

Minutes of the Tuesday, April 25, 2017 Meeting of the
Pioneer Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
held at the
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
60 Congress Street, Springfield, MA 01104-3419

MPO Members Present:

David Mohler	Executive Director, Office of Transportation Planning, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Representing MPO Chair Stephanie Pollack, Massachusetts Secretary of Transportation and Chief Executive Officer
George Archible	Belchertown Board of Selectmen
Richard Cohen	Mayor, Town of Agawam
Jim Czach*	Chairman, Joint Transportation Committee & Town Engineer, Town of West Springfield
Walter Gunn	Chairman, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC)
David Narkewicz	Mayor, City of Northampton, Representing Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA)
Patrick Paul	Highway Director, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), District Two Representing MassDOT Highway Administrator Thomas J. Tinlin
Doug Slaughter	Town of Amherst Selectboard
Rick Sullivan*	President and CEO, Economic Development Council of Western Massachusetts
Brandon Wilcox*	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

(* denotes non-voting members)

Guests and PVPC Staff Present:

Jessica Allan	City Planner, City of Easthampton
Mike Bolduc	MassDOT District Two Office (Northampton)
Tim Brennan	Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC)
Karen Cadieux	Mayor of the City of Easthampton
Daniel Call	City of Westfield
Matt Chase	Senior Project Manager, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., (VHB)
Michelle Chase	Town Engineer, Town of Agawam
Jeremy Cigal	Utility Engineer, City of Westfield
David Elvin	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) – Transportation Section
Peter Frieri	MassDOT District One Office (Lenox)
Nicolette Growhoski	Administrative Assistant to the Mayor
Jeff Hoynoski	MassDOT District Two Office (Northampton)
Richard Masse	MassDOT District Two Office (Northampton)
Andrew McCaul	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) – Transportation Section
Jeff McCollough	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) – Transportation Section
Mary MacInnes	Administrator, Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA)
Nicholas Lapointe	Senior Transportation Engineer, Fuss & O'Neill
Michael McManus	Superintendent, Department of Public Works, City of Holyoke
Mark Moore	MassDOT District 1 (Lenox)
Dan Murphy	City Engineer, City of Easthampton
Dawn Nims	Civil Engineer, Town of Agawam
Bryan Pounds	MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning (OTP), MassDOT
Dana Roscoe	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) – Transportation Section
Gary Roux	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) – Transportation Section
Steve Savaric	Engineer, Fuss & O'Neill
Matthew Sokop	Springfield Department of Public Works
Louise Sullivan	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) – Support Staff
Marvin Ward	MassBike – Easthampton
Brandon Wilcox	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Steve Williams	Director, Department of Public Works, Town of Belchertown

1. Chairman's Call to Order, Welcome and Opening Remarks

David Mohler, Executive Director of Strategic Planning at the Office of Transportation Planning, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), representing Stephanie Pollack, Massachusetts Secretary of Transportation and Chief Executive Officer, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), called the April 25, 2017 meeting of the Pioneer Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to order at 10:01 a.m. Mr. Mohler then welcomed and thanked all those in attendance and called for introductions from meeting attendees. Following introductions, Mr. Mohler moved to take up the minutes of the previous MPO meeting held on March 28, 2017.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Pioneer Valley MPO Held on March 28, 2017

Mr. Mohler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous Pioneer Valley MPO meeting which was held on March 28, 2017.

MOVED BY DAVID NARKEWICZ, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, SECONDED BY RICHARD COHEN, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF AGAWAM, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 28, 2017 PIONEER VALLEY MPO MEETING AS PRESENTED. THERE BEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS, THE MOTION WAS THEN APPROVED BY THE MPO MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Mohler then moved to address the next agenda item.

