

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

## **Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Held Virtually Via Zoom October 3, 2024 at 12:00 P.M.**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Abington	John Stone	MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance
Abington	Kevin Cogan	MassDOT	Chris Klem
Avon	Richard Jordan	GATRA	Mary Ellen DeFrias
Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien	MA Safe Routes to School	Colleen Pehrul
Bridgewater	Greg Tansey	United Way – Greater Plymouth	Dennis Carman
Brockton	Celia Canavan	Environmental Partners	Jim Fitzgerald
Easton	David Field	GPI	Sid Kashi
Easton	Greg Swan	Howard Stein Hudson	Steve Findlen
Hanson	Don Howard	OCPC	Mary Waldron
Kingston	Valerie Massard	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Pembroke	Becky Coletta	OCPC	Ray Guarino
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Guoqiang Li
BAT	Kelly Forrester	OCPC	Bill McNulty
BAT	Michael Lambert	OCPC	Shawn Bailey

### **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 5, 2024 Meeting**

Chairperson O'Toole asked if there is a motion to approve the September 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Shane O'Brien to approve the Meeting Minutes from September 5, 2024.

*The Old Colony JTC voted to approve the September 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes.*

### **4. Communications**

Shawn Bailey reviewed the contents of the communications staff report. Included were letters of

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correspondence, as well as notices of workshops and conferences. They are as follows:

- Old Colony SS4A Action Plan Launch of Interactive Map and Dashboard
- Duxbury – Route 3 Bridge Replacement – Lane Shifts for Stage 1 Construction Begin Sunday, October 6, 2024
- MA Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Signs & Lines Grant Program – Application period closes on October 4, 2024
- MA Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure Grant Program – Application period closes on October 18, 2024
- iWalk (International Walk, Bike, & Roll to School Day) – October 9, 2024
- Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office (FFIO) – Next Federal Funds Partnership Meeting is October 22, 2024

## **5. Reports**

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

Michael Lambert reported on the following items:

- BAT served 340,000 trips during September 2024 which is a recent history record high for monthly ridership.
- On Tuesday October 1, 2024 BAT recorded 16,000 trips for the day.
- BAT will hold its Annual Customer Appreciation Day and BAT 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on October 18, 2024 from 12:00 – 3:00 PM. BAT's new electric bus will also be revealed.

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

Mary Ellen DeFrias reported on the following items:

- GATRA is seeing increases in ridership, especially with their micro-transit service. GATRA is looking to expand its fleet to serve more customers.
- GATRA plans to increase evening ridership by expanding operating hours as its labor force expands.

### **C. South Coast Rail Project**

Shawn Bailey reported on the following:

In September 2024, work conducted involved train testing to and from Middleborough, East Taunton, Freetown, Fall River, and New Bedford (with speeds of up to 79 miles per hour); daytime highway sign installations on Route 24 in Taunton, Freetown, and Fall River, and Route 140 & Interstate 195 in New Bedford; and continued construction of a pedestrian bridge over Route 18 in New Bedford with lane closures on Route 18.

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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 PROJECTS:

- BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123), CARY STREET, AND LYMAN STREET (609410)
  - Project advertised for construction bids. 9/14/2024).
  - Cost Estimate is \$3,379,839.

## 7. New Business

### A. FFY 2025 Avon Route 28 Corridor Study

#### ▪ Project Overview and Scope

Ray Guarino discussed the project overview and scope.

The study purpose is to study in-depth the Route 28 corridor in Avon, approximately 1.7 miles, to develop short-term and long-term improvements that focus on transportation equity, improved traffic circulation and mobility, reduced congestion, and improvements for all transportation modes, including bicycle, pedestrian, and transit. The corridor study area includes Route 28 in Avon from the Brockton City Line and ends at the Randolph/Avon Town Line.

#### Brief Description of the Study Process

1. Inventory and review of previous Route 28 Studies and Planned Improvements.
2. Collect and/or compile daily traffic counts, speeds, and heavy vehicle percentages at ten locations.
3. Collect and/or compile turning movement counts at six intersections.
4. Analyze existing conditions, (Levels-of-Service, crash analysis).
5. Identify current and potential deficiencies.
6. Forecast and analyze future conditions (No-Build and Build) based on estimated traffic growth.
7. Develop recommendations based on public outreach, stakeholder consult, and analyses.
8. Document results in final report.

