

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 4, 2018 at 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	John Stone	MassDOT District 5	Timothy Kochan
Abington	Bruce Hughes	MassDOT	Derek Krevat
Brockton	Rob May	Safe Routes to School	Emily Budzynkiewicz
Brockton	Chike Odunukwe	McMahon Associates	Alex Bulhoes
Brockton	Robert Moran	OCPC	Laurie Muncy
Duxbury	Valerie Massard	OCPC	Bill McNulty
Easton	David Field	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Easton	Greg Swan	OCPC	Paul Chenard
Hanson	Donald H. Howard	OCPC	Ray Guarino
Stoughton	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Pat Ciaramella
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
BAT	Michael Lambert	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
BAT	Glenn Geiler		

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M. and then read the Meeting Accessibility Statement and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Those present then introduced themselves. Chairperson O'Toole asked for a moment of silence for Antonia Ciaramella, Pat Ciaramella's Mother, who recently passed away.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Minutes of the September 6, 2018 Meeting

Chairperson O'Toole asked if the members had reviewed the minutes of the September 6, 2018 Meeting. The members then voted to endorse the minutes of the September 6, 2018 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. They are as follows:

- Listing of Citizen Planner Training Collaborative Fall 2018 Workshops

5. Reports

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Glenn Geiler stated that Ray Ledoux is serving on two State Committees, RTA Performance and Finance Committee and Rail Vision Committee. Since fare increase, BATs ridership is down 3%, but steady.

Rob May asked if it is a system wide drop, or just in a particular area. Glenn Geiler said she would get back to Rob May to answer that question.

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

Paul Chenard stated that the Plymouth/Wareham bus service has been operating. It is still too early to gauge the success of this service. The GATRA/ Uber service in Taunton and Raynham has been a success. GATRA would like to replicate this program in South Plymouth.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Paul Chenard stated that South Coast Rail would be releasing more information on Phase 1 this Fall on their website.

6. Old Business

A. FFY 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation

Charles Kilmer discussed the changes in the FFY 2018-2022 TIP. They are as follows:

FFY 2018 Projects:

- Easton - Route 138 @ Union Street Signalization and Geometric Improvements (607438)
 - Project Advertised for Construction Bids by MassDOT on 09/01/2018.
- Pembroke - Route 53 at Pleasant Street Signalization and Geometric Improvements (607337)
 - Construction bids opened 06/05/2018.
- Plymouth - Improvements On Obery Street, from South Street to A.C. Caranci Way / Plymouth North H.S. Drive Intersection (606264)
 - Project Advertised for Construction Bids by MassDOT on 08/18/2018.
- Whitman - Traffic Signal Improvements & Related Work on Bedford Street (Route 18) at 2 Locations: Auburn Street (Route 14) & Temple Street (Route 27) (607860)
 - Project Advertised for Construction Bids by MassDOT on 08/25/2018.

FFY 2019 Projects:

- Abington/ Brockton - North Quincy Street, Chestnut Street, and Boundary Avenue Roundabout and Geometric Improvements (608143)
 - MassDOT comments on the 75% Package have been returned to the Design Engineer (as of 09/04/2018).

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

Charles Kilmer thanked the communities, designers, and MassDOT for getting these projects to the status to advertise.

7. New Business

A. Draft Massachusetts Pedestrian Transportation Plan

Paul Chenard provided an overview on the Draft Massachusetts Pedestrian Transportation Plan. MassDOT has released for public review and comment the Massachusetts Pedestrian Transportation Plan. The plan provides an action-oriented strategy with the goal of increasing the percentage of short trips made on foot while also eliminating pedestrian deaths and serious injuries. Also included in the pedestrian plan is an Action Plan. The Action Plan provides new initiatives and related action to address identified needs to meet the pedestrian plans goals.