3. Review, Discussion and MPO Approval To Release Proposed Amendments to the Current 2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) For the Required 21-day Public Review

Mr. Mohler called on PVPC Principal Planner Dana Roscoe to review a series of proposed amendments to the Pioneer Valley region's current, FFY 2017 Pioneer Valley Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Roscoe directed the MPO members attention to the relevant handout entitled *2017 Pioneer Valley Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Proposed Amendments – April 2017* and stated that this document identifies a series of cost increases in highway projects as proposed amendments to the FFY 2017 TIP as well as a decrease in the transit portion of the subject TIP. Mr. Roscoe specifically reported a cost increase to the *Southwick Congamond Road Reconstruction Project (604033)* from \$7,172,979 to \$7,227,498 (STP); a cost increase to the *Agawam – West Springfield Bridge Replacement, Route 147 over the Westfield River and Intersection and Signal Improvements at 3 Locations Project (605384)* from \$23,173,893 to \$29,349,426; and an increase in cost of the *Amherst Bridge Replacement, A-08-008, Mill Street over Mill River Project (607549)*, from \$2,075,400 to \$3,028,770.

With respect to the transit section of the FFY 2017 TIP, Mr. Roscoe announced that proposed transit adjustments consist of changes in state funding; a shift in funding assistance categories; and a reallocation of dollars within the FTA Section 5307 funding category. More specifically, Mr. Roscoe outlined the following proposed amendments to the transit section of the FFY 2017 TIP:

- Increase State Funds for Purchase/Renovate Shop Equipment from \$20,000 to \$170,000 for a new total of \$250,000
- Increase State Funds for Rehab/Renovations: Umass Transit Maintenance Facility from \$20,000 to \$190,000 for a new total of \$270,000
- Increase State Funds for Rehab/Renovations: Communications from \$602,109 to \$3,472,781 for a new total of \$5,881,216
- Decrease State Funds to Construct-PVTA's New Bus Maintenance Facility in Springfield during Year 3 from \$14,900,000 to \$9,090,772 for a new total of \$11,052,846
- Increase State Funds for Rehab/Renovations: Northampton Maintenance Facility from \$50,000 to \$100,000 for a new total of \$300,000
- Increase State Funds for the Purchase of 2 Replacement PVTA Supervisory Vehicles (2) from \$12,000 to \$142,000 for a new total of \$190,000
- Increase State Funds for the Rehab of the SATCO Bus Maintenance Facility from \$350,000 to \$635,000 for a new total of \$2,035,000

At this point, Mr. Mohler called for a motion to authorize the release of this series of proposed amendments to the Pioneer Valley region's current, *FFY 2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* as outlined by Mr. Roscoe for a required 21-day public review.

MOVED BY RICHARD COHEN, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF AGAWAM, SECONDED BY GEORGE ARCHIBLE, BELCHERTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN, TO APPROVE THE RELEASE OF A SERIES OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PIONEER VALLEY REGION'S CURRENT FFY 2017 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR THE REQUIRED 21-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD SUBJECT TO MODIFICATIONS AND CORRECTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN OUTLINED BY PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION (PVPC) STAFF.

Mr. Mohler asked if there were any questions or further discussion needed regarding the subject motion.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE MPO MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Mohler then moved to take up the next agenda item.

4. Review, Discussion and MPO Approval To Release the Draft 2018 - 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Required 21-day Public Review

Mr. Mohler once again called on PVPC Principal Planner Dana Roscoe to discuss the draft version of the Pioneer Valley FFY 2018 - 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Roscoe asked the MPO members to refer to the applicable handout document entitled *Changes to the draft FFY 2018-2022 TIP as Suggested by the Pioneer Valley's Joint Transportation Committee since the March 28, 2017 MPO Meeting*, a handout included in today's MPO meeting packet. Mr. Roscoe reported that there are no changes to the FFY 2018 TIP component of this draft. The FFY 2019 component of the draft TIP generated an in-depth discussion of the merits of several proposed TIP projects among JTC members as to which projects have achieved 25% design stage and, therefore, should advance. As a result of these JTC deliberations, Mr. Roscoe said a TIP project in the Town of Belchertown that was not previously included in the draft TIP is now included in the FFY 2019 component of the TIP, namely, *Improvements and Related Work on Routes 202 and 21 from Turkey Hill Road to South Main Street (608412) in Belchertown* at a cost of \$4,600,000 plus a 4% inflationary factor given that this project is now scheduled for FFY 2019.

