

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 April 6, 2017 at 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	Bruce Hughes	BAT	Glenn Geiler
Bridgewater	Robert B. Wood	MassDOT District 5	Tim Kochan
Bridgewater	Sandra Wright	Howard Stein Hudson	Lou Rabito
Brockton	Chike Odunukwe	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Brockton	Shane O'Brien	OCPC	Bill McNulty
East Bridgewater	Richard O'Flaherty	OCPC	Ray Guarino
Easton	Greg Swan	OCPC	Jimmy Pereira
Easton	David Field	OCPC	Paul Chenard
Hanson	Laurie Muncy	OCPC	Pat Ciaramella
Hanson	Donald H. Howard	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
Plymouth	Sid Kashi	OCPC	Eric Arbeene
Stoughton	Noreen O' Toole	OCPC	Jim Watson
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole called the meeting to order at 12:03 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 March 9, 2017 Meeting

Chairperson O'Toole asked if the members had reviewed the minutes of the March 9, 2017 Meeting. The members then unanimously endorsed the minutes of the March 9, 2017 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

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

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Glenn Geiler stated that OCPC has finished BATs 2017 Title VI Report. Paul Chenard provided a summary on that report. Every three years, BAT conducts a civil rights analysis and reports to the federal government on how it is doing in delivering public transportation and its related amenities in an equitable manner. This report focuses on whether the transit service and related benefits are made available and are equitably distributed with regard to race, color, and national origin. Data analyzed to verify the equitability of BAT service for this report concerning high and low minority populations, low-income populations, and those with limited English proficiency comes from the 2010 U.S. Census. Fleet inventories and various transit amenities information was provided by BAT.

It is the findings of the Old Colony Planning Council that the Brockton Area Transit Authority displays a high degree of compliance with the federal requirements in meeting Civil Rights requirements in relation to providing public transportation services and its related amenities. BAT demonstrates that transit service is made available, and is equitably distributed for all individuals without regard to race, color, or national origin throughout the BAT fixed route system and in providing DIAL-A-BAT service.

Glenn Geiler thanked Paul Chenard for all his hard work on the Title VI Report.

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

Paul Chenard stated that GATRA is looking into adjusting the service schedule of lines that operate in Plymouth and Marshfield.

The new service from New Bedford and Wareham is performing well. GATRA is impressed by the ridership considering it only operates 3 days a week.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Paul Chenard stated that on March 15, 2017, MassDOT filed a SCR Notice of Project Change (NPC) to adopt a phased approach to provide early service, years before revenue service is currently considered to be possible. Phase 1 will provide service from New Bedford, Fall River and Taunton to Boston by building the Southern Triangle, and using the Middleborough Secondary line and the existing Middleborough/Lakeville Commuter Rail line. For Phase 2, MassDOT will continue to advance the full Stoughton Electric Alternative.

On April 13, 2017 at 6:30 PM, MassDOT and the MBTA will hold a public meeting on the Notice of Project Change. The public meeting will be at the University Of Massachusetts School Of Law Francis J. Larkin Moot Courtroom located at 333 Faunce Corner Road, Dartmouth.

Bob Wood believes that SCR will never come back to the Stoughton Line if they go with the Middleborough Line.

Pat Ciaramella stated that it would be a disservice to Stoughton and Easton to not go at least down to Roche Bros. Plaza. This would minimize the parking and congestion in Stoughton.

Richard O'Flaherty stated that the City of Taunton is going to be under served.

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Pat Ciaramella stated that the Middleborough Line will connect the City of Brockton with Taunton, New Bedford and Fall River.

Richard O'Flaherty stated that a youth affordability pass should be instituted in the future. Discussion followed.

6. Old Business

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

Charles Kilmer provided an update on projects with changes. They are as follows:

FFY 2018 Projects

- WHITMAN – TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS & RELATED WORK ON BEDFORD STREET (ROUTE 18) AT 2 LOCATIONS: AUBURN STREET (ROUTE 14) & TEMPLE STREET (ROUTE 27) (607860)
 - MassDOT comments on the 75% Package have been returned to the Design Engineer (as of 03/31/2017).

FFY 2019 Projects

- BROCKTON – CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), FROM ANGUS BEATON DRIVE TO WEST STREET (608088)
 - 25% Package received by MassDOT (as of 03/16/2017).

