

Minutes of the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Present were:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Daryl Amaral	MassDOT Highway District 2	Alexis Hosea-Abbott	MassBike
Ben Breger	MassDOT Highway District 2	Peter Frieri	MassDOT -Highway District 1
Michael Melencio	MassDOT	Chris Klem	MassDOT - OTP
Tom Kulig	MassDOT	Connor Knightly	Town of West Springfield
Nick Dines	Town of Williamsburg	Doug Ellis	City of Chicopee
Bill Dwyer	Town of Hadley, JTC Chair	Dawn Nims	City of Holyoke
Dena Grochmal	Town of Wilbraham	Dan Murphy	City of Easthampton
Jim Czach	VHB	Geoff McAlmond	Town of Wales
Timothy Kenae	Longmeadow DPW	John Broderick	Town of South Hadley
Liz Williams	MassDOT		
Elizabeth Johnson	Walk Springfield		
PVPC Staff			
Andrew McCaul	Senior Transportation Planner	Gary Roux	Principal Planner
Rana Al-Jammal	Senior Transportation Planner		

JOINT TRANSMISSION MEETING

1. Open Meeting

Bill Dwyer opened July 12, 2023, meeting at 10:00 am, stating that the meeting was being recorded. Roll call was taken.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – June 14, 2023 Minutes

Mr. Dwyer requested a motion to approve June 14, 2023, JTC minutes.

MOVED BY DAN MURPHY, SECONDED BY CONNOR KNIGHTLY, TO APPROVE THE JUNE 14, 2023, JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC) MEETING MINUTES. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no questions, Mr. Dwyer moved to take up agenda item 3.

3. Draft FFY 2024 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Mr. Roux reported that at the June meeting, the draft was released for the 21-day public review period. It was released after the MPO meeting. All draft chapters have been available online since the beginning of June. A virtual meeting was held on June 28th, which is available online. One comment was received at the meeting to make the PowerPoint available online, which has since been done. There will be virtual office hours on July 12th and July 18th to answer questions and take comments. There have been four outreach events completed. There had been no success in identifying an event in the Palmer area for outreach.

Mr. Dwyer asked for a motion to recommend endorsement to the MPO.

MOVED BY CONNOR KNIGHTLY, SECONDED BY DAN MURPHY, TO RECOMMEND TO MPO TO APPROVE THE ENDORSEMENT. A ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, AND THE RECOMMENDATION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no questions, Mr. Dwyer moved to take up agenda item 4.

4. FFY 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Mr. Roux reported that the amendment has gotten more prominent since the last meeting. On the highway TIP, there were five projects advertised for construction. There was one project out for public review. The last two projects had a September advertisement date. The adjustment was to reduce the cost of the Westfield Levee Project from \$5,185,122 to \$5,149,161. The other adjustment was to increase the cost of the Granby improvements at two locations from \$4,552,959 to \$5,262,687. The transit amendments included the Community Transit Grant Program (CTGP) awards. There were several line items for the replacement of buses and vans. There had been no comments received on the amendments.

Mr. Dwyer asked for a motion to recommend the MPO to endorse the amendments.

MOVED BY DAN MUPRHY SECONDED BY CONNOR KNIGHTLY, TO RECOMMEND TO MPO TO ENDORSE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS. A ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, AND THE RECOMMENDATION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no questions, Mr. Dwyer moved to take up agenda item 5.

5. Proposed Amendment to the FFY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Roux reported that an amendment was required for the FFY2023 UPWP to include a \$166,00 Area of Persistent Poverty grant received by the PVTA and to move money from work allotted under Task 3.8 and Task 3.8 to direct costs. No comments have been received on the proposed amendment.

Mr. Dwyer asked for a motion to recommend the MPO approve the amendment.

MOVED BY DAWN NIMS, SECONDED BY CONNOR KNIGHTLY, TO RECOMMEND MPO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT AT THEIR UPCOMING MEETING. A ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, AND THE RECOMMENDATION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no questions, Mr. Dwyer moved to take up agenda item 6.

6. Presentation: Massachusetts Department of Transportation: MassDOT Vehicle Census Dashboard

Liz Williams introduced herself and Michael Melencio and shared her screen to present the MassDOT Vehicle Census Dashboard. Mr. Melencio presented the dashboard and explained the various components. There was a decrease in daily VMT over the past three years. The average mileage decreased by two miles per day over three years. It was reported that it is possible to break down the graphs by vehicle attributions and the date. It was asked what the cause of the fluctuations in the VMT was. Mr. Melencio discussed that looking at the bigger picture rather than the year-to-year was better. It was asked what the source of the data was. Mr. Melencio reported that it was a combination of vehicle excise data, active registration data, and odometer readings. Ms. Williams stated that in Phase Two, more granular geographies and time periods would be examined. It was clarified that the MPO and municipal levels could be examined on the dashboard. Ms. Williams reported that the dashboard adhered to the legislation and that a summary report would be provided by September 30th.

There being no questions, Mr. Dwyer moved to take up agenda item 7.

7. Other Business

It was reported that an application for the region for a regional action plan under the Safer Streets for All program was successfully submitted. There was no plan to meet in August.

8. Adjourns

There being no further business to conduct, Mr. Dwyer called for a motion to adjourn.

MOVED BY DAN MURPHY, SECONDED BY DAWN NIMS, TO ADJOURN THE JULY 12, 2023, JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC) MEETING. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:34 AM WITHOUT OBJECTION.

Relevant documents distributed at this July 12, 2023, JTC meeting:

- Joint Transportation Committee July 12, 2023 Meeting Agenda
- Minutes of June 14, 2023, Joint Transportation Committee Meeting

Respectfully Submitted by Minutes Services