Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Held Virtually Via Zoom April 3, 2025 at 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	Bruce Hughes	FHWA	Joshua Barber
Abington	John Stone	FHWA	Eric Gemperline
Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien	MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance
Easton	Greg Swan	MBTA Advisory Board	Alan Castaline
Hanson	Don Howard	Office of State Senator Michael Brady	Al DeGirolamo
Pembroke	Becky Coletta	Environmental Partners	Jim Fitzgerald
Plymouth	Richard Bosse	GPI	Sid Kashi
Plymouth	James Downey	OCPC	Shawn Bailey
Plymouth	Sherry Holmes	OCPC	Matt Dyer
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Guoqiang Li
BAT	Linda Sacchetti	OCPC	Bill McNulty
BAT	Kelly Forrester	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
GATRA	Mary Ellen DeFrias	OCPC	Mary Waldron

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson 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 March 6, 2025 Meeting

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole asked if there were any revisions to the minutes. There were no revisions at this time.

The Old Colony JTC voted to approve the March 6, 2025 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 are as follows:

- MBTA Invites Public Comment on Proposed FY 2026-2030 Capital Investment Plan (CIP)
- FY 2025 Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Notice of Funding Opportunity Deadline for Applications is June 26, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
- Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office (FFIO) Next meeting is April 22, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

5. Reports

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Kelly Forrester reported on the following items:

- The Massachusetts Association of Regional Transit Authorities hosted a Legislative Luncheon on Tuesday. It was well attended, and with a lot of support from all the Legislators that were there. Governor Healey's budget has been released and includes level funding for the RTAs. A supplemental budget with increased funding for RTAs is expected, and BAT will monitor closely.
- BAT has partnered with a vendor to conduct a customer satisfaction survey for system users.
 They will be able to compare and contrast to similar agencies to see where we land in terms of customer satisfaction. This will start next week on April 10, 2025
- Rockland Micro-Transit service has been successful, recently recording a record ridership of 82. This exceeds the fixed route that only recorded 12-13 riders per day.

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

Mary Ellen DeFrias reported on the following items:

- Mary Ellen DeFrias concurs with BAT as the RTAs will receive additional funding in the House and Senate RTA budget.
- GATRA continues to experience increases in ridership.
- MBTA Couth Coast Rail is now operational, and GATRA is serving many of the new stations.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Shawn Bailey reported on the following:

In March 2025, work conducted involved the completion of the pedestrian bridge over Route 18 in New Bedford and nighttime demolition of the existing pedestrian bridge over Route 18 in New Bedford.

A Grand Opening event was held at the new East Taunton station on March 24, 2025 to commemorate the beginning of South Coast Rail service. Governor Maura Healey, Lieutenant Governor Driscoll,

Secretary of Transportation Tibbits-Nutt, mayors, legislators, elected officials, and other important dignitaries were present for the ceremony. The article from OCPC's newsletter is shown below and click here for more information on South Coast Rail.

Alan Castaline mentioned that with the opening of SCR, the schedules for all three Old Colony lines were changed. Please consult schedules to see what the changes are.

6. Old Business

- A. Old Colony FFY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation
 - Amendment 3 Public Review and Comment Period Now Open

Bill McNulty discussed Amendment 3:

Amendment 3 includes the following changes:

FFY 2025

- BRIDGEWATER- BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY SS4A GRANT (S13275)
 - Adding Project
 - Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Discretionary Grant
 - Total Project Cost is \$134,913

Chairperson Noreen O'Toole asked for a roll call vote to approve Amendment 3.

The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve Amendment 3.

7. New Business

- A. Development of the Old Colony FFY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - Review and Discussion of the MPO's Preferred Set of Projects

On March 18, 2025, the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization selected a Preferred Set of Projects to be included in the development of the Draft Old Colony FFY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Preferred Set of Projects includes \$239 million in highway and bridge investments and over \$64 million in transit investments across the Region.

