



## **EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 12, 2025, 5:00 PM**

### **MINUTES**

Recording Access: <https://youtu.be/HcKzrOK-Blc>

1. Meeting was called to order by President, Becky Coletta at 5:00PM
2. Roll Call: Becky Coletta, Noreen O'Toole, Steven Santeusano, Christine Joy, Lee Hartmann, Sandy Wright,
  - a. Non-Executive Committee Members: John Costa, John Haines, Allison Shane, Michael Perez
  - b. OCPC Staff: Mary Waldron, Charles Kilmer, Brenda Robinson, Megan Fournier
3. The meeting was called due to communication from the Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA) asking OCPC to sign onto an Amicus Brief on behalf of all 13 RPAs and/or individually.
4. MAPC's legal counsel and MARPA's legislative arm shared the amicus brief that was drafted by the Sabin Center of Columbia University Law School, which is being submitted on behalf of more than 45 local governments in 25 states, along with national associations and regional planning councils, pending their review of this draft. The interested municipalities range in population size from smaller than 100,000 to more than 1 million. The brief has been drafted to highlight "[t]he unique local government perspective on the significant, negative, and irreparable harms that have already begun, and those that stand to befall cities and other units of local government if the Federal Funding Freeze, and in particular the directive to pause IRA and IJA funds under Section 7 of the Unleashing EO, are permitted to continue."
5. Mary Waldron explained that the options OCPC has are as follows:
  - a. The Council supporting MARPA to sign on behalf of all 13 RPAs.
    - i. All the other regional planning agencies have signed on to the Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies signing. **Mary Waldron recommended that we join this.**
  - b. All but two regional planning agencies (Cape Cod Commission and Merrimack Valley Planning Commission) have approved signing as its own organization. **Mary Waldron recommended that we do this as well.**
  - c. Discussion of these options followed including questions being raised regarding any potential impact of signing which can be heard on the recording of the meeting (link above).
6. **Noreen O'Toole motioned to sign on with the other RPAs as well as individually. Lee Hartmann seconded the motion. This was unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.**