mark Cressotti	City Engineer, Westfield	Nick LaPoint	Fuss & O'Neill
Jim Czach	West Springfield DPW	Bob Peirent	Engineer, Holyoke
Nick Dines	Town of Williamsburg	Doug Roberts	Superintendent, Granville DPW
Michael Dionne	MCB Construction	Carmen Rosado	Stavros
Douglas Ellis	City Engineer, Chicopee	Matt Smith	Highway Superintendent, Chesterfield
Wayne Feiden	Northampton Planning	Marvin Ward	MassBike Easthampton
PVPC Staff			
Rana Al-Jammal	Senior Transportation Planner	Jeff McCollough	Senior Transportation Planner
Amir Kouzehkanani	Principal Transportation Planner	Dana Roscoe	Principal Planner
Andy McCaul	Senior Transportation Planner	Gary Roux	Principal Planner
		Louise Sullivan	Admin Support

1. Introductory Remarks

Jim Czach opened the JTC meeting at 10:20 a.m. and he asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Czach asked for a motion to approve the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) minutes of the November 13, 2019 meeting.

MOVED BY MARK CRESSOTTI OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD, SECONDED BY CARMEN ROSADO OF STAVROS, TO APPROVE THE JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC) MEETING MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 13, 2019 MEETING. ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Czach then moved to take up agenda item 3.

3. Pioneer Valley Regional Freight Plan - Update

PVPC Principal Planner Gary Roux called the JTC members' attention to three handout documents:

- Chapter 2: *Regional Freight Network* and Chapter 3: *Existing Conditions*
- *Regional Freight Provider Database*
- *Single Vehicle Crash Types for Commercial Vehicles* (side 1) and *Driver Contribution Circumstances for Commercial Vehicle Crashes* (side 2)

Mr. Roux reminded the JTC members that Chapter 1 of the draft Regional Freight Plan was distributed at the last JTC meeting which was held on November 13th. Mr. Roux stated that he is planning to present a complete draft Regional Freight Plan at the next JTC meeting scheduled for February 19th. Mr. Roux pointed out that pages 39 and 40 in Chapter 3 have been updated with additional information. He added that information provided by JTC members has been incorporated into all the chapters of the draft Regional Freight Plan. The chapters include congestion bottlenecks in the Pioneer Valley Region along with maps, tables and graphs. Mr. Roux explained that the *Regional Freight Provider Database* handout is a draft spreadsheet listing some of the regional freight providers. The plan is to send the draft Regional Freight Plan to the freight providers listed. Mr. Roux asked the JTC members to email the names of any regional freight providers not on appearing the list to him at gmroux@pvpc.org. Mr. Czach thanked Mr. Roux for his update and he moved on to agenda item 4.

4. Performance Measure –Update – Regional Safety Targets

Mr. Roux began by asking the MPO members to refer to two distributed handouts: *MassDOT Calendar Year 2020 (CY20) Safety Performance Measures Targets* and *MassDOT CY20 Safety Performance Measure Targets (PMI)*. Mr. Roux stated that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires that Performance Measure targets be developed for Safety Measures no later than February of this year as required under the FAST Act. Mr. Roux explained that rather than have the Pioneer Valley MPO adopt its own Safety Measures, it makes more sense to adopt the state performance targets MassDOT will provide all necessary data and do all the required reporting.

Mr. Roux explained that the 5 safety performance measures required under the FAST Act are:

- Total number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled
- Total number of incapacitating injuries
- Rate of incapacitating injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled
- Total number of combined incapacitating injuries and fatalities for non-motorized vehicles

Mr. Roux gave a brief power point presentation on the federal safety performance measures requirements and a series of charts that compared the statewide and regional trends. He explained that the Pioneer Valley region is following state trends for the 5 safety performance measures indicating that the region is benefiting from regionally programmed safety improvement projects and statewide programs to improve safety.

Mr. Roux reported that the Safety Performance Measures were discussed at the January 8th Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) meeting and the JTC voted in favor of making a recommendation to the MPO to adopt the MassDOT Safety Performance Measure Targets for 2020.

Gary Briere commented suggesting a more ambitious goal for reducing injuries and fatalities, especially for non-motorized injuries and fatalities, rather than the current target to not exceed the current average. Derek Krevat replied that the numbers that MassDOT reports have implications on how federal funding can be used. The long term goal is to reduce all injuries and fatalities to zero, but numbers over a 5 year period are difficult to predict and there is a need for flexibility in the use of safety dollars in meeting federal targets for capital projects. Mr. Roux also responded that all MPOs in Massachusetts include these performance measures in their RTP, TIP and UPWP to advance studies and projects that support these performance measures and help assist in meeting the performance measure targets.

Mr. Czach called for a motion for the JTC members to make a recommendation to the MPO to adopt the MassDOT Safety Performance Measure Targets as part of the MPO meeting in January.

