

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Minutes of the Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting, August 17, 2021 - 10:00 A.M. Held Via Zoom

Signatories Present:

Lee Hartmann, Representing Chairman Richard Quintal, Plymouth Select Board
Meredith Anderson, Board of Selectmen, West Bridgewater
Dan Salvucci, Vice-Chairman, Whitman Board of Selectmen
Stephen Woelfel, Representing Jamey Tesler, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT
Pam Haznar, Representing Jonathan Gulliver, Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division
Michael Lambert, Administrator, Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)
Mary Waldron, Representing Christine Joy, President, OCPC

Others Present:

Glenn Geiler, BAT
Kelly Forrester, BAT
Andrew Reovan, FHWA
Steven Higgins, Independence Associates
Valerie Massard, Kingston
Marry Ellen DeFrias, MassDevelopment
Jay Pateakos, MassDevelopment
Michelle Ho, MassDOT
Derek Krevat, MassDOT
Derek Shooster, MassDOT
Barbara Lachance, MassDOT District 5
Lea Filson, SeePlymouth
Shawn Bailey, OCPC
Ray Guarino, OCPC
Charles Kilmer, OCPC
Guoqiang Li, OCPC
Bill McNulty, OCPC
Kyle Mowatt, OCPC

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Stephen Woelfel called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M. and then read the meeting accessibility statement, and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Charles Kilmer conducted the roll and announced that a quorum is present.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments offered at this time.

3. Minutes of the June 15, 2021 Meeting

Chairperson Woelfel asked the MPO Members for comments or changes regarding the minutes of the June 15, 2021 meeting.

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Meredith Anderson made a motion and Dan Salvucci seconded to endorse the minutes of the June 15, 2021 meeting.

There being no changes, the Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously via roll call to endorse the minutes of the June 15, 2021 Old Colony MPO Meeting.

4. Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Report

Michael Lambert announced that the work force is healthy and on the job. BAT continues to do everything they can to support the City and region's effort to provide the vaccine as broadly and as widely as possible. BAT is a member of the Mayor's Health Equity Task Force and have hosted two vaccine sessions at the BAT Centre.

Michael Lambert then provided the following:

- July was BAT's biggest month as far as ridership since the pandemic began. There is a concern that there will be a potential decrease in ridership in August due to the Delta variant.
- BAT had their biggest month of mobile ticket use since the introduction of the app in the Fall.
- BAT is continuing to run their free weekend service for both transit and para transit. Ridership is up 30% over spring weekends. This free service will run through the Sunday of Labor Day.
- BAT continues to run in partnership with the MBTA and MassDOT with reduced fares on the Commuter Rail into Boston. This runs offering is available through mid-September.

5. MassDOT District 5 Update on Projects Under Design or Construction

Barbara Lachance provided updates on projects under design or construction. The updates are as follows:

PEMBROKE - REHABILITATION OF ROUTE 36 (CENTER STREET) FROM ROUTE 27 TO ROUTE 14

- At PS&E and MassDOT review is completed, and comments have been submitted to the design engineer

STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRAL STREET, CANTON STREET AND TOSCA DRIVE

- 100% review has been completed

STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138

- At 25% Design and Design Public Hearing scheduled for the end of this month

BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123) AND PLYMOUTH STREET

- Expecting 25% Design to be submitted later in the Fall

BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT LYMAN STREET/GROVE STREET/SUMMER STREET & REPLACEMENT OF GROVE STREET BRIDGE, B-25-005, OVER SALISBURY PLAIN RIVER

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- Bridge type selection worksheet is in and under review

EASTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 INCLUDING INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 (WASHINGTON STREET) AND ELM STREET

- Next Steps include a Utility Meeting and a Design Public Hearing

HANSON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 (MAQUAN STREET), FROM THE PEMBROKE T.L. TO INDIAN HEAD STREET AND RELATED WORK

- Next Steps include an upcoming meeting with the Town of Hanson to discuss advancing the project

ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET

- 25% Design has been received and is under review

DUXBURY - SIGNAL INSTALLATION @ ROUTE 3 (NB & SB) RAMPS & ROUTE 3A (TREMONT STREET)

- Project Manager is coordinating a kickoff meeting with the Town of Duxbury

Construction Updates

PLYMOUTH - TAYLOR AVENUE

- Project is basically completed, and an official punch list has been submitted

PLYMOUTH - OBERY STREET

- Contractor is completing remaining work

EASTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT ON DEPOT STREET FROM NEWELL TO WASHINGTON ST (138)

- Contractor is working on drainage and utility work

AVON - HARRISON BOULEVARD AT POND STREET

- Contractor is continuing with the box cut widening and with the utility relocations

EAST BRIDGEWATER - RESURFACING ON ROUTE 18 FROM WHITMAN ST TO CENTRAL ST

- Contractor is working on concrete sidewalks and driveways and utility work is being finished

WHITMAN - ROUTE 14 AND 18, ROUTE 18 and ROUTE 27

- Project is basically completed; the traffic signals have been accepted and contractor is working to finish up latest punch list

ABINGTON/ BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT NORTH QUINCY, BOUNDARY AND CHESTNUT

- Project almost completed
- Utility relocation is completed, and contractor is finishing up punch list

BROCKTON - ROUTE 123 (PHASE 3)

- Contractor is working on drainage, milling and overlaying work

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STOUGHTON - IMPROVEMENTS AT RICHARD WILKINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SRTS)

- Bids have been opened and awarded for this project
- Pre-construction meeting is today

6. FFY 2021-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments and/ or Adjustments

There are currently no Amendments and/ or Adjustments.

