

OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

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

ATTENDANCE

Abington	John Stone	GATRA	Mary Ellen DeFrias
Abington	Bruce Hughes	Transit AMS	Jim Nihan
Bridgewater	Greg Tansey	MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance
Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien	Safe Routes to School	Bonnie Roalsen
Bridgewater	Sristhi Jain	Howard Stein Hudson	Steve Findlen
Bridgewater	Julianna Curry	GPI	Sid Kashi
Bridgewater	Paul DeCosta	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Hanson	Don Howard	OCPC	Mary Waldron
Kingston	Valerie Massard	OCPC	Ray Guarino
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Bill McNulty
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
BAT	Glenn Geiler	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
BAT	Michael Lambert	OCPC	Guoqiang Li

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 September 7, 2023 Meeting

Chairperson O'Toole asked if there is a motion to approve the September 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Don Howard and seconded by Shane O'Brien to approve the Meeting Minutes from September 7, 2023.

The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve the September 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

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4. Communications

Kyle Mowatt 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:

- FY 2024 Community Transit Grant Program (CTGP) Vehicle Application Schedule Reminder Plus Vehicle Guide Now Available – Applications open in November.
- Shared Streets and Space Grant Program open for Applications – Application due by October 31, 2023.
- Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Project Funding Program – Application due by October 6, 2023.
- The USDOT is now accepting FY 2023 applications for the Thriving Communities Program (TCP_Grant Program!
- WalkMassachusetts – Beat the Bay State Walking Team Challenge

5. Reports

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Glenn Geiler reported on the following items:

- Fixed-Route Ridership recently achieved a post-pandemic record high. Also, new ridership on the Rockland Micro Transit Service has obtained a record high.
- The BAT Advisory Board has voted to double Saturday service frequency and add Sunday morning service.

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

Mary Ellen DeFrias reported on the following items:

- GATRA is experiencing positive trends in ridership.
- New Service Announcement, starting October 15, 2023 – Sunday service starts on Freedom Link and Mayflower Links in Plymouth.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Shawn Bailey reported on the following:

In September 2023, work conducted involved fencing installation in seven communities on the Middleborough Secondary and New Bedford Main Lines; overnight traffic signal and road work in Fall River; construction of a pedestrian bridge over Route 18 in New Bedford; vegetation clearing at railroad crossings in five communities; daytime traffic signal work at Route 140 and Taunton Depot Drive in Taunton; utilizing two streets in Berkley to access right-of-way (ROW) for various project activities; lane

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closures and detour for railroad crossing work in Assonet; overnight track work at the new Middleborough Station site; daytime railroad work in Berkley; daytime road and traffic signal work in Fall River and New Bedford; extended hours track work in four communities on the Middleborough Secondary Line; daytime roadwork on Route 28 in Middleborough; 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 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation

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

FFY 2024 PROJECTS:

- BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123), CARY STREET, AND LYMAN STREET (609410)
 - PS&E received by MassDOT (9/27/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,058,059.
- BROCKTON - ROUTE 123 (CENTRE STREET) AT PLYMOUTH STREET SIGNALIZATION AND GEOMETRIC IMPROVEMENTS (609052)
 - 25% Package received by MassDOT (3/16/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,792,790.
- PLYMPTON - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, WINNETUXET ROAD OVER WINNETUXET RIVER (609435)
 - 25% Design Public Hearing Held 8/29/2023.
 - Cost Estimate is \$ \$1,664,642.
- STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 (607403) FROM 300 FT NORTH OF CHARLES AVENUE TO LINCOLN STREET AC YEAR 2 OF 2
 - Project was Amended in FFY 2023-2027 TIP to account for project scope changed to "From 300 FT North of Charles Avenue to Lincoln Street" in FFY 2023
 - Amendment to FFY 2024-2028 TIP planned for October 2023 to accommodate Year 2 cost change.
 - Cost Estimate for AC Year 2 is \$2,864,352 (Total cost is \$12,128,352).

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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)
 - 25% Resubmission 3 Package received by MassDOT (6/12/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$6,196,320.
- EASTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 INCLUDING INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 (WASHINGTON STREET) AND ELM STREET (608195)
 - 100%Design received by MassDOT (6/2/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$7,103,967

FFY 2026 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET (609440)
 - MassDOT comments on the 25% Package returned to the Design Engineer (as of 9/6/2021).
 - Cost Estimate is \$4,798,810.
- AVON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 28, SPRING STREET AND HARRISON BOULEVARD (611979)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - The Notice to Proceed (NTP) to begin work on the contract has been issued. (7/14/2021).
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,750,000.
- DUXBURY-& KINGSTON - SIGNAL INSTALLATION @ ROUTE 3 (NB & SB) RAMPS & ROUTE 3A (TREMONT STREET) (606002)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,400,000.

FFY 2027 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, RANDOLPH STREET AND RICHARD A FITTS DRIVE (ROUTE 139) AT CHESTNUT STREET AND OLD RANDOLPH STREET (609440)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase).
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,786,625.
- DUXBURY – BRIDGE REPLACEMENT – POWDER POINT AVENUE OVER DUXBURY BAY (612006)
 - Advance Construction in multiple years.

