Meeting Minutes of the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Held Virtually Via Zoom December 7, 2023 at 12:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Abington	John Stone	ВАТ	Kelly Forrester
Abington	Bruce Hughes	MassDOT	Raissah Kouame
Avon	Rick Jordan	MassDOT District 5	Barbara Lachance
Bridgewater	Shane O'Brien	Safe Routes to School	Colleen Pekrul
Bridgewater	Greg Tansey	TranSystems	Alan Castaline
Brockton	Rob May	OCPC	Mary Waldron
East Bridgewater	Charlie Seelig	OCPC	Charles Kilmer
Stoughton	William Roth	OCPC	Bill McNulty
Whitman	Noreen O'Toole	OCPC	Kyle Mowatt
Whitman	Dan Salvucci	OCPC	Ray Guarino
BAT	Michael Lambert	OCPC	Guoqiang Li

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Noreen O'Toole called the meeting to order at 12:01 P.M. and then read the Meeting Accessibility Statement and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Bill McNulty then conducted the roll call.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

3. Minutes of November 2, 2023 Meeting

Chairperson O'Toole asked if there was a motion to approve the November 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Dan Salvucci and seconded by Rob May to approve the Meeting Minutes from November 2, 2023.

The Old Colony JTC voted unanimously to approve the November 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

4. Communications

Kyle Mowatt reviewed the contents of the communications staff report. Included were letters of correspondence, as well as notices of workshops and conferences. They are as follows:

- Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Webinar for Municipalities January 24, 2024
- FY 2024 Regional Transit Innovation Grant Applications due by January 19, 2024

- 2024 Mass Trails Grant Application period is NOW OPEN! Applications are due Thursday, February 1, 2024.
- MA DCR Trail Planning and Design: Foundations of Success Webinar Thursday, December 7
- OCPC Annual Summit December 7, 2023
- AMPO NOFO Tracker NOFO Tracker is updated weekly with critical information on upcoming federal funding opportunities

5. Reports

A. Brockton Area Regional Transit Authority (BAT)

Michael Lambert reported on the following items:

- Fare-free service began on December 1, and daily ridership reached a new post-pandemic high with 9,000 trips in combination with the Bridgewater State University route. Fares will be free through the end of May, 2024 thanks to a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- BAT noted that there is typically a decrease in ridership during winter months due to inclement weather, however the free fare service will provide increased incentive for commuters to continue to choose BAT during winter weather.
- BAT is starting their capital planning process for the upcoming year. A big aspect of that planning process is the electrification of BATs fleet. BAT continues to work with National Grid and other partners to prepare for the arrival of the electric buses in late Spring of 2024

Chairperson O'Toole congratulated BAT for getting the money for free fares for that length of time. This will attract a lot of people. Michael Lambert stated that there's three different elements to the free fare program: 1.) Attracting new riders; 2.) Providing relief to current customers; 3.) Supporting the local economy.

B. Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)

No report at this time.

C. South Coast Rail Project

Invited Guest Speaker: Jean Fox, MassDOT, South Coast Rail Project Manager

Kyle Mowatt reported on the following:

In November 2023, work conducted involved fencing installation in seven communities; emergency evacuation training drill at the Whale's Tooth parking lot in New Bedford; construction of a pedestrian bridge over Route 18 in New Bedford; daytime sidewalk, paving, and curb work at two intersections in New Bedford; road closure/detour and 24-hour railroad crossing work in Berkley and Taunton; daytime road, sidewalk, and traffic signal work in New Bedford; and signal system installation and testing in seven communities.

Additional work done included daytime construction at station sites, layover sites, and along the rightof-way from Middleborough to New Bedford as well as from Berkley to Fall River. There was also transportation of soil by truck to designated project sites.

Rick Jordan asked what the operation date is. Kyle Mowatt stated that Jean Fox announced that it will be operational in June, 2024.

6. Old Business

- A. FFY 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Implementation
 - Amendment 1 Update and Report on MPO Endorsement
 - Adjustment 1 Summary and Report on MPO Endorsement

Amendment 1, as follows, was endorsed by the Old Colony MPO on November 21, 2023:

FFY 2024

<u>Transit</u>

- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) PURCHASE OF MISCELLANEOUS POWER END ELECTRICAL
 EQUIPMENT
 - Total Project Cost was \$400,000
 - Action following public review and comment: Remove from Amendment 1. BAT no longer intends to program
- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT PURCHASE OF BATTERY-ELECTRIC BUSSES AND CHARGING EQUIPMENT
 - o Adding Project
 - o 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: Adjust project cost, and break into two components 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:	Ś	11.714.736	

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) DISCRETIONARY GRANTS - PROGRAMMED IN FFY 2024

