

# **OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)**

## **Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Held Virtually Via Zoom May 4, 2023 at 12:00 P.M.**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Abington	John Stone	BAT	Glenn Geiler
Abington	Bruce Hughes	MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance
Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien	Office of Senator Brady	Al DeGirolamo
Brockton	Rob May	Transit AMS	Jim Jihan
Brockton – MBTA Advisory Board	Alan Castaline	BETA, Inc.	Dan McCormack
Brockton	Iolando Spinola	Environmental Partners	Jim Fitzgerald
Brockton	Kamiya Parkin	OCPC	Mary Waldron
Easton	Greg Swan	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Halifax	Jonathan Selig	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
Hanson	Don Howard	OCPC	Ray Guarino
Pembroke	Becky Coletta	OCPC	Guoqiang Li
Stoughton	Marc Tisdele, P.E.	OCPC	Jay Song
Stoughton	Debra Roberts	OCPC	Bill McNulty
Stoughton	William Roth		
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole		

### **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 April 6, 2023 Meeting**

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole asked if there is a motion to approve the April 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Glenn Geiler and seconded by Shane O'Brien to approve the Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2023.

*The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve the April 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes.*

# **OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)**

## **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 opening of application period for MassDOT's Community Transit Grant Program
- Announcement of funding opportunity through the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program
- Announcement of Bike with BAT Day on May 17, 2023

## **5. Reports**

### **A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)**

Glenn Geiller reported on the following items:

- In March 2023, ridership reached its highest level since the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Ridership of the Rockland Microtransit Service has surpassed ridership on the former flex ride service in that community.
- BAT is has applied for two Federal Transit Administration grants: a Low and No Emissions Program grant and Bus and Bus Facilities Program grant.
- The public comment period for BAT's Title VI Plan has begun on May 6, 2023

Chairperson O'Toole inquired if the Rockland Microtransit Service will become a permanent service. Glenn Geiler responded they do not anticipate this service being temporary as it is a lifeline service for the town of Rockland, however it is currently funded by a competitive grant through (the Community Transit Grant Program,

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

Shawn Bailey reported there is no GATRA update at this time.

### **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.

In April 2023, 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; radio tower work at two towers in Berkley; daytime shoulder and lane closure on Route 140 Southbound in Taunton for utility installation & traffic signal modifications; daytime track work in Berkley; overnight and weekend crossing work in New Bedford; 24-

## **OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)**

hour track work between Samuel Barnet Boulevard to south of Route 140 in New Bedford; road closure in Fall River for culvert work; daytime roadwork on Route 105 in Middleborough; restarting Mass Coastal Railroad evening freight operations on the Fall River Secondary and New Bedford Main Lines; road closure and detour in New Bedford; and signal system installation and testing in seven communities on the Fall River & Middleborough Secondary and New Bedford Main Lines.

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 from Berkley to Fall River. There was also transportation of soil by truck to designated project sites.

### **6. Old Business**

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

- **Update on Amendment 2**

Bill McNulty reported that on April 18, the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization voted unanimously to endorse the FFY 2023 – 2027 Transportation Improvement Program as Amended with the following project cost adjustments:

Amendment 2 included the following three (3) changes:

#### **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)

### **7. New Business**

#### **A. Appointment of Nominating Committee for Old Colony JTC Officers 2023-2024**

Bill McNulty discussed the Appointment of Nominating Committee for JTC Officers 2023-2024.

The appointment of a Nominating Committee (three members) for the election of Officers to serve the July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 term is requested. The Nominating Committee shall report their

## **OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)**

recommendations at the next meeting of the Old Colony JTC.

Rob May, Kamiya Parkin, and Glenn Geiler volunteered to be on the Nominating Committee.

Glenn Geiler inquired if there was any follow-up to a suggestion brought forth to the committee in 2022, about the creation of a shadowing and succession program for the appointment of JTC officers. Charles Kilmer responded that after discussion the consensus was to not make any changes to the existing system of electing officers.

