

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC)
Held Virtually via Zoom due to the Covid-19 State of Emergency in Massachusetts
May 7, 2020 at 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	Bruce Hughes	MassBike	Tom Francis
Abington	John Stone	CDM Smith	Dan Murphy
Brockton	Mayor Robert Sullivan	BETA Group	Dan McCormack
Easton	David Field	Caller #1	Unknown
Easton	Greg Swan	Caller #2	Unknown
Easton	Imaikalani Aiu	OCPC	Paul Chenard
Plymouth	James Downey	OCPC	Bill McNulty
Stoughton	Joe Scardino	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Stoughton	John Charbonneau	OCPC	Mary Waldron
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Jimmy Pereira
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
BAT	Glenn Geiler	OCPC	Ray Guarino
MassDOT	Ben Muller	OCPC	Laurie Muncy
MassDOT	Barbara LaChance	OCPC	Andrew Vidal
Safe Routes to School	Vivian Ortiz	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt

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 and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Those present then introduced themselves. Chairperson Noreen O'Toole asked for a moment of silence for Robert Brady, Town of Avon Selectman, who passed away recently. Charles Kilmer welcomed the new Easton Planning Director, Imaikalani Aiu, to the Joint Transportation Committee.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

3. Minutes of the March 5, 2020 Meeting

Chairperson O'Toole asked if the members had reviewed the minutes of the March 5, 2020 Meeting. The members then voted to endorse the minutes of the March 5, 2020 Old Colony JTC Meeting.

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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:

- Notice of Grant Opportunity - Grant Opportunity for State and Municipal Agencies, RTAs, and HHST Providers to Partner with taxi, livery, or hackney businesses to serve vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 emergency.
- 5th Annual Safe Routes to School Aware Ceremony on June 8, 2020, 10:00 to 12:00 PM, Zoom Webinar Live Event.

Chairperson O'Toole asked if OCPC would be providing any technical services to towns that may be interested in applying for the Grant Opportunity. Charles Kilmer stated that the Grant is through MAPC with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

5. Reports

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Glenn Geiler reported on the following:

- BAT's response to COVID-19 continues
- BAT is operating on a reduced schedule. If anyone would like more information on the reduced schedule you can find that information on BATs website
- OCPC has coordinated with BAT to work on their Title VI Plan and would like to present a draft to present at the next JTC Meeting
- BAT will be releasing a new website in the next month
- BAT is working on their mobile ticketing app. A grant was awarded to BAT from MassDOT in order to complete this project.

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

Paul Chenard stated that GATRA is experiencing a steep decline in ridership. They have pulled back service and is running a very limited operation. They are running every two hours, and they are running dial-a-ride service, but only for the most urgent needs. The Council on Aging is just operating Meals on Wheels at this time.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Paul Chenard stated South Coast Rail Phase 1 is moving ahead in construction. Most of the work right now is being done on the south coast in Fall River and New Bedford. They are doing culvert replacements to get service up and running for Phase 1 which will launch in 2023.

SCR is engaged in the planning of Phase 2, which is the Stoughton alignment. A new Project Manager was brought on board to lead Phase 2.

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Imai Aiu asked if there is any idea how the South Coast Rail project will or will not go forward with projected budget shortfalls. Paul Chenard stated that at this point we have no information on that. Ben Muller stated that the Draft CIP will be out for public comment next week. Contracts for the first construction work on the rail line to progress the project are due to be awarded in June. That work has not been affected.

D. MBTA Rail Vision

Paul Chenard provided an update on MBTA Rail Vision. Paul Chenard stated that at the January 27, 2020 MBTA Fiscal and Management Control Board Meeting, an update was given detailing FY 2020 and FY 2021 budget request along with details expanding Rail Vision team. Additionally, the Rail Vision team will begin developing consultant work plans along with identifying future capital investments and planning and technical studies.

6. Old Business

A. FFY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation

Charles Kilmer discussed the changes in the FFY 2020-2024 TIP. They are as follows:

FFY 2020 Project:

- BROCKTON – CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), FROM ANGUS BEATON DRIVE TO WEST STREET (608088)
 - 100% Design Project Plans Approved by MassDOT (as of 2/18/2020).
 - Cost Estimate is \$7,781,344.