7. New Business

A. National Highway Freight Network (NHFN) – Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridor Designation

Ray Guarino discussed the NHFN – Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridor Designation. The National Highway Freight Network is made up of four components:

1. **The Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS):** The most critical highway portions of the U.S. freight transportation system. 41,518 centerline miles (37,436 Interstate centerline miles; 4,082 non-Interstate centerline miles)
2. **The Remaining portion of Interstate roads not included in the PHFS:** 9,511 Interstate centerline miles
3. **Critical Rural Freight Corridors (CRSCs):** Public roads not in an urbanized area which provide access and connection to the PHFS and the Interstate with other important ports, public transportation facilities, or other intermodal freight facilities
4. **Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs):** Public roads in urbanized areas which provide access and connection to the PHFS and the Interstate with other ports, public transportation facilities, or other intermodal transportation facilities

Massachusetts is allocated 150 miles of Critical Rural Freight Corridor (CRFC) mileage and 75 miles of Critical Urban Freight Corridor Mileage (CUFC). Old Colony is allocated 0.84 miles of CRFC and 3.44

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miles of CUFC. This is based on the region's centerline mileage as a percentage of Massachusetts as a whole.

Don Howard asked why nothing is done for southeast Massachusetts. Ray Guarino stated that there is little mileage to designate for that area. Looking at intermodal freight facilities, most are along Route 28.

Dan Salvucci asked if there are any heavy vehicle exclusions on any of these roads. Ray Guarino stated that there are not.

Richard O'Flaherty asked how this will impact towns that have residential settings. Charles Kilmer replied that this is just opening up roadways for a certain category of federal funding. This does not mean that these routes will be getting all of the heavy vehicle traffic. Discussion followed.

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

▪ Preferred Set of Projects

Charles Kilmer discussed the Development of the FFY 2018-2022 TIP. The list of preferred set of projects identified by the MPO, is as follows:

2018

1. Easton - Route 138 @ Union Street Signalization and Geometric Improvements (607438)
 - \$2,160,421
2. Pembroke - Route 53 at Pleasant Street Signalization and Geometric Improvements (607337)
 - \$2,008,776
3. Plymouth - Improvements on Obery Street, from South Street to A.C. Caranci Way/Plymouth North H.S. Drive Intersection (606264)
 - \$4,800,000
4. Whitman - Traffic Signal Improvements & Related Work on Bedford Street (Route 18) at 2 Locations: Auburn Street (Route 14) & Temple Street (Route 27) (607860)
 - \$3,964,260

2019

1. Abington/ Brockton - North Quincy Street, Chestnut Street, and Boundary Avenue Roundabout and Geometric Improvements (608143)
 - \$1,208,902
2. Avon - Intersection Improvements at Harrison Boulevard and Pond Street (608086)
 - \$1,907,558
3. Brockton - Corridor Improvements on Route 123 (Belmont Street), from Angus Beaton Drive to West Street (608088)
 - \$4,609,131
4. East Bridgewater - Resurfacing and Sidewalk Construction on Bedford Street (Route 18), from Whitman Street (Route 106) to Central Street (607941)
 - \$4,992,068

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2020

1. Easton - Route 123 (Depot Street) Reconstruction from Newell Circle to Route 138 (607217)
 - o \$7,890,479

2021

1. Brockton - Intersection Improvements @ Crescent Street (Route 27)/ Quincy Street/ Massasoit Boulevard (606143)
 - o \$4,271,388
2. Kingston - Bridge Replacement, K-01-014, Smiths Lane over Route 3 (Pilgrim Highway) (608615)
 - o \$11,024,500
3. Stoughton - Corridor Improvements on Route 138 from Lincoln Street to Central Street, Including Intersection Improvements @ Route 138 & Central Street (607403)
 - o \$5,040,000

2022

1. Pembroke - Rehabilitation of Route 36 (Center Street) from Route 27 to Route 14 (600380)
 - o \$8,039,445

Pat Ciaramella asked Charles Kilmer to explain the regional target and total for 2019. Charles Kilmer replied that in 2019 there are two projects that have statewide money attached. The first project is the East Bridgewater - Resurfacing and Sidewalk Construction on Bedford Street (Route 18), from Whitman Street (Route 106) to Central Street Project. This project has \$1,891,000 in Statewide CMAQ. The second project is the Brockton - Corridor Improvements on Route 123 (Belmont Street), from Angus Beaton Drive to West Street Project. This project has \$592,300 in Statewide CMAQ.

Richard O'Flaherty stated that at the last meeting, Pam Haznar reported that the East Bridgewater project could go above \$5 million due to utility costs. Richard O'Flaherty asked if we should program a number that reflects what she reported. Charles Kilmer stated that the most recent cost estimates are provided in the table in the staff report, and that staff will program cost increases as the project moves forward. There is some funding target available in 2019 to absorb the cost increase of the East Bridgewater Project. Once OCPC gets the latest cost increase numbers from MassDOT, the table will be updated and provided to the MPO.

Tim Kochan stated that the additional cost of the utilities will be \$350,000. The current revised total for the East Bridgewater Project is \$5.15 Million.

