

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Minutes of the Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting, May 16, 2023 - 10:00 A.M., Held Via Zoom

Signatories Present:

Stephen Woelfel, Representing Gina Fiandaca, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT
Shaun Handy, Representing Jonathan Gulliver, Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division
James Downey, Representing Lee Hartmann, Director of Planning and Development, Town of Plymouth
Jay DeGrace, Representing Mayor Robert Sullivan, City of Brockton
Dan Salvucci, Vice-Chair, Board of Selectmen, Whitman
Michael Lambert, Administrator, Brockton Area Transit (BAT)
Rebecca Coletta, President, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)

Others Present:

Bob Rulli, Bridgewater
Joseph DePasquale, Brockton
Glenn Geiler, Brockton Area Transit Authority
Chris Ryan, Duxbury
Jim Fitzgerald, Environmental Partners
Mary Ellen DeFrias, Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority
Valerie Massard, Kingston
Michelle Ho, MassDOT
Raissah Kouame, MassDOT
Derek Krevat, MassDOT
Barbara Lachance, MassDOT District 5
Greg Lucas, Tighe & Bond
Tracy Altrich, West Bridgewater
Shawn Bailey, OCPC
Ray Guarino, OCPC
Charles Kilmer, OCPC
Guoqiang Li, OCPC
Bill McNulty, OCPC
Kyle Mowatt, OCPC
Mary Waldron, OCPC

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Stephen Woelfel called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. and then read the meeting accessibility statement, and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Charles Kilmer conducted the roll and announced there was a quorum present.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Minutes of the April 18, 2023 Meeting

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Chairperson Woelfel asked the MPO Members for comments or changes regarding the minutes of the April 18, 2023 meeting.

Dan Salvucci made a motion and Becky Coletta seconded to endorse the minutes of the April 18, 2023 meeting.

There being no changes, the Old Colony MPO then voted via roll call to endorse the minutes of the April 18, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting.

4. Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Report

Michael Lambert reported on the following:

- Ridership continues to increase and is setting records post quarantine-wise. At 75% pre-Covid ridership. Service has been added on the 10, 11, and 9 Routes, which now serves Signature Health Office area, which has received more demand since the fire at Brockton Hospital.
- Rockland Micro-Transit Service has been doubling in ridership every two months. Still in soft launch phase. Ready to do a full launch shortly.
- Proposed upcoming TIP Projects will be discussed later: 1.) Transition to Battery Electric Buses. Recently completed the Transition Report and shows that routes and system map all support a transition to electric buses. 2.) State of Good Repair (Buildings, Buses, Facilities) 3.) Basic Customer Amenities and Improvements 4.) Working with OCPC on Title VI Update and Report

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

Barbara Lachance provided an update on projects under design or construction. They are as follows:

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

- PS&E Review was completed in April
- On schedule for advertising in September

STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 (AC YEAR 1)

- Advertising this summer
- Changed project limits due to Article 97 impacts. Current project is from Lincoln Street to just north of Charles Avenue. The new project will be from just north of Charles Avenue to the Canton Town Line. This new project will be brought to PRC later this month and is an advanced stage of design.

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

- 25% has been received and is under review

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

- At 25% design; Revised 25% design is due June 1

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- Hydraulics and geo-technical reports were received in March and are under review

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

- At 75% Design; 100% design submission due at end of May

ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK AND CHESTNUT STREET

- At 25% Design; Awaiting 75% Design Submission
- Need new schedule

KINSTON/DUXBURY - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 3 RAMPS AND ROUTE 3A

- Less than 25% Design; Awaiting 25% Design Submission

HANSON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 FROM PEMBROKE TOWN LINE

- At 25% Design; Need an update from the Town

AVON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 28, SPRING STREET AND HARRISON BOULEVARD

- At Pre-25%

ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, RANDOLPH STREET AND RICHARD A FITTS DRIVE (ROUTE 139) AT CHESTNUT STREET AND OLD RANDOLPH STREET

- Pre 25% Design
- Pre-Scoping meeting was held last Fall

HANOVER - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 139 AT MAIN STREET/CENTER STREET/SILVER STREET

- Pre 25% Design
- Kickoff meeting is scheduled for May 19th

BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT 123, PEARL STEET, AND STONEHILL STREET

- Pre 25% Design
- Kickoff meeting was held May 12th

6. FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvements Program (TIP) Amendments and/ or Adjustments

- **Amendment 3 - Public Comments and Potential Endorsement**

Bill McNulty noted that The Old Colony MPO released Amendment 3 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period on April 18, 2023.