Chairperson O'Toole stated that she is willing to continue as Chairperson.

### **B. FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 3**

- **21-Day Public Review and Comment Period**

Bill McNulty reported that on April 18, 2023, the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization released FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 3 to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period. Amendment 3 adds a Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Program Grant awarded to the City of Brockton for its Downton Brockton Transportation Technology Project.

#### **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 Downton Brockton Transportation Technology Project. Per the project schedule, this 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.

A motion was made by Glenn Geiler and seconded by Rob May to approve the FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 3.

*The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 3.*

## **OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)**

### **C. FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

- **21-Day Public Review and Comment Period**

Bill McNulty reported that on April 18, 2023 the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) released the Draft FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period.

Over the upcoming five years, the TIP provides the following funding:

- \$172.9 Million - 11 Road Projects and 1 Bridge Project
- \$25.4 Million - Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT) capital assistance
  - Includes replacement of 17 fixed route buses

#### **FFY 2024 PROJECTS:**

- BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123), CARY STREET, AND LYMAN STREET (609410)
  - Project is at 100% Design Stage.
  - Cost Estimate is \$2,955,964.
- BROCKTON - ROUTE 123 (CENTRE STREET) AT PLYMOUTH STREET SIGNALIZATION AND GEOMETRIC IMPROVEMENTS (609052)
  - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
  - Cost Estimate is \$2,164,507.
- PLYMPTON - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, WINNETUXET ROAD OVER WINNETUXET RIVER (609435)
  - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
  - Cost Estimate is \$1,339,330.
- STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 (607403) AC YEAR 2 OF 2
  - Project is at 100% Design Stage. Year 2 Cost Estimate: \$8,963,299. Total cost is \$17,528,345.

#### **FFY 2025 PROJECTS:**

- BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT LYMAN STREET/ GROVE STREET/ SUMMER STREET & REPLACEMENT OF GROVE STREET BRIDGE, B-25-005, OVER SALISBURY PLAIN RIVER (607818)
  - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
  - Cost Estimate is \$4,368,000.
- EASTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 INCLUDING INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 (WASHINGTON STREET) AND ELM STREET (608195)
  - Project is at 75% Design Stage.
  - Cost Estimate is \$7,181,554.

## OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

### FFY 2026 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET (609440)
  - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
  - Cost Estimate is \$5,182,715.
- AVON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 28, SPRING STREET AND HARRISON BOULEVARD (611979)
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$4,050,000.
- DUXBURY - SIGNAL INSTALLATION @ ROUTE 3 (NB & SB) RAMPS & ROUTE 3A (TREMONT STREET) (606002)
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$2,592,000.

### FFY 2027 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, RANDOLPH STREET AND RICHARD A. FITTS DRIVE (ROUTE 139) AT CHESTNUT STREET AND OLD RANDOLPH STREET (612525)
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$4,241,0205.
- HANSON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 (MAQUAN STREET), FROM THE PEMBROKE T.L. TO INDIAN HEAD STREET AND RELATED WORK (608506)
  - Project is at 25% Design Stage.
  - Cost Estimate is \$11,248,352.
- DUXBURY - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - POWDER POINT AVENUE OVER DUXBURY BAY (612006)
  - Advance Construction in multiple years (FFYs 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030).
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$78,568,000.
  - FFY 2027 Year 1 Cost Estimate: \$47,428,063. FFY 2028 Year 2 Estimate: \$31,139,937

### FFY 2028 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, ROUTE 18 (BEDFORD STREET) AT ROUTE 123 (BROCKTON AVENUE) (612770)
  - Project approved by the MassDOT Project Review Committee (PRC) on 5/12/2022.
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$6,248,949

