

# **MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (MJTC) MEETING**

## **MINUTES OF February 17, 2016**

J. Wyman called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

### **I. Introduction**

#### Members

Tracy Murphy, Winchendon; Jeff Hoynoski, MassDOT District 2, Doug Walsh, Athol; Jon Wyman, Westminster; Austin Cyganiewicz, Winchendon; Tim Johnson, the ARC of Opportunity, Noreen Piazza, Lancaster; Nikki Tishler, Mass DOT OTP; Mike Pineo, Sterling.

#### Guests

Albert Gallant, Winchendon DPW

#### Staff

Brad Harris, Brian Doherty, George Snow, G. Kahale, S. Bean

### **II. Approval of January 20, 2016 Minutes**

It was the consensus of the MJTC to approve the January 20, 2016 MJTC minutes as written with two abstentions.

### **III. FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

B. Harris indicated the development process has begun for the FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). MRPC should receive its targets numbers from MassDOT in March. From those numbers and after project prioritization, a TIP will be developed. Scenarios will be developed by staff for review by the MJTC. Once review by the MJTC is complete, the MJTC will make a recommendation to the MPO. A formally endorsed TIP should be in place by June.

B. Harris provided and explained in detail handouts regarding the Montachusett FFY2017-2021 Montachusett TIP that included: a memo to interested parties regarding the Development of the TIP; the schedule for the development of the TIP; a listing of Montachusett Target Projects; and a Listing of Montachusett Target Eligible Projects.

At the next MJTC Meeting staff will discuss with the MJTC target projects and target numbers along with TEC scores.

At the MPO Meeting in March presentations will be made on the following projects:

- Gardner Leominster Sterling intersection Improvement Project
- Gardner Resurfacing of Matthews Street
- Templeton Route 68 Resurfacing
- Route 13 Project in Leominster

Discussion took place regarding a variety of projects that were listed on the Montachusett Target Project Listing and TEC scoring.

B. Harris encouraged communities to inform MRPC about the status of projects that are on the Project Listing,

#### **IV. Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line Schedule Revision Presentation**

G. Kahale distributed and explained a number of handouts regarding revisions to the Commuter Rail Line Schedule. MBTA released new commuter rail schedules. The public comment period concluded on February 12, 2016. Final schedule will be released in April and be implemented May 23, 2016. Two additional trains were added to the Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line closing existing gaps. He explained in detail revisions to the Fitchburg Line Schedule.

#### **VI. Contract Status Reports**

##### **a. FTA**

##### **b. RTA**

G. Kahale explained that MassDOT has developed a new bus route between Worcester and Northhampton via I-190 and Route 2. Service is operated by a private operator and will run four trips per day. Bus service is called MAX. He indicated that there is no new information on the Ayer Parking Facility. New fixed bus schedules are being developed for Athol and Orange. Fixed bus route service is being extended into the center of Lunenburg.

##### **c. MassDOT 3C**

B. Harris stated that the draft of the Public Participation Program has been reviewed by MassDOT. MassDOT commented and a new draft will be available at the March MPO meeting. A public hearing will be held on February 23, 2016 regarding Intersection Improvements at Route 12 and Chocksett Road in Sterling. A public hearing will be held on February 24, 2016 regarding the Safe Routes to School Program in Fitchburg. . MRPC staff will attend both. B. Harris distributed a handout from MassDOT regarding the Complete Streets Program. An Information Guide was sent to local officials regarding the MPO and the MPO Representative Selection Process. The email also asked for volunteers to serve as representatives. MRPC, to date, has received replies from Petersham, Winchendon, Lunenburg and Athol. MRPC will schedule a dinner meeting for the nominees to discuss and select the representatives and alternates for their Subregion. Traffic Count season will begin shortly. A memo is being prepared to send to communities seeking traffic count requests.

#### **VII. Administrative Matters**

B. Harris indicated the next MJTC Meeting is March 16, 2016 and the MPO Meeting is March 9, 2016.

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

#### **DOCUMENTS/EXHIBITS AVAILABLE AT MEETING:**

February 17, 2016 Agenda

January 20, 2016 MJTC Minutes

Fitchburg Line Public Schedule

Frequently Asked Questions – MBTA Commuter Rail New Schedules

MAX Bus Service Flyer

Interested Parties Memo – Development of the Draft Montachusett 2017-2021 Transportation Program (TIP)

FFY 2017-2020 Montachusett TIP Development Schedule  
TIP Project Listing as of 2/1/2016  
TIP Project Listing as of 2/16/2016  
MPO Subregion Selection – 2016  
MassDOT Notice of Public Hearing Project File No. 60742  
Announcing New Complete Streets Funding Program – MassDOT Flyer  
Complete Streets Program Workshops Flyer – Bay State Road