C. Development of FFY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Charles Kilmer discussed the development of the FFY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Two projects that OCPC is looking to include in Element 3000 is the Route 106 Corridor Study from Route 3A in Kingston to Route 28 in West Bridgewater, and an update of the Old Colony Regional Policy Plan. A Draft FFY 2018 UPWP will be brought to the MPO and released for public review and comment period.

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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

Brockton

- West Chestnut Street Traffic Study: Data collection planned for spring

Duxbury

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

Plymouth

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

Stoughton

- Technical Assistance for Island Street HCVE Request: Data collected; Analysis Underway

West Bridgewater

- Traffic Study of West Center Street (Route 106) and Crescent Street: Draft report complete

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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.

New Projects Submitted as of April 6, 2017

EEA #15657 – Irving Oil Gas Station and Convenience Store – Brockton (ENF)

The proposed project consists of a 7-pump (dual) gas station with a total of 14 bays and a 4,785 square foot convenience store at the corner of Reynolds Memorial Highway (Route 27) and Pleasant Street in Brockton. Primary access to the development will be via a proposed driveway constructed on Route 27 opposite to the existing Westgate Drive at the existing signalized intersection. Secondary access points include a driveway on Pleasant Street opposite to Fern Street and another driveway from the existing access driveway to the St. Paul Anglican Church.

EEA #15663 – Plymouth Municipal Airport Taxiway D and Master Plan Improvements – Plymouth (ENF)

The projects to be implemented over the next five years include the extension of Taxiway D by 1,270 feet to the northeast such that it aligns with the 24-end of Runway 6-24; the relocation of Taxiway S 15 feet to the south to meet the 240-foot runway separation criteria for B-II aircraft; the construction of seven new hangers totaling approximately 77,650 square feet; the development of new taxiway and apron space to Taxiway S to serve the future hangers; the extension of Taxiway E by 300 feet to the northeast such that it aligns with the 24-end of Runway 6-24; the re-designation of Runway 24 and Runway 15 stopways to displaced thresholds.

EEA #14346 – South Coast Rail – Phase 1 Service – Southeastern Massachusetts (NPC)

MassDOT is developing a Phase 1 for the South Coast Rail Project that will provide service to New Bedford, Fall River, and Taunton using the existing Middleborough/Lakeville Commuter Rail Line soon than the projected timelines for the final phase of the Stoughton Electric service.

Projects Currently Under Review

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

The proposed project is the development of the 6.4-acre former MassDOT Park and Ride surface parking lot. 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 consumer 32,340 gallons of water per day.

EEA #11085 – Union Point – Abington, Rockland and Weymouth (NPC)

Union Point is the updated development plan for the former South Weymouth Naval Air Station. The following changes have been made to the development plan:

- Redesign of the project to relocate residential neighborhoods and the commercial district to more appropriate sites.
- Increase the number of age-restricted residential units.

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- Increase the potential commercial square footage.
- Increase density to further Smart Growth goals.
- Elimination of planned golf course and replacement with additional passive, environmentally protected, and ecologically valuable open space.
- Reconfiguration of open space to make it a more sustainable environmental resource.
- Potential addition of a sports stadium to the project.
- Consideration of preservation and repurposing of Hangar 2.
- Relocation of the sports and recreation complex to better serve the community.

Certificates

EEA #15639 – North Carver Development and Urban Renewal Plan – Carver (ENF & DROD)

The proposed future uses include the development of large warehouses, offices and/or light manufacturing facilities with appurtenant paved parking areas and access roads. The conceptual development of the Urban Renewal Plan (URP) showed up to 1.85 million square feet of new buildings and an estimated 50+ additional acres of new parking and new roadways.

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

- Chairperson O'Toole thanked the OCPC staff for providing a list of upcoming meeting dates.
- Dan Salvucci stated that there is a need for school crossing lighting at Whitman-Hanson High School and safety lighting on Route 27. Bill McNulty stated that OCPC did a study for the school last year regarding this issue. The School is looking to do a traffic signal design.
- Charles Kilmer recognized the Town of Easton for their efforts on securing \$450,000 through the MassDOT Small Bridge Program for the bridge on South Street over Mulberry Brook.
- Tim Kochan stated that at the March 23rd Project Review Committee Meeting, two project proposals received approval. The Hanson Route 53/14 Project and a Safe Routes to School Project in Stoughton at West Elementary School.
- Pat Ciaramella announced that the Old Colony Planning Council's 50th Anniversary Celebration will take place on May 18, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Hotel 1620 in Plymouth.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt, Transportation Planner

List of Documents for April 6, 2017 Old Colony JTC Meeting

- Minutes of the March 9, 2017 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for April 6, 2017 Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items
- MassDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Look! Brochure
- Old Colony Planning Council - List of Upcoming Events