

Minutes of the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, June 14, 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
Paul Burns	PVTA	Van Kacoyannakis	VHB
Dawn Scaparotti	Town of Goshen	Chris Klem	MassDOT – Office of Transportation Planning
Michelle Chase	Town Engineer, Agawam	Connor Knightly	Town of West Springfield
Nick Dines	Town of Williamsburg	Tom Ruta	MassDOT – Highway District 2
Bill Dwyer	Town of Hadley, JTC Chair	Ian Roche	
Randy Fixman	MassDOT	Dan Murphy	Easthampton
Dmitriy Mayboroda	McMahon and Associates	Geoff McAlmond	Town of Ware
Timothy Kenae	Longmeadow DPW	jbroderick	South Hadley
Michael McManus	McMahon and Associates	Carmen Rosdo	STAVROS
Sarah Cannamela	MassDOT	Dawn Nims	City of Holyoke
Elizabeth Johnson	Walk Springfield	Matt Smith	Town of Chesterfield
Matt Chase	VHB		
Mike Fisher	BL Companies		
PVPC Staff			
Andrew McCaul	Senior Transportation Planner	Gary Roux	Principal Planner
Jeffrey McCollough	Senior Transportation Planner	Rana Al-Jammal	Senior Planner

JOINT TRANSMISSION MEETING

1. Open Meeting

JTC Chair Bill Dwyer opened June 14, 2023, meeting at 10:00 am, stating that the meeting was being recorded. Roll call was taken.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – May 10, 2023 Minutes

Mr. Dwyer requested a motion to approve May 10, 2023, JTC minutes.

MOVED BY DAN MURPHY, SECONDED BY PAUL BURNS, PVTA, TO APPROVE THE MAY 10, 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. FFY 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Mr. McCaul reported that one change was presented at the last meeting for Section 1A for FFY2023. The change was an increase of just over \$700,000 to the Cummington Retaining Wall Replacement. The JTC made a recommendation at the last meeting that the MPO release the amendment. The MPO released the amendment and is currently out for public review and comment. No comments have been received.

Mr. Dwyer asked for a motion to recommend approval of the proposed amendment.

MOVED BY MATT SMITH, SECONDED BY PAUL BURNS, PVTA, TO RECOMMEND TO MPO TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT. 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. Draft FFY 2024 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Mr. Roux reported that the update to the FFY 2024 RTP was being developed for MPO. It was proposed to release the document at the MPO document on June 25th. He requested a motion to recommend the MPO release the document for the 21-day public review period. He reported that the RTP was almost entirely ready; a complete document is expected next week. Public outreach events in Huntington, Holyoke, and tentative events were planned for Westfield and Palmer. There will be a virtual Zoom presentation on Wednesday, June 28th, at 6 pm, and the recording will be available through the RTP webpage. Mr. Roux stated there were 18 plan chapters, and the safety and congestion chapters needed final formatting. The chapter on climate change, Chapter 11, is expected to have a draft the week of June 20th. Chapters 12 and 13 have completed drafts and will be uploaded to the website soon.

Mr. Dwyer asked for a motion to recommend the MPO release the draft at their upcoming meeting.

MOVED BY PAUL BURNS, PVTA, SECONDED BY MATT SMITH, TO RECOMMEND TO MPO TO RELEASE THE RTP DRAFT AT THEIR UPCOMING MEETING FOR THE 21-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD. 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 the amendment needed to include a \$166,000 Area of Persistent Poverty grant received by the PVTA. The project's objective will be to reduce the travel cost of transit by evaluating orbital route alignments that would provide direct connections. The complete summary will be available on the PVPC UPWP webpage. PVPC is requesting a modification to the UPWP Funding Profile to add \$20,000 to the FFY2023 Direct Cost Budget. It was proposed to move \$10,000 in PL Funding from Task 3.8 and \$10,000 from Task 3.9. The additional funds would be used to update outdated computers and traffic counting equipment.

Mr. Dwyer asked for a motion to recommend the MPO release the amendments at their upcoming meeting.

MOVED BY PAUL BURNS, PVTA, SECONDED BY MATT SMITH, TO RECOMMEND MPO TO RELEASE THE AMENDMENTS AT THEIR UPCOMING MEETING. A ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, AND THE RECOMMENDATION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Roux stated that PL stood for planning funds.

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

6. JTC Recommendation for the MPO to Adopt a Regional Vision Zero Statement for the Pioneer Valley Region

Mr. Roux reported that the region will apply for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant. The application for the second year is open through July 10th. The Town of Ware received funding for an Action Plan, and the City of Springfield received funding for implementation in Round 1. PVPC will apply for the region for a Planning and

Demonstration Grant to develop a Regional Safety Action Plan. MassDOT agreed to put up the 20% required match for the grant. Mr. Roux recommended that if a community did not want to participate or apply independently, he would like to see that in writing. Mr. Roux stated he would like a motion to recommend endorsement from the MPO at the next meeting. Mr. Roux clarified that the separation was needed due to the grant not being interested in funding duplicate applications. The intention is to include all the projects the communities want to achieve. Mr. Roux clarified that he would like to receive the action plans from the different communities.

Mr. Dwyer asked for a motion to recommend the MPO adopt the Regional Vision Zero Statement at their June meeting.

MOVED BY PAUL BURNS, PVTA, SECONDED BY DAN MURPHY, TO RECOMMEND TO MPO TO ADOPT THE REGIONAL VISION ZERO STATEMENT AT THEIR JUNE MEETING. A ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, AND THE RECOMMENDATION WAS APPROVED WITH ONE NO.

Dawn Scaparotti asked if there would be exclusions in the future for existing facilities and what was being agreed to. Mr. Roux clarified that the goal of the Regional Vision Zero Statement was that the roads were safe. Ms. Scaparotti stated that she also wanted the issues in the rural areas to be addressed. Mr. Roux stated that one goal was to work with the rural communities on what was needed.

MOVED BY DAWN SCAPAROTTI TO INCLUDE SOME REFERENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ROAD SAFETY AS PART OF THE REGIONAL VISION ZERO STATEMENT. THE MOTION WAS NOT SECONDED.

It was stated that the MPO meeting in June was open to anyone if they had any further issues with the Regional Vision Zero Statement.

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

7. Other Business

There was no further business.

8. Adjourns

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

MOVED BY PAUL BURNS, SECONDED BY MATT SMITH, TO ADJOURN THE JUNE 14, 2023, JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC) MEETING. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:39 AM WITHOUT OBJECTION.

Relevant documents distributed at this June 14, 2023, JTC meeting:

- Joint Transportation Committee June 14, 2023 Meeting Agenda
- Minutes of May 10, 2023, Joint Transportation Committee Meeting

Respectfully Submitted by Minutes Services