

MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (MJTC) MEETING

MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2019

Meeting Held at

MRPC OFFICES

464 ABBOTT AVENUE, LEOMINSTER, MA 01453

D. Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

I. Introduction

Members

Doug Walsh, Athol; Robert Szocik, Templeton; Richard Maki, Sterling;

Ex-Officio

Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District 3; Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP

Non-Members

Nicolas Bosonetto

Staff

Brad Harris, George Kahale, Sheri Bean, Brian Doherty

II. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

III. Approval of May 8, 2019 Minutes

D. Walsh indicated that he was listed as being from Ayer on the minutes. B. Harris indicated that the minutes will be amended to reflect that he is from Athol. Due to a lack of a quorum, the minutes were tabled until the July MJTC Meeting.

IV. Report of Nominating Committee

D. Walsh indicated that, as chair of the nominating committee, he reached out to the incumbents to determine their willingness to serve in their current roles. Jon Wyman from Westminster has indicated he will be willing to serve as Chair, D. Walsh will be willing to serve as Secretary, and D. Walsh nominated Paula Bertram of Lunenburg to serve as Vice Chair. R. Maki also offered support for P. Bertram as Vice Chair. The slate presented is as follows:

Chair: Jon Wyman, Westminster

Vice Chair: Paula Bertram, Lunenburg

Secretary: Doug Walsh, Athol

B. Harris indicated that there will be opportunity for floor nominations tonight and at the July meeting before the election. The first order of business for the July meeting will be the election of officers.

V. Montachusett FFY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

— *Review and Discussion of Draft UPWP*

– *MJTC Recommendation Regarding Draft UPWP*

S. Bean mentioned that the 2020 UPWP is currently out for public comment. So far two comments were received, one from MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, the second from a Leominster resident. She reviewed the comments and the responses. The comment period ends June 17.

B. Harris indicated that the draft document is available at the meeting and also on the MRPC website.

There being no quorum, there was no recommendation made by the group.

VI. Montachusett Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

- *Review & Discussion of Draft RTP*
- *MJTC Recommendations Regarding Draft RTP*

B. Harris spoke about the development of the RTP. Staff is working with the GIS department in developing a story map of the document for when the draft is made available for public comment. He discussed the Massachusetts Commission on the Future of Transportation Planning's work on developing scenarios for the future of the state and the staff's regional approach to such scenarios in the RTP. He then discussed the three planning scenarios presented in the RTP. Scenario 1 – Status Quo, Scenario 2 – Multiple Hubs, and Scenario 3 – Strong Community Centers along with financial plans for each.

B. Harris indicated that, ideally, the MPO will release the RTP for a 21-day public comment period from June 25 to July 15.

D. Walsh mentioned the worthiness of allocating more funds to the Ch. 90 program. He mentioned since it cost communities less money to do road work, increasing these funds would stretch the money and get more done with less. S. Bradbury mentioned that this was a popular comment at the CIP public meetings. B. Harris indicated it was also common feedback through the development of the RTP.

R. Maki asked where the comments can be made. B. Harris mentioned that comments will be able to be made on the website, through letters, emails or other means.

There being no quorum, there was no recommendation made by the group.

VII. ADA Public Right of Way Project

- *Consultant Selection & Scope of Work*

B. Harris described the Local ADA PROW Transition Plan Development. The goal is to assist three communities with their ADA plans and build a model for other member communities to use. An RFP was put out for a consultant to assist with putting together model plans. Two proposals were received and the candidates interviewed, both of which were determined to be a good fit. Ultimately MRPC chose Stantec as a consultant, as they were the low bidder at \$34,200. A contract is currently being put together. The goal is to have draft plans for Lunenburg, Lancaster and Winchendon for September 30th of this year. Initial meetings with communities will commence in the next few weeks. A copy of Stantec's proposal is available to those interested.

VIII. Contract Status Reports

a. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) & Regional Transit Authority (RTA)

G. Kahale mentioned that the Ayer parking facility project is under construction as of April 29th. It is expected to be completed by December of this year. A groundbreaking ceremony was held May 20th. He mentioned that MRPC is also working with the RTA on developing a system to monitor on-time performance on their bus routes.

b. MassDOT 3C

B. Harris mentioned that an adjustment is needed to Amendment 3 of the 2019-2023 TIP. An error on the cost amendment to the Twin Cities Rail Trail project was made and an adjustment is necessary. He mentioned Baystate Roads and their upcoming workshops on the MassDOT Project Intake Tool (MaPIT). MRPC will be hosting the June 18th workshop here in our office. The workshop is free and open to all communities.

The next MPO meeting is Wednesday June 19, 2019 at 1:00 PM.

IX. Administrative Matters

- *Next MJTC Meeting Location*

The next meeting of the MJTC will be on July 10, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the MRPC Offices. This meeting will include a public presentation for the RTP.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

DOCUMENTS/EXHIBITS AVAILABLE AT MEETING:

6 12 19 Agenda
5 8 19 MJTC Minutes
Interested Parties Draft 2020 UPWP Letter
UPWP Comments and Responses
Montachusett Scenario Options
Scenario Options Financials
MaPIT Baystate Roads