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## **Intersections for Turning Movement Counts**

1. North Main Street (Route 28) at East/West High Street - Signal
2. East Main Street (Route 28) at West Main Street/North Main Street - Signal
3. East Main Street (Route 28) at E/W Spring Street - Stop Sign
4. East Main Street (Route 28) at Harrison Boulevard - Signal
5. East Main Street (Route 28) at Walmart - Signal
6. Memorial Drive (Route 28) at East Main St Street - Stop Sign

## **Locations for Automatic Traffic Counts**

1. North Main Street (Route 28) at Randolph Town Line
2. East Main Street (Route 28) north of East and West Spring
3. East Main Street (Route 28) south of Harrison Boulevard.
4. Memorial Drive (Route 28) at Brockton City Line
5. East Main Street west of Memorial Drive (Route 28)
6. Harrison Boulevard West of East Main Street (Route 28)
7. East Spring Street East of Route 28
8. West Spring Street West of Route 28
9. East High Street East of Route 28
10. West High Street west of Route 28

Michael Lambert thanked OCPC for this presentation. When 25% of design plans were released, BAT reached out to OCPC for their analysis in terms of transit impacts. The improvements include removal of slip lanes. Slip lanes are rarely signalized which can be a danger to vulnerable road users.

### **B. FFY 2025 Bridgewater Route 104 Corridor Study**

#### **▪ Project Overview and Scope**

Guoqiang Li discussed the project overview and scope.

The Route 104 Corridor, approximately 7.9 miles, in the town of Bridgewater. To develop short-term and long-term recommendations and strategies that focus on transportation equity, improved circulation, improved mobility, reduced congestion, reduced collisions, improvements in air quality, traffic flow efficiency, and improved safety for all transportation modes, including bicycle, pedestrian, and transit accommodation. The corridor study area includes Route 104 from the Raynham Town Line to the East Bridgewater Town Line. Staff will review volume to capacity ratios, levels-of-service, crash analyses, bus routes and transit access, and include public participation as part of the process. The Route 104 Corridor Study will align with industry standards based on Federal and State guidelines and practices, with the consideration of local ordinance and statutes. The study will determine system needs and identify operational deficiencies and will coordinate improvements that support regional objectives, adjacent land use, and future land use development. The study will consolidate and formalize driveway access, improve intersection design, improve air quality, and reduce emissions. Suggested further evaluation, such as intersection Road Safety Audits, Site Impact Analysis, housing demand and supply analysis, before and after analysis, Origin and Destination survey etc. will be discussed.

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## **Procedures:**

1. Documentation of Existing Conditions: Gather and compile existing transportation data along Route 104 within the study area. Data, such as, average daily traffic, peak period volumes and levels-of-service, truck, and heavy vehicle volumes, MassDOT truck exclusions, MassDOT speed permits, traffic signal timing and phasing designs/plans, crashes rates, trip generators, land uses, bus routes (transit and passenger rail), will be compiled. The data and analyses compiled for the existing conditions will be assessed to document the deficiencies along the corridor and vicinity area, and to identify their causes and their impact on traffic flow and accessibility. This section will validate or disprove current perceived problems within the study area. The study will consider public health outcomes as part of ongoing planning and performance measures planning. Consider the anticipated housing needs such as transit-oriented development and affordable housing and provide suggestions for recommendations if applicable. The process shall utilize the CMP, SMS, the 2050 LRTP, Regional Travel Demand Models, Travel Time Studies, and Corridor Studies. All relevant and attainable data will be collected and reported during this phase of the project. Replica, RITIS, Google Traffic, GeoDOT, IMPACT and other resources will be utilized to verify and support analyses. Photos of key locations will be recorded by camera or Small Unmanned Aircraft (Drone) will be deployed as appropriate. Information on Land use, business, and landmark locations will be gathered and compiled. Comprehensive existing condition map layers including but not limited to network, land use, business, physical environments etc., by using GIS software will be compiled and developed.

2. Short-Term and Long-Term Improvements Development: Conduct traffic modeling and simulation analysis with proposed alternatives for mitigation or congestion alleviation developed specific to problems identified in the critical areas. Provide consideration for potential bicycle and pedestrian improvements to ready the project recommendations for compliance with the Healthy Transportation Policy Directive and alignment with municipal future land use and transportation plans. Alternatives will include recommendations that are cost effective as well as recommendations that will produce the closest to ideal conditions. Consideration will be given to Transportation Systems Management Operations (TSMO) and maintenance, the incidental and routine causes of congestion, Complete Streets, and access management. The promotion of efficient system management and operations is one of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) planning factors seeking to integrate this concept in the planning process. Consider project improvement air quality impact and environmental impact.