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 in the amount of \$1,496,630 for its Downtown Brockton Transportation Technology Project. Per the project schedule, this

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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 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Discretionary Grant and does not affect existing programmed projects or regional target.

Comments received are as follows:

Date	Name	Representation	Comment or Summary	Response
4/26/2023	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) Board of Directors	Old Colony Region	The OCPC Board of Directors, at their public meeting on April 26, 2023, reviewed and approved Amendment 3 to the FFY 2023-2027 Old Colony TIP.	Noted.
5/4/2023	Old Colony Joint Transportation (JTC)	Old Colony Region	The Old Colony JTC, at their public meeting on May 4, 2023, reviewed and approved Amendment 3 to the FFY 2023-2027 Old Colony TIP	Noted.

Chairperson Woelfel asked if there is a motion to Endorse Amendment 3.

The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and was seconded by Michael Lambert.

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously via roll call to endorse Amendment 3.

7. Development of FFY 2024-2028 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Public Comments and Potential Endorsement**

Bill McNulty provided an overview of the FFY 2024-2028 Old Colony TIP.

Comments Received are as follows:

4/21/2023	Raissah Kouame	MassDOT	Reviewed and provided MPO Liaison TIP Checklist. Please see attached checklist for detail.	Noted. Thank you for the review and provision of Checklist and Comment. Staff are working to align Final TIP with provided comments and suggestions.
4/24/2023	Connor Read	Easton	Stated the Town of Easton has reviewed the Draft FFY 2024-2028 TIP and approves as presented. He further thanked the MPO for the support of Project 608195, (Corridor Improvements on Route 138 and	Thank you for taking the time to review and comment. Your comments are noted.

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			Reconstruction of Route 138 at Elm Street), programmed in FFY 2025.	
4/26/2023	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) Board of Directors	Old Colony Region	The OCPC Board of Directors, at their public meeting on April 26, 2023, reviewed and approved the FFY 2024-2028 Old Colony TIP. A question was raised about the Powder Point Avenue over Duxbury Bay Bridge Replacement Project (Project 612006), whether the funding for this bridge is taking away from regional highway targets. Staff explained bridges are a separate statewide bridge program and are not programmed with regional highway target funds.	Noted.
5/4/2023	Old Colony Joint Transportation (JTC)	Old Colony Region	The Old Colony JTC, at their public meeting on May 4, 2023, reviewed and approved the FFY 2024-2028 Old Colony TIP.	Noted.
5/11/2023	Lea Filson	See Plymouth	Ms. Filson commented on the importance of Commuter Rail in Plymouth and would like to see funding for restoration of service to the Plymouth Station.	Noted. It was explained that the TIP does not fund commuter rail service. However, this need will be identified in the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.
5/11/2023	Glenn Geiler	Brockton Area Transit	BAT has reviewed the FFY 2024-2028 TIP and approves as presented.	Noted. Thank you for your review and our continued partnership.

Chairperson Woelfel asked if there is a motion to endorse Draft FFY 2024-2028 TIP.

The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Michael Lambert.

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously to endorse Draft FFY 2024-2028 TIP.

8. Draft FFY 2024 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

▪ Review and Potential Release to Public Review and Comment Period

Charles Kilmer provided an overview of the Draft FFY 2024 Old Colony UPWP. The Table of Contents for the UPWP is as follows:

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 - National Planning Factors
- 1.2 - Title VI and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- 1.3 - Funding Sources
- 1.4 - Administrative Modification and Amendment Procedures
- 1.5 - Geographic Distribution of Major UPWP Funded Studies

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TASK 1000: MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT OF PLANNING PROCESS AND CERTIFICATION ACTIVITIES

- 1100 - 3C Program Support
- 1200 - Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- 1300 - Public Participation Program (PPP)
- 1400 - Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- 1500 - Title VI and Environmental Justice (EJ)

