

**Old Colony Planning Council  
Minutes of the Meeting  
August 31, 2016**

The five hundred and twenty ninth meeting of the Old Colony Planning Council was held on Wednesday, August 31, 2016 at the Council offices located at 70 School Street, Brockton, MA

**OCPC Delegates/Alternates Present**

David Klein	Abington
Frank Staffier	Avon
Sandra Wright	Bridgewater
Robert Moran, Jr.	Brockton
Jeanmarie Joyce	Easton
Robert Overholtzer	Hanson
Christine Joy	Plympton
Robert Kuver	Stoughton
Forrest Lindwall	Stoughton Alternate
Eldon F. Moreira	West Bridgewater
Fred Gilmetti	Whitman

**Communities Not Represented**

Duxbury  
East Bridgewater  
Halifax  
Hanover  
Kingston  
Pembroke  
Plymouth  
Delegate at Large

**Others Present**

Pasquale Ciaramella	OCPC
Patrick Hamilton	OCPC
Bruce Hughes	OCPC
Charles Kilmer	OCPC

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Council President Frank Staffier called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:** Council Secretary Christine Joy read the roll call.

**3. MINUTES OF THE JUNE 29, 2016 MEETING:** Council President Staffier asked if there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes as prepared. Mr. Eldon Moreira moved to accept the minutes as prepared, seconded by Mr. Robert Overholtzer. So voted.

**4. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JUNE AND JULY 2016:** Council Executive Director Mr. Pasquale Ciaramella presented the June 2016 Financial Report. After discussion, Mr. Robert Overholtzer moved to accept the June 2016 financial report as prepared, seconded by Mr. Eldon Moreira. So voted. Mr. Ciaramella said the July fiscal report was unavailable. It will be available at the September, 2016 Council meeting where it will be presented with the August, 2016 Financial Report.

**5. STAFF REPORT: *Economic Development*:** Mr. Ciaramella said that staff has been working on the Economic Development work program. The OCPC CEDS Committee met on June 6, 2016. They will next meet on September 19, 2016 at noontime. *Area Agency on Aging (AAA)*: Staff is continuing working on the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and the Ombudsman Programs for FFY 16. Mr. Patrick Hamilton, OCPC AAA Administrator will update the Council on the Needs

Assessment Survey and the Re-Application Summaries/Recommendations later on the agenda. Transportation: We are working on the Route 28 Traffic Study; Route 3A Corridor Study in Duxbury; Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Study; Avon Pavement Management Study; refinement of the BAT regional plan, Traffic Counting Program and the South Coast Rail Technical Assistance Projects in Bridgewater and Stoughton. Staff continues to provide Technical Assistance to our member communities and are working on numerous projects. Staff hosted July 2016 JTC and MPO meetings. Comprehensive Planning: Staff continues to work on Local District Technical Assistance (DLTA) projects and Community Compacts. Community Septic Management: Staff is continuing with the septic loan program. Communities included in this program are Avon, Cohasset, Hanson, Kingston and Stoughton.

A list of Upcoming Meetings/Events for August/September 2016 was included in the meeting packet.

## **6. REGIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS:**

### **Industrial Revenue Bond (Council Action Required)**

None

### **Environmental Notifications (Information only)**

- i. **Plymouth - EEA #15542- Improvements to Stephens Field-Plymouth** - Stephens Field is a 9.5 –acre town-owned recreation area located Adjacent to Plymouth Harbor. The site consists of an existing maintained park with various recreational facilities, including a basketball court, softball field, tennis courts, a playground, and parking area. The purpose of this project is to improve the conditions of the recreation areas and includes the construction of a new softball field, basketball court, playground, and tennis courts; landscaping plantings to improve the diversity of the vegetation; the construction of handicapped-accessible footpaths and picnic areas; the construction of new parking areas and sidewalks; the installation of a small craft boat launch; improvements of the shoreline protection along the waterfront area; drainage improvements through the installation of tree box filters; and utility upgrades. The project includes an element of resiliency planning by protecting the site from estimated flooding up to the FEMA 100-year flood elevation via filling the site so it is at or above elevation and expanding the armor stone revetment.
- ii. **Plymouth – EEA #15542-Commerce Way Plaza-Plymouth** - The proposed project is the development of the 6.4 - acre former MassDOT Park and Ride surface parking lot located on the east side of Commerce Way, just south of the Route 44/Commerce Way interchange in Plymouth. The former 552 - space parking lot is located in a heavily developed commercial zone, opposite the Colony Place Shopping Center on the west side of Commerce Way and south of commercial/industrial development that is accessed via Industrial Park Road, the proponent is proposing the construction of a 4 story, 72,000 square foot, 150 room hotel; and three restaurants, each will be 1 story and approximately 4,900 square feet. Two of the restaurants will feature drive-through service. In total, the site will feature 285 parking spaces, generate 6,300 new daily trips, and consume 32,340 gallons of water per day.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. UPDATE ON 2016 DISTRICT LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** Mr. Ciaramella said the following 2016 DLTA projects are being worked on. Abington: Help create a business organization in town. City of Brockton: Prepare GIS shape files for existing zoning districts and data files for properties within those districts. East Bridgewater: Conduct market analysis for East Bridgewater Center. Halifax: Update Housing Production Plan. Plymouth: Provide assistance to Entergy Taskforce. Plympton: Assistance in working with Towns of Carver, Halifax and Kingston to explore regionalization, share services, and collective purchasing opportunities. Stoughton: Create a list of available commercial and industrial properties and land for sale or lease and create a business property site finder to be linked to the town's website. Whitman: 40 R Zoning District. Regional: Municipal Aggregation. Regional Office Supplies Purchasing, Community Compact/City of Brockton, Campello Neighborhood Visioning Project. Discussion of DLTA statewide funding for 2017. After back and forth between Governor Baker and the state legislature there will be \$2.8 million in DLTA funding available for regional planning agencies statewide in 2017. Some of this funding will help communities deal with United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) General Permits for storm water discharges from small municipal separate storm water sewer systems in Massachusetts (MS4) issues. Mr. Ciaramella informed the Council that there could be 9C cuts, that may affect DLTA funding. Under Section 9C of Chapter 29 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Governor of Massachusetts has the ability to make cuts in the state budget.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. AREA AGENCY ON AGING (AAA) - 2016 NEEDS ASSESSMENT:** Mr. Patrick Hamilton, OCPC AAA Administrator said the AAA program is conducting a region-wide older person needs assessment. OCPC-AAA is responsible for administering over \$1.5 million dollars in Older Americans Act funding for elder services in the Greater Plymouth County region. In order to make the best choices for prioritizing funding, we need to understand and identify the greatest needs of older people (age 60 and older) throughout the region. They are asking for assistance in identifying unmet and/or under met needs of older persons. As part of this they are sending out hard copies of surveys to housing authorities and councils on aging in our region. The surveys will also be available on-line. Visit: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/ProviderAgencies-OPNA](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ProviderAgencies-OPNA). They conduct this every 4-5 years as part of the AAA work program.
- B. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION AAA – FFY 2017 TITLE III REAPPLICATION RECOMMENDATIONS:** Mr. Hamilton presented on OCPC AAA FFY 2017 Title III Re-Application Summaries/Recommendations. Included in the meeting handouts was a summary of the returning Title III funded programs. We are going into the second year of our two-year funding cycle. Program monitoring and evaluation visits have not identified any major problems or areas of concern with any of the programs listed in the handout. After discussion, Mr. Robert Overholtzer moved to approve the AAA FFY 2017 Title III Re-Application Recommendations, seconded by Ms. Jeanmarie Joyce. So voted.

