

## *Joint Transportation Planning Group*

---

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

The following JTPG Members were in attendance:

Lee Azinheira, Chairman, Town of Mansfield	Alan Slavin, Town of Wareham
Stephanie Crampton, City of New Bedford	Paul DiGuiseppe, Town of Norton
Jim Hartnett, Town of Westport	Robert Burgmann, Town of Mattapoisett
Gloria McPherson, Town of Fairhaven	Vincent Furtado, Town of Fairhaven
John Woods, Town of Carver	Jon Henry, Town of Marion
Leeann Bradley, Town of Middleborough	JR Frey, City of Fall River
Benjamin Muller, MassDOT OTP	Tim Kochan, MassDOT District 5

The following were also in attendance:

Deborah Melino-Wender, Town of Dartmouth	Adam Hart, City of New Bedford
Bonne DeSousa, Mattapoisett Resident	John Menzel, Marion Pathways
Lloyd Mendes, Somerset Resident	Mary-Ellen DeFrias, Mass Development
Jamie Pisano, VHB	Paul Mission, SRPEDD
Lisa Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD	Guoqiang Li, SRPEDD
Angela Constantino, SRPEDD	Charlie Mills, SRPEDD
Jacqueline Jones, SRPEDD	

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM by Chairman Lee Azinheira, after which the attendees introduced themselves.
- 2. Public Comments:** Mr. Azinheira opened the floor to any members of the public that wished to address the JTPG.

Ms. DeSousa from the Friends of the Mattapoisett Pathway organization addressed the group highlighting the regional importance of the proposed Marion Pathway and efforts by the Town of Mattapoisett to fund a connection between the terminus of the Marion path at the Marion/Mattapoisett Town Line to North Street using non-Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funding sources. She also discussed a plan bid opening for the Mattapoisett Phase 1B project scheduled for January 2019. She turned the floor over to Mr. Menzel who advocated for advancing the Marion Pathways project that is slated in the TIP for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021.

- 3. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes of the JTPG meeting held on October 10, 2018. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.
- 4. Presentation of the Coordinated Human Service Transportation (CHST) Plan for the SRPEDD Region:** Ms. Constantino gave a presentation on efforts to develop a Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan for the SRPEDD Region. She explained that the plan is required by

## *Joint Transportation Planning Group*

---

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

federal law and that the intent of the plan is to identify needs and prioritize recommendations for meeting identified needs. She further explained that the Plan is used for awarding Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 funds.

She discussed efforts to identify needs in the region including work with partner organizations, surveys, public forums and empathy interviews. She announced the CHST Plan will be released for a public comment period at the SMMPO meeting on November 20, 2018 and that public meetings for the plan will be held in December. For further information please contact Angela Constantino at [aconstantino@srpedd.org](mailto:aconstantino@srpedd.org).

Mr. Mendes asked if Section 5310 funds could be used to fund private transportation that met identified needs. Ms. Constantino replied that it could but that the funding would need to be allocated through a municipality, non-profit organization or one of the Regional Transit Authorities. Mr. Mendes stated that he appreciated the use of empathy interviews. Ms. Constantino replied that the information received is very useful and that additional training of interviewers would be done in future efforts.

Mr. Guiseppe discussed challenges Regional Transit Authorities face with restrictions on crossing state lines using RIPTA experiences as an example. Ms. Constantino replied that data collected as part of the effort highlighted the need for expanding service across state lines and other political boundaries.

### **5. Discussion of Community Technical Assistance:**

Mr. Mission discussed SRPEDD's Community Technical Assistance Program and explained that the intent of the program is to provide planning and technical assistance to communities for small transportation related issues. He used signal warrants analysis, traffic count locations, and small bicycle and pedestrian projects as examples of applicable projects.

He explained that the program is currently run on demand when communities reach out to SRPEDD with issues. He further explained that due to the volume of requests in recent years, SRPEDD is looking to formalize the program with an application process. The application process would involve communities submitting projects by a deadline (to be determined) and then the projects would be prioritized based on criteria and staff time available. Any projects not covered in one fiscal year would be added to the list for the next year. Mr. Mission provided preliminary application forms to the group and requested that any interested party should fill out the form and submit it to Mr. Mission at [pmission@srpedd.org](mailto:pmission@srpedd.org). Ms. Melino-Wender requested that the

## *Joint Transportation Planning Group*

---

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

form be resent to the group electronically. Mr. Mission replied that he would send out the form to the group's email list.

