

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE

Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Held at SRPEDD

88 Broadway, Taunton, MA

The following SMMPO Members were in attendance:

Steve Woelfel	Representing Stephanie Pollack, Secretary & CEO of MassDOT
Dave Hickox	Representing Deborah Melino-Wender, SRPEDD Commission Chair
Pamela Haznar	Representing Jonathan Gulliver, Acting MassDOT Highway Division Administrator
Tony Abreau	Representing Thomas Hoye, Mayor of the City of Taunton
Stacy Forte	Representing Francis Gay, GATRA Administrator
Shayne Trimbell	Representing Erik Rousseau, SRTA Administrator
Alan Slavin	Representing The Town of Wareham
Manuel H. Silva	Representing Jon Mitchell, Mayor of the City of New Bedford

The following were also present:

Jeffrey Walker, SRPEDD	Nelson Hoffman, FHWA
Paul Mission, SRPEDD	Timothy Kochan, MassDOT District 5
Lisa Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD	Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP
Lilia Cabral-Bernard, SRPEDD	
Kyle Richard, SRPEDD	
Jamie Ponte, City of New Bedford	
Lloyd Mendes, Member of the Public	

Handouts:

1. January 16, 2017 SMMPO Agenda
2. FFY2018-2022 TIP Proposed Adjustment #2
3. FFY2018 UPWP Administrative Adjustment
4. DRAFT Route 6 Corridor Transportation Study Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, & Wareham Scope of Work.

- 1) Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:06 PM by Chairman Steve Woelfel, after which, attendees introduced themselves.
- 2) Public Comment:** At this time, Chairman Woelfel opened the floor for public comment. No public comments were made.
- 3) Approval of SMMPO NOVEMBER 21st, 2017 Minutes** – A motion was made to accept the minutes of the NOVEMBER 21st, 2017 meeting of the MPO into the record. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
- 4) Election of New Vice Chairperson:** Due to the election of a new mayor in the City of Attleboro and the subsequent departure of former Mayor Kevin Dumas, a call for nominations of a new Vice-Chairperson for the SMMPO was made. Alan Slavin representing the town of Wareham was

nominated as Vice-Chair. A motion was made at 1:09 PM to elect Alan Slavin as the new Vice-Chairman of the SMMPO. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

5) Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

a) **FFY2018-2022 TIP Adjustment, Discussions and Release for Public Comment:** Lisa Estrela-Pedro announced a proposed adjustment to the FFY2018-2022 TIP regarding a change in the funding split of two corridor improvement projects along Davol Street in Fall River from a 75%/25% split between federal and non-federal funds respectively to an 80%/20% split. A vote was held to adopt the proposed adjustment of these funding split amounts in the TIP at 1:11PM. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

6) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

a) **Administrative Adjustment to FFY2018 UPWP:** Paul Mission presented an administrative adjustment of funds in direct costs for consideration by the SMMPO. The adjustment pertains to the movement of direct cost funds from the 3C Process tasks to the Community and Technical Assistance Task under the FHWA PL / MassDOT Contract in order to aid in covering anticipated travel costs. A motion was made to approve the adjustment at 1:11 PM. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

b) **Consideration from the SMMPO on Amendment to the FFY2018 UPWP Task 3.3 Management Systems to include a Scope of Work for the Route 6 Corridor Transportation Study:** Mr. Mission presented an amendment for consideration by the SMMPO to the FFY2018 UPWP pertaining to the inclusion of a corridor study along Route 6 spanning the towns of Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett and Wareham into the UPWP. A request was made for SRPEDD to undertake the study in September of 2017. Mr. Mission explained that data collection and public outreach would begin in the Summer of 2018 and work towards analyzing and establishing future trip generators along the corridor would begin in October with the start of the FFY19 UPWP. A motion was made to release the study for a 21-day comment period at 1:14PM. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