- C. METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION COORDINATION AND PLANNING AREA REFORM:** Mr. Charles Kilmer, OCPC Assistant Director/Transportation Program Manager discussed this. Under this proposal by the United States Department of Transportation, several far reaching changes to the transportation planning process within Metropolitan Planning Areas (MPAs), including the potential for the creation of super-sized Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), and the requirement to prepare a single Metropolitan Regional Transportation Plan, a single Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and to jointly establish a set of performance targets for the entire urbanized area. The Old Colony Planning Council is strongly opposed to the Proposed Rule. Included in the meeting packet were letters sent to federal transportation and transit administrators from OCPC, The Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and several other groups opposing these changes.
- D. UPDATE ON THE OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) CERTIFICATION REVIEW REPORT:** Mr. Kilmer updated the Council on the status of the MPO review. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have submitted the final Planning Certification Review Report of the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization. The FHWA and the FTA have determined that the transportation planning process substantially meets the requirements of 23 CFR Part 450 Subpart C and 49 CFR Part 613. The FHWA and the FTA are therefore jointly certifying the transportation planning process. Also discussed was that any community that belongs to more than one MPO will have to decide which MPO they wish to belong to. They can only belong to one MPO. Duxbury, Hanover Pembroke and Stoughton are presently in the Boston and Old Colony MPOs. It needs to be determined which MPO they will belong to. When these decisions are agreed to they will be submitted to the state and ultimately to federal transportation authorities for approval.
- E. APPOINTMENT – 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SUB-COMMITTEE:** President Staffier appointed Mr. Robert Moran Jr., Ms. Jeanmarie Joyce, and Mr. Fred Gilmetti to serve as members of this subcommittee.
- F. UPDATE ON SOUTH COAST RAIL PROJECT:** Mr. Ciaramella and Mr. Kilmer said the State is considering route alternatives. The Middleboro alternative is being looked at again. Advantages of the Middleboro route are that it could be done faster and cheaper. It will use existing diesel train sets. A concern is that all legal challenges to the Stoughton alternative might be brought up for the Stoughton alternative. The Stoughton alternative will use electric locomotives for better air quality vs. diesels on the Middleboro alternative so that is a concern as well. There are six public hearings scheduled on this matter in September. Notice of these meetings and a South Coast Rail Project Overview as of August 8, 2016 was included in the Council meeting packet. OCPC had invited Jean Fox, the South Coast Rail Coordinator to speak at our August Council meeting. She couldn't attend until after the public hearings are held. She will be invited to speak at our September Council meeting. Brockton Delegate Mr. Robert Moran Jr. asked if OCPC has a preferred alternative route. Mr. Ciaramella said no, as OCPC is awaiting additional information, and that it might be put up for a vote after the public hearings.

**9. COMMUNITY CONCERNS:** Mr. Forrest Lindwall said Stoughton has been awarded \$400,000 in Complete Streets funding for sidewalk construction.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**11. VISITORS COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:**

There were none.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Gilmetti  
Secretary

**List of Documents for August 31, 2016 OCPC Council Meeting**

- Agenda for the August 31, 2016 OCPC Council Meeting
- June 29, 2016 OCPC Council Meeting Minutes
- List of August/September 2016 Up-Coming Events
- June 2016 OCPC Financial report
- South Coast Rail Project Overview
- Old Colony MPO Planning Certification Review Final Report
- MPO Coordination and Planning Area Reform comment letters
- South Coast Rail Public Meeting Schedule
- FHA/FTA Transportation Planning Information Exchange webinar document
- MassDOT notice of public hearings on toll structure changes within the Massachusetts Turnpike, and the Metropolitan Highway System
- OCPC AAA Older Persons Needs Assessment
- OCPC AAA FFY 2017 Title III Re-Application Summaries/Recommendations