National Culvert Removal Restoration and Replacement Grant Program

- <u>PLYMOUTH TOWN BROOK STREAM RESTORATION: DEEP WATER CULVERT REPLACEMENT</u>
 - Adding Project Revised Expected Year of Programming 2025 (was 2024)
 - o Federal Award: \$2,000,000
 - o Revised Total Project Cost with State Match: \$2,800,000

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

- BROCKTON DOWNTOWN BROCKTON INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
 - Adding Project
 - o Awarded: \$7,843,750

Adjustment 1, as follows, was endorsed by the Old Colony MPO on November 21, 2023:

Adjustment 1 includes the following changes (These amounts are the State Match to FY 2023 Community Transit Grant Projects):

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
 - o Massachusetts Community Transit Grant (CTG)
 - Awarded Amount: \$24,200

7. New Business

A. Old Colony FFY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development
 Development Timeline and Universe of Projects

Bill McNulty presented the development timeline and Universe of Projects within the TIP.

ABINGTON

- <u>ABINGTON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HANCOCK STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET</u>
 <u>(609440)</u>
 - Programmed in FFY 2026.
 - MassDOT comments on the 25% Package returned to the Design Engineer (as of 9/6/2021).
 - Cost Estimate is \$4,798,809.
- ABINGTON & BROCKTON PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 123 (609520)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - o comments on the 25% Package returned to the Design Engineer (as of 5/18/2022).
 - Cost Estimate is \$20,029,176.
- <u>ABINGTON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, RANDOLPH STREET AND RICHARD A. FITTS DRIVE</u> (ROUTE 139) AT CHESTNUT STREET AND OLD RANDOLPH STREET (612525)
 - Currently programmed in FFY 2027.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,786,625.
- <u>ABINGTON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS, ROUTE 18 (BEDFORD STREET) AT ROUTE 123</u> (BROCKTON AVENUE) (612770)
 - Currently programmed in FFY 2028.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - o Cost Estimate is \$5,387,025

AVON

- <u>AVON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 28, SPRING STREET AND HARRISON</u> <u>BOULEVARD (611979)</u>
 - o Programmed in FFY 2026
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - The Notice to Proceed (NTP) to begin work on the contract has been issued. (7/14/2021).
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,750,000.
- AVON CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 28 (610804)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$4,002,001.

BROCKTON

- BROCKTON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK AT CENTRE STREET (ROUTE 123), CARY STREET, AND LYMAN STREET (609410)
 - Programmed in FFY 2024.
 - PS&E received by MassDOT (9/27/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,058,058.
- <u>BROCKTON ROUTE 123 (CENTRE STREET) AT PLYMOUTH STREET SIGNALIZATION AND</u> <u>GEOMETRIC IMPROVEMENTS (609052)</u>
 - Programmed in FFY 2024.
 - 25% Package Resubmission received by MassDOT (3/13/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,792,790.
- <u>BROCKTON IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK ON CRESCENT STREET (ROUTE 27),</u> <u>INCLUDING REPLACEMENT OF GROVE STREET BRIDGE, B-25-005, OVER SALISBURY PLAIN RIVER</u> <u>(607818)</u>
 - Currently Programmed in FFY 2025.
 - 25% Package Resubmission received by MassDOT (6/12/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$6,196,320.
- <u>BROCKTON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS @ CRESCENT STREET (ROUTE 27)/ QUINCY STREET/</u> MASSASOIT BOULEVARD (606143)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - o 25% Package received by MassDOT (5/4/2015).
 - o Cost Estimate is \$5,300,800
- <u>ABINGTON & BROCKTON PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 123 (609520)</u>
 Currently not programmed.

- o comments on the 25% Package returned to the Design Engineer (as of 5/18/2022).
- Cost Estimate is \$20,029,176.
- BROCKTON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 123 (BELMONT STREET), PEARL STREET AND STONEHILL STREET (612262)
 - Currently Programmed in FFY 2028.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$ 7,465,375.
- <u>BROCKTON IMPROVEMENTS ON FOREST AVENUE, FROM WEST STREET TO BREER STREET</u> (612526)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$8,778,450.

DUXBURY

- <u>KINGSTON-DUXBURY SIGNAL INSTALLATION @ ROUTE 3 (NB & SB) RAMPS & ROUTE 3A</u> (<u>TREMONT STREET</u>) (606002)
 - Programmed in FFY 2026.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,400,000.
- DUXBURY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT POWDER POINT AVENUE OVER DUXBURY BAY (612006)
 - Advance Construction in multiple years, currently programmed to begin FFY 2027.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$70,150,000.
- DUXBURY INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 53 AND FRANKLIN STREET (613269)
 - Currently Not Programmed.
 - Approved by PRC June 1, 2023
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$7,279,150.

