

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Minutes of the Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting, April 18, 2023 - 10:00 A.M., Held Via Zoom

Signatories Present:

David Mohler, Representing Gina Fiandaca, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT
Shaun Handy, Representing Jonathan Gulliver, Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division
Kamiya Parkin, Representing Mayor Robert Sullivan, City of Brockton
Lee Hartmann, Representing Betty Cavacco, Chair, Select Board, Town of Plymouth
Dan Salvucci, Vice-Chair, Board of Selectmen, Whitman
Glenn Geiler, Representing Michael Lambert, Administrator, Brockton Area Transit (BAT)
Rebecca Coletta, President, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)

Others Present:

Bill Fitzgerald, Avon
Robert Rulli, Bridgewater
Chris Ryan, Duxbury
Mary Ellen DeFrias, GATRA
Valerie Massard, Kingston
Michelle Ho, MassDOT
Raissah Kouame, MassDOT
Derek Krevat, MassDOT
Barbara Lachance, MassDOT
Andrew Wang, MassDOT
Alan Castaline, MBTA Advisory Board
Shawn Bailey, OCPC
Ray Guarino, OCPC
Charles Kilmer, OCPC
Guoqiang Li, OCPC
Bill McNulty, OCPC

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson David Mohler called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M. and then read the meeting accessibility statement and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Charles Kilmer then conducted the roll and announced there was a quorum present.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Minutes of the March 21, 2023 Meeting

Chairperson Mohler asked the MPO Members for comments or changes regarding the minutes of the March 21, 2023 meeting.

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Dan Salvucci made a motion and Glenn Geiler seconded to endorse the minutes of the March 21, 2023 meeting.

There being no comments or changes, the Old Colony MPO then voted via roll call to endorse the minutes of the March 21, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting. Becky Coletta abstained from the vote.

4. Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Report

Glenn Geiler reported on the new Rockland micro transit service, which has seen a great increase in ridership since the program launch. BAT has incorporated additional payments options for riders. Glenn Geiler then reported that BAT is currently working with MassDOT to finalize BAT's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which some transit elements will be discussed in today's meeting in the TIP (Transportation Improvement Program). BAT recently applied for two grants: Low or No Emissions Grant and Bus; and Bus Facilities Competitive Grant. Both of these grants are available through the Federal Transit Authority (FTA).

5. FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments and/or Adjustments

- **Amendment 2 - Public Review and Potential Endorsement**
- **Amendment 3 - Review and Potential Release to Public Review and Comment Period**

Bill McNulty reviewed the Draft FFY 2023-2027 TIP Amendment 2, which was released for a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period at the March 21, 2023 Old Colony MPO meeting.

Amendment 2 includes the following three (3) changes:

FFY 2023

- STOUGHTON – CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 (607403) AC YEAR 1 OF 2
 - Total Project Cost Increase to \$17,404,332
 - Advance Construction Phase 1: \$8,411,033 (Year 1 amount decreased by \$822,967; Difference along with increase is cost to be added to Year 2 in FFY 2024)
- STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRAL STREET, CANTON STREET AND TOSCA DRIVE (608279)
 - Total Project Cost Increase to \$5,242,643 (Increase of \$999,666)

FFY 2024

- STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 (607403) AC YEAR 2 OF 2
 - Total Project Cost Increase to \$17,404,332
 - Advance Construction Phase 2: \$8,963,299 (Year 2 amount increased by \$6,098,947)

Bill McNulty stated that there was one specific public comment received from a member of the OCPC Board of Directors, asking why the two projects increased in cost. Both the OCPC Board of Directors and the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) approved Amendment 2 as presented. Bill McNulty

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then asked the MPO to consider endorsing Amendment 2.

Chairperson Mohler asked if there is a motion to approve Amendment 2. The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Glenn Geiler. The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously via roll call to approve Amendment 2.

Bill McNulty then presented the Draft TIP Amendment 3 for a review and potential release for a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period.

Amendment 3 includes the following change:

The City of Brockton has been awarded a Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Program Grant from the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) in the amount of \$1,496,630 for its Downtown Brockton Transportation Technology Project. Per the project schedule, this BIL Discretionary Grant award must be programmed in the FFY 2023 element of the FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

FFY 2023

- **BROCKTON – DOWNTOWN BROCKTON TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT**
 - Total Project Cost is \$1,496,630
 - Project is 100% funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Discretionary Grant and does not affect existing programmed projects or regional targets.

Bill McNulty then asked the MPO to consider releasing Amendment 3 to a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period.

Chairperson Mohler asked if there is a motion to release Amendment 3 to a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period. The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Becky Coletta.

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously via roll call to release Amendment 3 to a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period.

