

## **2016 Public Participation Plan (PPP) Amendment**

### **Amendment to change the current 30-day public comment period to 21-days**

The Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) respectfully request the following amendment for consideration by the Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO) to the Public Participation Plan (PPP) endorsed by the SMMPO on June 21, 2016.

The PPP is developed with the ultimate goal of allowing every person in the region the opportunity to become active participants in the SMMPO planning and decision-making process guiding every issue, project, program or service in the region. In these public participation efforts, the SMMPO adheres to the principles of Environmental Justice and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

The proposed amendment to the PPP would change all current 30-day public comment periods to 21-day public comment periods. These 30-day public comment periods are a requirement for Transportation Planning Program Development such as the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and all related amendments. The 30-day public comment periods are also the protocol for any studies being conducted or any projects being considered.

The PPP and any and all related amendments, including this amendment being considered, currently requires a 45-day public comment period and this would remain as a 45-day public comment period.

There are 6 text references from pages 5-8 of "30-day" that will be changed to "21-day" in the PPP document included with the mailing for the January 17, 2017 SMMPO meeting where this matter shall be addressed.