

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Held Virtually Via Zoom June 6, 2024 at 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	Bruce Hughes	MassDOT	Raissah Kouame
Abington	John Stone	Tighe & Bond	Dan Murphy
Avon	Richard Jordan	BETA Group	Austin Pszenny
Bridgewater	Greg Tansey	GPI	Sid Kashi
Bridgewater	Yamaris Terrero	BETA Group	Anna Sangree
Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien	BETA Group	Jaklyn Cetracchio
Bridgewater	Julianna Curry	BETA Group	Jeff Maxtutis
Brockton	John Messia	Howard Stein Hudson	Steve Findlen
Brockton	Celia Canavan	Capital Strategic Solutions	Clara DeCarvalho
Duxbury	Tag Carpenter	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Duxbury	Allison Shane	OCPC	Mary Waldron
Easton	Greg Swan	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
Hanson	Don Howard	OCPC	Guoqiang Li
Plymouth	James Downey	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
Stoughton	William Roth	OCPC	Bill McNulty
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Paul Umano
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Matt Dyer
BAT	Kelly Forrester	OCPC	Ray Guarino
GATRA	Mary Ellen DeFrias	Unknown	Pscott
MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance		

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Noreen O'Toole called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M. and then read the Meeting Accessibility Statement and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Bill McNulty then conducted the roll call.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

3. Minutes of May 2, 2024 Meeting

Chairperson O'Toole asked if there is a motion to approve the May 2, 2024 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by John Stone to approve the Meeting Minutes from May 2, 2024.

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

The Old Colony JTC voted to approve the May 2, 2024 Meeting Minutes.

4. Communications

Shawn Bailey reviewed the contents of the communications staff report. Included were letters of correspondence, as well as notices of workshops and conferences. They are as follows:

- MassDOT – Online Grant Management Tool: Grant Central
- Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvement Grant Program – Application submission period is open from May 1 – June 14, 2024
- Massachusetts Project Intake Tool (MaPIT) 5.0 Virtual Classroom – Umass Transportation Center: June 4, 6, and 20 (10 AM)
- Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CTPC) – Spring Workshop Series 2024
- Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office (FFIO)

5. Reports

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Kelly Forrester reported on the following items:

- BAT board voted to allow BAT to extend free fares through December 31, 2024
- There has been great ridership in response to the free fares. This is the highest daily ridership in 14 years
- BAT received a grant that will allow to offer expanded service for 2nd and 3rd shift workers

Chairperson O'Toole inquired about the new grant. Kelly Forrester stated that the scrop of the grant is pretty broad which will allow freedom. This could be someone who isn't on a bus route and needs to get to work. Hoping to unveil new ways to get people to work past 9:30 PM.

Dan Salvucci asked how the revenues from ridership affects the budget. Kelly Forrester stated that the free fare is being offered because BAT received a grant. It has been extended because there is more money available.

B. Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)

Mary Ellen DeFrias reported on the following items:

- GATRA will be running fare free during the holidays
- GATRA has been awarded a grant through the State to connect Brockton, Taunton, and Fall River. Service will be running sometime August/September. This will open up all three areas with this interconnectivity
- Monitoring MBTA station closings so any service changes can be addressed

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

C. South Coast Rail Project

Shawn Bailey reported on the following:

In May 2024, work conducted involved continued fencing installation in six communities; overnight work and train testing in four communities; daytime sidewalk work at an intersection in New Bedford; continued construction of a pedestrian bridge over Route 18 in New Bedford; bus service between Bridgewater and Middleborough/Lakeville stations from April 27th through May 5th to allow for work on the project; brush cutting and tree trimming along the railroad right-of-way in two communities; and signal system installation and testing in seven communities.

Additional work done included daytime construction and signal work at station sites, layover sites, and along the right-of-way from Middleborough to New Bedford as well as from Berkley to Fall River. There was also transportation of soil by truck to designated project sites.

6. Old Business

A. FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation

Bill McNulty discussed changes within the FFY 2024-2028 TIP.

FFY 2024

- BROCKTON - ROUTE 123 (CENTRE STREET) AT PLYMOUTH STREET SIGNALIZATION AND GEOMETRIC IMPROVEMENTS (609052)
 - **Will Not Advertise in FFY 2024; PROGRAMMED IN FFY 2025 IN FFY 2025-2029 TIP**
 - 25% Package received by MassDOT (3/16/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,792,790.

- PLYMPTON - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, WINNETUXET ROAD OVER WINNETUXET RIVER (609435)
 - **PS&E Resub 2 received by MassDOT (5/24/2024).**
 - **Cost Estimate is \$2,291,869.**

7. New Business

A. Report from Nominating Committee and Election of Old Colony JTC Officers 2024-2025

James Downey stated that the Nominating Committee met and decided to vote for the following:

- Chairperson – Noreen O’Toole, Whitman
- Vice Chairperson – Daniel Salvucci, Whitman

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

Both Noreen O'Toole and Dan Salvucci accepted the nominations.