3. Prepare Conclusions and Recommendations: The product of this Task is a report that provides a framework for the alleviation of traffic congestion and the improvement of safety throughout the corridor, and to provide the necessary information for stakeholders to move projects forward in the project funding and implementation phases. OCPC will prepare a final report, which will include an outline for implementation and identifies potential funding sources. Short-term and long-term recommendations will be discussed with MassDOT and including projects in the region's TIPs, LRTPs, and beyond.

4. Public Participation: Staff will be presenting at public meetings and workshops, developing surveys, and coordinating with the town of Bridgewater, Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT), Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee, Old Colony Planning Council, MassDOT, District 5, and adjacent RPAs as applicable. Staff will obtain stakeholder input from citizens, community-based organizations, business

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community, special interest groups, state, and local officials, etc. on the transportation issues facing the region. Expansive and inclusive public outreach will be in accordance with Old Colony's Public Participation Plan.

### **Products:**

Preparation of the Route 104 Corridor Study, which will include conclusions and recommendations. Included in study will be data summary, maps, congestion and safety analysis, traffic flow and safety improvement recommendations (intersection geometric improvement, signal upgrade, bicycle and pedestrian accommodation, transit planning improvement, access management plan, location improvements, speed zoning, heavy vehicle exclusions, etc.) for implementation, and inclusion in MassDOT Project Initiation Form Data for MaPIT, as appropriate.

### **C. FFY 2025 South Plymouth Route 3A Corridor Study**

- **Project Overview and Scope**

Bill McNulty discussed the project overview and scope.

The purpose of the South Plymouth Route 3A Corridor Study is to study the Route 3A Corridor from the intersection of Warren Avenue (Route 3A) and Sandwich Street to the Bourne Town Line (approximately 14 miles) and Herring pond Road from the intersection of State Road (Route 3A) at Herring Pond Road to the Bourne Town Line (approximately 2 miles), in the town of Plymouth. The Study aims to develop short-term and long-term recommendations and strategies that focus on transportation equity, improved circulation, improved mobility, reduced congestion, reduced collisions, improvements in air quality, traffic flow efficiency, and improved safety for all transportation modes, including bicycle, pedestrian, and transit accommodation. Staff will review volume to capacity ratios, levels-of-service, crash analyses, bus routes and transit access, and include public participation as part of the process. The Route 3A Corridor Study will align with industry standards based on Federal and State guidelines and practices, with the consideration of local ordinance and statutes. The study will determine system needs and identify operational deficiencies and will coordinate improvements that support regional objectives, adjacent land use, and future land use development. The study will consolidate and formalize driveway access, improve intersection design, improve air quality, and reduce emissions. Suggested further evaluation, such as intersection Road Safety Audits, Site Impact Analysis, housing demand and supply analysis, before and after analysis, Origin and Destination survey etc. will be considered.

### **Procedures:**

1. Documentation of Existing Conditions: Gather and compile existing transportation data along Route 3A within the study area. Data, such as, average daily traffic, peak period volumes and levels-of-service, truck, and heavy vehicle volumes, MassDOT truck exclusions, MassDOT speed permits, traffic signal timing and phasing designs/plans, crashes rates, trip generators, land uses, bus routes (transit and passenger rail), will be compiled. The data and analyses compiled for the existing conditions will be assessed to document the deficiencies along the corridor and vicinity area, and to identify their causes and their impact on traffic flow and accessibility. This section will validate or disprove current perceived problems within the study area. The study will consider public health outcomes as part of ongoing planning and performance measures planning. Consider the anticipated housing needs such as transit-

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oriented development and affordable housing and provide suggestions for recommendations if applicable. The process shall utilize the CMP, SMS, the 2050 LRTP, Regional Travel Demand Models, Travel Time Studies, and Corridor Studies. All relevant and attainable data will be collected and reported during this phase of the project. Replica, RITIS, Google Traffic, GeoDOT, IMPACT and other resources will be utilized to verify and support analyses. Photos of key locations will be recorded by camera or Small Unmanned Aircraft (Drone) will be deployed as appropriate. Information on Land use, business, and landmark locations will be gathered and compiled. Comprehensive existing condition map layers including but not limited to network, land use, business, physical environments etc., by using GIS software will be compiled and developed.

