

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 January 12, 2017, 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	Bruce Hughes	Safe Routes to School	Moss Lynch
Bridgewater	Robert B. Wood	MassRIDES	Samantha Devine
Bridgewater	Sandra Wright	Independence Associates	Bill Shine
Brockton	Chike Odunukwe	CDM Smith	Dan Murphy
Brockton	Shane O'Brien	Gill Engineering	Preston Huckabee
East Bridgewater	Richard O'Flaherty	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
Easton	David Field	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
Hanson	Laurie Muncy	OCPC	Ray Guarino
Hanson	Donald H. Howard	OCPC	Paul Chenard
Plymouth	Sid Kashi	OCPC	Bill McNulty
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
BAT	Ray Ledoux	OCPC	Jimmy Pereira
BAT	Michael Blondin	OCPC	Eric Arbeene
MassDOT	Shane Sousa	OCPC	David Nolan
MassDOT	Pamela Haznar	OCPC	Jim Watson
		OCPC	Pat Ciaramella

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Vice Chairperson Sid Kashi called the meeting to order at 12:08 P.M. and then read the Meeting Accessibility Statement. Those present then introduced themselves. Vice Chairperson Sid Kashi then asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Ned Kirby.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Minutes of the November 10, 2016 Meeting

Vice Chairperson Sid Kashi asked if the members had reviewed the minutes of the December 8, 2016 Meeting. The members then unanimously endorsed the minutes of the December 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.

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5. Reports

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Ray Ledoux reported on the following:

- OCPC is working on the Federal Civil Rights Title VI Study. OCPC will be submitting the draft to BAT by February 1st.
- BAT was approached by the Brockton School Department to provide assistance if they pushed out the school bus pickup radius from 2 miles to 2.5 miles. BAT will be meeting with the school department next week to discuss. OCPC will be providing mapping.
- OCPC is working on an Aging in Place study that will highlight where there are unmet service needs as well as how it will impact the core service area. Corridor service for Route 18 for Bridgewater to Weymouth Hospitals.
- There is a bill before the Governor to be signed regarding bike lanes. Drivers across the state could be penalized with a ticket of up to \$50 for stopping in a bike lane.

Richard O'Flaherty had a comment regarding the Aging in Place Study. Mr. O'Flaherty asked if areas outside of Route 18 will be studied. Ray Ledoux stated that Route 18 was just an example. The study is for the BAT service area.

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

Paul Chenard stated that there is no new update besides the ongoing issues of the need for transportation in the southern portion of Plymouth, and continuing to look at alternatives to get the intermodal center built.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Paul Chenard had no update on the South Coast Rail Project.

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). They are as follows:

- PLYMOUTH – IMPROVEMENTS ON OBERY STREET, FROM SOUTH STREET TO A.C. CARANCI WAY/PLYMOUTH NORTH H.S. DRIVE INTERSECTION (606264)
 - Design Public Hearing scheduled for 01/19/2017.
- AVON – INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HARRISON BOULEVARD AND POND STREET (608086)
 - 25% Package received by MassDOT (as of 12/16/2016).

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Charles Kilmer stated that OCPC is asking project proponents to attend the February, 2017 JTC Meeting to provide specific project updates.

Bob Wood asked if there is any traffic light update where Obery Street and South Street come together in Plymouth. Pam Haznar stated that there would not be any fixes for that location before 2020.

Bill McNulty stated that for special events, the Police Department and State Police Department override those traffic signals. Plymouth did a pilot program for Thanksgiving and it was successful.

Pam Haznar stated that MassDOT will be mindful of projects in Plymouth leading up to their 2020 celebration events. MassDOT wants everything to go as smoothly as possible. Sid Kashi thanked MassDOT.

7. New Business

A. Municipal Small Bridge Program Overview

▪ Shane Sousa, MassDOT District 5

Shane Sousa provided an overview and presentation on the Municipal Small Bridge Program. This five (5) year, \$50M program will provide reimbursable assistance to cities and towns of up to \$500,000 per year to aid in the replacement and preservation of municipally owned bridges with spans between 10' and 20'. These bridges are not eligible for federal aid under existing bridge replacement or rehabilitation programs and an increasing number of them are at high risk for full or partial closure in the near future due to their present condition.

All applications will be submitted by the city or town to their local district highway office. From there, projects will be screened for eligibility and forwarded to MassDOT's Bridge Section in Boston with a recommendation. Projects will again be evaluated and scored, with final recommendations being made to the Chief Engineer, who will issue to each municipality a final decision. Applications will be accepted three (3) times per year – October 31st, February 28th, and June 30th. The first round of applications was due to their respective Highway District on or before October 31, 2016.

