

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting held on June 16, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

Signatories Present:

Lee Hartmann, Representing Chairman Kenneth Tavares, Plymouth Board of Selectmen
Eldon Moreira, Chairman, West Bridgewater Board of Selectmen
Dan Salvucci, Vice-Chairman, Whitman Board of Selectmen
Steve Woelfel, Representing Stephanie Pollack, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT
Pam Haznar, Representing Jonathan L. Gulliver, Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division
Michael Lambert, Administrator, Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)
Mary Waldron, Representing Christine Joy, President, OCPC

Others Present:

Rob May, City of Brockton
Deborah Pettey, Town of Hanson
Joe Scardino, Town of Stoughton
Noreen O'Toole, Town of Whitman
Dan McCormack, BETA Group
Glenn Geiler, Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)
Cassandra Ostrander, FHWA
Morgan Pratt, Harvard Kennedy School (Harvard University), Master in Public Policy Candidate
Pine duBois, Jones River Watershed Association
Ben Muller, MassDOT
Barbara Lachance, MassDOT District 5
Shawn Bailey, Old Colony Planning Council
Paul Chenard, Old Colony Planning Council
Ray Guarino, Old Colony Planning Council
Bruce Hughes, Old Colony Planning Council
Charles Kilmer, Old Colony Planning Council
Bill McNulty, Old Colony Planning Council
Jimmy Pereira, Old Colony Planning Council
Unknown Caller 1
Unknown Caller 2
Unknown Caller 3
Unknown Caller 4

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Steve Woelfel called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and then read the meeting accessibility statement, and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. The signatories in attendance then introduced themselves.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

3. Minutes of the May 19, 2020 Meeting

Chairperson Woelfel asked the Old Colony MPO Members for comments or changes regarding the minutes of the May 19, 2020 meeting. There were no comments or changes. The Old Colony MPO then unanimously endorsed the minutes of the May 19, 2020 Old Colony MPO Meeting via roll call vote.

4. Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Report

Michael Lambert stated that on Monday, June 15, 2020, BAT expanded their service to run the fixed route lines on a half hour schedule from 6:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. This was the second schedule change since the initial reduced service that began in April. The first change, which occurred on June 2, 2020, BAT increased fixed route service from hourly service from 6:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. to hourly from 6:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. with half hour service from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. BAT increased the service to keep the supply ahead of demand to allow for social distancing on the buses. Michael Lambert then reported that like the MBTA, BAT continues to suspend their fare collection, which BAT plans to reinstitute over the summer. BAT has finalized their “Pay by Phone” Application which riders can use for BAT buses and the Application will be active soon. Lastly, Michael Lambert announced that BAT will soon be launching a new website.

5. FFY 2020-2024 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Adjustments and/or Amendments

Charles Kilmer stated there were no adjustments or amendments to the FFY 2020-2024 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) at this time. Pam Haznar announced that the cost estimate for Project 608088 (Brockton - Corridor Improvements on Route 123 (Belmont Street), From Angus Beaton Drive to West Street) had increased. Pam Haznar asked Charles Kilmer if an action was necessary because of this occurrence. Charles Kilmer noted that the project is being funded with regional target funds consisting CMAQ, HSIP, and STBG. Ben Muller replied stating that potential cost savings are being investigated to offset the cost increase, and that a TIP action is not necessary.

6. FFY 2020 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Budget Reallocation 1

▪ Review and Potential Approval

Charles Kilmer presented and discussed the following FFY 2020 UPWP Budget Reallocation 1 Request.

| Task and Description | Existing Amount | Proposed Amount | Amount Changed | Additional Explanation |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---|
| 1100 - 3C Program Support | \$56,804 | \$61,804 | \$5,000 | Budget reallocation needed due to the underestimation in the level of effort. |
| 1400 - Transportation | \$47,396 | \$42,396 | (\$5,000) | Budget reallocation needed |

