

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Held Virtually Via Zoom January 5, 2023 at 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	Bruce Hughes	MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance
Abington	John Stone	MassDOT	Derek Krevat
Avon	Bill Fitzgerald	MassDOT	Raissah Kouame
Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien	BAT	Glenn Geiler
Brockton	John Fay	BAT	Michael Lambert
Brockton	Kamiya Parkin	BETA Group	Dan McCormack
Brockton	Evan Sears	Howard Stein Hudson	Steven Findlen
Easton	David Field	VHB	Rob Cahoon
Easton	Greg Swan	Environmental Partners	Jim Fitzgerald
Hanson	Don Howard	Tighe & Bond	Greg Lucas
Hanson	Jamison Shave	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Pembroke	Becky Coletta	OCPC	Mary Waldron
Plymouth	James Downey	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
Stoughton	Craig Horsfall	OCPC	Bill McNulty
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Guoqiang Li
MassDOT	Raissah Kouame	OCPC	Ray Guarino

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole called the meeting to order at 12:03 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 December 1, 2022 Meeting

Chairperson O'Toole asked if there is a motion to approve the December 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Don Howard to approve the Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2022.

The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve the December 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

4. Communications

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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:

- Vision 2050: The Future of Transportation – Public Survey Available
- 2023 Massachusetts Freight Plan – Advisory Committee Meeting – January 10 at 11:00 AM, Public Information Meeting on January 12 at 6:00 PM
- Culvert Connection – Culvert Grant Program – Now Accepting Project Inquiries through Wednesday, February 1, 2023
- No-Cost Equipment from MassDOT: Speed Feedback and School Zone Speed Limit Signs

5. Reports

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Michael Lambert reported on the following items:

- BAT wrapped up their free fare program that lasted from Thanksgiving to New Year's. Ridership increased and it was an overall great program.
- BAT has soft launched their Rockland Micro-Transit Service. A press release for the full launch of the service will occur later in January.
- BAT hosted OCPC on a bus ride scavenger hunt. BAT encourages any members of the JTC to visit BAT for a tour.

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

There was no update at this time.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Shawn Bailey reported on the following:

In December 2022, work conducted involved fencing installation in eight communities on Fall River & Middleborough Secondary Lines and New Bedford Main Line; utilizing Cotley Street in Berkley to access right-of-way (ROW) for various project activities; shoulder and lane closure on Route 140 Southbound in Taunton for curb and sidewalk installation; daytime track work in Berkley; daytime lane closures for crossing work in Assonet; overnight railroad signal house testing in Middleborough; reversal of Forge Road' one-way direction in Assonet; and daytime roadwork on Route 105 in Middleborough.

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

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6. Old Business

A. FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation

▪ TIP Adjustment 1

The following is Adjustment 1 that was endorsed by the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization on December 19, 2022.

FFY 2023

▪ BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) - BAT - TERMINAL, INTERMODAL (TRANSIT)

ADJUSTMENT: INCREASE COST FROM \$100,000 TO \$127,000 (Increase State (RTACAP) from \$20,000 to \$47,000). The resulting costs are: \$80,000 Federal, and \$47,000 State (RTACAP)

A proposed amendment (Amendment 1) to the FFY 2023 – 2027 Transportation Improvement Program is scheduled for review and potential endorsement by the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on January 17, 2023. This Amendment is to program Community Transit Grant Program projects into the region.

Glenn Geiler thanked Bill McNulty for introducing the TIP Adjustment. This is an increase in BATs RTA Cap Budget in order to accelerate the expansion of the bus stop project at Market Basket in Brockton. BAT also thanked MassDOT for their support of BATs Community Transit Grant Application to continue their lifeline service in the town of Rockland.

7. New Business

A. Old Colony Performance Management Targets

▪ PM1 Safety Performance; PM2 Pavement and Bridge Performance; and PM3 System Reliability Performance

Bill McNulty provided an overview of the Old Colony Performance Management Targets. In 2016, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established a rule requiring all State DOTs and MPOs to establish performance measures in three areas: Improving Highway Safety (PM1); Maintaining Pavement and Bridges in States of Good repair (PM2); and Reducing Congestion, Improving System Efficiency and Freight Movement (PM3). Metropolitan Planning Organizations were given the option of adopting statewide performance targets or establishing their own. The Old Colony MPO has opted each year to adopt the statewide targets established by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

PM1 Safety Performance:

Total Fatalities: CY 23 Target: .59

Total Serious Injuries: CY 23 Target: 4.25

Total Combined Non-Motorized Injuries & Fatalities: CY 23 Target: 437

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Raissah Kouame and Derek Krevat provided a presentation on PM3.

PM3 System Reliability Performance:

Travel Time Reliability: 2024 Target: Interstate – 74%; Non-Interstate – 85%

Truck Travel Time Reliability: 2024 Target: 1.80

Peak Hour Excessive Delay: 2024 Target: Boston 24, Springfield 6.5, Worcester, 7

Non-SOV Travel: 2024 Target: Boston 38.77%, Springfield 22.17%, Worcester 25.35%

Emissions Reduction: 2024 Target: Waltham 0.28 kg of CO/day

B. FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation ▪ **Development Schedule**

Bill McNulty provided the Development Schedule for the FFY 2024-2028 TIP.

Old Colony Planning Council is currently reviewing project priority and working with MassDOT and project proponents to determine current project statuses and states of readiness.

In March 2023, Old Colony Planning Council will present potential scenarios to the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee and the Metropolitan Planning Organization for their review and consideration of a preferred alternative, followed by a potential release to public review and comment by the MPO.

