

OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

Minutes of the Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting, November 21, 2023 - 10:00 A.M., Held Via Zoom

Signatories Present:

Stephen Woelfel, Representing Monica Tibbits, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT
Sandra Serpa, Representing Jonathan Gulliver, Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division
John Messia, Representing Mayor Robert Sullivan, City of Brockton
Lee Hartmann, Representing Richard Quintal, Chair, Select Board, Town of Plymouth
Dan Salvucci, Vice-Chair, Board of Selectmen, Town of Whitman
Michael Lambert, Administrator, Brockton Area Transit (BAT)
Mary Waldron, Representing Becky Coletta, President, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)

Others Present:

Rick Jordan, Avon
Sristhi Jain, Bridgewater
Kelly Forrester, Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)
Glenn Geiler, Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)
Kathy Riddell, Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)
Linda Sacchetti, Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT)
Joshua Barber, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Paul Basler, Kingston
Derek Krevat, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)
Barbara Lachance, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) District 5
Andrew Wang, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)
Raissah Kouame, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)
Charles Kilmer, OCPC
Bill McNulty, OCPC
Guoqiang Li, OCPC
Ray Guarino, OCPC
Kyle Mowatt, OCPC

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Stephen Woelfel called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. Charles Kilmer then read the meeting accessibility statement, and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Minutes of the October 17, 2023 Meeting

Chairperson Woelfel asked the MPO Members for comments or changes regarding the minutes of the October 17, 2023 meeting.

Dan Salvucci made a motion and Lee Hartmann seconded to endorse the minutes of the October 17,

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2023 meeting.

There being no changes, the Old Colony MPO then voted to endorse the minutes of the October 17, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting. Sandra Serpa abstained from the vote.

4. Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Report

Michael Lambert reported on the following items:

- October saw the highest monthly ridership since the ending of the Covid pandemic. Ridership surpassed the previous benchmark by 20,000 trips. There is a plan in place to boost those numbers even further. Starting in November, Saturday and Sunday service was doubled. With a grant from the state, there will be free fares for 6 months, from December 1 through May, 2024.
- This will be Glenn Geiler's last Old Colony MPO Meeting. BAT extends a thank you to her for the many years of service and hard work.

5. Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority Report

There was no update from GATRA at this time.

6. MassDOT District 5 Updates on Projects Under Design or Construction

Barbara Lachance of MassDOT District 5 provided an update on projects under design or construction.

607403 - STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138, FROM 300 FEET NORTH OF CHARLES AVENUE TO LINCOLN STREET (PHASE 1)

- Bids opened but not awarded yet

608279 - STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRAL STREET, CANTON STREET AND TOSCA DRIVE

- Bids opened but not awarded yet

609052 - BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123) AND PLYMOUTH STREET

- ICE Stage 1 review complete
- Next Step is the utility site walk

609410 - BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123), CARY STREET AND LYMAN STREET

- PS&E Review complete

613352 – STOUGHTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138, FROM 300 FEET NORTH OF CHARLES AVENUE TO LINCOLN STREET (PHASE 2)

- MassDOT Headquarters will be reaching out to continue moving forward

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607818 - BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT LYMAN STREET/GROVE STREET/SUMMER STREET & REPLACEMENT OF GROVE STREET BRIDGE, B-25-005, OVER SALISBURY PLAIN RIVER

- ICE Stage 1 and Stage 2 under review

608195 - EASTON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 INCLUDING INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 (WASHINGTON STREET) AND ELM STREET

- PS&E Submission anticipated mid-December, 2023

609440 - ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET

- At 75% Design
- New Schedule is needed

606002 - KINGSTON, DUXBURY - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 3 RAMPS (NB/SB) AND ROUTE 3A (TREMONT STREET)

- ICE Stage 1 is under review

611979 - AVON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 28, SPRING STREET AND HARRISON BOULEVARD

- Pre-25% Design
- New Schedule is needed

609520 - BROCKTON, ABINGTON - PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 123

- ICE Stage 2 under review

608506 - HANSON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 (MAQUAN STREET), FROM THE PEMBROKE T.L. TO INDIAN HEAD STREET AND RELATED WORK

- Waiting for Subsurface Utility Exploration (SUE) to be scheduled

612525 - ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, RANDOLPH STREET AND RICHARD A FITTS DRIVE (ROUTE 139) AT CHESTNUT STREET AND OLD RANDOLPH STREET

- Pre-25% Design
- ICE Revision 2 Underway
- Anticipate 25% Design in February, 2024

612769 - HANOVER - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 139 (HANOVER STREET) AT MAIN STREET, CENTER STREET AND SILVER STREET

- Pre-25% Design
- ICE Review underway
- Anticipate 25% Design in April, 2024

612262 - BROCKTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), PEARL STREET AND STONEHILL STREET

- Pre-25% Design
- Anticipate 25% Design in May, 2024
- Coordination Meeting scheduled for December 8, 2023

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612770 - ABINGTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 18 (BEDFORD STREET) AND ROUTE 123 (BROCKTON AVENUE)

- Pre-25% Design
- Scoping checklist is complete

611981 - STOUGHTON - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CANTON STREET (ROUTE 27), SCHOOL STREET AND SUMMER STREET

- Pre-25% Design
- ICE Stage 1 Revision 3 under review

Dan Salvucci inquired about the Route 14 Project in Hanson. Barbara Lachance is not sure when this project will start. Barbara Lachance said that she will reach out to the Project Manager to get an update.

Charles Kilmer inquired about the Brockton - Belmont Street (Route 123) Phase 3 Construction Project, asking what the estimated time for project completion is. Barbara Lachance stated that striping is being done now and the final completion date is July, 2024.

Charles Kilmer asked whether the coordination meeting on December 8 for the Route 123, Pearl and Stonehill Street Project is an internal MassDOT or an external meeting. Barbara Lachance will find out and let everyone know.

7. FFY 2024-2028 Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Adjustments and/ or Amendments

- **Amendment 1 (BAT, Brockton, and Plymouth Projects) - Public Comments and Potential Endorsement**
- **Adjustment 1 (BAT and Brockton Area Arc) - Review and Potential Endorsement**

Amendment 1

Bill McNulty discussed Amendment 1, as released to Public Review and Comment Period on October 17, 2023. Bill McNulty also discussed the revisions to Amendment 1 as a result of the public review and comment period.

FFY 2024

Transit

- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) PURCHASE OF MISCELLANEOUS POWER END ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
 - Total Project Cost is \$400,000
 - Action Following Public Review and Comment: Remove from Amendment 1. BAT no longer intends to pursue project and program
- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT - PURCHASE OF BATTERY ELECTRIC BUSES AND CHARGING EQUIPMENT
 - ADDING PROJECT

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- FUNDING: FTA NO OR LOW EMISSION VEHICLE PROGRAM
- Federal Award: \$10,694,736
- Total project Cost with State Match: \$17,144,736
- Action Following Public Review and Comment: Increase total project cost, and program into two projects as follows:

Charging Equipment and Training					
	2024	2025	2026	2027	Source
BAT - PURCHASE MISC ELEC/POWER EQUIP	\$ 3,280,000				Federal
BAT - PURCHASE MISC ELEC/POWER EQUIP		\$ 700,000			State
BAT - PURCHASE MISC ELEC/POWER EQUIP			\$ 750,000		State
BAT - PURCHASE MISC ELEC/POWER EQUIP				\$ 700,000	State
Total: \$ 5,430,000					
Vehicle Purchases (Fleet Replacement)					
	2024	2025	2026	2027	Source
BAT - Buy Replacement 40-ft Bus Electric (7)	\$ 7,414,736				Federal
BAT - BUY REPLACEMENT 40-FT BUS ELECTRIC (5)			\$ 3,050,000		State
BAT - BUY REPLACEMENT 40-FT BUS ELECTRIC (2)				\$ 1,250,000	State
Total: \$ 11,714,736					

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) DISCRETIONARY GRANTS – PROGRAMMED IN FFY 2024 and FFY 2025

National Culvert Removal Restoration and Replacement Grant Program

- PLYMOUTH - TOWN BROOK STREAM RESTORATION: DEEP WATER CULVERT REPLACEMENT
 - ADDING PROJECT - Revised Expected Year of Programming 2025 (was 2024)
 - Federal Award: \$2,000,000
 - Action Following Public Review and Comment: Revise Total Project Cost to include State Match: \$2,800,000; Program in FFY 2025 instead of FFY 2024

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

- BROCKTON - DOWNTOWN BROCKTON INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
 - ADDING PROJECT
 - Awarded: \$7,843,750

Chairperson Woelfel asked if there is a motion to endorse Amendment 1 as revised.

The motion was made by Dan Salvucci and was seconded by Lee Hartmann.

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously to endorse Amendment 1 with changes.

Adjustment 1

The Adjustment includes the following changes (These amounts are the State Match to FFY 2023

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Community Transit Grant Projects that were amended earlier into the FFY 2023-2027 TIP:

FFY 2024

- BROCKTON AREA ARC: BUY VAN FOR SERVICE EXPANSION
 - Massachusetts Community Transit Grant (CTG)
 - Awarded Amount: \$55,863

- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) BUY REPLACEMENT TYPE E2b VANS
 - Massachusetts Community Transit Grant (CTG)
 - Awarded Amount: \$63,600

- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) BUY REPLACEMENT TYPE Ca VAN
 - Massachusetts Community Transit Grant (CTG)
 - Awarded Amount: \$24,200

Chairperson Woelfel asked if there is a motion to approve Adjustment 1.

A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and was seconded by Mary Waldron.

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously to approve Adjustment 1.

8. Adjusted 2020 Urbanized Area Boundaries - Presentation and Discussion of Proposed Adjustments and Revisions to Urbanized Area Boundaries

- Review and Potential Endorsement

Raissah Kouame and Charles Kilmer presented on the Adjusted 2020 Urbanized Area Boundaries.

Adjusted Urbanized Areas & Smoothing - MassDOT working collaboratively with MPOs to define, review, and confirm adjusted urbanized areas. Final versions to be reported to FHWA.

- Aligning with existing planning boundaries
- Incorporating local knowledge of urban landscape
- Addressing irregularities in boundary shapes
- Maintaining consistency with highway functional classifications

Adjustment Considerations

- Include entire municipality
- Include areas with urban characteristics
- Include large/significant traffic generators, e.g., airports, industrial areas, transportation terminals, transit routes
- Boundaries should be simple, without irregularities
- Boundaries should not split roadways or ramps
- Boundaries should be one contiguous area

The proposed adjustments are as follows:

Kingston

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Route 44 EB and WB and the sliver of land between the routes urban and leave the rest of the area rural - this would provide no urban/ rural designation break in Route 44

Plymouth

Adding contiguous eastern portion of Pine Hills (Long Ridge Road) and development along Beaver Dam Road to the boundary with Minuteman Lane to align with existing Urbanized Area

Chairperson Woelfel asked if there is a motion to endorse Adjusted 2020 Urbanized Area Boundaries.

The motion was made by Mary Waldron and was seconded by Dan Salvucci.

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously to endorse Adjusted 2020 Urbanized Area Boundaries.

9. Administrative Matters, Other Business, and Date and Time of Next Meeting(s)

Charles Kilmer reported on the following items:

- Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Webinar for Municipalities - January 24, 2024
- FY 2024 Regional Transit Innovation Grant - Applications due by December 8, 2023
- AMPO NOFO Tracker - Identifies and tracks federal funding opportunities from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)/ Investment, Infrastructure, and Jobs Act (IIJA) that are most relevant to MPOs

Date and Time of Next Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting(s)

The Old Colony MPO members are respectfully requested to confirm the dates and times of their next virtual meeting(s).

Charles Kilmer stated that this has been the busiest MPO year ever with 11 MPO Meetings held in 2023. The enthusiasm and attendance are much appreciated. Thank you to the MPO signatories for attending.

Mary Waldron welcomed Rick Jordan, Town Planner, from Avon to the MPO Meetings.

2024

- **January 16, 2024 at 10 AM**
- **February 20, 2024 at 10 AM**
- **March 19, 2024 at 10 AM**
- **April 16, 2024 at 10 AM**
- **May 21, 2024 at 10 AM**
- **June 18, 2024 at 10 AM**

10. Adjournment

Chairperson Woelfel adjourned the meeting at 10:40 AM.

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Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Mowatt

Kyle Mowatt, Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for the November 21, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting

- Minutes of October 17, 2023, Old Colony MPO Meeting
- Staff Report for November 21, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting Agenda Items