## ***OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)***

- **BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), PEARL STREET, AND STONEHILL STREET (612262)**
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$8,659,835.
- **DUXBURY - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - POWDER POINT AVENUE OVER DUXBURY BAY (612006)**
  - Advance Construction in multiple years (FFYs 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030).
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$70,150,000.
  - FFY 2027 Year 1 Cost Estimate: \$47,428,063. FFY 2028 Year 2 Estimate: \$31,139,937
- **HANOVER - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 139 (HANOVER STREET) AT MAIN STREET, CENTER STREET AND SILVER STREET (612769)**
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$7,141,656.
- **KINGSTON - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, K-01-014, SMITHS LANE OVER ROUTE 3 (PILGRIM HIGHWAY) (608615)**
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$14,834,312.
- **STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CANTON STREET (ROUTE 27), SCHOOL STREET AND SUMMER STREET (611981)**
  - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
  - Cost Estimate is \$2,668,000.

A motion was made by the Committee to approve the FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

*The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).*

### **D. Bay State Bike Month – May 2023**

Shawn Bailey reported that to increase awareness of both Bay State Bike Month and National Bike Month, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) has created a Proclamation for Old Colony Bike Month. To add to Bay State Bike Month activities such as “Massachusetts Walk, Bike, and Roll to School Day” on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and “Bike to Work Day” on May 19<sup>th</sup>, BAT is hosting “Bike with BAT Day” on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 8-10am at the BAT Intermodal Centre. OCPC is providing logistics and technical support. All are welcome to attend and refreshments will be served.

### **E. Vision 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan**

- **Development Update**

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

## ***OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)***

Public Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement for the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan continues. The Old Colony Planning Council recently had an information table at Bridgewater State University's Earth Day Celebration on April 21, 2023, and met with commuters at the Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Intermodal Centre on April 25 and 26, 2023.

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

The 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.

Chairperson O'Toole inquired if the Plan would explain how pavement conditions are evaluated, and Bill McNulty confirmed that the Plan contains this explanation.

Becky Coletta inquired how often pavement conditions are assessed. Bill McNulty answered that for the purposes of the Long-Range Transportation Plan, pavement conditions on the federal-aid eligible roadway network are surveyed and scored every three to four years. Becky Coletta further inquired how communities go about pavement asset management in their communities. Public Works professionals in the meeting including John Stone (Abington) and Greg Swan (Easton) provided input.

It was noted by several committee members that while maintenance costs have escalated dramatically in recent years, Chapter 90 funding in the Commonwealth has remained level funded and not met the pace of inflation.

### **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.

Through Task 3200 (Local Highway Technical Assistance) of the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) FFY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program, Old Colony Planning Council provides local traffic planning and technical analysis services to its member communities.



# OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

## Project Status Updates

### Halifax

- Road Safety Audit of Plymouth Street (Route 106) at Pine Street  
*Data collection underway; RSA planned for May 2023.*

### Kingston

- Road Safety Audit of Landing Road  
*Data collection underway; RSA planned for May / June 2023.*

### Stoughton

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

Chairperson O'Toole commended the Old Colony Planning Council for their professionalism and thoroughness in their Road Safety Audits program, and noted how helpful it is to communities in making decisions to implement improvements. Jonathan Selig echoed Chairperson O'Toole's comments.

### ***B. Staff Reviews on ENFs, EIRs, and NPCs***

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

### **EEA #16692 – Plymouth Municipal Airport Runway 6 Extension – Plymouth, Carver Environmental Status and Planning Report (ESPR)**

The Project proposes to extend Runway 6 southwestward by 351 feet, increasing the total runway length to 5,001 feet to increase available pavement and safety margins. The Runway 6 extension would be 75-ft wide and includes extensions of Taxiway E and Taxilane A to meet FAA standards for parallel taxiways. In addition, the Project proposes to construct two (2) general aviation hangars along Taxilane A, each approximately 10,000 square feet, to meet hangar space needs at the Airport. The Project will increase overall safety and efficiency of the Airport in accordance with the recent 2023 Technical Master Plan Update.

