

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE  
**Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)**  
**Tuesday, March 20, 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, MassDOT Highway Div. Administrator
Tony Abreau	Representing Thomas Hoye, Mayor of the City of Taunton
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
Lee Azinheria	JTPG Chairman

The following were also present:

Paul Mission, SRPEDD	Timothy Kochan, MassDOT District 5
Lisa Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD	Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP
Lilia Cabral-Bernard, SRPEDD	
Jamie Ponte, City of New Bedford	

Handouts:

1. March 20, 2018 SMMPO Agenda
2. FFY2018-2022 TIP Proposed Amendment #2
3. FFY2019-2023 TIP Proposed Considerations
4. Draft SRTA TIP
5. Draft GATRA TIP
6. Draft Scope of Work for the Route 6 Transportation Study.
7. The 2011 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- 1) Call to Order and Introductions** - The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM by Chairman Steve Woelfel and attendees introduced themselves.
- 2) Public Comments** - Chairman Woelfel opened the floor to give an opportunity for the public to address the SMMPO. No public comments were made.
- 3) Approval of SMMPO JANUARY 16, 2018 Minutes** – Chairman Woelfel asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes and if there were any comments or changes. A motion was made to accept

the minutes of the JANUARY 16, 2018 meeting of the SMMPO into the record. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

**4) Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) –**

- a) Proposed amendments to FFY2018- FFY2022** - Lisa Estrela-Pedro opened the discussion by explaining the items included in the proposed amendment involved projects in the FFY2018 and FFY2019 of the FFY2018-23 TIP. The first item involved the funding for the Wareham - Routes 6 & 28 project which was previously being funded over 2 years in both FFY2018 & FFY2019. There was a surplus of \$2.3 million in STIP funds which now enables the project to be fully funded in FFY2018. In order to do that the Norton- Route 123 project will be placed in FFY2019, pushed out from FFY2018. We are adding some projects to FFY2018 including the Sweet's Knoll River portion of the Taunton River Trail, being funded with FLAP funds, that is not affecting our target so we will be amended in. Also there was a cost decrease with the Seekonk – Rehoboth maintenance on Interstate 195, and the addition of the median cable barrier project in Norton on I-495 added to FFY2018. The Wareham project will be removed from FFY2019 because it was added to FFY2018 and the Norton – Route 123 is being added to FFY2019 because it was pushed back from FFY2018.

The Chairman asked for a motion to send the proposed amendments out for a 21-day public comment period. A motion was made. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b) Discussion of the FFY2019-2023 TIP** – Ms. Estrela –Pedro began the review of the proposed considerations for the FFY2019-2023 TIP. Included in the proposed FFY2019 is the Norton project on Route 123, that was a part of today's amendment, the New Bedford King's Highway project and the Seekonk Route 114A at County Street project. We are recommending moving Middleboro Everett Square project into 2020.

In 2020 is the Middleboro project, as well as Taunton corridor improvements on Broadway, the New Bedford Hathaway Road at Mt Pleasant Street project, and the Lakeville Route 79 reconstruction project. The cost increase in the Lakeville project has more than doubled and is causing a domino effect in the out years.

Due to the cost increase in Lakeville, the Attleboro project at Routes 1, 1A and 123 now gets pushed out to 2021. Also in 2021 is reconstruction of Dean Street in Taunton, corridor improvements at Dartmouth & Prospect Streets in Dartmouth and resurfacing on Route 138 in Raynham.

In 2022 are New Bedford Rockdale and Allen Street project, the Mattapoisett at Water, Beacon & Marion Road project, the New Bedford County Street project, the Dartmouth Tucker Road alignment and the Rehoboth intersection improvements at Route 44 and Anawan Street.

In 2023 is the Wareham bike lanes along Narrows Road project, the Taunton Broadway improvements (Phase II), Chauncy Street in Mansfield, and Plainville at Route 1 & George Street project.

Mr. Mission reminded the group that we will be presenting these proposed considerations to the JTPG for the draft FFY2019-2023 TIP to then be released for a 21-day public comment period with eventual endorsement in the third week in May.

The Chairman mentioned the draft TIP handouts listing transit projects that were provided by MassDOT and Ms. Estrela-Pedro suggested that the representatives from SRTA and GATRA would be in a better position to address those lists but they both declined commenting at this time. Frank Gay added that the list was simply a 'needs request' and that the RTA's have not heard anything further from MassDOT concerning this.

#### **5) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) –**

- a) Paul Mission began the discussion by explaining that on January 16, the amended UPWP was released for public comment after the staff was asked to look at Route 6 at the request of the 4 communities involved in the study, Wareham, Marion, Mattapoisett & Fairhaven. He further explained that after an extended comment period, we are looking for an endorsement of the amended UPWP including the addition of the Route 6 Corridor Study to the FFY2018 UPWP task 3.3 Management Systems. Mr. Mission briefly explained Phase I of the study in FFY2018 is to collect data to determine existing conditions and Phase II of the study would continue in FFY2019. Mr. Mission indicated that at the April SMMPO meeting, an amendment to the FFY2018 UPWP will be necessary to transfer funds into Management Systems to cover this task.

Frank Gay asked that transit service and accommodations be addressed in the study and Mr. Mission assured him they would be.

The Chairman asked for a motion to amend the FFY2018 UPWP to reflect the addition of the Route 6 project work to Task 3.3 Management Systems. A motion was made. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b) Mr. Mission explained that our funding contracts, both FTA and FHWA PL, will be increased next year, but that the bulk of next year's UPWP tasks (starting October 1 thru September 30) will be taken up by the Regional Transportation Plan and any other outstanding studies, as well as community technical assistance. The draft UPWP, with guidelines for work in the coming fiscal year, will be ready next month for endorsement in May.

- 6) **SMMPO Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** – Mr. Mission explained that during the Federal Certification Review, it was advised that we update the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding for the SMMPO between MassDOT, GATRA, SRTA and SRPEDD which is long overdue for an update. Updates being discussed are the inclusion of Performance Measures as part of the 3C process, meeting all proper codes and state legislation. One change being discussed would make it possible for a designee of an SMMPO member to be able to be appointed as a designee for an entire year in lieu of having to bring a letter to be a designee for each and every SMMPO meeting.

- 7) **Other Business-** There was no other business.
- 8) **Date, Time and Place for Next Meeting** – The next meeting of the SMMPO was tentatively planned to be held on April 17, 2018 @ 1:00 PM at the SRPEDD office in Taunton. Mr. Mission reminded the group that they would be voting on the draft TIP and the draft UPWP to release for the 21 day public comment period at that meeting, as well as voting on today’s TIP amendment.
- 9) **Adjourn** - Chairman Steve Woelfel asked for motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 PM. A motion was made. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.