7. New Business

A. Update on Brockton - Main Street Corridor Study

Ray Guarino provided an update on the Main Street Brockton Corridor Study.

Timeline:

- October 2019-January 2020 - Existing Conditions and Data Collection
- January 2020 - Stakeholder Meetings
- February 2020 - Public Workshop Meeting #1
- June-July 2020 - Public Workshop #2
- August 2020 - Draft and Final Report

Completed Thus Far:

- Traffic Volumes - 48 Hour Counts, Speeds, Heavy Vehicle Counts at 19 locations
- Peak Hour Turning Movements (Morning and Afternoon) at 25 locations
- Intersection Peak Hour Analysis (Levels-of-Service) at 25 locations
- Safety - Crash experience from the latest three years (2017, 2018, 2019)

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- Built Environment - Physical inventories on condition of the road, sidewalks, signage, pavement markings, signal operations
- Transit Operations - Compiled bus ridership data and bus route accommodations
- Bicycle accommodation and amenities (existing and potential)
- Land use, zoning, compiled information on future developments
- Public Outreach

Potential Improvements Summary (Thus Far):

- Corridor Wide - Lighting, update signage and pavement markings, optimize existing traffic signal timing
- Corridor Wide - Improved bicycle lanes or sharrows, expand bicycle parking
- Main Street at Hayward Ave - Signalize
- Main Street at Perkins Ave/South Street - Upgrade signals and timing and phasing
- Main Street at Nilsson Street/East Nilsson Street - Signalize
- Main Street at Forest Ave - Signalize
- Brockton Downtown (Alternative if the City implements the two-way system) - Coordinate Five Main Street downtown signals
- Downtown (Alternative if the City maintains the one-way system) - Install overhead signals at Main Street at Belmont and Main Street at Legion Parkway, coordinate signals at 5 downtown Main Street intersections
- Re-Time signal phasing at the Main Street/Oak Street Intersection

Mary Waldron introduced Mayor Sullivan. Mayor Sullivan thanked Ray Guarino, Jimmy Pereira, and OCPC for their efforts. This project is extremely important as we move forward.

Mayor Sullivan then reported that the City of Brockton is at 164 deaths due to COVID-19. Brockton was at 2,500 active cases, and the now the number is at 2,150 cases.

B. Update on Hanover – Route 139 Corridor Study

Bill McNulty provided an update on the Route 139 Corridor Study.

Completed to Date:

- Traffic data collection (volumes, speeds, and vehicle classification) from Route 139 and side streets, and peak hour turning movement counts at intersections
- Existing and projected morning and afternoon Level of Service (measure of delay) analysis at intersections
- Calculation of existing crash rates (crashes per million entering vehicles), Crash Data 2015 through 2019
- Updates to Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC), Old Colony MPO, and Hanover Traffic Safety Committee, and Hanover Residents

Happening Now and Next Steps:

- Continue to Engage Public and Solicit Input on Potential Improvements - Survey public on priority and interest in potential improvements

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- Continue to work with Town on identification of preferred improvement options and scenarios - Hanover Town Center
- Consultation with MassDOT - Corridor is under jurisdiction of MassDOT
- Development and Presentation of Report

Mary Waldron stated that Shawn Bailey drove the corridors for the Main Street Corridor Study and the Route 139 Corridor Study and recorded it with his dash cam. This is another way for people to visualize the corridors. Mary Waldron thanked Shawn Bailey for working with Bill McNulty and Ray Guarino on this. Shawn Bailey stated that he wanted to utilize this time to record the corridors since fewer people are on the roads. This will be a nice addition to any presentations in the future.