6. Development of FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvements Program (TIP)

- **Review and Potential Release to Public Review and Comment Period**

Bill McNulty presented the Draft FFY 2024-2028 TIP and is seeking MPO approval to release the document to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period. Bill McNulty stated that at the last MPO meeting, he presented different scenarios and the MPO selected the preferred set of projects. Since that last meeting, he has been preparing the actual Draft TIP document.

Over the upcoming five years, the TIP provides the following funding:

- \$173.2 Million - 14 Road Projects and 3 Bridge Projects
- \$41.6 Million - Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT) Capital Assistance
 - Includes replacement of 14 fixed route buses

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FFY 2024 PROJECTS:

- BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123), CARY STREET, AND LYMAN STREET (609410)
 - Project is at 100% Design Stage.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,955,964.
- BROCKTON - ROUTE 123 (CENTRE STREET) AT PLYMOUTH STREET SIGNALIZATION AND GEOMETRIC IMPROVEMENTS (609052)
 - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,164,507.
- PLYMPTON - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, WINNETUXET ROAD OVER WINNETUXET RIVER (609435)
 - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
 - Cost Estimate is \$1,339,330.
- STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 (607403) AC YEAR 2 OF 2
 - Project is at 100% Design Stage. Year 2 Cost Estimate: \$8,963,299. Total cost is \$17,528,345.

FFY 2025 PROJECTS:

- BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT LYMAN STREET/ GROVE STREET/ SUMMER STREET & REPLACEMENT OF GROVE STREET BRIDGE, B-25-005, OVER SALISBURY PLAIN RIVER (607818)
 - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
 - Cost Estimate is \$4,368,000.
- EASTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 INCLUDING INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 (WASHINGTON STREET) AND ELM STREET (608195)
 - Project is at 75% Design Stage.
 - Cost Estimate is \$7,181,554.

FFY 2026 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET (609440)
 - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
 - Cost Estimate is \$5,182,715.
- AVON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 28, SPRING STREET AND HARRISON BOULEVARD (611979)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$4,050,000.

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- DUXBURY - SIGNAL INSTALLATION @ ROUTE 3 (NB & SB) RAMPS & ROUTE 3A (TREMONT STREET) (606002)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,592,000.

FFY 2027 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, RANDOLPH STREET AND RICHARD A. FITTS DRIVE (ROUTE 139) AT CHESTNUT STREET AND OLD RANDOLPH STREET (612525)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$4,241,0205.
- HANSON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 (MAQUAN STREET), FROM THE PEMBROKE T.L. TO INDIAN HEAD STREET AND RELATED WORK (608506)
 - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
 - Cost Estimate is \$11,248,352.
- DUXBURY - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - POWDER POINT AVENUE OVER DUXBURY BAY (612006)
 - Advance Construction in multiple years (FFYs 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030).
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$78,568,000.
 - FFY 2027 Year 1 Cost Estimate: \$47,428,063. FFY 2028 Year 2 Estimate: \$31,139,937.

FFY 2028 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, ROUTE 18 (BEDFORD STREET) AT ROUTE 123 (BROCKTON AVENUE) (612770)
 - Project approved by the MassDOT Project Review Committee (PRC) on 5/12/2022.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$6,248,949.
- BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), PEARL STREET, AND STONEHILL STREET (612262)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$8,659,835.
- DUXBURY - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - POWDER POINT AVENUE OVER DUXBURY BAY (612006)
 - Advance Construction in multiple years (FFYs 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030).
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$78,568,000
 - FFY 2027 Year 1 Cost Estimate: \$47,428,063. FFY 2028 Year 2 Estimate: \$31,139,937
- HANOVER - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 139 (HANOVER STREET) AT MAIN STREET, CENTER STREET AND SILVER STREET (612769)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.

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- Cost Estimate is \$7,141,656.
- KINGSTON - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, K-01-014, SMITHS LANE OVER ROUTE 3 (PILGRIM HIGHWAY) (608615)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$14,834,312.
- STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CANTON STREET (ROUTE 27), SCHOOL STREET AND SUMMER STREET (611981)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,668,000.

Bill McNulty stated that all of these projects are on target to keep their targeted years in this TIP. This set of projects was developed in full cooperation and collaboration with stakeholders. Glenn Geiler mentioned in the BAT Report, they are working towards replacing their current diesel and hybrid bus fleet with electric buses over time. This TIP supports the purchasing of several electric buses, which will help the region in many ways, including air quality.

Bill McNulty then asked the MPO to consider releasing the Draft FFY 2024-2028 TIP for a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period.

Dan Salvucci asked about any update regarding Project 608506 in Hanson as he would like to report to Don Howard since he first introduced this project. Bill McNulty stated that the Town of Hanson is working to identify and secure funding for subsurface utility exploration as there is an aging waterline within the project limits.