The Project is anticipated to meet the following ENF review thresholds:

- **301 CMR 11.03 (2) Rare Species** – greater than two acres of disturbance of designated priority habitat, as defined in 321 CMR 10.02, that results in a take of a state-listed endangered or threatened species or species of special concern.
- **301 CMR 11.03 (6) (b) 3 Transportation** - Expansion of an existing runway at an airport.

## ***OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)***

Given the impact to approximately 7.04 acres of mapped Priority Habitat, the Project will require an amended Conservation and Management Permit from the MassWildlife's Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program.

### **Projects Submitted – Site Visits**

#### **EEA #16692 – Plymouth Municipal Airport Runway 6 Extension – Plymouth, Carver Environmental Status and Planning Report (ESPR)**

Remote Meeting being held May 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM; deadline to request is May 10<sup>th</sup> at least one hour, preferably one day before.

### **Projects Under Review**

#### **EEA #16684 – Route 27 Intersection Improvements - Stoughton Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF)**

The purpose of this project is to provide traffic and safety improvements at the intersections of Central Street (Route 27) with Canton Street (Route 27) and Tosca Drive. The intersection and surrounding area currently exhibit a variety of operational, safety, and accessibility issues related to intersection geometry, pedestrian and bicycle accessibility, lack of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) / Architectural Access Board (AAB) compliant pedestrian curb ramps and crossings, and a lack of MUTCD compliant signage and signals.

#### **EEA #16561 – Raynham Park Redevelopment - Raynham Single Draft Environmental Impact Report (SDEIR)**

The proposed project includes two components that will be developed by different entities concurrently but independently. One parcel will include two distribution/logistics buildings, and the other parcel will include a relocated simulcast facility (or sports betting center, pending recently passed legislation). At this time, the decision of simulcast facility versus sports betting center has not been made, as the implications of the recently approved legislation are not fully understood by all. For consistency's sake, the nonlogistics building will be referred to as a "simulcast facility" in this DEIR.

### **Certificates**

#### **EEA #16665 East Bridgewater-Brockton Sewer Extension Project – Brockton, East Bridgewater**

The Certificate states that this project requires a **Single Environmental Impact Report**

### **Public Notices**

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

A Yearly Operational Plan has been submitted for: Massachusetts Coastal Railroad. This plan has been

## **OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)**

prepared and submitted to the Department of Agricultural Resources by: TEC Associates of South Portland, Maine. Municipalities identified in the Massachusetts Coastal Railroad YOP as locations where the rights-of-way will be treated with herbicides during the 2023 calendar year are Attleboro, Barnstable, Berkley, Bourne, Dartmouth, Fall River, Falmouth, Foxborough, Framingham, Freetown, Lakeville, Mansfield, Medfield, Middleborough, New Bedford, Norton, Raynham, Rochester, Sandwich, Seekonk, Sherborn, Taunton, Walpole, Wareham, Westport, Westwood, and Yarmouth.

### **C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues**

Bruce Hughes asked John Stone why there are traffic cones and construction signs out of Randolph Street (Route 139) in Abington. John replied that MassDOT is resurfacing Route 139 in Abington from Route 139 to the Holbrook Town Line. Bruce also announced he has been re-elected to the Abington Planning Board.

Charles Kilmer announced the State is holding a project kick-off meeting for the Belmont Street (Route 123) at Pearl Street intersection project on May 12, 2023. He also inquired for a construction status update for Belmont Street (Route 123) Phase 3 in Brockton, noting that it appears the project has been idle for some time and a lack of pavement markings was creating a weaving situation between Angus Beaton Drive and West Street. Barbara Lachance reported construction had been halted to resolve an issue with a utility duct bank in the project layout but is expected to resume shortly. Barbara further noted that she will bring the comment about the pavement markings to the project manager's attention.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*William McNulty*

William McNulty

Principal Transportation Planner

### **List of Documents for May 4, 2023 Old Colony JTC Meeting**

- Minutes of the April 6, 2023 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for May 4, 2023, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items
- Old Colony Bike Month Proclamation