

## Minutes of the Virtual Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, August 10, 2022 -- 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

### Participants (24):

Baker, Kris	Holyoke
Burns, Paul	PVTA
Christensen, Tom	East Longmeadow
Cressotti, Mark	Westfield Consultant
Dionne, Michael	Massachusetts Commission for the Blind
Dwyer, William	Hadley
Ellis, Doug	Chicopee
Fisher, Mike	(Affiliation not provided)
Frieri, Peter	MassDOT District 1
Gamelli, Matt	Westfield
Hosea-Abbott, Alexis	MassBike
Johnson, Betsy	Pedestrian Representative, Walk/Bike Springfield
Jones, Shatoya	Admin Assistant (PVPC)
Kacoyannakis, Van	VHB
Keane, Timothy	Longmeadow
Knightly, Connor	West Springfield
Lotter, Elizabeth	Agawam
McCollough, Jeff	Senior Transportation Planner Specialist (PVPC)
McMordie, Allison	Westfield
Murphy, Dan	Easthampton
Rana Al-Jammal	Senior Transportation Planner Specialist (PVPC)
Rosado, Carmen	Mobility Impaired Representative; Stavros
Roscoe, Dana	Principal Planner (PVPC)
Roux, Gary	Principal Planner (PVPC)
Ruta, Tom	MassDOT District 2

### 1. Chairman Call to Order

PVPC Principal Planner Dana Roscoe opened the August 10, 2022 Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Zoom meeting at 10:16 a.m. and asked PVPC Principal Planner Gary Roux to initiate roll call. Dana confirmed a quorum for the August 10, 2022 Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) meeting.

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Dana opened the floor for comments on the June 8, 2022 JTC meeting minutes. William Dwyer noted that Northampton was mis-spelled at least twice in the minutes.

MOTIONED BY WILLIAM DWYER, TOWN OF HADLEY; SECONDED BY PAUL BURNS, PIONEER VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PVTA).

Hearing and seeing no other comments, Dana asked for a motion for approval on the amended June 8, 2022 JTC meeting minutes. Gary initiated roll call.

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES.

### 3. Pioneer Valley Public Participation Plan (PPP) - Update

PVPC Senior Transportation Planner Specialist Jeffrey McCollough reported on the need to update the MPO's Public Participation Process (PPP), which details the methods used for public engagement. Jeffrey reported that virtual and hybrid meetings are not currently reflected in the PPP and that an update is necessary to comply with the current forms of public engagement in use by the JTC and MPO.

Jeffrey concluded with a statement that the proposed update will be discussed in greater detail at the September JTC meeting and that PVPC staff intended to ask the MPO to release the draft version of the PPP at their August meeting for the required 45-day public comment period. He noted that it is expected that this update will be an interim version pending further guidance from MassDOT and FHWA.

### 4. FFY 2022 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) – Amendment Currently Out for Public Review

Dana Roscoe reported on the TIP amendments released for Public Comment at the July 26, 2022 MPO meeting. The amendment was required to include 6 new transit projects into the TIP as summarized in the following table:

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FTA Program	Transit Agency	Project Description	Federal Funds	RTACAP	MAP	Local Funds	Total Cost
5310	Springfield Partners for Community Action	OPERATING ASSISTANCE	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$75,000	\$150,000
5310	Pioneer Valley Transit Authority	MOBILITY MANAGEMENT	\$108,240	\$0	\$0	\$27,060	\$135,300
5310	Pioneer Valley Transit Authority	OPERATING ASSISTANCE	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$300,000
5310	Pioneer Valley Transit Authority	BUY REPLACEMENT VAN	\$804,286	\$0	\$201,068	\$0	\$1,005,354
5310	Town of Ware	Quaboag Connector	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$300,000
5310	Hilltown Community Development Corporation	OPERATING ASSISTANCE	\$8,888	\$0	\$0	\$8,888	\$17,776
<b>6 Projects</b>							<b>\$1,908,430</b>

Dana shared details on an amendment to move Project #609517 Longmeadow - Blueberry Hill Elementary School SRTS Improvements, from the FFY 2023 Year of the TIP to the current year of the TIP - FFY 2022, as well as a change in cost for Project #605126 Ware - Bridge Replacement – in FFY 2022 from \$9,226,026 to \$10,126,026, which required an administrative adjustment to the TIP. Dana clarified that his report to the JTC during the August 10, 2022 meeting is solely for informational purposes; MPO endorsement of these TIP amendments will be requested during their August 23, 2022 meeting.