EAST BRIDGEWATER

- EAST BRIDGEWATER INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT BEDFORD STREET (ROUTE 18), WEST STREET (ROUTE 106) AND EAST STREET (611968)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,500,000.

- <u>EAST BRIDGEWATER INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT HIGHLAND STREET AND NORTH</u>
 <u>BEDFORD STREET (ROUTE 18) (611976)</u>
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,500,000.
- EAST BRIDGEWATER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT POND STREET OVER SATUCKET RIVER (613806)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Approved by PRC June 1, 2023
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$1,197,225.

EASTON

- EASTON -- CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138 INCLUDING INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 (WASHINGTON STREET) AND ELM STREET (608195)
 - Programmed in FFY 2025.
 - 100% Comments Sent to Design Engineer (10/10/2023).
 - Cost Estimate is \$7,103,967.
- <u>EASTON RESURFACING AND RELATED WORK ON ROUTE 138 (ROOSEVELT CIRCLE TO</u> <u>STOUGHTON TOWN LINE) (608585)</u>
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$4,330,240.
- EASTON IMPROVEMENTS ON FOUNDRY STREET (ROUTE 106/123) (612269)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$ 14,315,773.
- <u>EASTON RECONSTRUCTION AND RELATED WORK ON ROUTES 138 AND 123, FROM BELMONT</u> <u>STREET TO DEPOT STREET (612617)</u>
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$13,437,675
- EASTON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 138 AND TURNPIKE STREET, AT ROUTE 138 AND PURCHASE STREET, AT TURNPIKE STREET AND PURCHASE STREET (612975)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - o Cost Estimate is \$7,428,625

HANOVER

- <u>HANOVER CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 139 (HANOVER STREET) AT MAIN STREET,</u> <u>CENTER STREET, AND SILVER STREET (612769)</u>
 - Currently programmed in FFY 2028.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$6,156,600
- HANOVER- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT COLUMBIA ROAD (ROUTE 53/139) AND BROADWAY (613559)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Approved by PRC October 12, 2023
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - o Cost Estimate is \$5,968,600

HANSON

- <u>HANSON CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 (MAQUAN STREET), FROM THE PEMBROKE</u> <u>T.L. TO INDIAN HEAD STREET AND RELATED WORK (608506) AC Phase 1 and 2</u>
 - o Programmed in FFY 2027
 - MassDOT comments on the 25% Package returned to the Design Engineer (5/7/2020).
 - o Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) to be conducted.
 - Cost estimate is \$10,311,020).

KINGSTON

- <u>KINGSTON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, K-01-014, SMITHS LANE OVER ROUTE 3 (PILGRIM HIGHWAY)</u> (608615)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$12,788,000.
- <u>KINGSTON-DUXBURY SIGNAL INSTALLATION @ ROUTE 3 (NB & SB) RAMPS & ROUTE 3A</u> (<u>TREMONT STREET</u>) (606002)
 - Programmed in FFY 2026.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,400,000.

PLYMPTON

• PLYMPTON - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, WINNETUXET ROAD OVER WINNETUXET RIVER (609435)

- Programmed in FFY 2024.
- 75% Package Received by MassDOT (as of 10/19/2023).
- Cost Estimate is \$1,661,593.

STOUGHTON

- <u>STOUGHTON CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138, FROM 300 FEET NORTH OF</u> CHARLES AVENUE TO LINCOLN STREET (PHASE 1)
 - Programmed in FFY 2023 and FFY 2024.
 - Cost Estimate is \$11,281,679).
- <u>STOUGHTON- CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 138, FROM CANTON T.L. TO CHARLES</u> <u>AVENUE (PHASE 2) (613358)</u>
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Approved by PRC June 1, 2023.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$6,058,600.
- <u>STOUGHTON RECONSTRUCTION OF TURNPIKE STREET (607214)</u>
 - MassDOT comments on the 25% Package returned to the Design Engineer (as of 9/7/2021).
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Design Public Hearing Held on June 16, 2022.
 - Cost Estimate is \$42,975,486.
- <u>STOUGHTON CANTON STREET (ROUTE 27) & SCHOOL STREET SIGNALIZATION AND GEOMETRIC</u> <u>IMPROVEMENTS (611981)</u>
 - Programmed in FFY 2028.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$2,300,000.
- <u>STOUGHTON- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 27 (PARK STREET) AND TURNPIKE</u> <u>STREET (613277)</u>
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Approved by PRC June 1, 2023.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$3,264,123.
- STOUGHTON- BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 27 (PARK STREET) (613287)
 - Currently not programmed.
 - Approved by PRC June 1, 2023.
 - Project is in the preliminary design phase.
 - Cost Estimate is \$6,148,943.