7) MassDOT Performance Measures

a) **Discussion of Safety Targets and Performance Measures as required by Federal Legislation. The SMMPO will consider adoption of the statewide Performance Measures and Thresholds:** Derek Krevat of MassDOT's Office of Transportation Planning gave a presentation on safety performance measures established by MassDOT. Prior to this presentation, a moment to discuss agenda item #8, other business, was presented while Mr. Krevat's presentation was retrieved and prepared on the laptop and projector. Upon commencement, Mr. Krevat's presentation provided a brief overview of the five safety targets that must be tracked in order to meet the safety goals established by the Federal Highway Administration. The five targeted statistics that need to be monitored in order to

meet these safety goals are the total number of fatalities, the rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles travelled (VMT), the total number of serious injuries, the rate of serious injuries per 100 VMT and the total number of combined serious injuries and fatalities for non-motorized modes. Derek also explained how historical crash data and figures are used to establish a trend line that is used to set targeted goals for improving safety. Both during and after Derek's presentation, multiple questions were raised.

Shayne Trimbell of SRTA inquired as to why both serious injuries and fatalities are reported separately for motorized modes of transportation where all non-motorized injuries and fatalities are reported together. Nelson Hoffman of the Federal Highway Administration stated that the reporting of non-motorized figures have been combined as a compromise between including more information on non-motorized incident statistics while also trying to reduce the number of performance measures needing to be satisfied given that bicycle and pedestrian injuries and fatalities could be reported separately.

Paul Mission inquired as to whether or not the performance measure language to be adopted should be included in the current Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) or the next revision of them. Derek replied stating that inclusion of the language would not be required until the next development of both documents. Nelson Hoffman commented further stating that if an update of the current RTP were to be made, then the language regarding adopted performance measures would have to be included as a part of that update.

Mr. Mission also inquired about what measures the SMMPO should consider in order to assist MassDOT in meeting their targets. Discussion then ensued amongst the attendees regarding the preliminary status of these targets and what data will be needed in order to determine which targets might need the most attention and effort in meeting them.

A motion was made for the SMMPO to adopt the established statewide performance measures at 1:37 PM under the condition that the measures be revisited in three to four months to ensure that their adoption is appropriate. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b) Future Performance Measures to be Considered by the SMMPO:** Derek Krevat briefly discussed that other measures to be expected in the future would pertain to asset management, system performance and pavement/bridge performance. Paul Mission noted that although these goals were addressed in the past with the development of the RTP, they have now become more substantiated with the federal requirement to address these specific measures and meet their targets. Steve Woelfel elaborated further on this point stating that if there is a failure to meet these targeted goals, funding will not be taken away from the MPOs but rather, restrictions of what can be done with those funds will be imposed.

- 8) Other Business:** Prior to Derek Krevat's presentation on safety performance measures, an opportunity to discuss other business was presented as noted in the previous agenda item. Paul Mission announced that TIP development, project selection and prioritization will be coinciding with the states update of its Capital Investment Plan (CIP). A draft of the TIP is slated to be prepared for public comment in April and its endorsement to take place in May. Along with the update of the TIP, SRPEDD will also be undertaking their update of the UPWP as well as the RTP, and subsequently, may be constrained in the amount of other work they will be able to undertake, an example being a large corridor study, however, smaller projects may still be undertaken. Any inquiries regarding what projects might be feasible for incorporation into the UPWP may be directed to either Paul Mission or Lisa Estrela-Pedro of SRPEDD.

Aside from these expected document updates, Paul also mentioned that SRPEDD's Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are currently due for an update given that their last update took place in 2011 and those memorandums must be updated every four years. These agreements will be presented to the SMMPO in May for their endorsement.

Aside from Mr. Mission's announcements, Pam Haznar of MassDOT commented further regarding the development of the TIP stating that if a community has a project programmed into the TIP or wishes to do so, that an updated schedule or cost estimate are critical for proper programming.

- 9) Date, Time and Place for Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the SMMPO is tentatively planned to be held on February 20th @ 1:00 PM at the SRPEDD office in Taunton.
- 10) Adjournment:** A motion was made by Chairman Steve Woelfel to adjourn the meeting at 1:40PM. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.