Mark Cressotti asked if it would be appropriate to update the JTC on recent changes regarding an in-development project. Dana invited Mark to share his comments with the JTC. Mark started his update with a report that the Westfield River Levee Multi-use Path project is currently in-development at 60-75% completion. Mark reported a general consensus from MPO members to complete the project and that the City of Westfield intends to pursue full project completion through the TIP.

After thanking Mark for his report, Dana updated the JTC that there is an anticipated cost increase of all road and bridge projects and stated that moving forward and that updates will continue to be given to keep the JTC informed on any changes in project costs.

#### **5. Safe Streets and Roads for All Users (SS4A)**

Gary reported that PVPC is considering an opportunity to apply for the Federal Safer Streets and Roads for All Grant to develop a Regional Safety Action Plan and shared that PVPC received responses of interest from 10 communities in participating as a partner with PVPC. He noted that the next step in the application process would be to send out a solicitation for official letters of interest from PVPC communities, and if enough letters of interest are received, PVPC will move forward with an application.

After sharing the application deadline of September 15, Gary opened the floor to specific questions regarding application requirements and added that funding would be an opportunity to put more capital towards safety projects while encouraging collaboration and coordination amongst municipalities.

Dana asked if the grant was one-time only or if there would ongoing opportunities to apply in the future beyond the September 15 deadline. Gary stated that this funding is intended to be a multi-year funding opportunity.

#### **6. Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) Update**

Gary reported a need to review the current TEC scoring to ensure compliance with the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Gary proceeded to suggest that the JTC review current TEC scoring, including the 8 Federal Planning Emphasis Areas and the Fast Act Planning Factors. He requested that any comments or proposed changes be submitted to PVPC staff and noted that the scoring will continue to be discussed at future JTC meetings this year. Gary concluded his report with a reminder that the goal of proposed MPO changes in December 2022 would be to allow for endorsement and use in the 2023 TIP development process.

#### **7. Other Business**

Dana reported that there was a remote work business survey with a deadline of August 19, 2022, as well as a search for a JTC Chairperson.

Mark introduced Allison McMordie, the new Westfield City Engineer and JTC representative.

Jeffrey reminded the JTC of the Massachusetts Complete Street Program submission deadline is September 1 for prioritization plans and October 1 for construction applications with a note regarding a rolling admission for

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policy development. He proceeded to encourage the JTC to reach out to him or MassDOT representatives to learn more and apply.

**8. Adjourn**

Dana noted that the next JTC meeting would be held September 14, 2022 and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTIONED BY WILLIAM DWYER, TOWN OF HADLEY; SECONDED BY PVTA PAUL BURNS AND PEDESTRIAN REPRESENTATIVE BETSY JOHNSON. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIES.

The August 10, 2022 meeting was adjourned by Dana Roscoe at 10:50 a.m.

**Linked Documents**

- DRAFT JUNE 8, 2022 MINUTES - [873ed8c7-6de0-4119-92d6-4f06faceec24.pdf \(constantcontact.com\)](#)
- FY2022 TIP - <https://www.pvpc.org/content/proposed-ffy-2022-tip-amendment-july-2022>
- US DOT LINK - <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A/webinars>
- SS4A WEBINARS LINK - <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A/webinars>
- REMOTE WORK BUSINESS SURVEY - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/remoteworkPV>

Prepared by Shatoyia Jones, PVPC admin assistant – 08.10.2022