Mr. Roscoe further explained that since the March 28, 2017 MPO meeting, two other TIP projects that were formerly included in program year FFY 2019 TIP have been moved into the FFY 2020 TIP as recommended by the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC), including:

- *Springfield Intersection Improvements at Cottage Street, Industry Avenue, and Robbins Road (608782)*, a project with an estimated cost of \$1,800,000
- *Springfield Intersection Improvements at Berkshire Ave, Cottage Street, and Harvey Streets (608718)*, a project with an estimated cost of \$2,063,908

Mr. Roscoe explained that the *Hadley Reconstruction Project on Route 9, from Middle Street to Maple/South Maple Street (605032)* is an estimated \$25 million dollar MassDOT project which is an amount that exceeds the amount of funding that is available to our region for programming TIP projects in a single fiscal year. Mr. Roscoe stated that given this, Hadley Route 9 project will need to be funded over two TIP program years, specifically, in FFY 2020 and FFY 2021. Mr. Roscoe underscored that the only time a TIP project can be split over multiple years is when a project exceeds the amount of federal and state funds available to our region and, accordingly, construction (A/C) funding over FFYs 2020 and 2021 has to be utilized to keep the subject TIP in fiscal constraint.

At this point, Mr. Roscoe discussed the proposed amendments to the FFY 2021 component of the draft TIP. He stated that the *Reconstruction of I-91 Interchange 17 and Route 141 in Holyoke (606156)*, a project estimated to cost \$2,990,728 has been moved from FFY 2019 to the FFY 2021 TIP for \$2,990,728; and also moved into the FFY 2021 TIP, *Improvements and Related Work on Union Street (Route 141) in Easthampton (608577)* a project which was formerly programmed in the FFY 2022 portion of the draft TIP. Mr. Roscoe added that the proposed *Intersection Improvements at Elm Street, Main Street, West Street, State Street and New South Street in*

Northampton (607893) has been removed from the FFY 2021 portion of the TIP and this project has not yet been reprogrammed.

Mr. Roscoe next called the MPO members attention to proposed *Resurfacing & Related Work on Longmeadow Street (Route 5) in Longmeadow from the Connecticut State Line to Converse Street (607430)*, a project that is currently listed in the FFY 2021 portion of the draft TIP at an estimated cost of \$3,066,336. Mr. Roscoe explained that a more recent cost estimate for this Longmeadow project is \$5.9 million and this increase would result in the TIP exceeding fiscal constraint. Therefore, Mr. Roscoe suggested that this Longmeadow project, (607430) be removed from the FFY 2021 TIP noting that every other TIP project included in FFY 2021 has a higher Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) score than the Longmeadow Street project's TEC score which is 44.5.

Mr. Roscoe next turned to FFY 2022 of the draft TIP and indicated that the *Fuller Road Reconstruction (604434) Project in Chicopee* has been moved from FFY 2021 to the FFY 2022 TIP at an estimated cost of \$7,501,081 while *Resurfacing and Related Work on Route 159 in Agawam (607626)* a project estimated at \$1,450,653 has been removed from FFY 2022 of the draft TIP. Mr. Roscoe explained that given this change, there are only two TIP projects remaining in the FFY 2022 portion of the draft TIP which include: the *Fuller Road Reconstruction (604434) Project in Chicopee* and the *Reconstruction of Memorial Avenue (Route 147) in West Springfield from Colony Road to the Memorial Avenue Rotary (608374) Project*; two projects which, taken together, will require the entire funding target applicable to the Pioneer Valley region in FFY 2022.

Mr. Mohler asked if there were any questions or discussion on the highway components of the draft FFY 2018 – 2022 TIP. Richard Masse from the MassDOT District 2 office questioned the removal of the *Resurfacing & Related Work on Longmeadow Street (Route 5) in Longmeadow* from the FFY 2021 portion of the draft TIP because MassDOT had not been informed of a project cost increase from \$3,066,336 to \$5.9 million. Mr. Roscoe explained that the Longmeadow Town Engineer had hired a consultant and based on this work a new cost estimate of \$5.9 million had been reported. Mr. Masse said District 2 staff will contact the Town to try and pinpoint a reliable cost estimate for this job.