### **6. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):**

- a. **Status of Programmed Projects** – Mr. Kochan gave a status update for the following projects:

#### **FY 2018**

- Wareham Routes 6 and 28 – construction bids are expected to be opened January 2019.
- Interstate Maintenance on 195 in Seekonk and Rehoboth – the construction bids were opened late October of 2018 and the low bid was \$8.9 million.
- Median Cable Barrier Installation on I-495 in Norton and Taunton – bids were opened on November 6, 2018 and the low bid was \$1.35 million.
- Guide and Traffic Sign Replacements from Attleboro to Norwood – bids are scheduled to be opened in January 2019.
- Safe Routes to School Program
  - Fall River Viveiros School – bids opened in October 2018 and the low bid was \$1.3 million.
  - New Bedford Ashley and Lincoln Elementary Schools - bids were opened on November 6, 2018 and the low bid was \$1.3 million.
- Mattapoissett Phase 1B – bids are scheduled to be opened in January of 2019.

#### **FY 2019**

- Seekonk – Route 114A and County Street – the project is at 75% design and MassDOT is awaiting 100% design plans.
- Norton Route 123 Corridor Improvements – 100% design plans were received October 2018.
- New Bedford King's Highway – 100% design plans are due December 2018.

#### **FY2020**

- Taunton Broadway Phase 1 from Saint Mary's Square to Leonard Street – a public design hearing was held in September of 2018 and 75% design plans are due in December 2018.
- Lakeville Route 79 Taunton City Line to Clear Pond Road – A comment resolution meeting is needed for the 25% design plans and to revise the project schedule.
- New Bedford Hathaway Triangle, Hathaway Road, Mount Pleasant Street and Nauset Street intersection – A public design hearing was held in November of

## *Joint Transportation Planning Group*

---

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

2018 and the design engineer is awaiting a Notice to Proceed from MassDOT for 75% design plans.

- Middleborough John Glass (Everett) Square – 75% design plans are due November 23, 2018.

Mr. Mission inquired about the timeline on finishing the striping for the Middleborough Rotary Project and commented on the traffic flow with the temporary, thinner pavement markings. Mr. Kochan replied that he was not sure of the exact timeframe but would look into it. Mr. Frey replied that he had seen full thickness pavement markings in some locations at the Rotary. Mr. Kochan discussed the raised channelized islands installed as part of the project.

Ms. DeSousa inquired about the progress of the Marion Separate Use Path project. Mr. Kochan replied that MassDOT had received 25% design plans and that they were currently under review. He emphasized the importance of the project design maintaining pace.

Mr. Frey inquired if it would be possible to get detailed information on the bid for the Vivieros Safe Routes to School Project. Mr. Kochan replied that the bids were opened in Boston but that he would look into getting the information to Mr. Frey.

- b. Update on the Evaluation Criteria Working Group – Ms. Estrela-Pedro discussed progress of the group on reviewing SRPEDD’s Evaluation Criteria for TIP projects. She explained that the group had met twice, including just prior to the JTPG meeting. She said that the group had done a thorough review and had come up with recommendations for improving the criteria. She explained that a little more revision was needed and that the updated criteria would be presented to the group upon completion.

Mr. Mission inquired if the review would be completed in December. Ms. Estrela-Pedro replied that it depended on the group’s availability.

### **7. Other Business:**

Mr. Kochan announced that he would be attending a Pre-Project Review Committee (PRC) meeting to present all the proposed projects for District 5 including a proposed project for School Street in Mansfield. Discussion ensued regarding the project review process and project costs, specifically costs related to separate use path construction.

## *Joint Transportation Planning Group*

---

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

Ms. Estrela-Pedro asked Mr. Kochan if MassDOT's Evaluation Criteria for TIP projects was available online. Discussion ensued regarding the components of the criteria and access to the information.

Mr. Azinheira inquired about the date of the PRC Meeting. Mr. Kochan replied that the meeting was scheduled for December 6, 2018.

- 8. Date, Time, Place for Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the JTPG is tentatively scheduled for December 12, 2018, 12:00 PM at SRPEDD. Mr. Mission announced that the meeting will most likely be a combined JTPG and SMMPO meeting and that refreshments would be served.
- 9. Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lee Azinheira at 3:14 PM.