

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

## **Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Held Virtually Via Zoom August 7, 2025 at 12:00 P.M.**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Abington	Bruce Hughes	CDM Smith	Lisa Sherman
Abington	John Stone	GATRA	Mary Ellen DeFrias
Bridgewater	Carlton Hunt	MassDOT	Chris Klem
Easton	Greg Swan	MassDOT	Derek Krevat
Stoughton	Debra Roberts	MassDOT	Leah Pickett
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance
BAT	Emily Adams	OCPC	Matt Dyer
BAT	Kelly Forrester	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
BAT	Michael Lambert	OCPC	Guoqiang Li
BETA Group	Kien Ho	OCPC	Bill McNulty
BETA Group	Austin Pszenny	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt

### **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairperson John Stone 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 June 5, 2025 Meeting**

Chairperson John Stone asked if there were any revisions to the minutes. There were no revisions at this time. A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Mary Ellen DeFrias to approve the minutes of June 5, 2025.

*The Old Colony JTC voted via Roll Call to approve the June 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes.*

### **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:

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

- MassDOT and Applegreen Announce Next Steps in \$750 Million Overhaul of 18 Highway Service Plazas
- Community Walk Audit – August 14, 2025 from 6:00-7:30 PM at Intersection of Centre Street (Route 123) and Quincy Street
- Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office (FFIO) – Next meeting is August 26, 2025 at 2:00 PM
- Safe Routes to School Signs and Lines AND Infrastructure Informational Webinar and Launch – Wednesday, September 3, 2025 12:00 – 1:00 PM
- Special Commission on Micromobility Meeting #3 – Tuesday, September 16, 2025, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

### **5. Reports**

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

Michael Lambert reported on the following items:

- Overnight employment transportation, serviced by Uber, has been launched. Uber rides to or from work for workers traveling between 9:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.A. will be subsidized.
- BAT released an RFP this week to provide micro-transit to Bridgewater and surrounding key locations.
- BAT is adding Sunday service to its Rockland micro-transit.

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

Mary Ellen DeFrais reported on the following items:

- Beginning on Monday, GATRA launched the Gateway Link which connects Brockton, the VA Medical Center, the Taunton GATRA Terminal, the Bristol Community College Main Campus, and Fall River SRTA Terminal. This service connects BAT, GATRA, and SRTA service areas. The route has been very positively received with 35 passengers on the first day alone.
- GATRA plans to launch Sunday service this Fall.

### **6. Old Business**

#### ***A. Old Colony FFY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation***

Bill McNulty discussed updates within the Old Colony FFY 2025-2029 TIP.

### **2025**

- BROCKTON - ROUTE 123 (CENTRE STREET) AT PLYMOUTH STREET SIGNALIZATION AND GEOMETRIC IMPROVEMENTS (609052)

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

- Old Colony MPO approved to move project to FFY 2026 in Old Colony FFY 2026-2030 TIP due to lack of project readiness.
- 75% Package received by MassDOT (7/22/2025).
- Cost Estimate is \$4,504,861.
  
- EASTON- CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 INCLUDING INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 (WASHINGTON STREET) AND ELM STREET (608195)
  - Notice to Proceed (6/18/2025).
  - Cost Estimate is \$ \$10,438,311.
  
- STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 (607403) FROM 300 FT NORTH OF CHARLES AVENUE TO LINCOLN STREET (PHASE 2)
  - Notice To Proceed (7/16/2025).
  - Construction Bid Price \$7,750,751.
  
- OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL – OLD COLONY MPO PRIORITIZATION PLAN (S13178)
  - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Discretionary Grant
  - Total Grant Award Amount is \$1,990,620
  
- BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY – SAFE STREETS FOR ALL (SS4A) PROJECT (S13275)
  - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Discretionary Grant
  - Total Grant Award Amount is \$134,913

### **7. New Business**

#### **A. MassDOT Local Early and Actionable Planning (LEAP) Program**

##### **▪ Presentation by MassDOT**

Derek Krevat and Leah Pickett presented on the LEAP Program.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)'s Office of Transportation Planning (OTP) is launching the Local Early and Actionable Planning (LEAP) Program to help municipal officials jump start infrastructure projects. The LEAP Program will provide planning and early-stage design assistance to towns and cities across Massachusetts with a particular focus on rural and economically disadvantaged communities as these communities often face significant barriers when it comes to initiating transportation projects due to limited funding and staffing. The funding, totaling approximately \$1 million, is included in Governor Healey's Capital Investment Plan this year and will be funded as part of MassDOT's capital budget for FY 2026.

"Our goal is to empower community leaders with the tools and support they need to bring priority projects to life," said **Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt**. "Through the LEAP Program, we're helping local governments take that critical first step—positioning them to secure the

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

resources needed to advance transportation projects that make streets safer, more connected, and more accessible for everyone, whether they're walking, biking, riding transit, or driving."