The Old Colony FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is scheduled for endorsement later this Spring.

C. Old Colony 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Development Update

Bill McNulty provided an update on the Old Colony 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Old Colony Planning Council is collaborating with MassDOT and mobility partners in the region to plan focus group meeting(s) in the coming months to discuss mobility needs and challenges for the region to be focused on in the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan. The first focus group meeting will be held in cooperation and collaboration with the Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Authority and will be scheduled this month (January 2023).

A public survey has been released and will be active through January. This survey was developed in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

Old Colony Planning Council is currently reviewing and commenting on socioeconomic (population, households, and employment) estimates for 2030, 2040, and 2050. A final set of figures is anticipated this Spring.

Stakeholder engagement is currently underway. Meetings with stakeholders are being scheduled to discuss their needs and solicit their input into the process. A series of or public engagement events

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(webinars, open houses, information tables) are also being planned and scheduled.

Old Colony Planning Council is currently performing a pavement conditions assessment of the federal-aid eligible roadway network in the Old Colony region. This assessment will be used in developing investment scenarios and an overall investment figure needed to improve and maintain the entire system in a state of good repair.

The Draft 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan will be released for public review and comment later this Spring.

8. Other Business and Public Comment

A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies

Bill McNulty reported on the following Community Local Technical Assistance Studies.

Old Colony Planning Council has completed a traffic study of Central Street in East Bridgewater. Data, findings, and technical guidance have been distributed to the Town.

Project Status Updates

Duxbury

- Traffic Study for Route 3A at Oak Street and Parks Avenue, and Route 3A at Elm Street and Soule Avenue - *Data collection in progress*

Kingston

- Road Safety Audit of Landing Road - *RSA to be scheduled*

Plymouth

- Aerial Inventory of Locations (OCPC Drone Program) - *Drone flights to be scheduled.*

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:

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Secretary Kathleen Theoharides
EEA, Attn: MEPA Office
[Analyst Name], EEA No. _____
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

New Projects

DEIR

EEA #16558 – Lake Shore Center Phase 4 – Bridgewater

The project is subject to review under the MEPA because it will require a State Permit and exceeds one or more MEPA review thresholds. The proponent filed an ENF on May 16, 2022. On June 24, 2022, a Secretary Certificate was issued requiring a DEIR.

EENF

EEA #16636 – Ellis Brett Pond Dam Repairs – Brockton

The following repairs are proposed for the dam and dike:

- Remove remaining brush, stumps and root systems, from within 20 feet of the dam. Unstable portions of the dike will be regraded.
- Regrade the embankment at the dam and associated dike to have a uniform crest with a downstream and upstream slope
- Provide vegetated articulated concrete block matting.
- Restore gravel access drive along dike to uniform elevation
- Grass area downgradient of the wetland flags will be restored with a mowable native wetland or conservation seed mix

ENF

EEA #16638 – Doyle Aquaculture – Plymouth

The proposed license site is located in the waters of Plymouth within the Duxbury Bay shellfish growing area. The applicant proposes to deploy bottom gear to culture oysters and potentially other shellfish.

Public Notice

NHESP – Notice of Issuance of Section 61 Finding – 16578 Owl Ridge Estate – Easton

A Conservation and Management Plan has been prepared in consultation with the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP).

Notice of Application and Issuance of a Draft Groundwater Discharge Permit – Halifax

Authorizes discharges to the ground from the on-site wastewater treatment facility located at Walmart Store at 295 Plymouth Street, Halifax, MA.

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Notice of Submission of a Yearly Operation Plan – Multiple Towns in Region

In 2023, National Grid will conduct a selective herbicide treatment program on their rights-of-way as part of an Integrated Vegetation Management program on transmission and distribution lines. This will take place in Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Stoughton, West Bridgewater, Whitman.

Notice of Intent to Initiate an Aquatic Plan Management Program – Stoughton

The proposed project is seeking approval to implement an Aquatic Plant Management Program at Glen Echo Pond.

Notice of Issuance of Draft Water Management Act Permits – Plymouth

MassDEP has issued a Draft Renewed Water Management Act permit for a 30-day public comment period to the Town of Plymouth in the Buzzards Bay Basin.

Notice of Application and Issuance of a Draft Groundwater Discharge Permit – Hanover

This Draft Groundwater Discharge Permit is for the discharge of treated wastewater from the Cardinal Cushing Centers at 405 Washington Street. This Public Notice starts the 30 day public comment period (December 7).

Notice of Scope of Work for a Hydrogeological Evaluation – Halifax

This Scope of Work is for a proposed soil absorption system to be located at 265 Monponsett Street.

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

John Fay asked about the bridge over Salisbury Brook in Brockton at Summer and Grove Street. Charles Kilmer stated that the City of Brockton has that intersection and bridge under design. The designer is CDM Smith and is programmed in FFY 2025.

Shane O'Brien asked if there is a location on the OCPC Website where the staff reports for the JTC Meetings are located. Charles Kilmer explained where to find the Staff Reports.

Charles Kilmer asked what the Lake Shore Center Phase 4 project is proposing that requires the permit. Shane O'Brien stated that they're proposing another hotel, condos 55+, restaurant.

Becky Coletta asked if the survey for the LRTP 2050 is available online. Bill McNulty stated that it is, if you're on the JTC mailing list that will be sent out.

Charles Kilmer recognized and congratulated Shane O'Brien for taking and passing the AICP exam this past fall.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 PM.

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Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt

Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for January 5, 2023 Old Colony JTC Meeting

- Minutes of the December 1, 2022 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for January 5, 2023, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items