

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Held Virtually Via Zoom April 6, 2023 at 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	Bruce Hughes	Transit AMS	Jim Jihan
Avon	Bill Fitzgerald	Tighe & Bond	Greg Lucas
Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien	GPI	Sid Kashi
Brockton	Alan Castaline	BETA, Inc.	Dan McCormack
Hanson	Don Howard	OCPC	Mary Waldron
Plymouth	James Downey	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Stoughton	Marc Tisdele, P.E.	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Ray Guarino
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Guoqiang Li
BAT	Glenn Geiler	OCPC	Jay Song
MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance	OCPC	Bill McNulty
MassDOT	Alex Duggan		

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole called the meeting to order at 12:00 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 March 2, 2023 Meeting

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole asked if there is a motion to approve the March 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Don Howard to approve the Meeting Minutes from March 2, 2023.

The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve the March 2, 2023 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 were as follows:

- Announcement of FHWA Leadership Panel on Equity in Roadway Safety, to be held April 17, 2023

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from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

- Announcement of Massachusetts Safe Routes to School Spring Webinar on April 26, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM
- Announcement by the MBTA on the Public Review and Comment Period for their FY 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program (Cip)

5. Reports

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Glenn Geiller reported on the following items:

- BAT is working with Old Colony Planning Council to develop its Title VI Plan, which is updated every three years, along with its limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan. .
- The expansion of microtransit service in the Town of Rockland has been successful, and BAT is adding flexibility to how users can add funds to their accounts by contacting Customer Service.
- BAT is in the process of applying for a Low and No Emissions Grant t and Busses and Bus Facilities Grant through the Federal Transit Administration and thanked all who have provided letters of support.

Chairperson O'Toole commended Brockton Area Transit for providing greater payment flexibility on the Rockland microtransit service.

Charles Kilmer recognized and congratulated Glenn Geiller of Brockton Area Transit for being nominated as Northeastern University's first Founders Fellow with the American Society for Public Administration.

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

Shawn Bailey reported on the following items:

- GATRA has announced service changes on seven routes, going into effect on March 6, 2023.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Shawn Bailey provided a construction update for South Coast Rail Phase 1, which is expected to open for service later in 2023.

6. Old Business

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

- **Review and Discussion of Amendment 2**

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Bill McNulty provided an overview of FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 2, which makes the following changes to the TIP to accommodate cost increases on two projects in FFY 2023.

FFY 2023

- STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 (607403) AC YEAR 1 OF 2
 - Total Project Cost Increase to \$17,404,332
 - Advance Construction Year 1: \$8,411,033 (Year 1 amount decreased by \$822,967)

- STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRAL STREET, CANTON STREET AND TOSCA DRIVE (608279)
 - Updated Cost \$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 Year 2: \$8,963,299 (Year 2 amount increased by \$6,098,947)

Marc Tisdele, P.E. thanked all who have worked with the Town of Stoughton on advancing these projects, and the Joint Transportation Committee for their consideration to support this Amendment.

Bill McNulty asked the Joint Transportation Committee for a vote of approval of this proposed Amendment as presented.

The Joint Transportation Committee voted unanimously via roll call to approve the FFY 2023-2027 Old Colony TIP Amendment 2 as presented.

7. New Business

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

- **Review and Discussion of Preferred Set of Projects**

Bill McNulty reported on the preferred set of projects selected by the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the development of the FFY 2024-2028 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program. This preferred set of projects had been developed through analysis of Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) scoring of each project, consultation with communities and project proponents, and coordination with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Glenn Geiller to approve this preferred set of projects for the FFY 2024-2028 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program.

The Joint Transportation Committee voted unanimously via roll call to approve the preferred set of projects for the FFY 2024-2028 Old Colony TIP.

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B. Development of FFY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- Discussion of Universe of Projects

Charles Kilmer provided a review of the Old Colony Universe of Projects, and how each project is being evaluated on scoring criteria as development of the FFY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program is underway. This Universe of Projects, along with consultation with communities and planning partners, is used to determine projects that may be included as planning items in the Unified Planning Work Program.

Charles Kilmer encouraged people to provide comments to the Old Colony Planning Council, and noted that the Draft FFY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program will be released for public review and comment later this Spring.

Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - Draft Universe of Projects for Element 3000

ID	COMMUNITY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TYPE	MEETS LRTP IDENTIFIED NEED	CONDITION, MAINTENANCE, MODERNIZATION, AND EFFICIENCY	LIVABILITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFIT	MOBILITY	ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE	TRANSPORTATION EQUITY	SAFETY AND SECURITY	CMP CONGESTED AREA	HP CORRIDOR STUDY COMPOSITE SCORE
1	Avon	West Main Street from Brockton City Line to Route 28	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		53
2	Bridgewater	Route 104 from Raynham Town Line to Bridgewater Central Square	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		64
3	Bridgewater	Route 104 from Bridgewater Central Square to Halifax Town Line	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		57
4	Bridgewater	Route 18 and Route 18/Route 28	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		56
5	Brockton	Oak Street from North Pearl Street to Route 28	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		80
6	Brockton	Route 27 from Main Street to Whitman Town Line	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	69
7	Brockton	East Ashland Street	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		66
8	Brockton	Main Street from Plain Street to Avon Town Line	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	62
9	Brockton	Route 27 from Stoughton Town Line to Main Street	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	62
10	Brockton	Route 28	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		54
11	Brockton	Route 123 from Downtown to Abington Town Line	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		53
12	East Bridgewater	Route 14	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		54
13	East Bridgewater	Pleasant Street/ North Central Street/ Central Street	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		53
14	Kingston	Route 3A and Vicinity Transportation and Land Use Study	Corridor and Land Use	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
15	Pembroke	Route 36 from Halifax Town Line to Route 14	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		56

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16	Plymouth	Route 3A	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	65
17	Plymouth	Carver Road (Former Route 44) from Carver Town Line to Route 3A	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	64
18	Plymouth	Long Pond Road from Route 3A (Herring Pond Road) to Route 3	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		53
19	Stoughton	Route 139 from Stoughton Center to Randolph Town Line	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		55
20	Stoughton	Route 27	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	53
21	Whitman	Route 27	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		54
22	Regional	Road Safety Audits (RSAs) at Multiple Locations	Intersections and Corridors	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
23	Regional	Major Bottleneck Identification Study	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

C. Old Colony 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan – Development Update

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

Old Colony Planning Council hosted an information session virtually via Zoom on March 21, 2023. During this information session, Staff presented an overview of the Vision 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan and discussed the contents of each section (Goals and Objectives, Performance Targets and Measurement, Planning Scenarios, Regional Profile, Highway, Transit, Vulnerable Users, Safety and Security). Old Colony Planning Council will next host an information table at Bridgewater State University’s Earth Day Celebration on April 21, 2023

Collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), and UMASS Donahue Institute continuous, reviewing, and socioeconomic (population, households, and employment) estimates for 2030, 2040, and 2050. A final set of figures is anticipated very soon.

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 public engagement events (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.

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8. Other Business and Public Comment

A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies

Bill McNulty provided an update of project statuses being prepared through the Old Colony MPO's Local Highway Technical Assistance Program.

Old Colony Planning Council recently completed Road Safety Audits on South Street in Avon, and at the intersections of Route 3A at Oak Street and Parks Street and Route 3A at Elm Street and Soule Avenue in Duxbury. Old Colony Planning Council would like to thank the Towns of Avon and Duxbury, along with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, for their participation in these Road Safety Audits. Final reports for these RSAs are in development and will be released for review shortly.

Project Status Updates

Avon

- South Street Road Safety Audit
Road Safety Audit Completed; Report in Development

Duxbury

- Traffic Study for Route 3A at Oak Street and Parks Avenue, and Route 3A at Elm Street and Soule Avenue
Road Safety Audit Completed; Report in Development

Halifax

- Road Safety Audit of Plymouth Street (Route 106) at Pine Street
Data collection underway; RSA to be scheduled.

Kingston

- Road Safety Audit of Landing Road
Data collection underway; RSA to be scheduled.

Stoughton

- Traffic Study and Road Safety Audit of Plain Street Corridor
Data collection planned; Coordination with Town underway.

B. Staff Reviews on ENFs, EIRs, and NPCs

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Guoqiang Li 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.

New Projects

Environmental Status and Planning Report (ESPR)

EEA #11202 – MassDOT Snow and Ice Control

- The following represents some of the changes from the completion of the 2017 ESPR:
- MassDOT now uses over 75 liquid-intensive slurry-spreaders statewide, which are highly effective in preventing hardpack from forming on the pavement and keeping snow in a more plowable form during prolonged winter events.
- MassDOT has added over 25 vehicle mounted mobile Road Weather Information System (RWIS) sensors to supplement the over 45 fixed stations across the state.
- Calibration contractors are now required to add visible markings on the rear of the spreader vehicles to indicate the gate opening at the time of calibration, which allows visual inspections of gate opening during the winter season.
- In the last 5 years, MassDOT has reduced its average annual statewide salt usage from 26.9 to 23.0 tons per lane-mile, which is approximately 30% less than the 33.4 tons per lane-mile used on an average annual basis between FY01 and FY 10 under similar winter weather severity conditions.