Becky Coletta asked if the funds allocated for Project 612006 in Duxbury will compete with other projects since this Project will replace a bridge. Bill McNulty stated that it will be covered with separate funds as it is a bridge project and not a highway project. It will not count towards the Regional Target.

Chairperson Mohler asked if there is a motion to release the Draft FFY 2024-2028 TIP to a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period. The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Kamiya Parkin.

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously via roll call to release the Draft FFY 2024-2028 TIP to a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period.

7. Old Colony MPO Self-Certification Compliance Statements

- **State Regulation 310 CMR 60.05: Global Warming Solutions Act Requirements for Transportation – Review and Potential Endorsement**
- **Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process – Review and Potential Endorsement**

Charles Kilmer presented and reviewed two Self-Certification Compliance Statements, both of which he will be seeking endorsement from the Old Colony MPO.

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310 CMR 60.05: Global Warming Solutions Act Requirements for Transportation

This will certify that the Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Determination for the Old Colony Long Range Transportation Plan is in compliance with all applicable requirements in the State Regulation 310 CMR 60.05: Global Warming Solutions Act Requirements for Transportation. The regulation requires the MPO to:

1. 310 CMR 60.05(5)(a)1.: Evaluate and report the aggregate transportation GHG emissions impacts of RTPs and TIPs;
2. 310 CMR 60.05(5)(a)2.: In consultation with MassDOT, develop and utilize procedures to prioritize and select projects in RTPs and TIPs based on factors that include aggregate transportation GHG emissions impacts;
3. 310 CMR 60.05(5)(a)3.: Quantify net transportation GHG emissions impacts resulting from the projects in RTPs and TIPs and certify in a statement included with RTPs and TIPs pursuant to 23 CFR Part 450 that the MPO has made efforts to minimize aggregate transportation GHG emissions impacts;
4. 310 CMR 60.05(5)(a)4.: Determine in consultation with the RPA that the appropriate planning assumptions used for transportation GHG emissions modeling are consistent with local land use policies, or that local authorities have made documented and credible commitments to establishing such consistency;
5. 310 CMR 60.05(8)(a)2.a.: Develop RTPs and TIPs;
6. 310 CMR 60.05(8)(a)2.b.: Ensure that RPAs are using appropriate planning assumptions;
7. 310 CMR 60.05(8)(a)2.c.: Perform regional aggregate transportation GHG emissions impact analysis of RTPs and TIPs;
8. 310 CMR 60.05(8)(a)2.d.: Calculate aggregate transportation GHG emissions impacts for RTPs and TIPs;
9. 310 CMR 60.05(8)(a)2.e.: Develop public consultation procedures for aggregate transportation GHG emissions impact reporting and related GWSA requirements consistent with current and approved regional public participation plans;
10. 310 CMR 60.05(8)(c): Prior to making final endorsements on the RTPs, TIPs, STIPs, and projects included in these plans, MassDOT and the MPOs shall include the aggregate transportation GHG emission impact assessment in RTPs, TIPs, and STIPs and provide an opportunity for public review and comment on the RTPs, TIPs, and STIPs; and
11. 310 CMR 60.05(8)(a)1.c.: After a final GHG assessment has been made by MassDOT and the MPOs, MassDOT and the MPOs shall submit MPO-endorsed RTPs, TIPs, STIPs or projects within 30 days of endorsement to the Department for review of the GHG assessment.

Certification of the Old Colony MPO Transportation Planning Process

The Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization certifies that its conduct of the metropolitan transportation planning process complies with all applicable requirements, which are listed below, and that this process includes activities to support the development and implementation of the Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan and Air Quality Conformity Determination, the Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Determination, and the Unified Planning Work Program.

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1. 23 USC 134, 49 USC 5303, and this subpart.
2. Sections 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 USC 7504, 7506 (c) and (d) and 40 CFR part 93 and for applicable State Implementation Plan projects.
3. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 USC 2000d-1) and 49 CFR Part 21.
4. 49 USC 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity.
5. Section 1101 (b) of the Fast Act (Pub. L. 114-357) and 49 CFR Part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in U.S. DOT-funded projects.
6. 23 CFR part 230, regarding implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts.
7. The provisions of the US DOT and of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, and 38.
8. The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 USC 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance.
9. Section 324 of Title 23 USC regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender.
10. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794) and 49 CFR Part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.
11. Anti-lobbying restrictions found in 49 CFR Part 20. No appropriated funds may be expended by a recipient to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, or a member of Congress, in connection with the awarding of any federal contract.