The Preferred Set of Projects is below:

TABLE 1: FFY 2026-2030 OLD COLONY TIP PROJECTS WITH YEAR OF EXPENDITURE (YOE)/ INFLATION

SC	EM/	ARIO	2

Current FFY 2025-2029 TIP Year	Proposed FFY 2026-2030 TIP Year	PROJECT ID#	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FFY 2026 (Cost)	FFY 2027 (Cost with 4% Inflation)	FFY 2028 (Cost with 8% Inflation)	FFY 2029 (Cost with 12% Inflation)	FFY 2030 (Cost with 16% Inflation)
2025	2026	609052	BROCKTON - ROUTE 123 (CENTRE STREET) AT PLYMOUTH STREET SIGNALIZATION AND GEOMETRIC IMPROVEMENTS	\$3,728,292	\$3,877,424	\$4,026,555	\$4,175,687	\$4,324,819
2026	2027		BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT LYMAN STREET/GROVE STREET/SUMMER STREET & REPLACEMENT OF GROVE STREET BRIDGE, B-25-005, OVER SALISBURY PLAIN RIVER	\$7,441,973	\$7,739,652	\$8,037,331	\$8,335,010	\$8,632,689
2026	2026	609440	ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET	\$6,733,294	\$7,002,626	\$7,271,958	\$7,541,289	\$7,810,621
2027	2028	606002	DUXBURY - SIGNAL INSTALLATION @ ROUTE 3 (NB & SB) RAMPS & ROUTE 3A (TREMONT STREET)	\$8,828,682	\$9,181,829	\$9,534,977	\$9,888,124	\$10,241,271
2027	2027		ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, RANDOLPH STREET AND RICHARD A FITTS DRIVE (ROUTE 139) AT CHESTNUT STREET AND OLD RANDOLPH STREET	\$3,786,625	\$3,938,090	\$4,089,555	\$4,241,020	\$4,392,485
2028	2029		HANOVER - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 139 (HANOVER STREET) AT MAIN STREET, CENTER STREET AND SILVER STREET	\$12,524,311	\$13,025,283	\$13,526,256	\$14,027,228	\$14,528,201
2028	2028		BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), PEARL STREET AND STONEHILL STREET	\$7,465,375	\$7,763,990	\$8,062,605	\$8,361,220	\$8,659,835
2029	2029	613277	STOUGHTON-INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 27 (PARK STREET) AND TURNPIKE STREET	\$3,264,123	\$3,394,688	\$3,525,253	\$3,655,818	\$3,786,383
2029	2030	613599	HANOVER-INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT COLUMBIA ROAD (ROUTE 53/139) AND BROADWAY	\$5,938,600	\$6,176,144	\$6,413,688	\$6,651,232	\$6,888,776
2029	2029		EAST BRIDGEWATER- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HIGHLAND STREET AND NORTH BEDFORD STREET (ROUTE 18)	\$3,500,000	\$3,640,000	\$3,780,000	\$3,920,000	\$4,060,000
-	2030	613643	WHITMAN- CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON SOUTH AVENUE (ROUTE 27) (AC Year 1 of 2)	\$14,835,580	\$15,429,003	\$16,022,426	\$16,615,850	\$8,604,636
			TOTAL PROGRAMMED BY FFY:	\$10,461,586	\$11,677,742	\$17,597,582	\$21,603,046	\$15,493,412
			TOTAL REGIONAL FUNDING TARGET BY FFY:	\$13,294,825	\$16,196,224	\$16,840,714	\$16,715,229	\$16,982,542
			BALANCE:	\$2,833,239	\$4,518,482	(\$756,867)	(\$4,887,817)	\$1,489,129

Dan Salvucci provided a question regarding the South Avenue Project in Whitman (613643). Does the State realize that there is a MBTA station in the vicinity and the project may have an impact on needs because of the traffic going to the MBTA station? Bill McNulty stated that they are aware. There was a meeting between OCPC, State, Town, and Town Design Engineer a few weeks ago and all the issues were discussed. When this project does go through construction, the traffic mitigation plan will ensure continued access to the station.

Bruce Hughes inquired if there is going to be a house taking in regard to the Abington, Hancock and Chestnut Street Project (609440). John Stone stated that there will be no house taking as of yet. The project is currently at 75% design.

- B. FFY 2026 Old Colony Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Development
 - Review and Discussion of Universe of Projects

Charles Kilmer discussed the Draft Universe of Projects for Element 3000.

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

ID	COMMUNTY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TYPE	MEETS LRTP IDENTIFIED NEED	CONDITION, MAINTENANCE, MODERNIZATION, AND EFFICIENCY	LIVABILITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFIT	MOBILITY	FUTURE	GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS	SAFETY AND SECURITY	CMP Congested Area	HP CORRIDOR STUDY COMPOSITE	UPWP
15	Kingston	Route 3A and Vicinity Transportation and Land Use Study	Corridor and Land Use	1	~	~	~	~		~	~		FFY 2024
16	Pembroke	Route 36 from Halifax Town Line to Route 14	Corridor	1	~	~	~	~		~		56	
17	Plymouth	Route 3A	Corridor	✓	✓	1	1	✓		✓	✓	65	FFY 2025
18	Plymouth	Carver Road (Former Route 44) from Carver Town Line to Route 3A	Corridor	✓	✓	~	~	✓		1	✓	64	
19	Plymouth	Long Pond Road from Route 3A (Herring Pond Road) to Route 3	Corridor	✓	✓	~	✓	~		~		53	
20	Stoughton	Route 27	Corridor	✓	✓	~	✓	~	~	1	✓	53	FFY 2008
21	Stoughton	Route 139 from Stoughton Center to Randolph Town Line	Corridor	✓	~	~	1	~	~	~		55	FFY 2024
22	Whitman	Route 27	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	✓	~		✓		54	FFY 2008
23	Regional	Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Study (Active Transportation)	Bicycle and Pedestrian	1	~	~	1	~	~	~			FFY 2021
24	Regional	Road Safety Audits (RSAs) at Multiple Locations	Safety	~	~	~	~	~	~	~			FFY 2021
25	Regional	Major Bottleneck Identification Study	Corridor	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✓	√		FFY 2010
26	Regional	Resilience Improvement Plan per 23 USC 176e	Resiliency	1	~	~	~	~	~	~			
27	Regional	2028 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)	20-Year Planning Vision and Assessment	✓	~	~	/	~	~	~	✓		

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

ID	COMMUNTY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT TYPE	MEETS LRTP IDENTIFIED NEED	CONDITION, MAINTENANCE, MODERNIZATION, AND EFFICIENCY	LIVABILITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFIT	MOBILITY	FUTURE	GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS	SAFETY AND SECURITY	CMP Congested Area	HP CORRIDOR STUDY COMPOSITE	UPWP
1	Avon	West Main Street from Brockton City Line to Route 28	Corridor	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	1	1		53	
2	Bridgewater	Route 104 from Raynham Town Line to Bridgewater Central Square	Corridor	✓	✓	~	✓	✓		~		64	FFY 2025
3	Bridgewater	Route 104 from Bridgewater Central Square to Halifax Town Line	Corridor	~	✓	~	√	~	~	~		57	FFY 2025
4	Bridgewater	Route 18 and Route 18/Route 28	Corridor	~	V	~	~	~		~		56	FFY 2023
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	FFY 2008
7	Brockton	East Ashland Street	Corridor	~	1	~	✓	~	~	~		66	
8	Brockton	Main Street from Plain Street to Avon Town Line	Corridor	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	62	FFY 2020
9	Brockton	Route 27 from Stoughton Town Line to Main Street	Corridor	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	62	FFY 2008
10	Brockton	Route 28	Corridor	~	✓	~	~	~	~	~		54	FFY 2016
11	Brockton	Route 123 from Downtown to Abington Town Line	Corridor	~	~	~	~	~	~	~		53	FFY 2017
12	East Bridgewater	Route 14	Corridor	✓	✓	~	✓	✓		~		54	
13		Route 18 from Bridgewater Town Line to Whitman Town Line	Corridor	~	~	~	~	~		~		48	FFY 2023
14	East Bridgewater	Pleasant Street/ North Central Street/ Central Street	Corridor	~	✓	1	✓	1		1		53	

Charles Kilmer stated that this Universe of Projects presents scope of work and budget and funding sources for the work of the transportation staff on behalf of the MPO.