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- Project is in the preliminary design phase.
- Cost Estimate is \$70,150,000.

- HANSON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 (MAQUAN STREET), FROM THE PEMBROKE T.L. TO INDIAN HEAD STREET AND RELATED WORK (608506)
 - MassDOT comments on the 25% Package returned to the Design Engineer (5/7/2020).
 - Project awaiting commencement and completion of Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE)
 - Cost Estimate is \$10,311,020.

FFY 2028 PROJECTS:

- ABINGTON- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 18 (BEDFORD STREET) AND ROUTE 123(BROCKTON AVENUE) (612770)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$5,387,025.

- BROCKTON- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), PEARL STREET AND STONEHILL STREET (612262)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$7,465,375.

- HANOVER- CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 139 (HANOVER STREET) AT MAIN STREET, CENTER STREET AND SILVER STREET (612765)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$6,156,600.

- KINGSTON- BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, K-01-014, SMITHS LANE OVER ROUTE 3 (PILGRIM HIGHWAY) (608615)
 - Notice to Proceed Issued 8/1/17.
 - Cost Estimate is \$12,788,000.

- STOUGHTON- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CANTON STREET (ROUTE 27), SCHOOL STREET AND SUMMER STREET (611981)
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,300,000.

Glenn Geiler stated that BAT will have a number of additions to the TIP once it is able to be amended. Some of those include BATs LLow or No Grant award and other associated projects. Glenn Geiler also noted hopefully that the STIP would be approved by the end of the month.

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Charles Kilmer stated that the Federal partners are working on some rules and regulations on how to measure success of the carbon reduction program which is new to the STIP this year. Hoping by mid-month this will be done, and then amendments will be able to be considered.

7. New Business

A. Route 3A and 53 Corridor Study – Kingston Project Preview

B.

Bill McNulty provided a preview of the Route 3A and 53 Corridor Study.

The Study purpose is to identify, quantify, and study in depth the Route 3A Corridor in Kingston from the Duxbury Town Line to the Plymouth Town Line. This planning level study will assess existing conditions and operations in relation to service needs for the community, regional commuting and the economy, assess current zoning and land use along the corridor and result in the development of short term and long-term actions that will enhance circulation and traffic flow efficiency and improve safety, as well as providing recommendations relative to economic gaps and zoning recommendations for the town to consider. Staff will review volume to capacity ratios, levels-of-service, crash analyses, pedestrian and bicycle traffic and infrastructure, pavement conditions, traffic control, and signage and overall physical condition. Public input will be included as part of the project identification process. Staff will utilize the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization's Congestion Management Process, Safety Management System, Pavement Management System, and Land Use Management System to assist in the identification and development of the short term and long-term recommendations for motorized, transit, and non- motorized modes.

This corridor study will help the Town identify and develop economic incentives and zoning improvements in addition to understanding traffic patterns and understanding where improvements can be made. The project team will work with Kinson business owners and the Kingston Collection to understand where consumers are coming from and how they use this Corridor.

Valerie Massard stated that the Town is excited to breathe some new life into the corridor. This will help us to grow into the new densities that the Town has surrounded them. The Town of Kingston is excited to be working with OCPC on this corridor study.

C. Route 139 Corridor Transportation Planning Study Project Preview

Guoqiang Li provided a preview of the Route 139 Corridor Study.

The purpose of the comprehensive Route 139 Corridor Transportation Planning Study is to evaluate in-depth the total distance of approximately 3.4 mile segment along Route 139 Corridor between the northern Stoughton Town Line (bordering with Randolph, MA) and Route 27, also known as Park Street/Washington Street within the Town of Stoughton of Massachusetts. Route 139 Corridor is mostly under local jurisdiction except that the segment (between Turnpike Street/Hawes Way and Stoughton

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and Randolph Town Line) at the interchange area of Route 139 over Route 24 is under MassDOT jurisdiction. Route 139 is known as Pleasant Street and Turnpike Street within our study area.

This planning level study will assess existing conditions and operations in relation to service needs for the community, regional commuting, and the economy and result in the development of short-term and long-term actions that will enhance circulation and traffic flow efficiency and improve safety. Staff will review and analyze the traffic volume, speeds, vehicle types, capacity ratios, levels-of-service, collisions, access management design, pedestrian and bicycle traffic and infrastructure, pavement conditions, traffic control, signage, and overall physical layouts and operation. Public input will be included as part of the project identification process.

Study Process

1. Inventory and Review of Peer Studies and Planned Improvements
2. Assess and Analyze Existing Conditions
3. Forecast and Analyze Future Conditions
4. Identify Current and Potential Deficiencies
5. Develop Recommendations
6. Document Results

D. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Report

▪ Report Update

Shawn Bailey provided an update on the CMP Report.

The 2020-2022 Old Colony Congestion Management Process (CMP) Report is an MPO document that for the first time is a multi-year document as opposed to an annual report (a recommendation from the 2019 Old Colony MPO Certification Review). The CMP Report summarizes items such as ATR and TMC data, Commuter Rail station and Park & Ride lot utilization counts, non-recurring congestion data, LTA projects, streets with a V/C ratio of 0.8 or higher, and intersections with Level-of-Service (LOS) "D" or worse.