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

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|---|----------|-----------|------------|---|
| Improvement Program (TIP) | | | | due to the overestimation in the level of effort. |
| 2100 - Demographic Surveillance & Road Inventory | \$26,667 | \$21,667 | (\$5,000) | Budget reallocation needed due to the overestimation in the level of effort. |
| 2200 - Multi-Modal Data Surveillance and System Monitoring | \$83,111 | \$73,111 | (\$10,000) | Budget reallocation needed due to the overestimation in the level of effort. |
| 2300 - System Planning Resource Activities | \$47,778 | \$52,778 | \$5,000 | Budget reallocation needed due to the underestimation in the level of effort. |
| 2500 - Management Systems and Travel Demand Model | \$95,000 | \$105,000 | \$10,000 | Budget reallocation needed due to the underestimation in the level of effort. |
| 3100 - Regional Traffic Studies, ITS, and Intermodal Planning | \$82,778 | \$97,778 | \$15,000 | Budget reallocation needed due to the underestimation in the level of effort. |
| 3200 - Local Highway Technical Assistance | \$96,889 | \$91,889 | (\$5,000) | Budget reallocation needed due to the overestimation in the level of effort. |
| 3300 - Main Street Corridor Study (Brockton) | \$91,110 | \$96,110 | \$5,000 | Budget reallocation needed due to the underestimation in the level of effort. |
| 3400 - Route 139 Corridor Study (Hanover) | \$80,000 | \$70,000 | (\$10,000) | Budget reallocation needed due to the overestimation in the level of effort. |

Dan Salvucci asked if the reducing of budgets were due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Charles Kilmer replied by stating that it is not directly related to COVID-19, but rather due to a difference in the actual level of effort to complete the task than was originally estimated last year. Dan Salvucci then asked about the effects of moving funds from one line item and to another line item. Charles Kilmer provided an example of the \$10,000 in funds being removed from Task 2200, the task that includes the traffic-counting program. Funds are being removed from Task 2200 because OCPC is not currently conducting any traffic counts due to COVID-19, so those funds will be allocated to another task.

A motion was made to approve the FFY 2020 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Reallocation 1 and seconded.

The Old Colony MPO voted unanimously via roll call vote to approve the FFY 2020 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Reallocation 1.

7. FFY 2021 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- **Public Comments and Potential Endorsement**

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Charles Kilmer stated that he presented the Revised Draft FFY 2021 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to the OCPC Board of Directors on May 27, 2020 and to the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee on June 4, 2020 and both entities approved the document. During the 21-day Public Review and Comment Period, two people provided comments which were then read aloud, and the people who provided comments were Pine duBois of the Jones River Watershed Association and Ben Muller of MassDOT. Mary Waldron thanked Pine duBois for the comments and Pine duBois stated that she felt the coordination between Jones River Watershed Association and OCPC would be highly beneficial. Charles Kilmer replied that he looks forward to future collaboration between the two organizations.

A motion was made to endorse the Revised Draft FFY 2021 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and seconded.

The Old Colony MPO voted unanimously via roll call vote to endorse the Revised Draft FFY 2021 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

8. Administrative Matters, Other Business, and Date and Time of Next Meeting(s)

Charles Kilmer reported that on Thursday June 18, 2020 at 10 AM, Paul Chenard will be one a panel hosting a webinar on “Outdoor Dining and Retail While Social Distancing” with Lee Hartmann of Plymouth, Kate Fichter of MassDOT, and Mark Minsky of the Easton Country Club. Paul Chenard will be discussing options for retailers and food establishments to function while adhering to the social distancing rules that require additional space.

Charles Kilmer then announced MassDOT’s new “Shared Streets and Spaces” Funding Program that will provide grant awards between \$5,000 and \$300,000 to provide necessary implementations and/or improvements to transportation infrastructure such as roadways, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes. For more information, you can visit the Program’s website at <https://www.mass.gov/shared-streets-and-spaces-grant-program>.

Steve Woelfel announced that the 2020 Moving Together Conference will be occurring whether it is in-person or virtually. The date for the Conference is November 17, 2020. Steve Woelfel then stated that a survey has been released on the University of Massachusetts Transportation Center website asking for opinions on how people would like to attend the Conference.

Eldon Moreira thanked Pam Haznar for looking into the status of the Heavy Commercial Vehicle Exclusion Request for River Street in West Bridgewater and stated that it looks like it will be free of truck traffic.

Charles Kilmer stated that the next two MPO meetings are tentatively scheduled for July 21 and August 18.

Charles Kilmer then thanked BAT, GATRA, and MassDOT for continuing to provide vital transportation services during the COVID-19 pandemic and keeping their services open and

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

operational.

Charles Kilmer then thanked MassDOT for also keeping their planning and programs functional as well.

9. Adjournment

Chairperson Woelfel adjourned the meeting at 10:33 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Bailey

Shawn Bailey, Transportation Planner

List of Documents for the June 16, 2020 Old Colony MPO Meeting

1. Minutes of May 19, 2020, Old Colony MPO Meeting
2. Staff Reports for June 16, 2020 Old Colony MPO Meeting