James Downey inquired why Route 80 in Plymouth is not on the list. Charles Kilmer stated that they will go back and look at the High Priority Study and see what that Corridor Scored and add this to the Universe of Projects.

C. Old Colony Vision Zero Goal and The Safe System Approach

Review and Discussion

Bill McNulty discussed Vision Zero.

Through its Vision 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (endorsed September 2023), the Old Colony MPO adopted a Vision Zero Goal for Safety, and described how it would implement the Safe System Approach to work towards its Vision Zero goal.

Building upon the fundamental principle that the loss of life and preventable serious injuries are not acceptable, Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. First implemented in Sweden in the 1990s, Vision Zero has proved successful across Europe — and now it's gaining momentum in the United States and American metropolitan areas.

The Safe System Approach prioritizes the elimination of crashes that result in fatal and serious injuries. It moves beyond a traditional safety approach to both prevent crashes from happening in the first place and to mitigate the harm caused by crashes that do occur. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts adopted the Safe System Approach in the 2023 Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

Dan Salvucci commented that OCPC, the JTC, MPO we do so much work to make streets safer, but it all comes down to education to kids how to properly ride a bike, people walking at night wearing black clothing, and obeying the speed limit.

D. Old Colony Traffic Volumes Report, 1994-2024

Review and Discussion

Kyle Mowatt discussed the Old Colony Traffic Volumes Report for the years 1994-2024.

The *Old Colony Traffic Volumes Report (1994-2024)* contains traffic information from the past 30 years from a variety of sources including Old Colony Planning Council, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), and various consulting and engineering firms.

Over the course of the 2024 counting season 110 Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR) counts were conducted within 14 of our 17 communities. These counts were collected for the MassDOT Count Program, Corridor Studies, Local Technical Assistance (LTA) requests from communities, intersection warrant analysis, speed analysis, heavy vehicle analysis, etc.

Within the volumes report traffic counts are separated into two categories: traffic volumes by state numbered routes, and traffic volumes on local roadways, organized by community. The final section of the report focuses on State Numbered Route Traffic Growth Rate. This table showcases the comparison between historical data vs. current data, while showing Total Growth % as well as Annual Growth %.

During each count season the completed Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR) counts are uploaded to the <u>Transportation Data Management System (MS2)</u>. MS2 is a tool to organize traffic count data. It allows the ability to upload data from a traffic counter; view graphs, lists and reports of historic traffic count data; search for count data using either the database or the Google map; and print or export data to your desktop. The process of storing count data in MS2 involves collecting traffic count data, uploading count data, verifying count data quality, and assigning count data to count locations.

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 for Elm Street in Plympton. Data and findings from this traffic study have been distributed to the Town of Plympton and Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

Project Status Updates

Brockton

Grove Street at Lawrence Street Road Safety Audit
 Draft Report in stakeholder review and comment period

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

None

Environmental Impact Reports

EEA #16819 - Proposed Mixed-Use Development - Bridgewater

Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)

Certificates

None

Public Notices

Notice of Intent to Initiate an Aquatic Plant Management Program – Stoughton

The proposed project is seeking approval to initiate a continuous Aquatic Week Management Program at Woods Pond in Stoughton.

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

Bruce Hughes complimented GATRA on their electric shuttle buses.

Bruce Hughes made the JTC aware of a local 40B project in Abington at 161 North Quincy Street. There will be a site walk on Friday morning at 11 AM.

Don Howard stated that there is no drainage on Spring Street from Damiens to Rockland Town Line, and on County Road from High Street to West Washington Street. When it rains, the runoff from new development go onto these streets where there's no drainage. Don Howard is wondering if this is permissible. Chairperson O'Toole stated that it's going to take a long time to figure out the Town's drainage needs. As new developments come in today it's up to the Zoning boards or planning boards to make sure this doesn't happen.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt

Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for April 3, 2025 Old Colony JTC Meeting

- Minutes of March 6, 2025 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for April 3, 2025, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items