

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE
Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)
Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Held at SRPEDD

88 Broadway, Taunton, MA

The following SMMPO Members were in attendance:

Steve Woelfel	Representing Stephanie Pollack, Secretary & CEO of MassDOT
Pamela Haznar	Representing Jonathan Gulliver, Acting MassDOT Highway Div. Administrator
Lori-Ann Miller	Representing Deborah Melino-Wender, SRPEDD Commission Chair
Manuel H. Silva	Representing Jon Mitchell, Mayor of the City of New Bedford
Tony Abreau	Representing Thomas Hoye, Mayor of the City of Taunton
Alan Slavin	Representing The Town of Wareham
Francis Gay	GATRA Administrator
Shayne Trimbell	Representing Erik Rousseau, SRTA Administrator
Bill Roth	City of Fall River
Steve Ouellette	Town of Westport

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	Charlie Mills, MassDOT OTP
Jeffrey Walker, SRPEDD	Mary Ellen Defrias, Mass Development
Kyle Richard, SRPEDD	Rick Pass, Mass Development

Handouts:

1. May 15, 2018 MPO Agenda
2. FFY 2018-2022 Proposed TIP Amendment #3 & Adjustments #3 & #4
3. DRAFT FFY2019-2023 TIP Highway Project List
4. DRAFT FFY2019-2023 TIP GATRA Project List
5. DRAFT FFY2019-2023 TIP SRTA Project List

- 1) Call to Order and Introductions** - The meeting was called to order at 1:06 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 April 17, 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 APRIL 17, 2018 meeting of the SMMPO into the record. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

4) Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

- a) **Amendments and Administrative Adjustments to the FFY2018-2022 TIP presented to the SMMPO April 17, 2018:** Lisa Estrela-Pedro reviewed the proposed amendments to the FFY2018-2022 TIP which were announced at the previous meeting of the SMMPO and were subsequently released for a 21-day comment period. These amendments were in regards to a cost decrease of the Weaver Street bridge replacement project over the Massachusetts Coastal Railroad in Fall River and the relocation of the superstructure replacement project in New Bedford to FFY2023. A motion was made to approve these amendments as presented to the SMMPO. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Estrela-Pedro also reviewed proposed adjustments which were presented at the previous meeting of the SMMPO and were also released for a 21-day comment period as well as additional proposed adjustments being presented to the group as of this meeting. These additional adjustments were regarding the relocation of a GATRA vehicle replacement project from the 5339 contract to the 5307 contract as well as cost decreases and increases for SRTA vehicle replacement and ITS projects. Given that these adjustments did not need to be released for a comment period prior to approval, Ms. Estrela-Pedro requested that these adjustments be considered for approval by the MPO along with the adjustments that were previously presented and released as of the previous meeting in April. A motion was made to approve these proposed adjustments of the FFY2018-2022 TIP as presented to the SMMPO. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b) **Amendments to the FFY2018-2022 TIP:** At this time, Ms. Estrela-Pedro reviewed additional amendments to the FFY2018-2022 TIP being presented to the group as of this meeting. Ms. Estrela-Pedro referred to a provided handout which listed these proposed amendments as well as adjustments which had been previously been voted on during the meeting. These amendments pertained to several GATRA projects, namely a cost increase for one project and the addition of six others to the TIP. A motion was made to release this additional amendment to a 21-day public comment period prior to a vote for approval. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
- c) **Presentation of the FFY2019-2023 TIP:** Ms. Estrela-Pedro reviewed comments that were submitted during the release of the draft FFY2019-2023 TIP for a 21-day public comment period. A comment was submitted by the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency regarding the inclusion of the State Pier project in New Bedford given that they had received grant money for that project and as a result, it should be reflected in the FFY2019 project list. MassDOT also submitted a comment letter addressing some typos and cost changes that needed to be corrected in the document. A comment letter was also submitted by the Conservation Law Foundation stating their support for various aspects of the TIP.

After these comments were reviewed, it was requested that those in attendance representing the Massachusetts Development Financing Agency clarify the specific details of the New Bedford State Pier project for which grant money was received. Rick Pass of the agency went on to announce that as of the acquisition of both the New Bedford and Fall River State Piers by Mass Development, there have been some deficiencies noted particularly in the area of the Seastreak Ferry Terminal for which a study is being undertaken in order to address these issues and provide justification for the reconstruction of that area of the state pier. A motion was made to endorse the FFY2019-2023 TIP as it was presented to the group as of this meeting. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. After this motion was made, an endorsement sheet was circulated around the room for MPO members or their representatives to sign.

5) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- a) Amendments for reallocation of funds between tasks as presented to the SMMPO April 17, 2018:** Paul Mission reviewed amendments to the current UPWP regarding the reallocation of funds between tasks which were presented to the SMMPO at the April 17th meeting. It was announced that during the 21-day public comment period for which these amendments were released that there were no comments made, and subsequently, Mr. Mission asked to a vote to approve these amendments to the FFY2018 UPWP as presented. A motion was made to approve these proposed amendments to the UPWP. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
- b) Presentation of the FFY2019 UPWP:** Mr. Mission reviewed comments submitted regarding the draft FFY2019 UPWP which was released for a 21-day public comment period. A letter was received from FHWA regarding the document

6) SMMPO Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

7) Other Business:

- 8) Date, Time, Place for Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the SMMPO was tentatively planned to be held on June 19, 2018 @ 1:00 PM at the SRPEDD office in Taunton.

9) Adjourn: