

MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (MJTC) MEETING
MINUTES OF April 20, 2016

B. Harris called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

I. Introduction

Members

Dough Walsh, Athol; Nikki Tishler, Mass DOT OTP; Ken Chenis, Lunenburg; Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District 3; Noreen Piazza, Lancaster; Tracy Murphy, Winchedon; Tim Johnson, ARC of Opportunity.

Guests

Albert Gallant, Winchendon DPW; Trish Domigan, VHB.

Staff

Brad Harris, Brian Doherty, George Snow

II. Approval of March 16, 2016 Minutes

It was the consensus of the MJTC to approve March 16, 2016 MJTC minutes with the correction that Doug Walsh was present at the meeting.

III. Complete Streets Program Presentation – Patricia Domigan of VHB

A Powerpoint on the Complete Streets Program was presented by Trish Domigan of VHB. A complete street is one that provides safe and accessible options for all travel modes. She explained the benefits of the Complete Streets Program and presented illustrative examples of projects in Massachusetts. Also discussed was the funding program and framework for the Program. Communities can provide information and submit program items through the online web portal at MassDOT.

A question and answer session followed.

IV. FFY2017-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- Financial Year Scenarios

B. Harris presented a number of handouts including the TEC Revised Scoring. The TEC Scoring list has been updated based on input from communities regarding their projects. He distributed and explained a spreadsheet regarding projects identified and discussed on TIP Day. The spreadsheet also included Project Recommendations based on the discussion on TIP Day. He explained the recommendations in detail. He also presented and explained three programming scenarios for the TIP, Scenario 1 TIP Day Results, Scenario 2 and Current TIP Project Distribution vs. FFY2017-2021 Targets. He explained a handout entitled TEC Ver 3.0 Scoring Listings which has the TEC Projects and where they stand based on the three scenarios. He also reviewed the TIP discussions from the MPO Meeting held earlier in the day. Several changes are under discussion due to a revised cost estimate for the Summer Street Project in Fitchburg/Leominster/Lunenburg that will impact the potential scheduling of projects. Additional feedback is needed from MassDOT.

Discussion followed regarding the impact and what it may mean to the TIP.

V. 2016-2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- Task Update

B. Harris indicated that we received additional guidance from FHWA/FTA on the UPWP including Planning Factors, Bike and Pedestrian Networks; Performance Management; Sustainability; Regional Models of Cooperation; Ladders of Opportunity and Geographic Distribution of UPWP funded studies and Target TIP Projects. We will look at incorporating these activities into the UPWP tasks. Further information on the draft UPWP will be available at the next meeting. We are looking at potential tasks to address a new interchange option on Route 2 in Athol as well as further expansion of the bike/ped planning efforts.

VI. Draft 2016 Public Participation Plan
- Update and Public Comment

B. Harris indicated that the PPP is out for public comment and provided a copy of the notice to those present. Comment period will end May 2, 2016. At the next MPO at the end of May we will hopefully endorse the PPP. The Plan is available on our website at mrpc.org. To date we have received no comments.

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VII. Contract Status Reports
- FTA/RTA

MART implemented a new bus schedule effective March 1, 2016.

- MassDOT 3C

B. Harris indicated that the Capital Investment Plan was recently released by MassDOT. The first CIP meeting is at the Fitchburg Public Library on April 25 at 6:00 p.m. B. Harris distributed a flyer with the Public Meeting Schedule regarding presentation and discussion of the draft five year plan.

B. Harris indicated that we recently completed the MPO Subregion Representative Process. Those Representatives and Alternates are: Subregion 1 John Columbus – Templeton; Barbara Anderson – Winchendon; Subregion 2 Kyle Johnson – Ashburnham; Heather Billings, Westminster; Subregion 3 Paula Bertram – Lunenburg; Gary Luca – Ayer; Subregion 4 Stanley Starr – Lancaster; James LeBlanc – Clinton. New members will come on board in September or October and will serve for three years. MPO Meetings have been rescheduled for May and June to May 25th and June 29th.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

DOCUMENTS/EXHIBITS AVAILABLE AT MEETING:

April 20, 2106 MJTC Agenda
March 16, 2016 Minutes
Complete Streets Power Point Presentation
Capital Investment Plan Public Meeting Schedule
TIP Day for 2017-2021STIP

Interested Parties Memo Draft Montachusett MPO Public Participation Plan
Scenario 1 TIP Day Results
Scenario 2
Current TIP Project Distribution vs FFY2017-2021 Targets
TEC Ver 3. Scoring listing
FHWA/FTA FY2017 UPWP Guidance