

# OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

## Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Old Colony Planning Council, 70 School Street, Brockton, MA October 13, 2016 at 12:00 P.M.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Abington	John Stone	BAT	Michael Blondin
Bridgewater	Robert Wood	BAT	Kathy Riddell
Brockton	Rob May	MassDOT District 5	Timothy Kochan
Brockton	Shane O'Brien	Independence Associates	Bill Shine
Brockton	Robert Moran	Massasoit Community College	Phil Sheppard
Brockton	Councilor Anne Beauregard	OCPC	Bill McNulty
East Bridgewater	Richard O'Flaherty	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Easton	David Field	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
Hanson	Donald Howard	OCPC	Ray Guarino
Hanson	Laurie Muncy	OCPC	Jim Watson
Plymouth	Sid Kashi	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
Stoughton	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Pat Ciaramella
Stoughton	Joe Scardino	OCPC	Paul Chenard
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Eric Arbeene
BAT	Glenn Geiler	OCPC	Jimmy Pereira

### **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. and then read the Meeting Accessibility Statement. Those present then introduced themselves.

### **2. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **3. Minutes of the September 8, 2016 Meeting**

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole asked if the members had reviewed the minutes of the September 8, 2016 Meeting. The members then unanimously endorsed the minutes of the September 8, 2016 Old Colony JTC Meeting.

### **4. Communications**

Shawn Bailey reviewed the contents of the communications staff report. Included were letters of correspondence, as well as notices of workshops and conferences.

### **5. Reports**

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## **A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)**

Glenn Geiler stated that DIAL-A-BAT currently has seven (7) new vehicles on the road which were awarded through the mobility assistance program. Eight (8) new transit coaches will arrive at the end of the state fiscal year. Glenn Geiler thanked MassDOT for their support with both of these projects.

## **B. Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)**

Paul Chenard stated that there may be some potential service changes soon. GATRA recently finished their Comprehensive Regional Transportation Plan (CRTP); implementation of some of those recommendations is ongoing. GATRA is talking about extending the Pembroke Shuttle and establishing new services where there is currently no service.

## **C. South Coast Rail Project**

Paul Chenard stated that there was a SCR public meeting last month. Due to cost and time, they are re-considering using the Middleborough Line as the preferred alternative. The line would be extended from the Middleborough/Lakeville terminus to Taunton and then onto Fall River and New Bedford. Technical Assistance work was done in Stoughton and Bridgewater.

Rob May asked, with Middleborough option increasing, is there any consensus as to what option they might choose? Also, would the Middleborough line require additional train sets? Paul Chenard stated that the public meeting mainly focused on Stoughton and Easton. Paul Chenard stated that if you do the scheduling right you would not need any more trains.

Pat Ciaramella stated that OCPC put together a support letter to support the Middleborough Alternative. The towns of East Bridgewater and West Bridgewater also sent letters of support for the Middleborough alternative.

Chairperson O'Toole stated that Stoughton has sent a letter in opposition to SCR.

## **6. Old Business**

### **A. FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation**

Charles Kilmer reviewed the project updates within the FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Charles Kilmer then presented the TIP Adjustment that programs the cost increase of the fueling station project at the BAT maintenance facility. The cost has increased by \$145,200, with the state share increasing from \$50,000 to \$195,120. Charles Kilmer then asked the JTC to review and consider approving the adjustment.

Pat Ciaramella made a motion to approve the adjustment. The motion was seconded.

The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve the fueling station adjustment from \$50,000 to \$195,120.

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## 7. New Business

### A. Duxbury Route 3A Corridor Study – Findings and Recommendations

Bill McNulty provided the findings and recommendations for the Duxbury Route 3A Corridor Study.

#### Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility and Safety

- Install “Share the Road” signage along the Route 3A Corridor to alert drivers to the presence of bicyclists.
- Many survey respondents expressed the desire for a separated shared use pathway.

#### Resurfacing and Drainage Improvements

- The entire length of Route 3A in Duxbury should be resurfaced in the short term to preserve the existing structure. Drainage improvements should be implemented in areas where ponding of water during rain events have been noted.

#### Intersection of Route 3A at Church Street and Tremont Street (Route 139) (Cox Corner)

- Clear vegetation within right-of-way on northwest corner of intersection.
- Consider installation of a flashing warning beacon to further enhance existing signage.
- Installation of a roundabout (or traffic signal if warranted) if safety isn’t improved with short term, lower cost alternatives.