There being no more questions or comments, Mr. Roscoe turned to the TIP's transit section and a distributed meeting handout entitled *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project Lists for FY2017 – FY 2022*. Mr. Roscoe focused his remarks on available transit assistance funding consisting of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Program with some additional funding provided by FTA's Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Section 5339 Program. At this point, Mr. Roscoe suggested that the Pioneer Valley's draft FFY 2018 – 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) be released for the required 21-day public review. Mr. Mohler asked PVRTA Administrator Mary MacInnes if she had any questions or comments but Ms. MacInnes replied that she had no questions or comments to offer. Mr. Mohler then called for a motion to release the draft FFY 2018 – 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as presented without the inclusion of proposed *Resurfacing & Related Work on Longmeadow Street (Route 5) in Longmeadow from the Connecticut State Line to Converse Street (607430) Project* for the required 21-day public review period.

MOVED BY GEORGE ARCHIBLE, OF THE TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN, SECONDED BY RICHARD COHEN, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF AGAWAM, TO APPROVE THE PIONEER VALLEY REGION'S FFY2018-2022 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR THE REQUIRED 21-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD INCORPORATING THE NECESSARY MODIFICATIONS AND CORRECTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN OUTLINED BY PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION (PVPC) STAFF INCLUDING THE REMOVAL OF A PROJECT INVOLVING RESURFACING & RELATED WORK ON LONGMEADOW STREET (ROUTE 5) IN LONGMEADOW FROM THE CONNECTICUT STATE LINE TO CONVERSE STREET (607430) DUE TO ITS NEW AND SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER \$5.9 MILLION ESTIMATED COST.

Mr. Mohler asked if there were any questions or discussion on the subject motion but none was forthcoming.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE MPO MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Mohler then moved to take up the next agenda item.

5. Review, Discussion and MPO Approval to Release the Draft 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) For the Required 21 day Public Review Period

Mr. Mohler next called on PVPC Principal Planner Gary Roux to present an overview of the draft version of the Pioneer Valley's proposed FFY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) document. Mr. Roux indicated that the draft version of the Pioneer Valley's proposed FFY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) document was released last week and he explained that the UPWP document outlines the PVPC's anticipated planning tasks incorporating suggestions from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to be conducted by the PVPC's transportation staff during the FFY 2018 period. Mr. Roux directed the MPO members attention to the Executive Summary of the *Pioneer Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 2018 (October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018)* that is included in today's MPO meeting packet. Mr. Roux outlined several specific week tasks including: a market study of non-transit riders, a safety study of high risk rail crossings in our region, development of preliminary planning for an update of the PVPC's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the development of a new formula for the Regional Congestion Management Process (CMP). Mr. Roux then asked that the *Draft 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)* be released for the required 21-day public review period and Mr. Mohler called for such a motion.

MOVED BY PATRICK PAUL, OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MassDOT), SECONDED BY WALTER GUNN, CHAIRMAN OF THE PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION (PVPC), TO AUTHORIZE THAT THE PROPOSED DRAFT VERSION OF THE PIONEER VALLEY REGION'S 2018 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) BE RELEASED FOR THE REQUIRED 21 DAY PUBLIC REVIEW. THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE MPO MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Mohler thanked Mr. Roux for his presentation and he then moved to take up the next agenda item.

6. Review, Discussion and MPO Approval to Release the Draft Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridors for the Required 21-day Public Review

Mr. Roux reported that one of the specific requirements outlined under the federal *Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act* or FAST Act stipulates that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is required to establish and publish a strategic statewide freight plan that aims to improve the condition and performance of the Commonwealth's freight network. Mr. Roux stated that the FAST Act provides funds for freight planning that will be programmed in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and, therefore, there is a need to designate potential, critical urban and rural freight corridors that could be eligible to receive these funds. Mr. Roux stated that in today's MPO meeting packet, there is a document reflecting a table of the Critical Rural Freight Corridors (CRFCs) and a table of the Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs) in the Pioneer Valley region accompanied by a map identifying the locations of each of these potential freight corridors. Mr. Roux said based on the comments received during the required 21-day public review period, the proposed rural and urban freight corridors will be presented to the MPO members for their approval in order that they can be included in the new state freight plan for Massachusetts.

