

MINUTES FOR THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
**Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)
& the Joint Transportation Planning Group**

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

Held at SRPEDD

88 Broadway, Taunton, MA

The following SMMPO Members were in attendance:

The following were also present:

Steve Woelfel	Representing Stephanie Pollack, Secretary & CEO of MassDOT
Pamela Haznar	Representing Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway Div. Administrator
Lori-Ann Miller	Representing Deborah Melino-Wender, SRPEDD Commission Chair
Jamie Ponte	Representing Jon Mitchell, Mayor of the City of New Bedford
Alan Slavin	Representing The Town of Wareham
Francis Gay	GATRA Administrator
Shayne Trimbell	Representing Erik Rousseau, SRTA Administrator
Steve Ouellette	Representing the Town of Westport
Fred Cornaglia	Representing Thomas Hoye, Mayor of the City of Taunton
Gloria McPherson	Representing Charlie Murphy of the Town of Fairhaven

The following were also present:

Paul Mission, SRPEDD	Tim Kochan, MassDOT District 5
Lisa Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD	Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP
Lilia Cabral-Bernard, SRPEDD	Manuel Silva, City of New Bedford
Kevin Ham, SRPEDD	Mary Ellen DeFrias, Mass Development
Kyle Richard, SRPEDD	

Handouts:

1. Proposed RTP Amendment for Air Quality Conformity
2. FFY2018 TIP SRTA Administrative Adjustment #5
3. FFY2018 TIP Highway Administrative Adjustment #5
4. FFY 2018 UPWP Administrative Adjustment

- 1) Call to Order and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 12:59 PM by Chairman Steve Woelfel, after which the 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 June 19, 2018 Minutes:** Chairman Woelfel asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes of the June 19 meeting of the SMMPO and if there were any comments or changes. There were none. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the JUNE 19, 2018 meeting of the SMMPO into the record. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
- 4) 2016 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP):** Chairman Woelfel announced that in accordance with legal action taken against the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration regarding their air quality standards, changes will need to be made to the current RTP (2016) to reflect those actions and subsequent findings. Mr. Woelfel then described in brief the legislative history of the case resulting in these findings. Given that the current RTP was developed in conformance with the most recent air quality standards set forth by FHWA and FTA, the 2016 RTP must be amended to conform with the previous standards set forth in 1990 per the finding of the civil suit. A handout was made available for this meeting outlining the legislative background on air quality standards and what conformity determinations must be made. In addition, Paul Mission mentioned that text regarding air quality analysis can be found in Appendix Q of the 2016 RTP as well as within the document text itself. A motion was made to release this amendment to the 2016 RTP for a 21-day public comment period. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
- 5) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):** Lisa Estrela-Pedro announced proposed administrative adjustments to the FFY2018-2022 TIP, for which handouts were provided at the meeting. The first adjustment proposed the shifting of \$309 from SRTA's ITS engineering and design project to their bus replacement project. The second adjustment was regarding the inclusion of the city of Taunton to the median cable barrier installation project on I-495 project in Norton and a cost decrease associated with the project. Ms. Estrela-Pedro pointed out that the displayed funding split was 80/20 (\$752,617 Federal Funds / \$188,154 Non-Federal Funds) and that it should be 90/10 (\$846,694 Federal / \$94,077 Non-Federal Funds). Mr. Woelfel concurred and requested that the change be sent out to the committee. A motion was made to approve the adjustments with the noted 90/10 funding split change. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
- 6) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP):** Mr. Mission presented a proposed administrative adjustment to the FFY2018 UPWP to the group regarding the reallocation of small amounts of funds related to travel expenses from various tasks into the Data GIS task. He mentioned that it is anticipated that these travel funds will not be needed during the course of the remaining work program and that they would be better utilized for data collection efforts as well as maintaining software licensing agreements. A motion was made to approve these administrative adjustments to the FFY2018 UPWP as presented to the group. The motion was seconded and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
- 7) SRPEDD Drone Program:** At this point in the meeting, Kevin Ham made a presentation on the new SRPEDD Drone Program regarding ongoing data collection efforts using the drone as well as other potential uses of the drone for collecting data. Kevin described data collected for the

Tremont Nail Company site in the town of Wareham, specifically 3-dimensional spatial modelling data as well as various images recorded of the sight. Kevin also mentioned that this technology could be used to make sub-centimeter measurements along a roadway which would normally require a staff member to be in the roadway to measure these dimensions manually with a measuring wheel. Mr. Mission added that this program has potential to aid in data collection efforts pertaining to SRPEDD's Flood Hazard Mitigation Program as well as the update of SRPEDD's Regional Transportation Plan.

A question was raised regarding the requirements and regulations related to the operation of a drone, to which Mr. Ham briefly described the parameters to which a drone pilot must conform to in compliance with FAA regulations.

Alan Slavin of Wareham mentioned in regards to the Tremont Nail project that the town will be requesting a visual of the superimposition of a train station and parking lot at the sight to be used in future presentations.

- 8) Other Business:** Mr. Mission took the time to mention that as a part of the update of SRPEDD's Regional Transportation Plan, public outreach efforts will be beginning soon and asked the group if anyone had any ideas for events that SRPEDD staff could attend to conduct these efforts. Discussion then ensued amongst those in attendance regarding potential venues and events that could be attended by staff in order to conduct public outreach. Mr. Mission then asked that if anyone thinks of any other potential suggestions outside of the meeting that they contact SRPEDD staff with those suggestions. Aside from Mr. Mission's announcement, no other business was discussed.
- 9) Date, Time, Place for Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the SMMPO was scheduled to be held on August 21, 2018 @ 1:00 PM at the SRPEDD office in Taunton.
- 10) Adjourn:** Chairman Steve Woelfel asked for motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 PM. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.