

MONTACHUSETT METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MMPO) MEETING

Held at
Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
464 Abbott Avenue, Leominster, MA 01453

Minutes of September 19, 2018

B. Pounds representing MassDOT Secretary Stephanie Pollack called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

I. Introduction

SIGNATORIES PRESENT

Bryan Pounds, MassDOT OTP; Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT Highway Division; Gordon Robertson, Leominster; Jamie Toale, Subregion 3; Noreen Piazza, Subregion 4; Guy Corbosiero, MRPC

MEMBERS AND GUESTS PRESENT

Cassie Chase Ostrander, FHWA; Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP; Russell Burke, Groton; Michael Pineo, Sterling; Peter Lowitt, Devens Enterprise Commission; Nicolas Bosonetto, VHB; Chelsey Patriss, CHNA 9

STAFF PRESENT

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

II. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

III. Approval of August 15, 2018 Minutes

A motion was made to approve the August 15, 2018 MPO Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

IV. Montachusett Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP) Update

- *Review and Discussion of Comments Received on the Draft CPT-HSTP Update*
- *MPO Endorsement of the CPT-HSTP*

G. Kahale presented the Draft Update of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP). He indicated that the purpose of this plan is to identify the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes, provide strategies for meeting these needs, and prioritize transportation services for funding and implementation. The plan is updated every 4 years. Mr. Kahale indicated that the CPT-HSTP had been released for a 21-day public comment period after the last MPO meeting. This comment period began on Tuesday, August 28th and closed on Monday, September 17th. During that time, no comments were received. One change was made to the draft based on updated information regarding facilities in Littleton by the MRPC. These changes did not change any of the results of the study but simply update some tables.

A question was asked regarding the reaction of local Councils on Aging (COA) to the sharing of vans to establish a Cross Town Connect type service. G. Kahale indicated that COA's do not like to share their equipment because they feel there is a larger need in their towns and they do not have enough equipment to meet those needs.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to endorse the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (CPT-HSTP).

V. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Project Funding Programs

- *Discussion of FTA Funding by Bonnie Mahoney of MART*

This item was not presented at this meeting but will be re-scheduled for next month.

VI. Review of MassDOT Adopted Performance Measure 3 (CMAQ/Freight)

- *Presentation by MassDOT of PM3*
- *MPO Action Related to Adoption of MassDOT PM3*

D. Krevat gave a presentation to the MPO members related to the development and endorsement of Performance Measure 3 (PM3) related to congestion, emissions and reliability. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established three performance measures that state Departments of Transportation and MPOs needed to adopt and track. Earlier this year, we discussed with the MPO PM1 related to safety and received the MPOs concurrence to adopt the state measures. With PM3, MassDOT has again established performance measures and are looking for the MPO to agree to adopt them. The tracking and reporting will then be handled by the state. D. Krevat then reviewed the methods developed to monitor Level of Travel Time Reliability (LOTTR), Truck Travel Time Reliability (TTTR), Peak Hour Excessive Delay (PHED), Non-Single Occupant Vehicle (SOV) Travel and Emissions Reduction as well as their respective targets.

Various questions were asked related to locations where reliability is measured, the time periods examined, whether any penalties are in place related to not meeting the requirements and how are reduction in emissions being determined.

D. Krevat indicated that reliability is measured on the Interstate System and non-Interstate NHS road; time periods to be examined are identified by FHWA and include AM, mid-day and PM peak hours; there are no penalties assigned to PM3 measures unlike those associated with PM1 and PM2. In regards to emissions, the state is tracking changes through the Global Warming Solutions Act but the federal PM3 does not require that level. The emissions tracking is specific to certain areas only. Montachusett is not one of those air quality maintenance areas.

A motion was made to approve the statewide PM3 targets as presented. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

VII. Updates

- *MassDOT Highway Division*

M. Bolduc indicated that in District 2, Athol Crescent St. bridge crossing Millers River is at 75% design and on track to be advertised in 2019. He also indicated the North Fitzwilliam Road over Lawrence Brook bridge in Royalston is advertised with a bid opening anticipated in September.

S. Bradbury indicated that the Gardner/Leominster/Sterling intersection improvements at three locations has been advertised and the bids should be opened in December.

- *Transit*

G. Kahale mentioned that there is no new information to report since last month.

- *Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee (MJTC)*

B. Harris stated that at the last MJTC meeting, we initiated discussion on a possible revision to the Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) that we currently use to help prioritize TIP projects; Staff will be attending a Route 2 Safety Improvement task Force meeting tonight at 6:00 pm at the Athol Public Library; and the next meeting of the MJTC will be October 10th at the MRPC offices.

B. Harris also mentioned that Noreen Piazza of Lancaster will be retiring at the end of the month. She has served as the designee for Subregion 4 to the MPO for the past few years and has also been a long-time member of the MJTC as well as one of its officers. She has always brought a thoughtful and informative perspective to both boards and has been extremely helpful to the MRPC staff as well as the town of Lancaster and the other communities in Subregion 4.

- *Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC)*

G. Corbosiero reviewed a memo prepared by the MRPC Executive Director Glenn Eaton that covered the Commission's work with the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) program, the development of scopes of work for ADA Transition Plans for four communities and as part of some EDA work will we be developing some 2D and 3D maps.

VIII. Administrative Matters

- *Subregion 3 Representative Selection Results*
- *Next MPO Meeting*

B. Harris stated that the selection process to appoint a new Representative and Alternate for Subregion 3 of the MPO has been completed. The representative is Jamie Toale from Lunenburg and the Alternate is Kara Minar McGuire from Harvard. They have taken over these roles beginning with this meeting.

A question was asked related to the process for a Representative and Alternate to appoint a Designee.

B. Harris indicated that the selection of that person is at the discretion of the Representative and Alternate. We have no requirements as to who the person can be.

B. Harris indicated that the next MPO meeting is scheduled for October 17th, at 1:00 PM here in the MRPC offices.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

DOCUMENT/EXHIBITS PRESENTED AT MEETING

MPO 9 19 2018 Agenda

MPO 8 15 2018 Minutes

Int Parties CPT HSP Update Memo 8 23 2018

FINAL DRAFT CPTHST Plan Update 8 28 2018 EMail Ver

FTA Funding Guideline

PM3 Presentation for MPOs – Montachusett

Subregion Reps Alts 9 1 2018

2018 Moving Together Conference

Draft MA Ped Plan Announcement