Becky Coletta asked about line item 4 under the Global Warming Solutions Act Requirements for Transportation Statement. Becky Coletta asked if there is a policy in place that we have pushed to OCPC communities to ensure they are complying with this requirement. Charles Kilmer stated that these requirements are for OCPC as a Regional Planning Agency to ensure that the plans OCPC develops are consistent with local land use policies (i.e., affordable housing and multimodal transportation options). Part of the MEPA process includes Green House Gas Emissions analysis for large scale projects that are going through the communities.

Chairperson Mohler asked if there is a motion to approve the two Old Colony MPO Self-Certification Compliance Statements. The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Glenn Geiler.

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously via roll call to approve the two Old Colony MPO Self-Certification Compliance Statements.

8. Route 18 Corridor Study (Bridgewater and East Bridgewater) Update and Status Report

Ray Guarino presented an update and status report on the Route 18 Corridor Study. This Study's purpose is to address traffic congestion and improve safety and mobility for all road users (bicyclists and walkers), coordinate planned projects and planned development and land use changes. Develop short-term and long-term improvements.

In recent months, OCPC staff have been reviewing existing conditions, communicating with Town officials and other stakeholders, and have initiated public outreach by releasing the survey for the study in English as well as the other LEP languages in the OCPC Region: Spanish, Portuguese, French-Creole,

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and Haitian-Creole. The survey is on OCPC's website, newsletter, and social media pages, as well as Bridgewater's & East Bridgewater's websites. As of today, 327 survey responses have been received and the survey will remain open until the end of June.

The next steps are to complete Future Build Conditions and Develop & Review Study Recommendations, which has already been initiated with Bridgewater in regard to Bridgewater Center.

Glenn Geiler commented that she is happy that Bridgewater Center is being addressed in this Study, as it is perceived to be unsafe for pedestrians. With all the well-known and popular local businesses, Glenn Geiler vocalized her excitement that pedestrian safety will be addressed in this Study and that Bridgewater State University is included in this process. Ray Guarino echoed her comments on pedestrian safety, stating that installing Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons will be a valued addition as pedestrians are not well visible to drivers due to the angled parking in Bridgewater Center.

Becky Coletta stated that out of the entire corridor, Bridgewater Center is the most complicated section to deal with. She stated that she used to take Route 104 to access Route 24 and asked if there has been any encouragement to bypass Bridgewater Center. With the possibility of reducing traffic lanes, there will likely be increased traffic and congestion, even more than what currently exists. Ray Guarino stated that there are not many east-west bypass options around Bridgewater Center. If such an option is discovered, then they will attempt to encourage that for drivers. Bridgewater has decided that they want to make Bridgewater Center more pedestrian and bicycle friendly as well as increase wayfinding around the area. Charles Kilmer stated that High Street, to the north of Bridgewater Center, is an east-west street that could potentially be a bypass, though that would affect residents along that corridor.

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

Charles Kilmer reported on the following items:

2023 MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference
May 2, 2023 at 7:45 AM to May 3, 2023 at 4:30 PM
DCU Center, 50 Foster Street, Worcester, Massachusetts

The annual MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference provides a forum for innovative transportation systems, management ideas, and initiatives. Each year, the conference provides an important opportunity for transportation practitioners to share knowledge, sponsor peer-to-peer learning, and collaborate on issues of mutual interest. A focus of this year's conference will be on MassDOT's investment in infrastructure. Conference participants will have the opportunity to discuss the advantages and challenges associated with the innovative methods and technologies being presented.

MassDOT has created a forum for users called SWAG to share applications, analyses and ideas that use GIS technology. At this year's Innovation Conference, MassDOT wants to expand SWAG to a large-scale collaborative to allow the greater GIS community to share how they are innovating and building new and exciting GIS tools. This collaboration will be an important focus of the Innovation Conference, and will include GIS experts onsite for questions and hands-on tutorials covering various GIS tools.

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The event is open to all transportation practitioners from federal, state, and local transportation agencies, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, transit agencies, academia, and private industry.

To register, please visit: <https://www.umasstransportationcenter.org/assnfe/ev.asp?ID=5162>

Date and Time of Next Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting(s)

The Old Colony MPO members are respectfully requested to confirm the dates and times of their next virtual meeting(s).

2023

- **May 16, 2023 at 10 AM**
- **June 20, 2023 at 10 AM**
- **July 18, 2023 at 10 AM**

10. Adjournment

Chairperson Mohler adjourned the meeting at 10:57 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Bailey

Shawn Bailey, Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for the April 18, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting

- Minutes of March 21, 2023, Old Colony MPO Meeting
- Staff Report for April 18, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting Agenda Items
- Route 18 Corridor Study Update PowerPoint Presentation