Supplementary Draft Environmental Impact Report (SDEIR)

EEA #16561 – Raynham Park Redevelopment

The Proponents submitted a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on August 31, 2022, and received a Certificate on October 18, 2022 requiring a Supplemental DEIR (SDEIR). Since the filing of the DEIR, there have been several advancements including:

- Commitment to conduct a Stage 1 ICE Screening with MassDOT
- Commitment to work with Town Officials on special event days
- Commitment to discuss Route 2 expansion with GATRA
- Commitment to 55 degrees and no cooling within warehouses
- Expansion of “EV ready” spaces

Projects Under Review

Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF)

EEA #16665 – East Bridgewater-Brockton Sewer Extension Project

The proposed sewer extension project includes construction of several thousand feet of gravity and force

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main pipe and one wastewater pumping station to service a limited area sewer district in the Town of East Bridgewater. The virtual site visit for this project was held on March 15, 2023. Comments are due by March 27, 2023.

Certificates

EEA #16636 Ellis Brett Pond Dam Repairs – Brockton

The Certificate states that this project **ADEQUATELY AND PROPERLY COMPLIES** with MEPA.

EEA #16626 Raynham Riverwalk 40B

The Certificate states that this project **ADEQUATELY AND PROPERLY COMPLIES** with MEPA.

Public Notices

Notice of Federal Consistency Review – Statewide

The United States Environmental Protection Agency intends to issue the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit MAG640000 for discharge from Potable Water Treatment Facilities (i.e., the Potable Water Treatment Facility General Permit or PWTF GP) to eligible PWTFs in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New Hampshire. The PWTF GP authorizes the discharge of drinking water residuals from up to 77 eligible potable water treatment facilities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New Hampshire (i.e., 71 in Massachusetts and up to 6 in New Hampshire). Of the 71 Massachusetts facilities eligible for potential coverage under the PWTF GP, one facility discharges to the coastal zone. The Newburyport Water Works facility discharges to a Class SB segment (MA84A-06) of the Merrimack River (NPDES Permit Number MAG640018). EPA notes that this facility is already authorized to discharge under the existing PWTF GP, and effluent limitations and permit conditions have not been made any less stringent in the Draft PWTF GP.

Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project – Marshfield

The proposed project includes dam removal, restoring continuity and enhancing fish passage, lagoon water conservation improvements, and park access, safety, and aesthetic improvements.

Notice of Submission of a Yearly Operational Plan – Multiple Municipalities in Region

A Yearly Operational Plan has been submitted for: Keolis Commuter Services, LLC (Keolis). This plan has been prepared and submitted to the Department of Agricultural Resources by Fair Dermody Consulting Engineers of Portland, Maine. Municipalities identified in the Keolis YOP as locations where the rights-of-way will be treated with herbicides during the 2023 calendar year are: Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, Brockton, Canton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Halifax, Hanson, Holbrook, Kingston, Middleborough, Plymouth, Plympton, Randolph, Stoughton, West Bridgewater, Weymouth, and Whitman.

Notice of Issuance of Draft Water Management Act Permits - East Bridgewater

MassDEP has issued the following DRAFT Water Management Act permits for a 30-day public comment period. Draft permits can be found on the MassDEP WMA Draft Permits webpage at Water Management

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Act Permits and Decisions | Mass.gov. Written comments on the granting of the permits are to be filed within thirty (30) days of the draft permit notice posted in the March 22, 2023, Environmental Monitor.

Notice of Submission of a Yearly Operational Plan - Canton

A Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) has been submitted for: Town of Canton.

Notice of Submission of a Yearly Operational Plan - Canton, Mansfield, and Sharon

A Yearly Operational Plan has been submitted for: AMTRAK National Railroad Passenger Corporation.

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

Charles Kilmer announced that as the MBTA makes their FY 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) available for Public Review and Comment, Old Colony Planning Council will request the MBTA consider allocation of funds for environmental review and ultimately construction of double tracking on the Commuter Rail line in Quincy and Dorchester. The current single-track facility in this area is a bottleneck that constrains rail service to the South Shore.

Additionally, the Joint Transportation Committee voted unanimously to request the MBAT consider allocating funds for environmental review and construction of a double track in Quincy and Dorchester to alleviate capacity constraints on the Old Colony and South Coast Rail Commuter Rail Lines.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

William McNulty

William McNulty

Principal Transportation Planner

List of Documents for April 6, 2023 Old Colony JTC Meeting

- Minutes of the March 2, 2023 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for April 6, 2023, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items