Pedestrian Transportation Plan Goals:

- Elevate walking as an equal transportation mode to driving
- Focus on systematic safety improvements
- MassDOT seeks to lead by example by investing in its own pedestrian facilities and establishing them as best practices for communities to follow

Action Plan Goals:

- Promote pedestrian safety, accessibility and connectivity through investment decision making and project development
- Establish prioritized pedestrian projects on MassDOT roads and bridges
- Improve pedestrian accessible paths to transit
- Launch a year-round maintenance and operation plan for MassDOT-owned pedestrian facilities and support municipalities to do the same
- Invest in data collection and track progress of pedestrian improvements

B. Top 100 High Crash Locations in the Old Colony Region

Bill McNulty provided an overview of the Top 100 High Crash Locations in the Old Colony Region. Through Task 2500 (Management Systems and Travel Demand Modeling) of the FFY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program, OCPC maintains a Safety Management System to continually evaluate safety performance on the transportation network throughout the region. One such tool that is utilized in the Safety Management System is a ranking of crash history at intersections using Equivalent Property Damage Only (EPDO) methodology. The EPDO methodology is a system of evaluating safety performance at an intersection by giving weighted value to individual crashes based on their severity. An intersection's EPDO score is calculated by taking the total number of crashes that occurred at the intersection in a three year reporting period, and assigning a single point value for each crash that resulted in property damage only (no reported injuries), five points for a crash that resulted in a reported non-fatal personal injury, and ten points for crashes that resulted in a fatal injury. The sum of the point values for each crash is an intersection's EPDO score.

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

The EPDO score is just one tool that OCPC utilizes to evaluate safety. While the EPDO rankings are effective at providing a high-level view of safety performance, it does have a volume bias. Many of the crashes in the Top 100 are in urban centers and on the state numbered highway network areas that tend to have the highest traffic volumes in the region. Intersections in suburban and rural areas may have lower EPDO scores relative to those in urban areas; yet have a higher crash rate and higher rate of injury. Transportation planning activities, such as corridor studies and local traffic studies requested through the Local Technical Assistance program assess safety in more detail along with more evaluation methodologies.

Rob May asked if fatalities and injuries are for a single year. Bill McNulty stated that they are a total of three years. Michael Lambert asked if there is volume data that could be used for calibration. Chairperson O'Toole asked if Bill McNulty could send this list to everyone in attendance.

C. Development of FFY 2020-2024 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Charles Kilmer discussed the development of the FFY 2020-2024 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Draft 2020-2024 Old Colony TIP Development Schedule is as follows:

December-February

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

February-March

- Continued coordination with communities, BAT, MassDOT, JTC, MPO, and stakeholders
- MARPA - MassDOT Coordination Meeting and provision of Draft Financial Funding Targets
- TIP Readiness Day - Discussion of Projects by RPAs and MassDOT
- Transportation Evaluation Criteria Analysis of Projects

April

- Continued coordination with communities, BAT, MassDOT, JTC, MPO, and stakeholders
- Staff Recommendation and Draft TIP Development

April-May

- Continued coordination with communities, BAT, MassDOT, JTC, MPO, and stakeholders
- Public Review Period with BAT, JTC, MPO, OCPC, and stakeholders, and TIP Endorsement by MPO

May-June

- Preparation of Draft STIP and Draft CIP (MassDOT)

July-September

- Draft STIP review by FHWA, FTA, and DEP

8. Other Business and Public Comment

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies

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

Abington

- Technical Assistance for HCVE Application for Birch Street: Data Collection completed; Analysis and report preparation underway

Brockton

- Pine Street and Thatcher Street Traffic Study: Data collection completed; Road Safety Audit to be scheduled
- North Cary Street at Ames Street Road Safety Audit: Data collection completed; Road Safety Audit to be scheduled
- Belmont Street (Route 123) at Pearl Street Road Safety Audit: Road Safety Audit to be scheduled
- North Quincy Street at North Cary Street Road Safety Audit: Data collection in progress
- West Chestnut Street at Ash Street Road Safety Audit: Road Safety Audit to be scheduled

Halifax

- All-Way Stop Control Warrant Analysis for Circuit Street and Laurel Street: Data collection completed; Analysis and report preparation underway

