

Joint Transportation Planning Group

Minutes of the meeting held on
Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at SRPEDD, Taunton MA

In attendance were the following:

Lee Azinheira, Mansfield

Rita Garbitt, Lakeville

Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP

Alan Slavin, Wareham

Lloyd Mendes, Somerset Board of Selectmen

Mary Ellen DeFrias, Mass Development

Stephanie Crampton, New Bedford

Manny Silva, New Bedford

Dave Cabral, Seekonk

Tony Abreu, Taunton

Ed Buckley, Raynham

Tim Kochan, MassDOT District 5

J.R. Frey, Fall River

Mark Hollowell, North Attleborough

Jim Hartnett, Westport

Tim Barber, Dartmouth

Paul Mission, SRPEDD

Lilia Cabral-Bernard, SRPEDD

Luis DeOliveira, SRPEDD

Lisa Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD

Kyle Richard, SRPEDD

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 2:07 PM by Chairman Lee Azinheira, after which the meeting attendees introduced themselves.
- 2. Public Comments:** Chairman Lee Azinheira opened the floor to any members of the public that wish to address the JTPG, after which no such addresses or comments were made.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes of the last JTPG meeting held on January 10th, 2018. The motion was seconded and approved by the group except for Rita Garbitt of Lakeville who abstained given that she was not at the previous meeting.
- 4. FFY2019/2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):** Lisa Estrela-Pedro reviewed existing TIP projects programmed in FFY2018 as well as projects to be considered for programming in the FFY2019-2023 TIP. Provided at the meeting was a list of these projects by Federal Fiscal Year as well as a copy of the draft evaluation criteria for FFY2023 projects to be used to score and weigh these recommended projects for priority in programming. Ms. Estrela-Pedro explained that some projects would be better suited if moved out to a later fiscal year and these suggestions were reflected in the project list provided at the meeting for the groups consideration.

After these projects were reviewed, discussion ensued regarding the TIP projects and process, specifically how the evaluation criteria is implemented to weigh projects as well as the process of getting a project programmed into the TIP and what is expected in terms of project progression once it is approved by the Project Review Committee (PRC). More specific discussions were had regarding specific projects being proposed and their movement from their

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previously proposed TIP year to another as well as increases in cost of certain projects and what precipitate them.

- 5. MassDOT Road Inventory Files:** Paul Mission discussed the update to MassDOT's Road Inventory File. He referenced the handout listing towns within the SRPEDD region, the mileage total of roads that fall under the jurisdiction of the respective community and that of MassDOT, as well as the mileage of roads that are considered to be unaccepted by those respective communities. Mr. Mission announced that MassDOT is requesting that the towns review their records to see when the last update to these figures was made and if any changes, specifically to the number of accepted roads within a community, have been made since this update. The purpose of identifying these changes is that the total mileage of accepted roads within a community constitutes a change in the amount of Chapter 90 funds allocated to that town for maintenance of these roads.

Mr. Mission explained that the Road Inventory File is a dataset that lists roadway attributes and can also be used by a town to cross reference the status of a roadway according to MassDOT to what is on record with the town itself. This file can be obtained from the GeoDOT web interface to assist with cross referencing. If a road is found to be accepted but is not reflected in the file, a town can then make a formal request to MassDOT to have this road considered accepted and reflected in the dataset.

After Mr. Mission made these announcements on behalf of MassDOT, discussion then ensued regarding what specifically constitutes a town-accepted roadway and what steps must be taken by the town to establish it as accepted officially. Once discussion concluded, Mr. Mission remarked that if any community has questions or needs assistance in identifying the status of a roadway or filling a request with MassDOT, that SRPEDD staff are available for assistance upon request.

- 6. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):** Paul Mission requested for the approval of an administrative adjustment by the JTPG to reallocate \$1,400 in direct cost funds from the Regional Transit Study Task to 3C and Public Participation tasks under the UPWP. A motion was made to approve the reallocation of these funds. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.

Once this motion was passed, Mr. Mission made an announcement of anticipated tasks to be undertaken as of the next UPWP effective in October of 2018 and that any community with a

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project or task that they wish to have incorporated in this work program will have an opportunity to bring it forward for discussion at the next meeting of the JTPG. No questions or comments were raised regarding this announcement nor was any other business pertaining to the UPWP.

- 7. Performance Measures for MassDOT:** Derek Krevat of MassDOT's Office of Transportation Planning gave a presentation on performance based planning and measures. These measures pertain to performance targets that MassDOT will be obligated to adopt and meet under transportation legislation, MAP 21 and the FAST Act, which inherently will influence MassDOT's project selection and programming. These measures are grouped into three broader groups including safety, pavement and bridge and system-wide performance. Derek went on to explain more specific performance measures under these three categories.

A question was raised as to whether or not regional funding would be affected if a certain performance measure goal was not met, to which Derek replied that it is possible for MassDOT to take into consideration whether or not a proposed project is aiding the state in meeting their overall performance goals when choosing projects. Afterwards, discussion ensued about community goals and what improvements a given community wants to see made as opposed to the goals that MassDOT is trying to accomplish through their performance measures.

- 8. Other Business:** Mr. Mission announced that Bonnie DeSousa of the Southcoast Bikeway Alliance requested permission to speak at the next meeting of the JTPG about the issues being observed by the group as well as some of the successes, to which there was no objection.

Mr. Mission also announced that there are various positions available at SRPEDD with the recent departure of staff members. There is a transit planning position that is currently vacant as well as the position of Director of Transit Planning. There are also paid internship positions open in the Transportation Department to aid in data collection efforts during the summer months.

The final announcement made by Mr. Mission was in regard to a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (DSEIR) for the Southcoast Rail project being made available and that MassDOT is currently seeking feedback on the two potential project solutions that they have put forward.

- 9. Date, Time, Place for Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the JTPG is tentatively scheduled for March 14, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the SRPEDD office.

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10. Adjournment: After the announcement of the next meeting date and place, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lee Azinheira at 3:24 PM.