B. Development of FFY 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Charles Kilmer discussed the development of the FFY 2018-2022 TIP. Charles Kilmer stated that the development schedule for the FFY 2018-2022 TIP has been advanced by 2 months. The MPO will release the Draft TIP to Public Review and Comment Period in April. In May, the MPO completes public review and comment period and considers endorsement of the TIP. Charles Kilmer then discussed the Draft Old Colony FFY 2018-2022 TIP Projects. They are as follows:

2018

- 607438 – Easton – Route 138 @ Union Street Signalization and Geometric Improvements
- 607337 – Pembroke – Route 53 at Pleasant Street Signalization and Geometric Improvements
- 606264 – Plymouth – Improvements on Obery Street, from South Street to A.C. Caranci Way/Plymouth North H.S. Drive Intersection

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2019

- 608143 – Abington/Brockton – North Quincy Street, Chestnut Street, and Boundary Avenue Signalization and Geometric Improvements
- 608088 – Brockton – Corridor Improvements on Route 123 (Belmont Street), from Angus Beaton Drive to West Street
- 607941 – East Bridgewater – Resurfacing and Sidewalk Construction on Bedford Street (Route 18), from Whitman Street (Route 106) to Central Street

2020

- 607217 – Easton – Route 123 (Depot Street) Reconstruction from Newell Circle to Route 138

2021

- 606143 – Brockton – Intersection Improvements @ Crescent Street (Route 27)/ Quincy Street/ Massasoit Boulevard

2022

- 607403 – Stoughton – Corridor Improvements on Route 138 from Lincoln Street to Central Street, Including Intersection Improvements @ Route 138 & Central Street

Don Howard asked about the status of the Hanson – Resurfacing & Related Work on Route 53 Project. Charles Kilmer stated that the PNF has been submitted to MassDOT as of August, 2015.

Richard O’Flaherty asked if a project in Table 3 could bump out a project already programmed in the TIP. Charles Kilmer stated that if a project stalls out, another one could advance and take its place. It is up to the project proponents to advance the projects as this is a competitive process.

C. Development of Old Colony Public Participation Plan

Charles Kilmer discussed the development of the Old Colony Public Participation Plan. This plan will go to the MPO on Tuesday, and they are potentially releasing it to the public for a 45 day review. The Plan is based on federal and state requirements for encouraging and ensuring community participation. It describes the Old Colony MPO’s overall goals, guiding principles, and strategic approach to achieving stated objectives. The Plan also defines how the Old Colony MPO proposes to incorporate public participation into its transportation decision-making processes, and how the agency ensures access for people with disabilities and the inclusion of low incoming and minority stakeholders. Charles Kilmer then stated that one of the changes in this Plan is compressing the public review period for the TIP, RTP, and UPWP from 30 days to 21 days.

8. Other Business and Public Comment

A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies

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

Abington

- Technical Assistance for Orange Street HCVE Request: Report development underway

Bridgewater

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- 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

Duxbury

- Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Study for Railroad Avenue: Data collection scheduled for Spring 2017
- Feasibility Study for Tremont Street Sidewalk/Pedestrian Path: Consultation with town in progress

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: Report in Development
- Safety and Alternatives Analysis for Mill Street at Hanover Mall / Mill Pond Drive: Report in development

Kingston

- Traffic Study for Kingston Historic District: Data collected; Report in Development
- Traffic Count for Cranberry Road: Data collection rescheduled for Spring

Plymouth

- Road Safety Audit for Standish Avenue at Alden Street: Report in Development
- Turning Movement Counts for 10 Intersections along Lunns Way: Data Collection Planned for Summer 2017

Stoughton

- Technical Assistance for Island Street HCVE Request: Data collection to be scheduled as weather permits

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.

EEA #15541 – Improvements to Stephens Field – Plymouth (ENF)

The proposed project consists of the construction of new recreational facilities, including a new softball

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field, tennis courts, basketball court, and playground. Landscaping improvements, including landscaping plantings, handicapped-accessible footpaths, picnic areas, bridges, and seating; construction of new parking areas, sidewalks, and improvements to vehicular circulation; stabilizing the shoreline by providing a vegetated slope reinforced by an erosion control blanket; minor improvements to the existing informal boat launch area; drainage improvements via the installation of tree box filter; and utility upgrades.

EEA #15556 – Taylor Avenue Improvements Project – Plymouth (ENF)

The project includes the reconstruction of Taylor Avenue from its intersection with White Horse Road south to Manomet Point Road, for a distance of approximately one mile. The project also includes the replacement of the existing, structurally deficient Taylor Avenue Bridge over Beaver Dam Brook.

EEA #15617 – ADM Tihonet Mixed Use Development Project, Phase C6 Federal Road West – Carver & Wareham (ENF)

The project consists of developing an 8.4 megawatt solar energy facility, including solar modules, transformers, inverters, an internal gravel access drive and a security fence.

EEA #15542 – Commerce Way Plaza – Plymouth (DEIR)

The proponent is proposing the construction of a 4-story, 72,000 square foot, 165 room hotel; and three restaurants, each of which 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.

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

- Dan Salvucci asked how the town of Whitman would go about getting a sidewalk installed on Route 14. Pam Haznar stated that some options are the Healthy Transportation Policy and the Complete Streets funding program.
- Don Howard thanked OCPC regarding the Plymouth County Hospital. The demolition of the building will begin Monday.
- Charles Kilmer stated that in 2017 OCPC will be celebrating its 50th anniversary.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt, Transportation Planner

List of Documents for December 8, 2016 Old Colony JTC Meeting

- Minutes of the December 8, 2016 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for January 12, 2017 Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items
- Municipal Small Bridge Program Power Point Presentation
- MassDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Look Brochure