

**MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (MJTC) MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2016**

J. Wyman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

I. Introduction

Members

Doug Walsh, Athol; Jeff Hoynoski, MassDOT District 2; Jon Wyman, Westminster; Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District 3; Phil Duffy, Clinton; Frank Maxant, Ayer; Austin Cyganewicz, Winchendon; Noreen Piazza, Lancaster

Guests

Albert Gallant, Winchendon DPW;

Staff

Brad Harris, Brian Doherty

II. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. Approval of May 18, 2016 Minutes

F. Maxant commented on the nice example of public involvement shown by the attendance of individuals at the last meeting and the way it was shown that we value their input and concerns.

It was the consensus of the MJTC to approve the May 18, 2016 MJTC minutes as printed.

IV. Report of Nominating Committee

Doug Walsh for the Nominating Committee presented the following slate: Chair – Jon Wyman, Westminster; Vice Chair – Paula Caron, Fitchburg; and Secretary – Doug Walsh, Athol. The Chair asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. It was the consensus of the MJTC to accept the slate as presented. Elections will occur at the July meeting.

V. FFY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

a. Review of Proposed Amendment

B. Harris presented information received from MassDOT regarding the need to amend the FFY 2016 Highway Element due to cost changes to two projects, one a target project while the other is a non-target eligible project, i.e. statewide funded project, and the addition of a statewide funded project.

Discussion followed on the projects and their scopes of work.

It was the consensus of the MJTC to recommend the MPO release the Amendment for public comment.

VI. FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

a. Draft Review & Discussion

B. Harris presented information regarding funding scenario options for the TIP. The major difference between the four scenarios dealt with the funding of the Summer Street project in Fitchburg/ Leominster/ Lunenburg. In scenarios 1 and 2, the project is funded in FFY 2017 and 2018 while in scenarios 5 and 6 it is funded in FFY 2018 and 2019. The reason for the difference is based upon MassDOT District 3 and their concerns as to whether the project will be ready for advertisement in FFY 2017. Any delays that may push

it to FFY 2018, could possibly risk funds for other projects and would likely result in an amendment in order to address it.

B. Harris then continued to discuss the TIP funding scenarios, their differences and fiscal constraint issues.

Discussion followed regarding the funding scenarios, the listing of the Summer Street project and its potential impacts on other TIP projects.

It was the consensus of the MJTC to acknowledge the concerns of MassDOT regarding the Summer Street project and therefore, to minimize any risk to the limited federal funds, the Summer Street project should be programmed in FFYs 2018 and 2019. In addition, it was also the consensus of the MJTC to express their concern to the MPO that if the Summer Street project is programmed in FFYs 2017 and 2018 that it be closely monitored to ensure that any delays are identified early in order that any Amendment can be undertaken as soon as possible to allow for the advertisement of other projects in FFY 2017.

It was the consensus of the MJTC to provide the above comments to the MPO and to also recommend the MPO release the TIP for public comment.

VII. 2016-2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

a. Draft Review & Discussion

B. Harris presented information regarding a draft of the 2016-2017 UPWP. He referred members to a handout and explained in detail several of the new tasks to be implemented in the upcoming year.

B. Doherty explained a task MRPC is undertaking to assist communities in complying with new EPA stormwater regulations. We are currently working on the development of a stormwater app and in the next year, we anticipate providing support to communities as well as updates to the app.

B. Harris explained that we will also complete a study for a new interchange on Route 2 and South Athol Road in Athol; creating updated community trail brochures that might assist in tourism and economic development and a safety review of Route 2 in Athol and Phillipston to assess the effectiveness of prior safety improvements.

It was the consensus of the MJTC to recommend the MPO release the UPWP for public comment.

VIII. Contract Status Reports

a. FTA/RTA

B. Harris indicated that there was no new information available for FTA and RTA. Work is continuing in Ayer regarding the implementation of a new parking station. The town has used eminent domain for some property acquisition. MBTA has also implemented a new schedule for the Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line.

b. MassDOT 3C

B. Harris indicated that the traffic count season is underway. Any community looking for additional counts needs to contact Sheri Bean very soon. A new Transportation planner has been hired and will be onboard in July.

B. Harris mentioned that appointment forms have gone out to communities for the MJTC. Please be on the lookout in your town and make sure it is returned to us as soon as possible.

The next meeting of the MPO will be on May 29, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. here at the MRPC Offices.

IX. Administrative Matters

The next MJTC Meeting will be July 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

DOCUMENTS/EXHIBITS AVAILABLE AT MEETING:

June 15, 2016 Agenda

May 18, 2016 MJTC Minutes

Draft Amendment #2 Summary 6 29 2016

TIP Target Projects TEC Summary

TIP Scenarios Comp 6 15 2016

TIP Scenarios 6 15 2016

DRAFT UPWP 2016 17 Summary 6 15 16

Calendar Draft Release

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