C. Draft FFY 2021-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Charles Kilmer discussed the projects programmed for the FFY 2021-2025 TIP. Over the upcoming five years, the TIP provides the following funding:

- \$70.7 Million – 12 Road Projects and 1 Bridge Project
- \$46.9 Million – Brockton Area Transit Authority operational and capital assistance
 - Includes replacement of 19 fixed route buses, and 3 BSU buses

FFY 2021

- Avon - Intersection Improvements at Harrison Boulevard and Pond Street (\$4,969,007)
- Easton - Route 123 (Depot Street) Reconstruction from Newell Circle to Route 138 (\$10,502,923)
- Stoughton - Improvements at Richard Wilkins Elementary School (SRTS) (\$3,171,443)

FFY 2022

- Avon & Stoughton - Pavement Preservation and Related work on Route 24 (\$6,314,880)
- Brockton - Intersection Improvements and Related work at Centre Street (Route 123), Cary Street, and Lyman Street (\$3,232,320)
- Pembroke - Rehabilitation of Route 36 (Center Street) from Route 27 to Route 14 (\$10,088,920)

FFY 2023

- Brockton - Route 123 (Centre Street) at Plymouth Street Signalization and Geometric Improvements (\$2,523,420)
- Stoughton - Corridor Improvements on Route 138 AC Phase 1 of 2 (\$5,244,574)
- Stoughton - Intersection Improvements and Related Work at Central Street, Canton Street and Tosca Drive (\$3,799,916)

FFY 2024

- Stoughton - Corridor Improvements on Route 138 AC Phase 2 of 2 (\$8,106,840)
- Plympton - Bridge Replacement, Winnetuxet Road over Winnetuxet River (\$2,220,987)

FFY 2025

- Abington - Intersection Improvements at Hancock Street and Chestnut Street (\$2,900,232)
- Brockton - Improvements and Related Work on Crescent Street (Route 27), Including Replacement of Grove Street Bridge, B-25-005, Over Salisbury Plain River (\$4,872,000)

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- Duxbury - Signal Installation @ Route 3 (NB & SB) Ramps & Route 3A (Tremont Street) (\$2,784,000)

D. Appointment of Nominating Committee for Old Colony JTC Officers (2020-2021)

Dan Salvucci asked if it would be beneficial if the committee would allow that we keep things the way they are until we meet in Brockton like we normally do. Chairperson O'Toole liked this idea. Charles Kilmer suggested forming the Nominating Committee and then moving ahead with the election next month, virtual or not, since we have a core group of participants today. Bill McNulty Suggested sending out a request for nominees to see if there might be additional candidates interested. Charles Kilmer then said he would send out such a request.

Chairperson O'Toole asked for volunteers who would like to be on the Nominating Committee. Glenn Geiler, Joe Scardino, and John Charbonneau volunteered to be on the Nominating Committee.

8. Other Business and Public Comment

A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies

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

Easton

- Belmont Street (Route 123) Traffic Counts: Data collection planned for Summer or Fall 2020

Hanover

- Walnut Hill Neighborhood Traffic Study: Data collection scheduled for Summer 2020 (Tentative)

Plymouth

- Intersection Traffic Study of Carver Road and Montgomery Drive: Data collection planned for Spring 2020

B. Staff Reviews on ENFs, EIRs, and NPCs

Kyle Mowatt 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 May 6, 2020

- EEA #16162 - Bridgewater Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan – Recommended Plan (Bridgewater) (ENF)

MEPA Certificates

- EEA #16023 - Sylvia Place Pond Dam Breach (Kingston) (DEIR)
 - The DEIR has adequately described the environmental impacts under jurisdiction of MEPA

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and the Draft EIR may be reviewed as a Final EIR without further supplementation.

- EEA #16161 - High Street Dam Removal & Bridge Replacement (Bridgewater) (ENF)
 - Does not require the preparation of an EIR

Records of Decision

- EEA #16161 – High Street Dam Removal & Bridge Replacement (Bridgewater) (ENF)
 - Secretary proposed to grant a waiver from the requirement to prepare a mandatory EIR

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

There were no regional concerns or local community transportation issues.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt

Transportation Planner

List of Documents for May 7, 2020 Old Colony JTC Meeting

1. Minutes of the March 5, 2020 Old Colony JTC Meeting
2. Staff Report for the May 7, 2020, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items