Hanover

- Traffic Study for Winter Street: Data collection programmed for this Fall

Kingston

- Traffic Study for Kingston Historic District: Data collection in progress
- Traffic Study for Smith's Lane at Crescent Street and Main Street (Route 3A), and Howland Lane Traffic and Speed Analysis: Data collection in progress

MassDOT

- Traffic Study for State Road (Route 3A) and Herring Pond Road, Plymouth: Data collection completed; Awaiting crash reports; Coordinating with MassDOT District 5 and Town of Plymouth

Pembroke

- Pembroke Center Traffic Study: Data collection in progress

Plymouth

- Raymond Road Multiway Stop Warrant Analyses: Data collection in progress

Plympton

- Main Street Traffic Study: Data collection to be scheduled

Stoughton

- Traffic counts for Peters Drive and Station Street: Data collection scheduled for Fall 2018

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

Charles Kilmer asked if MassDOT is considering migrating to electronic platform to house existing speed signage regulations. Derek Krevat will ask the traffic safety office. Charles Kilmer stated that the speed limit was changed on Main Street in Plympton, and OCPC is looking into this and believes that the signage was posted in accordance with existing speed regulations when a safety improvement project was recently implemented.

B. Staff Reviews on ENFs, EIRs, and NPCs

Charles Kilmer 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.

Projects Currently Under Review as of September 26, 2018

EEA #15916 - Foothills Preserve and West Beaver Dam Brook Ecological Restoration (Plymouth) ENF

This project builds on lessons learned from the three other projects in the region that have restored retired cranberry bogs to diverse wetlands and streams (Eel River and Tidmarsh Farms in Plymouth, and Coonamessett River in Falmouth). Many of the same design and construction elements completed on these other similar projects are proposed for this project including removal of valley-spanning berms, removal of two obsolete small dams, reconstruction of a new sinuous stream channel, installation of large wood for channel construction and aquatic and terrestrial habitat, development of microtopography throughout the wetland surfaces, and planting of native trees and shrubs.

EEA #15902 - Elm Street Dam Removal (Kingston) (ENF)

The Jones River, located in Kingston, is a low gradient river typical of many of the coastal systems in southeastern Massachusetts. The river is the largest drainage to Cape Cod Bay. Like many New England rivers, the Jones River has been altered by the placement of numerous in-stream structures including water intakes, roadway crossings, and dams. Further, the stream's hydrology has been altered through water diversions into and out of the river to support historic mill operations, drinking water supplies, and cranberry production. This has negatively impacted aquatic habitat, including fish migration in the river.

EEA #4959 - Lakeshore Center (Bridgewater) (SDEIR)

The proposed apartment complex will consist of two buildings and will be classified under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40B. The units will include an outdoor swimming pool and a fitness center. The proposed 5-story buildings will consist of a mix of studio, one, two, and three bedroom units. The parking will include 540 parking spaces outside and 60 spaces provided in garages.

MEPA Certificates

EEA #15639 - North Carver Development (Carver) (EIR)

The project involves the construction of approximately 1.77 million square feet of new warehouse/distribution facilities with ancillary office uses, provides approximately 1,883 parking spaces, and provides paved access roads. The project site will be accessed from a reconfigured intersection of Montello Street and Route 58 and a new configuration for Montello Street.

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

Derek Krevat stated that there is a new Safe Routes to School launch for infrastructure projects in November. This will be a way to initiate projects specifically for SRTS.

Charles Kilmer noted that the Kingston Park and Ride had a planned closure of October 1, as the site is slated for redevelopment.

Pat Ciaramella thanked MassDOT for their work on Belmont Street in Brockton. The first layer of paving is complete.

Valeria Massard thanked MassDOT District 5 for their responsiveness in regards to coming up with solutions for the Powder Point Bridge.

Chairperson O'Toole announced that the next JTC Meeting would be held on November 8, 2018.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt

Transportation Planner

List of Documents for October 4, 2018 Old Colony JTC Meeting

1. Minutes of the September 6, 2018 Old Colony JTC Meeting
2. Staff Report for October 4, 2018, 2018 Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items