

# OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

**Minutes of the Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting, August 15, 2023 - 10:00 A.M., Held Via Zoom**

## **Signatories Present:**

Stephen Woelfel, Representing Gina Fiandaca, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT  
Richard Bilski, Representing Jonathan Gulliver, Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division  
Jay DeGrace, Representing Mayor Robert Sullivan, City of Brockton  
James Downey, Representing Richard Quintal, Chair, Board of Selectmen, Town of Plymouth  
Dan Salvucci, Vice-Chair, Board of Selectmen, Town of Whitman  
Michael Lambert, Administrator, Brockton Area Transit (BAT)  
Mary Waldron, Representing Becky Coletta, President, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)

## **Others Present:**

Al DeGirolamo, Office of State Senator Michael Brady  
Glenn Geiler, Brockton Area Transit  
Jim Fitzgerald, Environmental Partners  
Joshua Barber, Federal Highway Administration  
Steve Findlen, Howard Stein Hudson  
Bonnie Roalsen, MA Safe Routes to School  
Derek Krevat, MassDOT  
Andrew Wang, MassDOT  
William Chenard, Pembroke  
Rob Cahoon, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin  
Shawn Bailey, OCPC  
Ray Guarino, OCPC  
Charles Kilmer, OCPC  
Guoqiang Li, OCPC  
Bill McNulty, OCPC  
Kyle Mowatt, OCPC  
Nate Ryan, OCPC

## **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairperson Stephen Woelfel called the meeting to order at 10:04 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 there was a quorum present.

## **2. Public Comments**

There were no public comments at this time.

## **3. Minutes of the July 18, 2023 Meeting**

Chairperson Woelfel asked the MPO Members for comments or changes regarding the minutes of the

# OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

July 18, 2023 meeting.

Mary Waldron made a motion and Michael Lambert seconded to endorse the minutes of the July 18, 2023 meeting. There being no changes, the Old Colony MPO then voted via roll call to endorse the minutes of the July 18, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting. Dan Salvucci abstained from the vote as he was not present at the July 18, 2023 meeting.

## 4. Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Report

Michael Lambert reported on the following items:

- The State Legislature passed, and the Governor signed the FY 2024 state budget. BAT is expecting to see a significant increase in funding based on the Fair Share Amendment. BAT is working with MassDOT as to what form that funding will take and how it will be allocated. BAT expects to increase weekend service at a significant level.
- BAT achieved 7,000 trips/day last week for the first time since the Covid pandemic.
- Rockland service achieved a high of 38 trips/day which is double what the previous fixed route was averaging

## 5. Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority Report

There was no update from GATRA at this time.

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

Richard Bilski provided an update on projects under design or construction that are programmed in the Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

### FFY 2023

607403 - STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138, FROM 300 FEET NORTH OF CHARLES AVENUE TO LINCOLN STREET (PHASE 1)

- At Plans, Specifications & Estimate (PS&E)

608279 - STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRAL STREET, CANTON STREET AND TOSCA DRIVE

- At Plans, Specifications & Estimate (PS&E)

### FFY 2024

609052 - BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123) AND PLYMOUTH STREET

- At Revised 25% Design
- Comment resolution meeting scheduled for the end of this month for revised 25% Design
- Next steps include Utility meeting followed by a design public hearing

## **OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**

609410 - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123), CARY STREET AND LYMAN STREET

- Waiting on PS&E from designer

### **FFY 2025**

613352 - STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138, FROM 300 FEET NORTH OF CHARLES AVENUE TO LINCOLN STREET (PHASE 2)

- Scope and fee have been submitted by the designer

607818 - BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT LYMAN STREET/GROVE STREET/SUMMER STREET & REPLACEMENT OF GROVE STREET BRIDGE, B-25-005, OVER SALISBURY PLAIN RIVER

- At Revised 25% Design
- Received new bridge type study, workbook for bridge, and geotechnical report

608195 - EASTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 INCLUDING INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 (WASHINGTON STREET) AND ELM STREET

- 100% Design is under review
- Waiting on new schedule from designer

### **FFY 2026**

609440 - ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET

- Waiting on the 75% Design submission
- Waiting on new schedule from designer

606002 - KINGSTON, DUXBURY - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 3 RAMPS (NB/SB) AND ROUTE 3A (TREMONT STREET)

- At Pre-25% Design
- Scoping meeting was held

### **FFY 2027**

608506 - HANSON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 (MAQUAN STREET), FROM THE PEMBROKE T.L. TO INDIAN HEAD STREET AND RELATED WORK

- Subsurface Utility Exploration (SUE) to be scheduled to identify issues regarding existing water main

612525 - ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, RANDOLPH STREET AND RICHARD A FITTS DRIVE (ROUTE 139) AT CHESTNUT STREET AND OLD RANDOLPH STREET

- Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) 2 Review being completed

### **FFY 2028**

# OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

612769 - HANOVER - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 139 (HANOVER STREET) AT MAIN STREET, CENTER STREET AND SILVER STREET

- Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Stage 1. Looking at intersection concepts

612262 - BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), PEARL STREET AND STONEHILL STREET

- Kickoff meeting held on May 12, 2023

612770 - ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 18 (BEDFORD STREET) AND ROUTE 123 (BROCKTON AVENUE)

- Scoping meeting held in July, 2023

611981 - STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CANTON STREET (ROUTE 27), SCHOOL STREET AND SUMMER STREET

- Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Stage 1. Looking at intersection concepts
- New schedule being developed

Charles Kilmer inquired about the two Stoughton projects programmed in FFY 2023 (the Route 138 Project, and the Central Street, Canton Street, and Tosca Drive Project), to see if they are both being advertised on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August. Richard Bilski confirmed that they are being advertised on August 26, 2023.

Charles Kilmer thanked Senator Michael Brady for helping to secure funding in the FY 2024 State Budget for Subsurface Utility Exploration (SUE) for the Route 14 Hanson Project. Charles Kilmer asked if the designer is already scheduling the SUE. Richard Bilski stated that the town is aware of the funding, and they are working with the designer to schedule the SUE contractor.

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

- **Amendment 5 (BAT Projects) Review and Potential Endorsement**

Bill McNulty presented and described Amendment 5 as follows:

### Amendment 5

FFY 2023

- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) PURCHASE OF MISCELLANEOUS POWER AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPEMENT
  - Total Project Cost is \$400,000
  - Move to FFY 2024

FFY 2024

- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) PURCHASE OF MISCELLANEOUS POWER AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPEMENT
  - Total Project Cost is \$400,000
  - Move in from FFY 2023

# OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Bill McNulty stated that the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC), at their public meeting on August 3, 2023, reviewed and approved Amendment 5 to the FFY 2023-2027 Old Colony TIP.

Chairperson Woelfel asked if there is a motion to endorse Amendment 5. The motion was made by Michael Lambert and was seconded by Mary Waldron. The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously via roll call to endorse Amendment 5.

## **8. 2050 Old Colony Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**

### **▪ Review and Potential Release to Public Review and Comment Period**

Bill McNulty provided an overview of the 2050 Old Colony LRTP. The LRTP is organized into eleven (11) chapters, including:

1. Introduction
2. Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures
3. Planning Scenarios
4. Regional Profile
5. Highway
6. Transit
7. Vulnerable Roadway Users
8. Environment
9. Safety and Security
10. Financial Outlook and Fiscal Constraint
11. Conclusion and Recommendations

### Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 1 introduces the Long-Range Transportation Plan, the transportation planning process, and the functions of the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The chapter also reviews the public participation and engagement process, and summarizes input received from the public during the development of the Plan.

### Chapter 2: Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures

Chapter 2 states the Goals and Objectives of the Plan. It also identifies Safety Performance Targets (PM1), System Preservation Targets (PM2), System Performance Targets (PM3), and Transit System Asset (TAM) Condition Performance Targets as adopted by the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

### Chapter 3: Planning Scenarios

Chapter 3 outlines planning scenarios adopted by Old Colony for the Vision 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan. These scenarios were first developed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation in the development of their Beyond Mobility 2050 Transportation Plan. MassDOT had identified six areas that are currently impacting the Commonwealth and could continue to impact the Commonwealth through 2050. These areas (Climate Change, The Future of Work, Population Trends, Housing and Workplaces, Prosperity, and Technology). What current trends in these areas progress over time will affect policy and implementation changes through 2050.

# OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

## Chapter 4: Regional Profile

Chapter 4 contains a detailed analysis of the people and pace of the Old Colony region, and how residents here live and work. It also continues the SocioEconomic data (population, households, and employment) projections through 2050, as developed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute. These projections are used for the purpose of developing the regional and statewide travel demand models.

## Chapter 5: Highway

Chapter 5 provides an overview of the regional highway network, with an existing conditions analysis of the Federal-Aid eligible surface transportation (roadways and bridges) system. It incorporates a travel demand model for scenario planning, and determination of system need.

## Chapter 6: Transit

Chapter 6 provides an overview of the regional transit network, with a needs analysis for maintaining the system in a state of good repair and ensuring accessibility to the system and transit mobility.

## Chapter 7: Vulnerable Roadway Users

Chapter 7 provides an overview of how vulnerable roadway users (pedestrians, bicyclists, mobility assistance device users, etc.) access and use the system. It identifies key activity centers throughout the region and prioritizes needs for assuring safe and accessible movement for vulnerable roadway users.

## Chapter 8: Environment

Chapter 8 examines the balance between the natural environment and the transportation system. Hazards such as fresh water and coastal storm surge flooding that threaten the resiliency of the transportation network are identified. Likewise, strategies for protecting the natural environment from impacts from the transportation system are also identified.

