Minutes of the Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting, June 16, 2026 - 10:00 A.M., Held Via Zoom

Roll Call/Attendance

Members/Designees	Representing	Attendance
Derek Shooster	Phillip Eng, Interim Secretary, MassDOT	Present
Barbara Lachance	Jonathan Gulliver, Undersecretary of Transportation & State Highway Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division	Present
Nelson Fernandes	Mayor Moises Rodrigues, City of Brockton	Absent
James Downey	David Goldern, Jr., Chair, Select Board ,Plymouth	Present
Daniel Salvucci	Town of Whitman - Representing Abington, Bridgewater, Duxbury, Easton, Pembroke, Stoughton, and Whitman	Present
Michael Lambert	Brockton Area Transit (BAT)	Present
Kimberley Emberg	Town of Kingston - Representing Avon, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Kingston, Plympton, and West Bridgewater	Present
Becky Coletta	Old Colony Planning Council	Present

Ex-Officio Members

Joi Singh	FHWA, Massachusetts Division	Absent
Peter Butler	FTA Regional Administrator, Region 1	Absent
Dan Salvucci	Vice Chairperson, Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC)	Present

Also, Present

Kelly Forrester	Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)
Chike Odunukwe	Brockton
Mary Ellen DeFrias	Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)
Steven Findlen	Howard Stein Hudson
Christina Mendoza	Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)
Michelle Scott	Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)
William Roth	Stoughton
Iolando Spinola	WalkMassachusetts
Shawn Bailey	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
Matt Dyer	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
John Fay	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
Charles Kilmer	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
Guoqiang Li	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
Bill McNulty	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
Kyle Mowatt	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
Mary Waldron	Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Derek Shooster called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. Chairperson Shooster then read the meeting accessibility statement and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Charles Kilmer then conducted roll call.

2. Public Comments

Charles Kilmer provided a farewell to staff member Matt Dyer on his final day with OCPC. Charles Kilmer recognized Matt Dyer for his years of impactful service, and noted the successful integrated transportation and comprehensive planning while expanding the agency's toolkit, most notably by spearheading the culvert assessment fieldwork program. Though he is leaving OCPC, Matt Dyer will remain within the local area, transitioning into his new role as the Assistant Town Administrator for the Town of Whitman beginning July 1, 2026. Dan Salvucci, Vice Chair of the Whitman Board of Selectmen, welcomed Matt Dyer to the municipal team, expressing confidence in his strong skill set and his ability to quickly master town government operations. Overall, colleagues expressed gratitude for Matt Dyer's contributions and look forward to maintaining a strong collaborative relationship with him in his new position.

3. Minutes of the May 19, 2026 Meeting

A motion to approve the draft minutes of the May 19, 2026 meeting was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Michael Lambert. Members voted as follows:

Derek Shooster	Aye
Barbara Lachance	Aye
Dan Salvucci	Aye
Michael Lambert	Aye
Becky Coletta	Aye

The motion passed.

4. Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Report

Michael Lambert provided the following updates:

Ridership Update

- **Performance:** Ridership saw a strong recovery during April and May, with numbers exceeding the same months from the previous year.
- **Recovery:** This rebound is a positive turnaround after ridership took a significant hit due to winter weather earlier in the year.
- **Next Steps:** A full, comprehensive end-of-year ridership report will be presented at the next meeting.

Electric Bus & Infrastructure Expansion

- **Fleet Doubling:** BAT has received four out of five newly ordered electric buses. The fifth bus is currently in transit, passing through Wyoming. Once it arrives, the total delivery will double the size of BAT's existing electric fleet.
- **Solar and Resiliency:** The agency is close to purchasing its first set of solar panels. These panels will serve a dual purpose: providing physical shelter for the buses and generating energy for battery storage to improve system resiliency.

5. Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA) Report

Mary Ellen DeFrias provided the following update:

Service Expansion & Driver Hiring

- **Sunday Service:** GATRA has officially rolled out Sunday service in Taunton and Attleboro.
- **Future Expansion:** The agency is actively working to hire more drivers to expand this Sunday service to the Plymouth and Wareham routes, with hopes of launching it by the summer.

Gateway Link Performance

- **Ridership Success:** The Gateway Link continues to exceed expectations, currently moving over 5,000 people per month.
- **Regional Demand:** Leaders noted that this high ridership proves the strong regional need for transit connection between Brockton, Taunton, and Fall River, validating it as a program well worth continued investment.

World Cup Transit Operations

- **Positive Recognition:** The agency received positive public feedback (noted in regional media such as the *Globe* or *Boston Business Journal*) regarding smooth transit operations surrounding World Cup events.
- **Mass Transit Milestones:** Describing the team at the MBTA as "amazing to work with," it was highlighted that GATRA successfully moved 950 people on Saturday night alone.

6. FFY 2026-2030 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Adjustments and/ or Amendments

Bill McNulty stated that there are no action items at this time.

7. FFY 2027-2031 Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Overview

Michelle Scott presented on the FFY 2027-2031 CIP. MassDOT publishes a Capital Investment Plan each year. The Draft FY 2027-2031 CIP includes all capital expenditures planned for the next five years for MassDOT's Divisions consisting of Aeronautics, Highway, Rail and Transit, Registry of Motor Vehicles, and Planning and Enterprise Services. It also includes state-funded investments for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

A draft of the document may be reviewed online at: https://www.mass.gov/lists/developing-the-capital-investment-plan

As part of public engagement for the draft 2027-2031 CIP, MassDOT held six meetings with regional partners, the Metropolitan Planning Organizations. Information presented during these public meetings reflects the Draft 2027-2031 CIP, which may differ from the final 2027-2031 CIP. The meetings were as follows:

- May 28, 2026 - Northern Middlesex / Merrimack Valley
- June 1, 2026 - Central Massachusetts
- June 2, 2026 - Western Massachusetts
- June 2, 2026 - Boston Region
- June 3, 2026 - Cape Cod and Islands
- June 8, 2026 - Southeastern Massachusetts / Old Colony

Slide Deck Availability: In response to attendee inquiries, Charles Kilmer shared a link to the presentation slide deck in the webinar chat. It was noted that staff can also post the deck on the website for those who did not attend the Zoom meeting.

Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Link: Charlie Kilmer shared the web link for the MBTA's current Capital Investment Plan, which was highlighted during Michelle Scott's presentation as being distinct from the statewide Massachusetts CIP.

Full Build Status: John Fay submitted a question regarding the "full build" items for the South Coast Rail. Charles Kilmer and the Derek Shooster clarified that the final "go or no-go" decision regarding the full build phase is still to be determined.

FY 2027–2031 CIP: The presentation covered the Fiscal Year 2027 to 2031 Capital Investment Plan. No further questions were raised by the attendees.

8. Draft FFY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- **Public Comments and Potential Endorsement**

Charles Kilmer discussed the Draft FFY 2027 UPWP. The public review and comment period for the Draft FFY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) concluded on June 12, 2026. All comments have been reviewed and addressed. Please see the following comment matrix for more details.

Public Comment Matrix

Date	Name	Representation	Comment or Comment Summary	Response
5/27/2026	Old Colony Planning Council	Old Colony Planning Council	The Old Colony Planning Council approved Draft FFY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) as presented in Consent Agenda.	Noted.
6/4/2026	Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC)	Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee	The Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee approved the Draft FFY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) as presented.	Noted.
6/4/2026	Christina Mendoza	MassDOT - Office of Transportation Planning	Reviewed and provided MPO Liaison UPWP Review Checklist. Please see attached checklist for detail.	Noted. Thank you for the review and provision of Checklist and Comments. Staff will work to align Final UPWP with provided comments and suggestions.

Comments as of Close of Business (COB) on June 12, 2026.