#### Intersection of Route 3A at West Street (Route 14) and St. George Street

- Monitor crash rate at intersection. Town should consider requesting a further detailed intersection specific traffic study of this location through the Old Colony MPO Local Highway Planning Technical Assistance program if crash rate remains elevated.

#### Intersection of Route 3A at Tobey Garden Street and Chestnut Street

- Signage improvements on Route 3A approaches to intersection.
- Trim vegetation and investigate potential relocation of wayfinding signs that may be obstruction sightlines.
- Installation of a roundabout or traffic signal if safety isn’t improved with short term, lower cost alternatives.

#### Route 3A at Route 3 Exit 10

- Reconstruct ramps to include full signalization of both the Route 3 northbound and southbound ramps.

Richard O’Flaherty asked if Duxbury is in both the Boston MPO and the Old Colony MPO. Pat Ciaramella stated that OCPC and MAPC are discussing the matter, and are looking to have the communities decide by October 2017 which MPO they want to belong to.

### B. Avon and Brockton Route 28 Corridor Study – Findings and Recommendations

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Ray Guarino provided the findings and recommendations for the Avon and Brockton Route 28 Corridor Study. Some of the recommendations are as follows:

- **Main Street (Route 28) at West Main Street/East Main Street – Avon** – Add way finding signs for parking, and advanced warning signs northbound and southbound on Route 28 to notify motorists of pedestrian crossing locations.
- **East Main Street (Route 28) at East Spring Street/West Spring Street – Avon** – Install signals with geometric improvements and coordinate signals with the Harrison Boulevard/Route 28 intersection, as well as improve pedestrian safety.
- **Montello Street at Crescent Street – Brockton** – Add “Right Turn on Red after Stop” to the southbound approach for enhanced pedestrian safety.
- **Montello Street (Route 28) at Keith Park – Brockton** – Add parking spaces on Garfield Street. Add crosswalks and Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons to Main Street at Garfield and across Montello Street (Route 28) at Riverside.

Ray Guarino stated that The Keith Park Association received over \$300,000 in grants to redesign and reconstruct the park. Rob May made a correction, saying that the City of Brockton secured the grant, and the City of Brockton is doing the design.

Dan Salvucci stated that there is some danger for pedestrians crossing when right on red is allowed at intersections.

Richard O’Flaherty stated that coming down Brookside Avenue there are hedges impairing your view if you are taking a right on red. Shane O’Brien informed the JTC about SeeClickFix website. With this you can figure out if the location where the hedges are overgrown is City owned or private property.

City Councilor Anne Beauregard stated that there are street signs for what street you are turning onto, but no signs to let you know what street you’re on. This could be an improvement for the City of Brockton.

### C. Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity and Safety Study – Findings and Recommendations

Paul Chenard summarized the findings and recommendations for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity and Safety Study.

#### Findings

- Citizens want more connected sidewalks in their community. A lack of sidewalks makes people feel unsafe.
- Citizens would walk more often if they had more sidewalks in their communities especially along busy roads.
- Citizens want to see better maintenance of existing sidewalks and better snow clearing of the sidewalks during winter.
- Citizens expressed they would like to see sidewalks do a better job of accommodating those with mobility issues.
- Citizens want a robust bicycle transportation network. Currently, the lack of bicycle lanes and

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bicycle amenities deters them for bicycling in their communities.

### Recommendations

- Build more sidewalks throughout communities and connect those sidewalks not connected to anything to other sidewalks in the pedestrian network.
- Where sidewalks cannot be built, establish pedestrian corridors through communities that convey to other road users pedestrian will be encountered along a particular road and have the right of way.
- Develop a robust network of connected bicycle lanes and accommodations throughout the OCPC region that will allow citizens to travel within their communities in a safe and low stress manner.
- Where bicycle lanes cannot be established, designate bicycle transportation corridors that convey to other roadway users bicyclists will be present.
- Develop inter-urban bicycle routes to allow citizens to safely and easily bicycle between two or more communities.
- Connect bicycle routes to other planning regions in the Commonwealth
- Develop a robust winter snow clearing plan.

Paul Chenard stated that there have been public meetings in Plymouth, Stoughton, Whitman, and Brockton. Richard O'Flaherty asked if most of the people who attend the meetings ride bikes. Paul Chenard stated that those who participate are the most interested. The survey questions were as neutral as possible, and it was sent out to everybody on the JTC and MPO list.