## Chapter 9: Safety and Security

Chapter 9 describes how Old Colony plans to work with Regional and State partners on achieving the targets identified in Safety Performance PM1. It also identifies strategies for keeping the transportation system secure from natural and man-caused threats.

## Chapter 10: Financial Outlook and Fiscal Constraint

Chapter 10 contains projected available transportation funding and expected project and operational costs through the fiscal horizon year of 2044. Fiscal constraint is determined by comparing expected project and operational costs against projected available funding.

## Chapter 11: Conclusion and Recommendations

Chapter 11 contains a synopsis of the recommendations presented in each chapter of the Plan.

A 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period of the Plan is respectfully requested to begin on August 15, 2023. Following the comment period, a Revised Draft LRTP will be presented to the Old Colony MPO for review and potential endorsement on September 19, 2023.

Chairperson Woelfel asked for a motion to release the 2050 LRTP to a 21-Day Public Review and

# OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

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

Michael Lambert thanked OCPC for their excellent work on the LRTP. From a transit point of view, Michael Lambert highlighted some of the areas that BAT will be working on including:

- Expanding access to new customers and/ or aging customers. There is a program to expand the number of shelters.
- The success of the Rockland Micro-transit service is likely to be the form that expansions will take.
- Transit connections between GATRA and BAT.

The Old Colony MPO voted unanimously via roll call vote to release the 2050 LRTP to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period.

## 9. 2023 Old Colony Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP)

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

Shawn Bailey provided an overview and presentation on the Draft 2023 Old Colony Coordinated Human Services Transportation (CHST) Plan.

The Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan is updated every four years (similar to the Long-Range Transportation Plan) and is a vital document for any human service transportation entity. The CHST Plan summarizes and addresses the needs of public transportation/ transit providers in the Old Colony Region, including fixed route bus service, paratransit service, commuter bus, and taxi companies.

The Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan provides information on three of the programs under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL):

- 5310 (Formula Grants for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) - Mobility Management
  - Provides Mobility Management funding through a formula program to increase mobility for older adults, people with disabilities and special needs.
  - 80% federal funding/20% local matching
  - Yearly application process through MassDOT
- 5310 (Formula Grants for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) - Operations
  - Provides Operational Program funding through a formula program to increase mobility for older adults, people with disabilities and special needs.
  - 50% federal funding/50% local matching
  - Yearly application process through MassDOT
- 5307 (Urbanized Area Formula Grants) and 5311 (Formula Grants for Rural Areas)
  - Provides capital and operating assistance for public transit systems.
  - 80% federal funding/20% local matching
  - Yearly application process through MassDOT

## OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

The MassDOT Community Transit Grant (CTG) Program will be included in the CHST Plan as providers in the Old Colony Region have and will continue to apply for funds through this Program. There are three types of eligible projects: operating, mobility management, and accessible vehicles. This grant requires a 50% local match for operating projects, and 20% for mobility management, vehicle, or other capital. The CTG Program awards two funding sources: the previously mentioned 5310 funding and the State Mobility Assistance Program (MAP) funding.

A 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period of the CHSTP is respectfully requested to begin on August 15, 2023. Following the comment period, a Revised Draft CHSTP will be presented to the Old Colony MPO for review and potential endorsement on September 19, 2023.

Chairperson Woelfel asked for a motion to release the 2023 Old Colony CHSTP to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period. The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Mary Waldron. The Old Colony MPO voted unanimously via roll call to release the Old Colony CHSTP to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period.

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

Charles Kilmer reported on the following items:

- Combined NOFO Open for RCN (Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Access and Equity) - Deadline for submitting applications is Thursday, September 28, 2023
- FTA Announced \$13.4 Million Funding Opportunity for Transit-Oriented Development - Webinar held on August 17, 2023 to discuss the requirements for funding
- MassDOT Moving Together Conference - October 4, 2023

Mary Waldron announced that it is Nate Ryan's last week as an Intern at OCPC as he will be heading back to graduate school in Ireland. Mary Waldron then thanked Nate for his work during the summer. Charles Kilmer then recognized Nate for his professionalism, thoughtfulness and promptness in undertaking and delivering projects and tasks.

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

Charles Kilmer asked that the Old Colony MPO members review and confirm the dates and times of their next virtual meeting(s).

#### 2023

- **September 19, 2023 at 10 AM**
- **October 17, 2023 at 10 AM**
- **November 21, 2023, at 10 AM**
- **December 19, 2023 at 10 AM**

### 11. Adjournment

Chairperson Woelfel adjourned the meeting at 11:02 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



# OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

*Kyle Mowatt*

Kyle Mowatt, Senior Transportation Planner

## **List of Documents for the August 15, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting**

- Minutes of July 18, 2023, Old Colony MPO Meeting
- Staff Reports for August 15, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting Agenda Items