The LEAP Program is structured in a way that allows municipal staff to request the support they need for early-stage planning and design activities, including, but not limited to:

- Conceptual Design and Alternatives Analyses, for example, hydraulic and geotechnical analysis.
- Safe Streets Network Strategy
- Design & Engineering for Smaller-Scale Projects (e.g. Complete Streets Program Projects)
- Federal Grant Application Development
- Safety Analysis, for example, conduct crash pattern evaluation.
- Traffic Analysis, for example, collect traffic volume data.
- Speed Studies
- Cost Estimation
- Visual and Mapping Support

The total amount available statewide in Fiscal Year 2026 for the LEAP Program is \$1 million. MassDOT anticipates providing municipalities with approximately \$25,000 to \$100,000 per project. The focus of LEAP is on helping under resourced communities access federal and state transportation funding programs.

### ***B. The By-Laws of the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC)***

#### ***▪ Review, Discussion, and Potential Acceptance of Proposed Amendment***

Bill McNulty discussed the By-Laws of the JTC.

The By-Laws of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee is the governing document defining the purpose, structure, and processes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee. Last updated in 2019, the By-Laws are periodically reviewed and updated as necessary.

During the most recent review in July 2025, Old Colony Planning Council staff are recommending the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) considering the following updates to the By-Laws:

- Add the following entities as specifically identified members of the Committee:
  - a. Greater Attleboro and Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)
  - b. WalkMassachusetts
  - c. MassBike
- Add clarifying language stating the processes taken to encourage representation and participation from entities serving the interests of vulnerable road users.

Dan Salvucci asked if the MBTA should be included as a voting member of the Joint Transportation Committee. Bill McNulty stated that Old Colony Planning Council has always been able to contact someone from the MBTA to come to a JTC meeting when there have been issues. Chairperson John Stone stated it would be a good idea to have MBTA join the JTC. There was a consensus to vote on the current changes, and if MBTA gets added at a later date to vote on that at a future meeting.

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

A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Greg Swan to accept the proposed amendment.

*The Old Colony JTC voted to accept the proposed amendment.*

## **C. FFY 2028 Update to Long Range Transportation Plan**

### **▪ Development Schedule**

Bill McNulty discussed the development schedule for the FFY 2028 LRTP.

The following is a general schedule of Plan development:

#### **FFY 2026**

- Review, update as necessary, and affirm the Goals and Objectives of the Plan
- Review, update as necessary, and affirm the Planning Scenarios identified in the Plan.
- Survey the public on needs and priorities of the transportation system.
- Conduct a comprehensive exiting condition assessment and needs assessment of the surface transportation system.
- Collaborate with MassDOT and Massachusetts MPOs on socio-economic data forecasting.
- Update of Travel Demand Model

#### **FFY 2027**

- Refinement and calibration of Travel Demand Model
- Identification and testing of recommendations.
- Presentation of Plan recommendations to stakeholders and the public
- Refinement and completion of Plan Document

## **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 the following traffic studies:

- Halifax: Heavy Commercial Vehicle Exclusion (HCVE) Zone Analysis for Old Plymouth Street
- Kingston: School Zone Analysis for Second Brook Street

### **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.

# OLD COLONY JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC)

## 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

### **EEA#16558 – Lake Shore Center Phase 4 – Bridgewater**

*Notice of Project Change (NPC) Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)*

#### **SUMMARY OF PROJECT CHANGE PARAMETERS AND IMPACTS**

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Previously reviewed	Net Change	Currently Proposed
<b>LAND</b>			
Total site acreage	58.1	6.1	64.2
Acres of land altered	18.36	5.56	23.92
Acres of impervious area	7.31	-0.44	6.87
Square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands alteration	0	0	0
Square feet of other wetland alteration	0	0	0
Acres of non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways	0	0	0
<b>STRUCTURES</b>			
Gross square footage	385,010	83,111	468,121
Number of housing units	225	0	225
Maximum height (in feet)	57	0	57
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Vehicle trips per day	4,328	550	4,878
Parking spaces	555	158	705
Proposed Parking Spaces to be Banked	100	0	100
<b>WATER/WASTEWATER</b>			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	86,100	15,000	101,100

## Certificates

### **EEA #16939 – 642-644 Turnpike Street – Easton**

*Environmental Notification Form (ENF)*

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

Certificate states that this project **does not** require an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

## **Public Notices**

### **Notice of Intent to Initiate an Aquatic Plant Management Program – Halifax**

### **Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project – Hanson**

Both of these Public Notices are in regard to the reduction of bacteria through phosphorous mitigation at Monponsett Pond.

### **Notice of Application and Issuance of a Draft Groundwater Discharge Permit- East Bridgewater**

In regard to the discharge of 25,000 Gallons/Day of Sanitary Wastewater at White Pine Village in East Bridgewater.

### **Long Beach Seawall & Revetment Reconstruction Project – Plymouth**

Request for Advisory Opinion (RAO) – The proposed project involves maintenance reconstruction of 630 LF of failing concrete seawall and stone revetment with the purpose of restoring coastal protection and resiliency along the southern end of Long Beach.

### **Notice of Application and Issuance of a Draft Groundwater Discharge Permit – East Bridgewater**

Regarding the discharge of 22,000 Gallons/Day of Sanitary Wastewater at Harmony Crossing in East Bridgewater.

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

There were no regional concerns or local community transportation issues at this time.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kyle Mowatt*

Kyle Mowatt

Senior Transportation Planner

## **List of Documents for August 7, 2025 Old Colony JTC Meeting**

- Minutes of June 5, 2025 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for August 7, 2025, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items
- PowerPoint Presentation: MassDOT LEAP Program \