2. Short-Term and Long-Term Improvements Development: Conduct traffic modeling and simulation analysis with proposed alternatives for mitigation or congestion alleviation developed specific to problems identified in the critical areas. Provide consideration for potential bicycle and pedestrian improvements to ready the project recommendations for compliance with the Healthy Transportation Policy Directive and alignment with municipal future land use and transportation plans. Alternatives will include recommendations that are cost effective as well as recommendations that will produce the closest to ideal conditions. Consideration will be given to Transportation Systems Management Operations (TSMO) and maintenance, the incidental and routine causes of congestion, Complete Streets, and access management. The promotion of efficient system management and operations is one of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) planning factors seeking to integrate this concept in the planning process. Consider project improvement air quality impact and environmental impact.

3. Prepare Conclusions and Recommendations: The product of this Task is a report that provides a framework for the alleviation of traffic congestion and the improvement of safety throughout the corridor, and to provide the necessary information for stakeholders to move projects forward in the project funding and implementation phases. OCPC will prepare a final report, which will include an outline for implementation and identifies potential funding sources. Short-term and long-term recommendations will be discussed with MassDOT and including projects in the region's TIPs, LRTPs, and beyond.

4. Public Participation: Staff will be presenting at public meetings and workshops, developing surveys, and coordinating with the town of Plymouth, the Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA), Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee, Old Colony Planning Council, MassDOT Highway District 5 and Office of Transportation Planning, and adjacent RPAs as applicable. Staff will obtain stakeholder input from citizens, community-based organizations, business community, special interest groups, state, and local officials, etc. on the transportation issues facing the region. Expansive and inclusive public outreach will be in accordance with Old Colony's Public Participation Plan.

### **Products:**

Preparation of the Route 3A Corridor Study, which will include conclusions and recommendations. Included in study will be data summary, maps, congestion and safety analysis, traffic flow and safety improvement recommendations (intersection geometric improvement, signal upgrade, bicycle and

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pedestrian accommodation, transit planning improvement, access management plan, location improvements, speed zoning, heavy vehicle exclusions, etc.) for implementation as appropriate.

## **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 of Plymouth Street (Route 106) in Halifax, with a focus on travel speeds and speed zoning through the town's business district. Data along with the findings and procedural guidance from this traffic study has been distributed to the Town of Halifax and Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT).

The Town of Abington has requested a traffic study to prepare a multiway STOP control warrants analysis in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for the intersections of Presidential Drive at McKinley Drive, and Walker Lane at Melinda Drive. Data for this Study has been collected and analysis is underway.

### Project Status Updates

#### Abington

- Traffic Study for Presidential Drive at McKinley Drive and Walker Lane and Melinda Drive  
*Data collected, Analysis Underway.*

#### Avon

- Main Street (Route 28) Road Safety Audit  
*Road Safety Audit scheduled for October 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:



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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**

### **EEA #16873 – 123 and 125 West Street Single-Family Homes – Plympton**

*Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF)*

This project is in regard to the construction of two single-family homes on respective lots off West Street. The homes will be serviced by individual Title V septic systems and private wells.

## **Certificates**

### **EEA #16854 – Crescent View Farm Residential Subdivision – West Bridgewater**

*Environmental Notification Form (ENF)*

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

### **EEA #11085R – South Weymouth Naval Air Station Redevelopment Project – Abington, Rockland, Weymouth**

*Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report (SDEIR)*

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

### **EEA #16814 – 16 Town Wharf – Plymouth**

*Environmental Impact Report (EIR)*

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

## **Public Notices**

### **Notice of Application and Issuance of a Draft Groundwater Discharge Permit – Easton, Hanover, West Bridgewater**

Easton – Queset Commons – 150,000 gallons of sanitary wastewater/day

Hanover – North Pointe Apartments – 13,090 gallons of treated sanitary wastewater/day.

West Bridgewater – Ajax United Drive – 23,500 gallons of sanitary wastewater/day

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## ***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 12:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kyle Mowatt*

Kyle Mowatt

Senior Transportation Planner

## **List of Documents for October 3, 2024 Old Colony JTC Meeting**

- Minutes of the September 5, 2024 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for October 3, 2024, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items
- Staff Presentation on FFY 2025 Avon Route 28 Corridor Study – Project Overview
- Staff Presentation on FFY 2025 Bridgewater Route 104 Corridor Study – Project Overview
- Staff Presentation on FFY 2025 South Plymouth Route 3A Corridor Study – Project Overview