The purpose of the Congestion Management Process (CMP) is to identify congested locations; determine the causes of congestion; develop alternative strategies to mitigate congestion; evaluate the different potential mitigation strategies; propose alternative strategies that best address the causes and impacts of congestion; and track and evaluate the impact of previously implemented congestion management strategies.

Chairperson O'Toole asked if there is room to double track the MBTA. Shawn Bailey stated that available right of way is the biggest issue.

Dan Salvucci brought up the concern of truck routes and turning radii. Especially at the intersection of Route 18 and Route 14. Dan Salvucci stated that this should be added to the CMP report. Shawn Bailey stated that he will look into adding this information into the report.

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Charles Kilmer stated that through GIS and using Google Maps is to come up with standardized truck turning radii templates. We can overlay those templates on existing infrastructure to see where there is overlap or underlap.

Ray Guarino stated that in the freight study truck crashes are flagged and mapped. A lot of the crashes were in Brockton.

Glenn Geiler stated that included in the report is data collected from BATs automated passenger counters. This is the first time we were able to utilize that data collaboratively with OCPC. It was a great opportunity in this report to start using the data in the analysis.

8. Other Business and Public Comment

A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies

Bill McNulty reported on the following items:

The Old Colony Planning Council received a request from the Town of Easton to conduct a study of pedestrian activity at the intersection of Main Street and Elm Street. OCPC is currently coordinating with the Town on scheduling this Study.

Project Status Updates

Bridgewater

- Traffic Counts on Multiple Roadways
Data Collection planned.

Brockton

- Traffic Counts and Crash Analysis for Crescent Street (Route 27) at Massasoit Boulevard and Quincy Street
Data Collected, Data analysis underway.

Duxbury

- Road Safety Audit of Halls Corner
Road Safety Audit scheduled for October 16, 2023

Easton

- Study of Pedestrian Activity at Main Street and Elm Street
Coordination with Town underway

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Plymouth

- Traffic Study of Wareham Road at River Run Way
Data analysis and coordination with Town underway

Stoughton

- Traffic Study and Road Safety Audit of Plain Street Corridor
Data collection underway. RSA to be scheduled Fall 2023

Whitman

- Traffic Study for Auburn Street (Route 14)
Data collection planned after roadway construction is complete.

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
Boston, MA 02114

New Projects

#16758 – Wastewater Treatment Facility Treated Effluent Discharge – Plymouth **EENF (Expanded Environmental Notification Form)**

The town is proposing to increase the authorized volume of treated water that may be infiltrated at the Town's existing Camelot Drive Wastewater Treatment Facility. The Town is seeking to increase the total average annual discharge from 2.5 up to 3.0 million gallons per day.

#16558 – Lake Shore Center Phase 4 – Bridgewater **SDEIR (Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report)**

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The Proposed Project has decreased in size and impact since the DEIR filing. The proponent has eliminated the assisted living facility and the condominiums. Additionally, the proposed hotel has increased by one story, 4 rooms, and approximately 170 sf.

Certificates

#16707 – Pinnacle Bogs Restoration – Plymouth

NPC (Notice of Project Change)

Certificate states that this project adequately and properly complies with MEPA.

#16577 – Easton Warehouse – Easton

NPC (Notice of Project Change)

Certificate states that this project does not require an Environmental Impact Report.

#16721 – Sampson’s Brook Headwaters Restoration – Kingston

FROD (Final Record of Decision)

Certificates state that this project is granted a full EIR Waiver.

#16665 – Sewer Extension Project – East Bridgewater, Brockton

Certificate states that this project adequately and properly complies with MEPA.

#15957 – Seawalls Phase I and Revetment Footing Protection – Duxbury

Certificate states that this project does not require an Environmental Impact Report.

Public Notices

Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project – Kingston

This project is for a cranberry bog wetland restoration located off Winthrop Street in Kingston.

Notice of Intent to Initiate an Aquatic Plant Management Program - Pembroke

This program involves a vegetation management program at Arnold School Pond to manage dense growths of invasive aquatic plants.

Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project – Pembroke

This project consists of a vegetation management program on the private property located at 2 Washington Street in Pembroke, MA to manage dense growths of invasive plants.

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C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

Bruce Hughes stated that Abington is having a special Town Meeting on October 14, 2023 to discuss the new Master Plan for Southfield.

Don Howard noted that there is no drainage on Spring Street that runs to the town of Rockland. There is a new development before getting into Rockland. Can any water run from that property to the street, or does it have to be retained on the property? Barbara Lachance believes that the property has to retain the water on property. Barbara Lachance will verify and then get back to Bill and Charlie to pass on to Don. Discussion followed.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt

Senior Transportation Planner

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

- Minutes of the September 7, 2023 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for October 5, 2023, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items
- Route 3A and 53 Corridor Study (Kingston) Presentation
- Route 139 Corridor Study (Stoughton) Presentation
- Congestion Management Process (CMP) Report Presentation