Mr. Mohler called for a motion to address this agenda item.

MOVED BY WALTER GUNN, CHAIRMAN OF THE PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION (PVPC), SECONDED BY PATRICK PAUL, OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MassDOT), TO AUTHORIZE THAT THE PROPOSED DRAFT VERSION OF THE PIONEER VALLEY REGION'S LISTING OF CRITICAL RURAL FREIGHT CORRIDORS (CRFCs) AND CRITICAL URBAN FREIGHT CORRIDORS (CUFCs) BE RELEASED FOR THE REQUIRED 21 DAY PUBLIC REVIEW. THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE MPO MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Mohler then moved to take up the next agenda item.

7. Report from Jim Czach, the Chairman of the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC), on Important Transportation Issues and Projects Discussed Since the Last MPO Meeting Was Held on March 23, 2016

Mr. Mohler called on JTC Chairman Jim Czach to report on issues and projects discussed at the last meeting of the Pioneer Valley region's Joint Transportation Committee (JTC). Mr. Czach reported that the last JTC meeting was three hours long due to in-depth discussions of proposed FFY 2018 to 2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

projects. Mr. Czach indicated that over the next five years, there will be many proposed smaller-scale TIP projects which will result in increased funding competition. Mr. Czach further explained that ambiguity in terms of defining what constitutes a 25% design that has, in turn, led to confusion regarding a given project's design status. Mr. Czach said he intends to meet over the next few months with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission staff members and the staff members in the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) District 1 and District 2 Offices to try and address this issue and ideally settle differences and establish TIP project milestones that can assist the JTC and MPO with programming the region's TIP document.

Mr. Czach also reported that at the last JTC meeting, Quinn Molloy, GIS Municipal Coordinator with MassDOT GIS Services was invited to speak about maintaining road inventory data and road inventory maps. Mr. Czach stated that the roadway inventories affect Chapter 90 allocations for Pioneer Valley municipalities. Ms. Molloy also explained the new MassDOT Open Data Portal and geoDOT Local for local data development will allow municipalities to control their own data updates with state oversight. Ms. Molloy advised contacting Kevin Lopes, GIS Services Manager, Kevin.Lopes@state.ma.us for assistance.

Mr. Mohler thanked Jim Czach for his report and he then moved to take up the next agenda item.

8. Updates from MassDOT District One and District Two Officials on Relevant Transportation Issues and Projects of Interest to the Pioneer Valley MPO Members

Mr. Mohler called on Peter Frieri of the MassDOT District One office in Lenox to present District One's updates on relevant transportation issues and projects. Mr. Frieri reported that in 2017, District One has three projects in the current TIP, two of which are in the Town of Goshen. Mr. Frieri noted that the Goshen Route 9 Resurfacing Project (608126) has already gone to bid and a Notice to Proceed (NTP) has been issued to Warner Brothers Construction. The Goshen West Street Reconstruction Project (605150) has achieved the 100% design stage and its right-of-way (ROW) plan is sufficient to proceed. Mr. Frieri also reported that the Chesterfield Bridge Replacement at Ireland Street over the Bronson Brook Project (607549) has reached the 75% design stage. Mr. Frieri added that there is a \$13 million dollar, Town of Worthington Resurfacing and Related Work on Route 112 project, that is not currently listed in the TIP, that will likely reach the 75% design stage by the end of April.

Mr. Mohler next called on Mike Bolduc of the MassDOT District Two office in Northampton to present District Two's updates on relevant transportation projects within District Two's jurisdiction. Mr. Bolduc reported that the Center Street Reconstruction Project (605011) in Ludlow has reached the 75% design stage with its next submission due on April 28, 2017; Improvements to Lower Westfield Road in Holyoke at Route I-91 (606903) Project will reach the 100% design stage by late May; the Amherst-Hadley Route 9 Sidewalk Construction Project (608023) has received its PS&E and will be advertised in July; the Congamond Road Reconstruction Project (604033) in Southwick reached the 100% design stage last January and is scheduled to be advertised in June; the Agawam-West Springfield Bridge Replacement on Route 147 Project (605384) reached 100% design stage in March and will be advertised for bids in August; the Mill Street Bridge Replacement Project in Amherst (607528) will reach its 100% design stage by mid-May; and the Agawam, Chicopee, Holyoke, West Springfield Stormwater Improvements Project (608192), which was advertised in late December 2016 had its MassDOT bid opening on March 21st but the bid has not yet been awarded by MassDOT.