Chairperson O'Toole stated that at the Stoughton meeting there were people who were cyclists and people who were not cyclists.

### **D. FFY 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development Schedule**

Charles Kilmer went over the FFY 2018-2022 TIP Development Schedule.

### **Draft FFY 2018-2022 Old Colony TIP Development Schedule**

#### October-March

- Annual Solicitation of Projects
- Continues outreach, data collection, and coordination with communities, BAT, MassDOT, and stakeholders
- Communities and Consultants provide project updates at JTC and/ or MPO meetings

#### March-April

- Continued coordination with communities, BAT, MassDOT, and stakeholders
- MARPA - MassDOT Coordination Meeting and provision of Draft Financial Funding Targets
- Transportation Evaluation Criteria Analysis of Projects

#### April

- Continued coordination with communities, BAT, MassDOT, and stakeholders

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- TIP Day - Discussion of Projects by RPAs and MassDOT
- Staff Recommendation and Draft TIP Development

### April-June

- Continues coordination with communities, BAT, MassDOT, and stakeholders
- Public Review Period (JTC, OCPC, and MPO) and Endorsement

### July-August

- Preparation of Draft STIP (MassDOT)

### July-September

- Draft STIP review by FHWA, FTA, and DEP

Tim Kochan thanked Charles Kilmer for providing the schedule. At the last Project Review Committee (PRC) Meeting, MassDOT District 5 proposed six (6) potential TIP. Stoughton - Intersection Improvements and Related Work at Central Street, Canton Street and Tosca Drive (608279) was one of the projects, and MassDOT assigned a value of \$3 Million to start.

Tim Kochan stated that collectively, projects must start much earlier. Ultimately, MassDOT would like to see projects starting in FFY 2018 TIP at a minimum of 100% design approved or at PS&E. When MassDOT sends out Notice to Proceed letters, we are asking the design consultants to provide a design schedule.

## **8. Other Business and Public Comment**

### **A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies**

Bill McNulty reported on the following Community Local Technical Assistance Studies:

#### Bridgewater

- Traffic Study of intersection of Pleasant Street (Route 104) at Elm Street: Data collected; Draft analysis sent to town for review; Report in development
- Traffic Study of intersection of Bedford Street (Route 18/28) at Grove Street and Maple Avenue: Data collected and analysis underway

#### Easton

- Traffic Study for Turnpike Street at Purchase Street, and Washington Street (Route 138) at Turnpike Street: Data collected and analysis underway

#### Hanover

- Traffic Study for Woodland Drive Neighborhood: Data collected; Analysis Underway
- Safety and Alternatives Analysis for Mill Street at Hanover Mall / Mill Pond Drive: Report in development

#### Kingston

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- Traffic Study for Kingston Historic District: Data collected; Report in Development

### Plymouth

- Road Safety Audit for Standish Avenue at Alden Street: Data collected; analysis underway

### West Bridgewater

- Traffic Study of West Center Street (Route 106) and Crescent Street: Data collected; analysis underway

## **B. Staff Reviews on ENFs, EIRs, and NPCs**

Eric Arbeene summarized the Environmental Notification Forms (ENFs), Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), Notices of Project Changes (NPCs), and Certificates for projects within the OCPC region that are undergoing Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office review.

### Certificates

#### **EFN**

#### EEA #15560 – Vernon Street Bedrock Wells - Bridgewater

The Vernon Street Bedrock Wells project involves the development of a new municipal water source to provide the Town of Bridgewater operational flexibility and redundancy so that safe, reliable drinking water continues to be provided to the residents and businesses of Bridgewater.

#### EEA #15561 – Baron Estates – Easton

Baron Estates is a proposed 27-unit subdivision located off of Mill Street in Easton. The project will be located on approximately 15.49 acres, of which 4.40 acres will be impervious. The project is expected to generate 270 new daily trips, consumer 16,800 gallons of water per day and generate 12,320 gallons of wastewater per day.

## **C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues**

- Bob Wood stated that the Bridgewater Town Hall (The Academy Building) is open for business.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:09 PM

Respectfully submitted,

*Kyle Mowatt*

Kyle Mowatt, Transportation Planner

### **List of Documents for October 13, 2016 Old Colony JTC Meeting**

- Minutes of September 8, 2016 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for October 13, 2016 Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items