TASK 2000: DATA RECONNAISSANCE, ACQUISITION, AND ANALYSIS ACTIVITIES

- 2100 - Demographic and Land Use Surveillance
- 2200 - Multi-Modal Transportation System Data Surveillance and System Monitoring
- 2300 - System Planning Resource Activities
- 2400 - Geographic Information System (GIS)
- 2500 - Management Systems (Congestion, Pavement & Safety), and Travel Demand Modeling

TASK 3000: SHORT RANGE AND LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

- 3100 - Regional Multimodal Transportation Planning and Studies
- 3200 - Local Highway Transportation Technical Assistance
- 3300 - Routes 3A and 53 Corridor Study (Kingston)
- 3400 - Route 139 Corridor Study (Stoughton)
- 3500 - Safe Street for All (SS4A) Action Plan Support
- 3600 - Performance Based Planning

TASK 4000: OTHER TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES, STAFF, ESTIMATED BUDGET

- 4100 - Transit Technical Assistance, and Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Support
- 4200 - BAT Planning and Technical Studies
- Transportation Planning Staff
- Estimated Budget

APPENDICES

- A. FFY 2024 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program Endorsement
- B. §450.336 - Self Certification Compliance Statement - 3C Process Endorsement
- C. Estimates of Other Funding Sources, and Other Transportation Planning Activities
- D. Glossary of Terms and Acronyms
- E. Public Review Period and Public Comments

Chairperson Woelfel asked if there is a motion to release the Draft FFY 2024 UPWP to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period.

The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Michael Lambert.

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

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

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Charles Kilmer reported on the following items:

Join USDOT for a Webinar on Identifying Discretionary Grant Opportunities!

Join speakers from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) [Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success \(ROUTES\)](#) Initiative and the Secretary's Office for a webinar on **May 22nd from 4:00-5:00 p.m. EDT** to learn more about how to identify and respond to Federal transportation grant opportunities. The webinar will showcase the **USDOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard**, a new tool that makes it easier to search for and find grant opportunities depending on the type of project you have, your organization type, and other considerations like match requirements. Rural, tribal, and local governments will find this an especially helpful tool. The webinar will also highlight the FHWA's [Wildlife Crossings Program](#) and the [PROTECT Program](#) – both of which are currently accepting applications; and other new resources available on the USDOT Navigator.

This webinar is free to attend but registration is required – [register here.](#)

https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_hTR15p9BTiCGrr1uujWOLw

MassDOT Providing Safe Passage for Bicyclists Signs to Municipalities

"An Act to Reduce Fatalities" was signed into law in December 2022. As part of the law, the following was added.

"In passing a vulnerable user, the operator of a motor vehicle shall pass at a safe distance of not less than 4 feet and at a reasonable and proper speed. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall erect and maintain signage along public ways necessary to notify operators of motor vehicles of the requirements for passing a vulnerable user from a safe distance as required by this section."

While MassDOT cannot just install signs on municipal roadways, the position has been taken to provide the signage and materials to all cities and towns so that they can be installed on roadways within their own jurisdiction.

Guidance on location and installation of the signs can be downloaded at:

<https://www.umasstransportationcenter.org/Document.asp?DocID=1117>



bike passing - under 35 mph;
2.0" Radius, 0.5" Border, 0.3" Indent, Black on White;
"MOTORISTS", C 2K 75% spacing;
"GIVE 4 FT", C 2K;
"TO PASS", C 2K;
Bicycle;



bike passing 35 mph +;
2.0" Radius, 0.5" Border, 0.3" Indent, Black on White;
"MOTORISTS", C 2K;
"GIVE 4 FT", C 2K;
"TO PASS", C 2K; Bicycle;

If cities/towns are interested in obtaining the signs and materials (they will be delivered directly to the community) from MassDOT, please let us know your intention and interest in receiving signs (how many signs of each size) as soon as possible.

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Please complete, sign, and return the [Memorandum of Agreement \(MOA\)](#), including Attachment B, by **June 1, 2023**. Submit the completed MOA to Ranjit Sivasubra (ranjit.sivasubra@dot.state.ma.us). If you have any questions, please reach out to Ranjit directly. The MOA is available for download at: <https://www.umasstransportationcenter.org/Document.asp?DocID=1118>

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

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

10. Adjournment

Chairperson Woelfel adjourned the meeting at 10:36 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt, Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for the May 16, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting

- Minutes of April 18, 2023, Old Colony MPO Meeting
- Staff Report for May 16, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting Agenda Items