Mr. Mohler thanked Mr. Frieri and Mr. Bolduc for their District One and Two project updates and he moved to take up the next agenda item.

9. Updates from Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) Administrator Mary MacInnes on Relevant Public Transit Issues and Projects of Interest to the Pioneer Valley MPO Members

Before Mr. Mohler called for a report and update from Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) Administrator Mary MacInnes, he noted that this is Ms. MacInnes's last MPO meeting, and he expressed on behalf of himself, MassDOT and the Pioneer Valley MPO members and staff that it has been a pleasure working with Ms. MacInnes over the past decade and that she will be greatly missed.

Ms. MacInnes reported that ground was broken last week for the PVTA's Operations Maintenance Facility on Cottage Street in Springfield and it is scheduled to be completed by the end of December 2018. Ms. MacInnes thanked MassDOT for providing funding for PVTA's new Operations Maintenance Facility and she also expressed her gratitude to the

MassDOT's Board of Directors for approving this capital funding. Ms. MacInnes also reported that the PVTA's Olver Transit Pavilion in Westfield will open this Friday, April 28th and the \$4 million building includes four bus berths, a waiting area, automated ticketing kiosks, as well as real-time bus arrival and departure information.

Mr. Mohler thanked Ms. MacInnes for her updates on PVTA activities and he moved to take up the final agenda item.

10. Other Business

Mr. Mohler asked if there was any further business for the MPO members to address at today's meeting. Mr. Roscoe indicated that the rural seat on the MPO is not currently filled. Mr. Roscoe explained that the rural seat was occupied for many years by Jeff Boyle, a Selectman from the Town of Hatfield, but that Mr. Boyle had recently resigned from Hatfield's Selectboard. Mr. Roscoe reported that invitations for MPO membership have been mailed to all the communities in that region and two candidates have expressed interest: Selectman Roger Fuller from the Town of Chesterfield and Selectman Charles Kaniecki from the Town of Southampton. Mr. Roscoe indicated that ballots have been sent to those municipalities and he hopes the rural seat can be filled by next month's MPO meeting.

Mr. Brennan asked for an update on the voting membership status of the Economic Development Council (EDC) of Western Massachusetts and Mr. Mohler stated that he did not yet have a response from Transportation Secretary Pollack but he indicated that once the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is finalized, MassDOT will be able to revisit the question of EDC's voting status on the MPO going forward.

Mr. Roscoe announced that the next MPO meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 23rd beginning at 10:00 a.m. There being no further business, Mr. Mohler called for a motion to adjourn the April 25, 2017 Pioneer Valley MPO meeting.

MOVED BY RICHARD COHEN, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF AGAWAM, SECONDED BY DAVID NARKEWICZ, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 25, 2017 MEETING OF THE PIONEER VALLEY REGION'S MPO. THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, THE MPO MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:37 A.M. WITHOUT OBJECTION

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy W. Brennan, Executive Director
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

List of Documents and Other Items Distributed at the March 28, 2017 MPO Meeting

1. *Pioneer Valley Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Meeting Notice and Agenda: April 25, 2017*
2. *Minutes of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Meeting: Wednesday, March 28, 2016*
3. *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Project List (FY2018)*
4. *2017 Pioneer Valley Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Proposed Amendments – April 2017*
5. *FFY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program Funding Profile*
6. *2018 Pioneer Valley Region MPO Transportation Improvement*
7. *Unified Planning Work Program DRAFT Fiscal Year 2018*
8. *Changes Proposed by the JTC Since the March 28, 2017 MPO Meeting*
9. *Critical Rural Freight Corridors (Pioneer Valley)*