A motion to endorse the Draft FFY 2027 UPWP was made by Becky Coletta and seconded by Dan Salvucci.

Members voted as follows:

Derek Shooster	Aye
Barbara Lachance	Aye
Kimberley Emberg	Aye
James Downey	Aye
Dan Salvucci	Aye
Michael Lambert	Aye
Becky Coletta	Aye

The motion passed.

9. Draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP)

- **Review and Potential Release to Public Review and Comment Period**

Shawn Bailey discussed the Draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP).

The public review and comment period for the Draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP) concluded on June 12, 2026. All comments have been reviewed and addressed. Please see the following

comment matrix for more details on comments received during the development of the Plan, including those received during the specific public comment period.

Public Comment Matrix

Date	Name	Representation	Comment or Comment Summary	Response
3/9/2026	Janice Fitzgerald	Brockton Council on Aging	Reviewed and requested a meeting to discuss the development of Brockton's new transportation program.	Met with Council on Aging staff to discuss the Plan and funding options for their new program.
3/12/2026	Joanne Moore	Duxbury Council on Aging	Reviewed and provided comments and suggestions.	Noted. Thank you for the review and comments. Staff will work to align the Final CHST Plan with provided comments and suggestions.
5/2/2026	Mary Ellen DeFrias	Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)	Reviewed and provided comments and suggestions.	Noted. Thank you for the review and comments. Staff will work to align the Final CHST Plan with provided comments and suggestions.
5/4/2026	David Klein	Old Colony Area Agency on Aging (AAA)	Reviewed and provided comments and suggestions.	Noted. Thank you for the review and comments. Staff will work to align the Final CHST Plan with provided comments and suggestions.
5/21/2026	Kelly Forrester	Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)	Reviewed and provided comments and suggestions.	Noted. Thank you for the review and comments. Staff will work to align the Final CHST Plan with provided comments and suggestions.
5/27/2026	Old Colony Planning Council	Old Colony Planning Council	The Old Colony Planning Council approved the Draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP) as presented in Consent Agenda.	Noted.

6/4/2026	Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC)	Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee	The Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee approved the Draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP) as presented.	Noted.

Comments as of Close of Business (COB) on June 12, 2026.

A motion to endorse the Draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP) was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Becky Coletta.

Members voted as follows:

Derek Shooster	Aye
Barbara Lachance	Aye
Kimberley Emberg	Aye
James Downey	Aye
Dan Salvucci	Aye
Michael Lambert	Aye
Becky Coletta	Aye

The motion passed.

10. Corridor Study Updates

- **Route 80 Corridor Study - Kingston and Plymouth**
- **Route 53/139 Corridor Study - Pembroke**

Guoqiang Li discussed the Route 80 Corridor Study.

Project Overview & Collaboration

- **Location:** The study spans the Route 80 corridor across Kingston and Plymouth, from Indian Pond Road/Elm Street south to Carver Road.
- **Partners:** OCPC is working in wide collaboration with MassDOT District 5 and the towns of Kingston and Plymouth. The team has hosted two public meetings, multiple town coordination sessions, and received over 150 public survey responses.

Key Concerns & Findings

- **Multi-Modal Safety:** While drivers generally adhere to posted speed limits, the corridor was identified as unsafe for pedestrians and bicyclists due to fragmented sidewalks, a lack of safe crossings, and a high volume of local, seasonal, and shopping-related through-traffic.
- **Environmental Preservation:** Public feedback strongly emphasized the need to preserve surrounding green space, natural resources, and wildlife species. The draft chapter on culvert assessments (completed by Matt Dyer's) is already finished.
- **Target Intersections for Improvement:**

- **Route 3A at Route 80:** Needs signal upgrades, new pavement markings, and pedestrian/bicycle safety enhancements.
- **Route 80 at Commerce Way (Old Colony Shopping Area):** This intersection experiences crash rates slightly above the state and district averages; proposed fixes include adjusting yellow and red signal clearance times.
- **Route 80 at Carver Road:** Recommended for signalization upgrades and pedestrian crossing safety improvements.