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Rick Jordan asked if there has been any congestion monitoring on the northern section of Route 24 around Avon, Randolph, Stoughton. Bill McNulty stated that MassDOT has a permanent count location on Route 24 which is monitored regularly. This question will be sent over to Shawn Bailey who manages OCPCs Congestion Management process.

Allison Shane inquired about specifics with regard to the materials and timing of the Powder Point Bridge Replacement Project in Duxbury. Bill McNulty responded that it is a full replacement and will be designed to state and federal standards. Funding for design and construction are being provided by state and federal funds

B. Old Colony Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC)

Presentation and Discussion

Bill McNulty presented the TIP Transportation Evaluation Criteria.

During TIP development, current and proposed projects are evaluated using Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) and recommended to the Old Colony MPO for consideration and determination of a Preferred Set of Projects. The MPO staff uses the Transportation Evaluation Criteria results, as well as readiness information, available funding, and other pertinent information to develop a Draft TIP. The Old Colony MPO releases the Draft TIP for a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period. Following the 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period, the Old Colony MPO considers the comments received, and then endorses the TIP if there are no significant changes.

The proposed updated Transportation Evaluation Criteria replaces the 18-point system used by Old Colony Planning Council in recent years with a 100-point system that scores projects by specific defined criteria in the following categories:

- System Preservation 30 Points
- Safety 30 Points
- Mobility 10 Points
- Economic Impact 10 Points
- Environmental and Health Impact 10 Points
- Community Support and Consistency with Policy 10 Points

The updated Transportation Evaluation Criteria is designed to be clearly designed and fully transparent, considering all modes of transportation and users in transportation projects. They also take into consideration recent initiatives and policies, such as Complete Streets and MPO adopted Performance Targets.

8. Other Business and Public Comment

A. Community Local Technical Assistance Studies

Bill McNulty reported on the following items:

The Old Colony Planning Council has completed the following traffic studies. Data and findings have been distributed to the municipalities along with MassDOT and the Federal highway Administration:

- Brockton: Traffic Study of Crescent Street (Route 27) at Quincy Street and Massasoit Boulevard
- Duxbury: Halls Corner Road Safety Audit
- Stoughton: Plain Street Corridor Road Safety Audit
- Whitman: Auburn Street (Route 14) Traffic Study

Project Status Updates

Bridgewater

• Traffic Counts on Multiple Roadways Data collection planned.

Plympton

• Heavy Commercial Vehicle Exclusion Zone Study for Multiple Roadways Data collection planned for Spring 2024.

Stoughton

• Traffic Study and Road Safety Audit of Pine Street Corridor Road Safety Audit scheduled for December 2023.

Dan Salvucci thanked OCPC for conducting the Route 14 Traffic Study in Whitman. There are citizens of the town that would like to see speed limits lowered on Route 14. Bill McNulty stated that it would be MassDOT's decision to lower the speed limit. To move forward the town has to contact MassDOT District 5 to get the process started. Discussion followed.

B. Staff Reviews on ENFs, EIRs, and NPCs

Kyle Mowatt summarized the Environmental Notification Forms (ENFs), Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), Notices of Project Changes (NPCs), and Certificates for projects within the OCPC region that are undergoing Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office review.

Submitting Comments to MEPA

The Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) accepts written comments on projects currently under MEPA review. Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, via fax, or by hand delivery. Comments submitted to MEPA are public records and should be sent to the following address:

Secretary Kathleen Theoharides EEA, Attn: MEPA Office [Analyst Name], EEA No._____ 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114

New Projects

None

Certificates

EEA #16558 – Lake Shore Center Phase 4 – Bridgewater

Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report

The Certificate states that this project adequately and properly complies with MEPA.

Public Notices

Notice of Ecological Restoration Project – Kingston

This project will improve the passage of fish species in the Jones River via a permanent fishway at Forge Pond Dam and associated dredging of a fish passage channel through Forge Pond into Silver Lake in Kingston, MA.

Notice of Application for a 401 Water Quality Certificates – Hanson

This application for a 401 Water Quality Certificate is for the construction of three single-family dwellings off Lakeside Road in Hanson.

C. Regional Concerns and Local Community Transportation Issues

There were no regional concerns or local community transportation issues at this time.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted, *Kyle Mowatt* Kyle Mowatt Senior Transportation Planner

List of Documents for December 7, 2023 Old Colony JTC Meeting

- Minutes of the November 2, 2023 Old Colony JTC Meeting
- Staff Report for December 7, 2023, Old Colony JTC Meeting Agenda Items
- Presentation on Updated Old Colony TIP Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC)