

Minutes of the Virtual Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Meeting
Wednesday, May 11, 2022
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
60 Congress Street, Springfield, Massachusetts 01104

Present were:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Daryl Amaral	MassDOT District 2	Peter Frieri	MassDOT District 1
Glen Barrington	University of Massachusetts	Betsy Johnson	WalkSpringfield
Randy Brown	DPW Director, Southwick	Timothy Keane	Town Engineer, Longmeadow
Paul Burns	Pioneer Valley Transit Authority	Van Kacoyannakis	Civil Engineer, VHB
Tom Christensen	Town of East Longmeadow	Andrew Krar	City Engineer, Springfield
Mark Cressotti	City Engineer, Westfield	Dmitriy Mayboroda	Sr. Project Mgr., McMahon Assoc.
Nick Dines	Town of Williamsburg	Dan Murphy	City of Easthampton
Bill Dwyer	Town of Hadley	Robert Peirent	City of Holyoke
Doug Ellis	City of Chicopee	Carmen Rosado	Stavros
Wayne Feiden	City of Northampton	Steve Savaria	Sr. Project Mgr., Fuss & O'Neill
		Marvin Ward	MassBike Easthampton
PVPC Staff			
Andrew McCaul	Senior Transportation Planner	Dana Roscoe	Principal Planner
Jeff McCollough	Senior Transportation Planner	Gary Roux	Principal Planner

1. Open Meeting

PVPC Principal Planner Dana Roscoe opened the JTC Zoom meeting at 10:15 a.m. and asked PVPC Senior Transportation Planner Andy McCaul to perform a roll call.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Roscoe stated that due to staffing issues at PVPC the minutes could not be sent out for the April 13, 2022 minutes and that the item would be tabled until the following meeting on June 8, 2022.

3. JTC Chair Discussion and Recruitment

Mr. Roscoe reminded all present that he is serving only as interim chair for the Joint Transportation Committee and that the opportunity to assume the chair is open to all members and to contact himself, Andy McCaul, or Gary Roux if interested.

4. 2020 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP). Currently out for Public Review and Comment. By Andrew B. McCaul (PVPC)

PVTA Director, Transit Operations Paul Burns explained that the CPT-HSTP plan was up for review. He stated that this process identifies the various transit opportunities throughout the region whether it is provided by public entities (PVTA) as well as private entities and smaller operators that provide transit for human services as well as public transit. Mr. Burns stated that they were now looking for public input on the plan. The Plan provides an opportunity for the various transit operators to access funding to fill gaps in service that support specific users as outlined in the plan.

Andrew McCaul directed members to contact Peter Kuusisto, PVPC Transit Planner with comments.

5. FFY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Currently out for Public Review and Comment. By Gary Roux (PVPC)

PVPC Principal Planner Dana Roscoe introduced Gary Roux, PVPC Principal Planner. Mr. Roux stated that since the UPWP was released for review last month, we have received comments from the Federal Highway Administration, and we are expecting comments from MassDOT. It was stated that the comments from the Federal Highway Administration was in regard to making the document more user-friendly and that the comments would be addressed as part of the final report.

Mr. Roux followed with a request for a recommendation to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to approve the FFY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Roscoe asked

MOVED BY MARK CRESSOTTI, OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD, SECONDED BY WAYNE FREIDEN, OF THE CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, TO APPROVE THE DRAFT FFY 2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) FOR ENDORSEMENT BY THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AS PRESENTED BY PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION (PVPC) STAFF.

Mr. Roscoe asked Mr. McCaul to conduct a roll call vote, which was done.

ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIES.

6. FFY 2022 Transportation Improve Program (TIP) – Amendment Currently out for Public Review and Comment. By Andrew McCaul (PVPC)

PVPC Senior Transportation Planner Andy McCaul stated that the Holyoke project was on hold until the project was rescoped and that it will be addressed again onceredisigned and that it would be either

placed back on the TIP or identify a new source of funding to ensure the project moved forward. Funding from the Holyoke project was shifted to West Springfield project 608374's Year 1 budget to ensure all FFY 2022 money would be spent.

Mr. McCaul continued to show the current FFY2022 TIP Amendment which included the budgets for Hadley project 605032, West Springfield project 608374, and Easthampton project 608577 and stated that the advertising periods for all projects except West Springfield had been completed and that West Springfield is scheduled to advertise on June 4, 2022. The only action necessary for the amendment was an endorsement by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) as no comments had been received.

Dan Murphy questioned whether the Easthampton bid would be taken care of, as it came in slightly higher than the original estimate. Mr. McCaul responded that Mass DOT would handle the discrepancy according to the 10% rule (if the price difference exceeds 10%, it would need to be re-addressed).

MOVED BY MARK CRESSOTTI, OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD, SECONDED BY WAYNE FEIDEN, OF THE CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, TO APPROVE THE FY2022 AMENDMENT TO TIP FOR ENDORSEMENT BY THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AS PRESENTED BY PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION (PVPC) STAFF.

Mr. Roscoe asked Mr. McCaul to conduct a roll call vote which he did.

ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIES.

7. 2023-2027 TIP – Currently out for Public Review and Comment. By Andrew McCaul (PVPC)

Senior Transportation Planner Andy McCaul displayed tables indicating the cost projections for 2023 - 2027 TIP. Highlighted was an average \$31 million budgeted for the PVTa each year, mostly for bus replacements and building maintenance/support equipment. With regards to the highway budget, the average was roughly \$32 million per year, most of which has been spent. 2025 is an outlying year, where there is an expected budget difference of \$3,670,676, however MassDOT has notified PVPC that the Northampton Complete Streets project will see a cost increase in the near future, so the cushion will be significantly less. Mr. McCaul suggested that action will be required in the future due to consistently rising costs year over year.

Mr. McCaul continued forward to speak about the JTC recommended bike path project in Westfield which needed to have its scope reduced slightly in order to appease MassDOT so it could be included in the document. With regards to comments received, there have been three (3) commentors to date, FHWA submitted a letter with several comments involving nomenclature and other items requiring clarification as well as the request to add descriptions for the new funding sources included the new federal authorization. There were two comments of note, from two businesses in Northampton expressing concern of the currently proposed design of the Northampton Complete Streets project which would result as a loss of parking in the downtown area. Mr. McCaul stated that the comments

would be summarized and included in the document and made available as appendices prior to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting at the end of May. The action requested is that the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) recommend the endorsement of the document by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for endorsement.

MOVED BY MARK CRESSOTTI, OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD, SECONDED BY WAYNE FEIDEN, OF THE CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, TO APPROVE THE 2023-2027 TIP FOR ENDORSEMENT BY THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) AS PRESENTED BY PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION (PVPC) STAFF.

Mr. Roscoe asked Mr. McCaul to conduct a roll call vote which he did.

ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIES.

8. Other Business

Mr. McCaul announced that PVPC's long range plan efforts would be beginning in the next fiscal year, and that MassDOT had already done so for their own and were requesting information from the Pioneer Valley communities via survey.

Mr. Roscoe announced that MassDOT was hosting a statewide event, Innovation Conference, in Worcester, MA that was over-subscribed is now full and may be subject to a waiting list.

Tom Ruta of MassDOT District 2 announced that they have a designed public hearing next week for the Agawam Safe Routes to School Project to the Robinson Park Elementary School. It is scheduled for Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. The pre-registration link will be available on the MassDOT website starting Friday.

Mr. Roux announced that the MARPA survey would be closing Friday, May 13 and to please fill out the survey if they had not already.

9. Adjourn

Mr. Roscoe thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting.