

MONTACHUSETT

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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Montachusett Metropolitan Planning Organization Endorsement of Amendment #1 to the FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program

The Montachusett Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMPO) has completed its review of Amendment #1 to the Highway Element of the FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in accordance with 23 CFR Part 450 Section 324 (Transportation Improvement Program: General) of the October 28, 1993 Final Rules for Statewide and Metropolitan Planning.

This Amendment to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP is financially constrained and conforms to the Montachusett 2020 Regional Transportation Plan. Based on the results of the review and analyses, the Montachusett 2020 Regional Transportation Plan and FFY 2023-2027 TIP are consistent with the air quality goals of, and in conformity with, the Massachusetts State Implementation Plan. This Amendment and TIP do not add or delete any regionally significant, non-exempt projects, nor reprogram any existing regionally significant, non-exempt projects across analysis years.

Therefore, the Committee of Signatories representing the Montachusett Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMPO) by a majority vote hereby endorses Amendment #1 to the FFY 2023 Highway Element of the Montachusett Region FFY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, this endorsement is signed by the MassDOT Secretary and CEO, or their appointed designee, on behalf of the entire Montachusett MPO. This action is taken after an official vote of the MPO.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamey L. Tesler for".

*Jamey L. Tesler, Secretary and CEO
Massachusetts Department of Transportation*

11/16/2022

Date

Montachusett Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMPO)
Potential Amendment #1 to the
FFY 2023-2027 Montachusett Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Comment Period: October 26, 2022 to November 15, 2022

Reason for Amendment: MassDOT has notified the MPO that the project under consideration was successfully advertised on August 27, 2022. For that reason, it can be removed from the current FFY 2023-2027 Montachusett TIP.

- **Proposed Amendment to Remove Project in Section 2A - State Prioritized Reliability Projects**

from FFY 2023:

FFY	Project #	Community	Description	Dist.	Fund Source	Total Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds
2023	609314	Ashby	ASHBY- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT GREENVILLE ROAD (ROUTE 31) AND TURNPIKE ROAD	3	HSIP	\$2,339,055	\$2,159,150	\$239,906

The following is from the MPO Endorsed FFY 2023-2027 Montachusett TIP regarding Amendment and Adjustment actions.

AMENDMENT/ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURES

In order to minimize constraints on programming projects, the endorsed TIP will have the provision, as adopted by the MPO, that will allow relatively minor modifications be made to the TIP without formal MPO action. Significant changes will continue to require MPO action through the amendment process.

Minor modifications may include such actions as:

- changes in funding amounts (typically less than 10% of the total cost) or categories within the same fiscal year.

Minor modifications will be accomplished through an agreed-upon administrative action with the approval of the MPO. That action will include approval of the modification by the MPO at a duly constituted meeting and written notification of the MPO members. Under an adjustment, a formal signatory endorsement and a 21-day public review period will not be required.

Significant changes to the TIP include major actions such as:

- moving a project in either direction between the sequential years, ex. Years 1 and 2, Years 2 and 3, etc.;
- the addition or deletion of a Federal Aid project;
- if the design, scope or budget of a project is found to have changed significantly as determined by the MJTC and MPO (typically cost changes of more than 10%);
- moving a project from Non-Federal Aid to one of the Federal Aid funding categories;
- moving a project in either direction between non-sequential fiscal years, ex. from Year 1 of the TIP to Year 3;
- advancing a project from the Appendix project list to either Years 1, 2, 3 or 4.
- advancing a project from the out Year 5 to either Years 1, 2 or 3.

Significant changes to the TIP will require formal endorsement of an amendment. This amendment process will include a 21-day public comment period, or an abbreviated comment period of not less than ten (10) days under what the MPO considers to be extraordinary circumstances, as outlined in the federal planning regulations and the Montachusett Public Participation Program (as endorsed May 25, 2016 and amended on March 15, 2017), approval of the amendment and signatory endorsement by MPO members at a subsequent MPO meeting.

The MPO will review each request change and determine whether the adjustment or amendment procedure is required for the proposed action. Additionally, MassDOT's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

procedures offer more detailed examples of what would constitute an amendment or adjustment. When such an action is warranted and it is not clear from the indicators above which action that may be, the STIP procedures will be consulted to determine what action is appropriate.

Highway Project STIP Revision Definitions and Procedures

Type of Revision	Definition	Procedure	Notes
Project Removal	The removal of a project in any federal fiscal year of the active TIP.	Amendment	Exception: if a project is removed from an active TIP or the STIP due to it being previously advanced/advertised or is moved to the statewide list from a regional TIP, the action would be considered an adjustment.