The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to nominate Noreen O'Toole as Chairperson and Dan Salvucci as Vice Chairperson.

- B. Draft FFY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**
 - **21-Day Public Review and Comment Period**

Charles Kilmer discussed the Draft FFY 2025 UPWP.

At their meeting on May 21, 2024, the Old Colony MPO reviewed and subsequently released the Draft FFY 2025 Old Colony UPWP to a 21-day public review and comment period. Following the completion of the 21-day public review and comment period, the Old Colony MPO will review the public comments and consider endorsement of the Draft FFY 2025 Old Colony UPWP.

James Downey asked if public outreach will be a part of the Route 3A Corridor Study in Plymouth. Charles Kilmer stated that a public survey will be set up along with a public meeting. There will be the existing conditions analysis (traffic counts, turning movement counts, pavement management, crash analysis). We will work with the town on the best methods to reach out to the public. Full time work will commence on this work in October.

Richard Jordan inquired about the sidewalks that will be built during the Route 28 and Harrison Boulevard project and if these sidewalks would eventually make connections to other sidewalks. Charles Kilmer stated that by doing this Route 28 Corridor Study (Task 3300) this will provide the foundation work for initiating work down the road to make further connections.

Chairperson O'Toole asked for a motion to endorse the FFY 2025 UPWP. A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by James Downey.

The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to endorse the FFY UPWP.

- C. Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Regional Vision Zero Action Plan**
 - **Project Update from BETA Group, Inc.**

Austin Pszeny, Jaklyn Cetracchio, and Anna Sangree provided a presentation on the SS4A Action Plan.

Chairperson O'Toole asked if raised crosswalks are helping communities. Austin believes that they are helping. They are popping up at intersections as well as mid-block crossings. They help with reducing vehicle speeds and making sure pedestrians are visible on the crosswalks. Jeff Maxtutis stated that combined with curb extensions or rectangular flashing beacons they become very effective.

Chairperson O'Toole stated that this area doesn't have room for protected bike lanes due to the width of the road. Jaklyn Cetracchio stated that they take each roadway into account and what's available to implement devices that would be applicable for each situation.

Dan Salvucci asked if the raised crosswalks effects plowing in the winter. Jeff Maxtutis stated that it's not an

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

issue with the longer ramps and DPWs know how to plow them correctly.

Richard Jordan asked about the number of crashes by Town and if it's been thought to show it by per capita basis or per mile travelled. Anna Sangree stated that BETA group is looking into doing it by per capita basis. Discussion followed.

8. Other Business and Public Comment

A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies

Bill McNulty reported on the following items:

The Old Colony Planning Council recently completed a traffic study with a focus on heavy commercial vehicle traffic on multiple roadways throughout the Town of Plympton. Data and findings from this traffic study have been distributed to the Town.

Project Status Updates

Duxbury / Kingston

- Traffic Study of Landing Road and Maple Street in Kingston, and South Duxbury
Data analysis and report preparation is underway.

Plympton

- Road Safety Audit for Palmer Road (Route 58) and Center Street
Road Safety Audi scheduled for June 2024.

B. Staff Reviews on ENFs, EIRs, and NPCs

Kyle Mowatt summarized the Environmental Notification Forms (ENFs), Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), Notices of Project Changes (NPCs), and Certificates for projects within the OCPC region that are undergoing Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office review.

Submitting Comments to MEPA

The Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) accepts written comments on projects currently under MEPA review. Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, via fax, or by hand delivery. Comments submitted to MEPA are public records and should be sent to the following address:

Secretary Kathleen Theoharides
EEA, Attn: MEPA Office
[Analyst Name], EEA No. _____
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

Boston, MA 02114

New Projects

None

Certificates

EEA #16814 – 16 Town Wharf – Plymouth

Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF)

The certificate states that this project **requires** the submission of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Public Notices

Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project – Plymouth

1. Pinnacle Cranberry Bog Wetland Restoration Project.
2. Fish Bypass Channel and Repairs to the Jenney Pond Dam

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

There were no regional concerns or local community transportation issues to discuss at this time.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt

Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for June 6, 2024 Old Colony JTC Meeting

- Minutes of the May 2, 2024 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for June 6, 2024, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items

**A quorum is not necessary for any meeting of the JTC. However, if any JTC voting member feels that there is not adequate or appropriate representation of the group present to decide an issue, that member may advise the group and the Chairperson may postpone the issue until the next meeting.*

***Generally, matters will not be decided by vote. Exceptions to this rule are matters of Joint Transportation Committee internal business such as the election of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary, the*

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

approval of the minutes of a previous meeting and amendments to the By-laws. In such cases, the Chairperson shall direct a voice vote on the matter, and finding significant opposition shall re-open discussion of that matter until a consensus position is reached.