

MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (MJTC) MEETING

MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2019

Meeting Held at

MRPC OFFICES

464 ABBOTT AVENUE, LEOMINSTER, MA 01453

J. Wyman called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

I. Introduction

Members

Mark Wetzel, Ayer; Doug Walsh, Athol; Jon Wyman, Westminster; Richard Maki, Sterling;

Ex-Officio

Jeff Hoynoski, MassDOT District 2; Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District 3; Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP;

Non-Members

Staff

Brad Harris, George Snow, George Kahale, Sheri Bean, Brian Doherty

II. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

III. Approval of April 10, 2019 Minutes

D. Krevat noted that in the minutes, L. Liautaud was listed as being from the MassDOT Office of Diversity and Civil Rights when she is with the MassDOT Office of Highway Design. A motion was made to approve the April 10, 2019 MJTC Meeting Minutes with the correction indicated. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

IV. Selection of Nominating Committee

B. Harris indicated that we have entered the time to begin the process to elected officers for the MJTC. The process states that at this meeting, the Chair will seek a volunteer to chair a Nominating Committee. That individual can then select up to three more members to serve on the Committee. At the June MJTC meeting, the Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. The election will then be held at the July meeting.

D. Walsh volunteered to head the Nominating Committee with M. Wetzel and R. Maki as additional members.

V. Montachusett FFY 2019-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- *Review and Discussion of Draft FFY 2019-2023 TIP Amendment #3*
- *MJTC Recommendation Regarding Draft TIP*

B. Harris reviewed the separate sections of the TIP Amendment #3. The MPO voted to release the draft Amendment #3 for public comment at their last meeting on April 17th. The comment period began on April 23rd and will end on May 13th. The amendment includes the following:

- A section to be added to the TIP document outlining Performance Measures 1 (Safety), 2 (Bridge & Pavement) and 3 (Reliability, Congestion, & Emissions) as developed by the state and adopted by the Montachusett MPO. This is a section that will be regularly updated in future TIP documents.
- Changes to projects in the FFY 2019 Transit Element based on project cost changes and RTA needs.
- Changes to project costs in the FFY 2019 Highway Element. These changes, as recommended by MassDOT, will not impact our target amounts or our fiscal constraint.

After further discussion on the TIP Amendment, the MJTC recommended that the MPO endorse Draft TIP Amendment #3 pending any additional comments.

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

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

B. Doherty reviewed the DRAFT FFY 2020-2024 TIP that was released for a 21 day public review and comment period by the MPO at their April 17th meeting. This comment period coincides with the comment period for the previously discussed amendment, from April 23rd to May 13th. B. Doherty then reviewed the target projects for each FFY with the MJTC. In addition, comments were received from MassDOT and a handout was developed that summarized these comments along with our responses. This draft will be discussed and reviewed along with any and all comments by the MPO at their May 15th meeting.

After further discussion on the Draft FFY 2020-2024 TIP, the MJTC recommended that the MPO endorse the FFY 2020-2024 TIP pending any additional comments.

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

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

S. Bean referred to a summary of the UPWP that will be presented to the MPO at the meeting next week for them to decide whether to release it for a 21-day public comment period. S. Bean then reviewed the details related to several tasks in the UPWP as well as the draft budget associated with the tasks and the document as a whole.

A question was asked related to the Bike & Trail Plan task and if it can be incorporated into possible regional and local Complete Street prioritization plan. S. Bean said that we would be looking at those plans as part of the process and possible regional plans may be identified.

A question was asked if Complete Streets and bikepaths have to be part of all street projects. S. Bradbury indicated that all designs must consider bikepaths but waivers or design exceptions can be developed.

VIII. Montachusett Regional Transportation Plan

- *Project Listing Review and Prioritization*
- *Planning Scenarios Based on RTP Survey Results*

G. Snow referred members to a handout listing safety projects identified during the RTP development process. The list included bike and ped crash locations in the region.

B. Harris then discussed the planning scenarios developed from responses to the RTP survey. Through an analysis of the responses broken down by Urban and Rural communities to Question 5 that asked individuals to allocate funds across several issues, it became apparent that there was a consensus on the top issues, i.e. Road Infrastructure and Transit Options. B. Harris then reviewed the survey results in greater detail with the MJTC members. These results will help drive funding scenarios for the RTP.

Questions and comments were asked related to Chapter 90 funding for local communities and the impact it has on a community's ability to fund local projects and designs.

Transit Options were also discussed as to what it meant on the highway side. Issues such as rolling stock, transit facility improvements, sidewalks, etc. were discussed.

IX. 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 is scheduled for May 20th. MRPC is working with the RTA on developing a system to monitor on-time performance on their bus routes.

b. MassDOT 3C

B. Harris mentioned two handouts. The first is by 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 second handout was on a series of public meetings related to the MassDOT Capital Investment Plan (CIP). The draft will be released next week and one public meeting will be held in Leominster on June 3rd.

Finally, G. Snow mentioned the Local ADA PROW Transition Plan Development RFP was released and we received two proposals. Interviews will be held next week and a selection will hopefully be made shortly thereafter.

The next MPO meeting is Wednesday May 15, 2019 at 1:00 PM.

X. Administrative Matters

- *Next MJTC Meeting Location*

The next meeting of the MJTC will be on June 12, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. here at the MRPC Offices.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

DOCUMENTS/EXHIBITS AVAILABLE AT MEETING:

5 8 19 Agenda
4 10 19 MJTC Minutes
Int Parties Draft TIP Amendment #3
Draft Amendment #3 Performance Measures Section 4 11 2019
DRAFT Transit Amend #3 4 17 2019
REVISED FFY 2019 Highway Amendment #3 Summary 4 17 2019

MONTACHUSETT 2020-2024 TIP SUMMARY
TIP Comments
Draft FFY 2020 UPWP Budget Summary
Scenario Options
MaPIT Baystate Roads
2020-2024 CIP Mtg Flyer (003)