Next Steps & Timeline

- **August:** The comprehensive draft report will be delivered to MassDOT District 5 and the local communities for initial review.
- **September:** The draft report will be posted publicly on the OCPC website for a formal public comment period, with the final study slated for completion by the end of the month.

Bill McNulty discussed the Route 53/139 Corridor Study.

Project Overview & Outreach

- **Location & Timeline:** The study focuses on the Route 53/139 corridor in the town of Pembroke. Its timeline directly parallels the Route 80 study, aiming for full finalization by the end of the program year in September.
- **Collaboration:** The team executed a robust public outreach process, including public surveys and coordination meetings with MassDOT and Pembroke town officials. While formal outreach is largely complete, materials remain online for ongoing public comment.

Key Regional Challenges

- **Interchange Congestion:** Heavy capacity constraints and traffic bottlenecks are occurring around the Route 139 and Route 3 interchange, exacerbated by short left-turn storage lanes.
- **Land Use & Future Stress:** A large residential development is currently underway off Oak Street (just off Route 139), and the area holds potential for further high-density housing. This incoming growth is expected to add significant trip volume to an already stressed network.
- **Speed Management:** On the western portion of the corridor away from the interchange, the focus shifts from congestion to managing high travel speeds.
- **Environmental Concerns:** The corridor crosses the North River, which runs underneath Route 139 and flows directly into a nature reserve on the south side, requiring careful environmental consideration.
- **Multimodal Barriers:** The corridor currently acts as a physical barrier for pedestrians and bicyclists trying to safely cross from one side of Route 139 to the other.

Next Steps

- **Late Summer:** OCPC is currently in the report development stage and will circulate a completed draft to the Town of Pembroke and MassDOT colleagues for an initial review.
- **September:** Following the internal review, the draft will be opened up for a general public review and comment period before being finalized at the end of the month.

11. Administrative Matters, Other Business, and Date and Time of Next Meeting(s)

Charles Kilmer reported on the following items:

- Cape Cod Bridges Project - Sagamore Bridge Replacement Public Hearing - Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 6 PM, at Bourne High School, 75 Waterhouse Road, Bourne, MA 02532
- Brockton & Abington - Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements on Route 123 - Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at 6 PM
- Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office (FFIO) - June 23, 2026 at 2 PM
- WalkMassachusetts - Brockton Walk Audit - June 23, 2026 at 6 PM
- Draft Resilient Local Food System Action Plan for the Plymouth County Area - Comments must be received by midnight, Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Date and Time of Next Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting(s)

The Old Colony MPO members are respectfully requested to confirm the dates and times of their next virtual meeting(s):

2026

- **July 21, 2026 at 10 a.m.**
- **August 18, 2026 at 10 a.m.**
- **September 15, 2026 at 10 a.m.**
- **October 20, 2026 at 10 a.m.**
- **November 17, 2026 at 10 a.m.**
- **December 15, 2026 at 10 a.m.**

Departure: Becky Coletta announced that she is stepping down as the President of the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) and will be leaving the Council entirely at the end of the month.

Leadership Transition: A new OCPC President will be selected at the organization's annual meeting next week and will take over next month.

Accolades: Colleagues expressed their gratitude, calling her an "Amazing President" who worked closely and effectively with both the staff and numerous external organizations, noting that she will be deeply missed.

12. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Becky Coletta and seconded by Dan Salvucci.

Members voted as follows:

Derek Shooster	Aye
Barbara Lachance	Aye
Kimberley Emberg	Aye
James Downey	Aye
Dan Salvucci	Aye

Michael Lambert	Aye
Becky Coletta	Aye

The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt, Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for the June 16, 2026 Old Colony MPO Meeting

- Minutes of May 19, 2026, Old Colony MPO Meeting
- Staff Report for June 16, 2026 Old Colony MPO Meeting Agenda Items