

**PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION (PVPC)**  
**Minutes of the Joint Transportation Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 10:00 A.M.**

Executive Committee Members Present:

Daryl Amaral	MassDOT Highway
Kris Baker	City of Northampton
Mark Berman	Town of East Longmeadow
John Broderick	Town of South Hadley
Ben Breger	MassDOT Highway District 2
Paul Burns	PVTA
Matt Chase	VHB
Michelle Chase	City of Agawam
Diana Chung-Edwards	Baystate Medical Center
William Dwyer, JTC Chair	Town of Hadley
Doug Ellis	City of Chicopee
Doug Finn	Town of Westhampton
Peter Frieri	MassDOT Highway District 1
Tori Halloran	Safe Routes to Schools
Alexis Hosea-Abbott	MassBike
Betsy Johnson	Walk/Bike Springfield
Van Kacoyannakis	VHB
Timothy Keane	Town of Longmeadow
Rod Kincaid	Town of Wales
Chris Klem	MassDOT – OTP
Geoff McAlmond	Town of Ware
Carolyn Misch	City of Northampton
Dan Murphy	Town of Easthampton
Ben Murphy	Town of Monson
Dawn Nims	MassDOT Highway District 2
Diana Rossini-Smith	Town of Easthampton
Matthew Smith	Town of Chesterfield

PVPC Staff Present:

Jeffrey McCollough, Principal Planner  
 Amir Kouzehkanani, Principal Planner  
 Gary Roux, Principal Planner/Traffic Manager  
 Dana Roscoe, Principal Planner/Transportation Manager  
 Andrew McCaul, Senior Transportation Planner

Members not in Attendance:

MUNICIPALITY	MUNICIPALITY	MUNICIPALITY	MUNICIPALITY
<b>Amherst</b>	<b>Montgomery</b>	<b>Palmer</b>	<b>University of Massachusetts</b>
<b>Barnes Municipal Airport</b>	<b>Granville</b>	<b>Pelham</b>	<b>Western Massachusetts EDC</b>
<b>Belchertown</b>	<b>Hampden</b>	<b>Peter Pan Bus Lines</b>	<b>Westfield</b>
<b>Blandford</b>	<b>Holland</b>	<b>Pioneer Valley Railroad</b>	<b>West Springfield</b>
<b>Brimfield</b>	<b>Huntington</b>	<b>Plainfield</b>	<b>Wilbraham</b>
<b>Chester</b>	<b>Ludlow</b>	<b>Russell</b>	<b>Williamsburg</b>
<b>Cummington</b>	<b>Middlefield</b>	<b>Southampton</b>	<b>Worthington</b>
<b>Goshen</b>	<b>Mobility Impaired Representative</b>	<b>Springfield</b>	
<b>Granby</b>	<b>Southwick</b>	<b>Tolland</b>	

1. Open Meeting

The April 10, 2024, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Joint Transportation Committee meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by JTC Chair William Dwyer, who welcomed everyone in attendance. Roll call was taken, and there was a quorum.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Dwyer asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2024, JTC meeting.

MOVED BY MATTHEW SMITH, SECONDED BY PAUL BURNS, TO APPROVE THE MARCH 13, 2024, JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE.

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. Draft FFY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Gary Roux requested the JTC to recommend the MPO release the FFY 2025 UPWP draft document at their meeting on April 23, 2024, for public review. The request is for endorsement based on feedback received during the 21-day comment period. Mr. Roux provided an update on the unified planning work program for FY 2025, explaining transportation planning funding for the upcoming federal fiscal year. Potential funding sources for transportation projects, including local communities and federal highway funds, were shared. Tasks are reorganized in the budget to reflect updated priorities, including a new line item for implementing the regional land use plan. Mr. Roux provided details for funding for complete street planning and safety studies.

MOVED BY PAUL BURNS, SECONDED BY MATTHEW SMITH, TO APPROVE THE MPO RELEASE OF THE FFY 2025 UPWP DRAFT DOCUMENT AT THEIR MEETING ON APRIL 23, 2024, FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE.

5. 2025–2029 TIP Document

Andrew McCaul highlighted the statewide transportation funding for 2025-2029, including a significant investment in bridge projects by MassDOT. Mr. McCaul discussed Transit's projects as well, including the electrification project, new bus purchases and facility upgrades. Mr. McCaul requested the JTC to recommend the MPO release the 2025-2029 TIP document at the 21-day public review.

MOVED BY PAUL BURNS, SECONDED BY BETSY JOHNSON, TO APPROVE THE MPO'S RELEASE OF THE 2025-2029 TIP DOCUMENT AT THE 21-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE.

6. Update Pavement Management System (PMS) Activities

Amir Kouzehkanani updated the Committee on the local pavement management program, collecting data on federal aid-eligible roadways. Mr. Kouzehkanani reminded the JTC that PVPC has an ongoing PMS program, collecting distress data on all federal aid eligible roads on a three-year cycle. The data is used in the RTP, as well as the PMS report. Mr. Kouzehkanani explained that PVPC can do a full pavement assessment and report for any municipality for a mileage-based fee. Any PMS inquiries can be sent to him at [amir@pvpc.org](mailto:amir@pvpc.org).

7. 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update

Mr. McCaul provided an update on the 2024-2028 TIP, noting two projects advertised, including the Springfield-Chicopee interstate and Amherst-Hadley resurfacing projects. The Worthington project, which is one of the local projects, is now anticipated to be advertised on June 1, 2024. Information was also provided for other projects programmed in FFY 2024 including: a Ludlow Bridge Project, a Safe Routes to School projects, and a Cummington bridging project. Mr. McCaul reminded the JTC that two local projects are still being designed and are expected to be advertised in Late August of 2024, the projects are the Wales – Monson Road reconstruction and the Springfield “X”

project. Both projects have experienced cost increases that are anticipated to be covered by other MassDOT funding sources. Staff will provide additional updates as more information becomes available.

8. 2024 MassDOT Automated Traffic Recorder (ATR) Locations

Mr. Kouzehkanani provided updates on the traffic counting program and locations MassDOT has requested PVPC to count. Mr. Kouzehkanani mentioned that any counts near the 5 colleges in Hampshire County would be counted in the fall once the colleges were back in session. Mr. Kouzehkanani mentioned that each municipality has the option of having two traffic counters installed per calendar year free of charge. Please use the [traffic count request](#) form to request counts.

9. Proposed Locations for Regional Traffic Count Trends

Mr. Kouzehkanani reminded the JTC that 44 locations were monitored during the pandemic to track the impacts on traffic. PVPC now wants to use the same locations or potential other locations in these municipalities in order to track traffic trends. Mr. Kouzehkanani asked members to review the list and provide feedback to him prior to the next JTC meeting.

10. Other Business

Members were urged to attend Walk Massachusetts' event with the Secretary of Transportation as keynote speaker.

11. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Mr. Dwyer called for a motion to adjourn today's meeting.

MOVED BY PAUL BURNS, SECONDED BY MATTHEW SMITH, TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 10, 2024, COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED WITHOUT OBJECTION AT 10:36 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,