MOVED BY WAYNE FEIDEN, OF THE CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, SECONDED BY GARY BRIERE OF MASSBIKE, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE PIONEER VALLEY MPO ADOPT THE 2020 MASSDOT SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES. ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Czach thanked Mr. Roux for his presentation and he moved on to agenda item #5.

5. Joint Transportation Committee Bylaws - Review

Mr. Czach reported that he and the PVPC staff recently reviewed the Bylaws of the Pioneer Valley Joint Transportation Committee. Referring to the handout document entitled *Bylaws of the Pioneer Valley Joint Transportation Committee*, Mr. Czach noted the proposed changes to the bylaws are highlighted in yellow and proposed deletions in ~~strike through~~ text. Some of the JTC members commented that they hadn't had an opportunity to review the handout document yet. Mr. Czach replied that the JTC members will have a month to review the draft bylaws document. He asked them to send their comments to Gary Roux by Monday, February 3rd, and a revised version of the bylaws will be presented at the February JTC meeting.

Mr. Czach thanked Mr. Roux and asked PVPC Senior Transportation Planner Andy McCaul to give an update on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

6. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – TIP (2020 Project Status and 2021 – 2025 Development Schedule

PVPC Senior Transportation Planner Andy McCaul asked the JTC members to advise the PVPC staff if they have a new project for they would like considered for the TIP. He announced that Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) forms will be sent to all municipalities by the end of this week. Mr. McCaul stated that he will follow up the distribution of TEC forms with a letter to the Chief Elected Officials in each municipality. He further reported that a version of today's distributed draft *2021-2025 PVMPO Project Universe* will be presented to the MPO members at their January 28th meeting along with the *2021 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development Schedule* document as discussed and agreed upon at today's meeting.

Mr. McCaul explained that this year's MassDOT "TIP Days" are scheduled for February 10 – 13 during which time PVPC staff will meet with all MassDOT sections to review the status of transportation projects that may be

funded in the next TIP cycle. Also, the TIP sub-committee meeting will be held on February 12th to review updated TEC forms. The JTC meeting will be held on the third Wednesday of the month on February 19th at which time there will be a discussion of TIP projects and proposed prioritization based on new TEC rankings.

Mr. McCaul announced that the MPO members will see the newly ranked Universe of TIP projects for the first time at their February 25th meeting. He then discussed the remaining dates in the *2021 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development Schedule* document as follows:

- > March 12 - JTC reviews MPO members and identify a preliminary project
- > March 19 - JTC reviews JTC recommended list of projects and provides feedback
- > April 5 - JTC completes review of TIP based on feedback project applications MPO members JTC makes recommendations to MPO for the next steps -> the 2021-2025 TIP
- > April 12 - JTC completes review of TIP based on feedback project applications MPO members JTC makes recommendations to MPO for the next steps -> the 2021-2025 TIP
- > April 19 - JTC reviews JTC recommended list of 2021-2025 TIP projects that project applications, releases TIP for public review and comment
- > April 26 through May 19 - TIP is public review and comment
- > May 12 - JTC reviews and comments on TIP submitted for public review -> TIP Public Hearing
- > May 19 - JTC makes and releases TIP comments before making final TIP implementation

Mr. Czach thanked Mr. McCaul for his thorough and detailed presentation and he moved on to the next agenda item.

7. Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) – Current Activities

Mr. Czach announced that because Paul Burns-Johnson, PVTA’s Planning and Analysis Manager, was not present, this agenda item will be skipped.

8. Other Business

- MassTrails Program – Next round of funding applications due 2/1/20

PVPC Senior Transportation Planner Jeff McCollough announced the opportunity for trail projects under the MassTrails Program. Applications are due by February 1st. Eligible grant activities include project development, design, engineering, permitting, construction, and maintenance of recreational trails. Mr. McCollough referred the JTC members to the MassTrails website at www.mass.gov/guides/masstrails-grants.

Mr. McCollough also announced that last night, the Town of Ware’s Complete Streets Policy was approved. He encouraged the JTC members to contact any PVPC staff member for more information about the MassDOT Complete Streets Funding Program. The website is www.mass.gov/complete-streets-funding-program.

There being no other business to conduct, Mr. Czach called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

9. Adjourn

MOVED BY MARK CRESSOTTI OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD, SECONDED BY GARY BRIERE OF MASSBIKE, TO ADJOURN THE JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC) MEETING AT 11:07 A.M. ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIES.

Relevant Documents Distributed at this January 8, 2020 JTC Meeting:

- *Joint Transportation Committee January 8, 2020 Meeting Agenda*
- *Minutes of the November 13, 2019 Joint Transportation Committee Meeting*
- *2021 – 2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Development Schedule*
- *January 2020 MassDOT Safety Performance Measures*
- *Draft 2021 – 2025 PVMPO Project Universe – January 2020*
- *Pioneer Valley Regional Freight Network*
- *Regional Freight Provider Database*
- *Bylaws of the Pioneer Valley Joint Transportation Committee*
- *MassDOT FY20 Safety Performance Measure Targets (PM1)*
- *Massachusetts Calendar Year 2020 Safety Performance Measure Targets*