

MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (MJTC) MEETING

MINUTES OF APRIL 10, 2019

Meeting Held at

MRPC OFFICES

464 ABBOTT AVENUE, LEOMINSTER, MA 01453

J. Wyman called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

I. Introduction

Members

Jon Wyman, Westminster; Jeff Hoynoski, MassDOT District 2; Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP; Tracy Murphy, Winchendon; Mark Wetzel, Ayer; Ken Chenis, Lunenburg; Jessica Strunkin, Devens; Dick Maki, Sterling

Non-Members

Lyris Liautaud, MassDOT – Highway Design; Nicolas Bosonetto, VHB

Staff

Brad Harris, George Snow, George Kahale, Sheri Bean, Karen Chapman, Sean O'Donnell

II. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

III. Approval of March 13, 2019 Minutes

A motion was made to approve the March 13, 2019 MJTC Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

IV. ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Transition Planning

– Presentation by MassDOT Highway Design Regarding Grants & Plan Development

L. Liautaud gave a presentation on ADA transition planning. MassDOT wants to encourage all communities in Massachusetts to develop an ADA transition plan that includes the pedestrian facilities in the public right of way (PROW). There is a persistent lack of access and many common barriers that people with disabilities face in the PROW such as inadequate signage, curb ramps and lack of pedestrian signals. Many communities face litigation and administrative exposure for the lack of adequate ADA transition planning. L. Liautaud discussed the MassDOT Directives for the construction of pedestrian facilities and the Deficient Pedestrian Ramp Remediation Program, potential working group members and stakeholders and the self-evaluation process that includes conducting a survey of PROW facilities. An ADA transition plan shall also include public participation, prioritization of PROW facilities with a budget, and a monitoring plan. Funding resources were also discussed that include federal, state (including MA Office on Disability) and local resources.

V. Montachusett FFY 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- Review & Discussion Draft FFY 2020-2024 TIP*
- MJTC Recommendations Regarding Draft TIP*

B. Harris referred to the FFY 2020-2024 TIP Project Preferred Funding Scenario handout. A full draft TIP will be presented at the next MPO meeting. There will be a vote to release the draft TIP document for a 21-day public review and comment period. However, an issue with two projects needs to be resolved that includes a project in Lancaster on Route 117 listed in 2020 and one in Ayer on Route 2A listed in 2021. Today, the MRPC received an email from Lancaster stating that the community has no problem with their project moving to 2021. This will allow Lancaster to finalize the drainage design. This move will allow the Ayer project to be moved into 2020. This change will be discussed at the next MPO meeting. The Westminster Route 140 project may need to be moved as well based on cost to meet the fiscal constraint requirement. The MRPC has not received a final Transit project listing.

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

- *Review & Discussion Draft FFY 2020 UPWP*
- *MJTC Recommendations Regarding UPWP*

S. Bean referred to the Montachusett Draft FFY 2020 UPWP Tasks one-page handout. S. Bean mentioned the full draft will be available at the next MJTC meeting. The most significant changes include the addition of a before and after safety analysis task under section 2.0, new tasks under section 3.0 includes a travel options and rideshare program task, a travel by tourism task, a regional bike plan task, and a trail data app task. S. Bean also noted that the most recent trail guide will be printed next month. B. Harris noted that time remains for communities to submit a location for study and a task could be developed based on input from the community.

VII. Montachusett Regional Transportation Plan

- *Survey Information & Status Update*

B. Harris referred to the Montachusett 2020 RTP Survey Form and Montachusett RTP Survey Initial Review handouts. Initial review shows that the survey received 203 responses. The most significant responses for **Question 3. Are you ...?** was from the general public at 74%. The most significant issue that needs to be addressed for **Question 4. Rank in importance from 1 (Most) to 10 (Least), the following issues that need to be addressed in your community over the next 25 years?** is the road maintenance and infrastructure issue at 47%. For **Question 6. Looking forward 25 years, what do you think would best describe your community in 2045?**, 64% responded that their community would be a residential/bedroom community in 25 years while for **Question 7. Looking forward 25 years, how would you like your community to be described in 2045?**, 44.3% would like their community to be a mixed-use community followed closely by a growing community at 43.9%. Further analysis is being conducted on all eight questions on the survey.

VIII. Contract Status Reports

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

G. Kahale mentioned Ayer parking facility project will begin construction on April 29th. MRPC is monitoring several bus routes looking at their on-time performance.

b. MassDOT 3C

B. Harris mentioned the next MPO meeting is Wednesday April 17, 2019 at 1:00 PM. He also mentioned the draft MOU that covers the various transportation agencies in Massachusetts regarding the responsibilities of the various agencies pertaining to performance-based planning and programming will be endorsed. Also, a TIP amendment (handout provided) will need to be voted on to be released for a 21-day public review and comment period that includes four projects. Two are target projects and two are non-target projects.

G. Snow discussed the release of the Local ADA PROW Transition Plan Development request for proposals.

J. Hoynoski requested the MRPC host a Baystate Roads workshop on the MassDOT Project Intake Tool (MaPIT). The MRPC responded with a willingness to host a workshop.

K. Chenis announced that this will be his last meeting as his term on the planning board has ended.

IX. Administrative Matters

- *Next MJTC Meeting Location*

The next meeting of the MJTC will be on May 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. here at the MRPC Offices.

B. Harris mentioned that the election process will start next month and continue in June with the election in July.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

DOCUMENTS/EXHIBITS AVAILABLE AT MEETING:

4 10 19 Agenda
3 13 19 MJTC Minutes
ADA Transition Plans
Montachusett FFY 2020-2024 TIP Project Funding Scenarios
Montachusett Draft FFY 2020 UPWP Tasks
Montachusett 2020 RTP Survey Form
Montachusett 2020 RTP Survey Initial Review
MMPO Adjustment & Amendment #3 FFY 2019-2023 TIP
Performance-Based Planning and Programming Agreement