7. FFY 2021 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Budget Reallocation 2

- **Review and Potential Endorsement**

Charles Kilmer discussed the FFY 2021 Old Colony UPWP Budget Reallocation 2.

- 1500 - Title VI and Environmental Justice (EJ) – Decrease by \$5,000
- 2300 - System Planning Resource Activities – Increase by \$5,000
- 2400 - Geographic Information System (GIS) – Increase by \$5,000
- 3100 - Regional Traffic Studies, ITS, and Int. Planning – Decrease by \$5,000
- 3300 - Road Safety Audits (RSAs) at Multiple Locations – Increase by \$5,000
- 3400 - Active Transportation Study – Decrease by \$5,000
- 3500 - Climate Change Vulnerability Transportation Assessment – Increase by \$5,000
- 3600 - Performance Based Planning – Decrease by \$5,000

Meredith Anderson asked how the 1% change came about. Is it for the overall task budget or for each individual line item? Charles Kilmer stated that the 1% (+- \$5,000) is in regard to the overall task budget.

Chairperson Woelfel asked for a motion to endorse the Old Colony UPWP Budget Reallocation 2. Meredith Anderson made a motion and Dan Salvucci seconded the motion.

The Old Colony MPO voted unanimously to endorse the FFY 2021 Old Colony UPWP Budget Reallocation 2.

8. Draft Old Colony Public Participation Plan (PPP)

- **Public Comments and Potential Endorsement**

Charles Kilmer presented and reviewed the Draft Old Colony Public Participation Plan (PPP) Public Comments:

- OCPC Board of Directors - At their public meeting on June 30, 2021, reviewed and approved the Draft Old Colony PPP.
- Andrew Reovan, FHWA- Reviewed and provided comments and suggestions. OCPC met virtually with Andrew Reovan to review and discuss the comments.
- Joe Scardino - Inquired whether staff has considered regularly providing American Sign Language (ASL) Interpretation at meetings, as opposed to only upon request.
- Steve Higgins, Independence Associates (IA) – Offered that IA is available to provide Braille transcription services.

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- Old Colony JTC - Old Colony JTC at their public meeting on August 5, 2021, reviewed and approved the Draft Old Colony PPP.

Charles Kilmer stated that staff worked on a list of potential performance measures since the comments have been received. They are as follows:

1. Outreach

- Number and type of events / meetings held
- Number of announcements and documents distributed to the public

2. Participation

- Number (and Percentage) of Signatories at MPO Meetings
- Number (and Percentage) of JTC Representatives at JTC Meetings
- Number of participants at each event / meeting
- Number of organizations represented at each event / meeting
- Presence of public officials at each event / meeting
- Meeting and events accessible to people with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency
- Accessibility accommodations and language services provided free of charge, upon request, as available

3. Response

- Number of public comments received
 - Number of positive and / or negative comments
 - Mode of receipt (social media, email, etc.)
- Number of website hits
- Average response time to inquiries

4. Post Engagement Considerations

- Outputs - How many people attended or commented during a given participation activity?
- Outcomes - How did that participation affect the actual project or program?

Chairperson Woelfel asked for a motion to endorse the Draft Old Colony PPP. Meredith Anderson made a motion and Dan Salvucci seconded the motion.

Charles Kilmer then read the roll.

The Old Colony MPO voted unanimously via roll call to endorse the Draft Old Colony PPP.

9. Old Colony Active Transportation Study - Status Report

Ray Guarino provided a status report on the Old Colony Active Transportation Study. The Old Colony Active Transportation Study builds upon studies previously prepared by OCPC including the series of Old Colony Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity and Livability Studies (Prepared in 2018, 2013, and

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2011) The current study process includes bicycle level of service (BLOS), based on the comfort-level method developed for the Highway Capacity Manual for bicycle travel. Safety analysis is included utilizing MassDOT crash clusters and crash history analysis as well as sidewalk gap analysis. A discussion of the Safe Routes to School Program and the Complete Streets Program in Massachusetts is also included.

A story map (interactive map) will be developed and provided on the OCPC website along with a PowerPoint presentation to make information available to the public regarding programmed projects as well as potential projects for bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the Old Colony Region.

Derek Shooster asked, are the non-fatal injuries on the slide of crash locations involve all non-fatal crash injuries or just incapacitating crash injuries, or neither? Ray Guarino stated that they are non-fatal crash injuries. The ones in red were fatalities, and the other were reported as injuries. Derek Shooster asked because incapacitating crash locations have implications for HSIP Funding. Mapping the data and determining the severity of crashes at locations is beneficial and informative for future research.

Pam Haznar stated that OCPC did a great job with this study.

10. Administrative Matters, Other Business, and Date and Time of Next Meetings(s)

Charles Kilmer provided the Date and Time of Next Old Colony MPO Meetings(s):

- September 21, 2021 at 10 AM
- October 19, 2021 at 10 AM

Charles Kilmer stated that Eldon Moreira's wife Madeline passed away this past week and then asked the MPO for a moment of silence. A moment of silence was taken.

Charles Kilmer recognized and then thanked Ben Muller for all of the assistance and guidance that he provided as MPO Liaison for the past 3 years.

9. Adjournment

Chairperson Woelfel adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt, Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for the August 17, 2021 Old Colony MPO Meeting

- Minutes of June 15, 2021, Old Colony MPO Meeting
- Staff Report for August 17, 2021 Old Colony MPO Meeting Agenda Items