

# **OLD COLONY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**

**Minutes of the Old Colony MPO Virtual Meeting, October 17, 2023 - 10:00 A.M., Held Via Zoom**

## **Signatories Present:**

Stephen Woelfel, Representing Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Acting Secretary and CEO, MassDOT  
Richard Bilski, Representing Jonathan Gulliver, Administrator, MassDOT Highway Division  
Kamiya Parkin, Representing Mayor Robert Sullivan, City of Brockton  
Dan Salvucci, Vice Chair, Board of Selectmen, Town of Whitman  
Glenn Geiler, Representing Michael Lambert, Administrator, Brockton Area Transit (BAT)  
Mary Waldron, Representing Becky Coletta, President, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)

## **Others Present:**

Jay DeGrace, Brockton  
Kelly Forrester, Brockton Area Transit (BAT)  
Jim Fitzgerald, Environmental Partners  
Joshua Barber, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)  
Eric Papetti, Federal Transit Administration (FTA)  
Steve Findlen, Howard Stein Hudson  
Bonnie Roalsen, MA Safe Routes to School (SRTS)  
Raissah Kouame, MassDOT  
Derek Krevat, MassDOT  
Andrew Wang, MassDOT  
Barbara Lachance, MassDOT District 5  
Shawn Bailey, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)  
Ray Guarino, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)  
Charles Kilmer, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)  
Guoqiang Li, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)  
Bill McNulty, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)  
Kyle Mowatt, Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)

## **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairperson Stephen Woelfel called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M. and then read the meeting accessibility statement, and the Title VI Notice of Protection Statement. Charles Kilmer then conducted the roll call and then announced that a quorum was present.

## **2. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

## **3. Minutes of the September 19, 2023 Meeting**

Chairperson Woelfel asked the MPO Members for comments or changes regarding the minutes of the September 19, 2023 meeting.

Dan Salvucci made a motion and Glenn Geiler seconded to endorse the minutes of the September 19,

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2023 meeting.

There being no changes, the Old Colony MPO then voted via roll call to endorse the minutes of the September 19, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting. Richard Bilski abstained from the vote.

## 4. Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Report

Glenn Geiler reported on the following items:

- BAT is rebounding from the pandemic levels and setting record ridership on the fixed route. There is also good ridership on the pilot micro-transit service in the Town of Rockland.
- BAT recently had their Advisory Board Meeting. BAT is going to double their service on Saturdays and implement Sunday morning service. The Board also approved BAT's Transit Asset Management Performance Measures and Targets for FY 2024.

## 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 provided updates on projects under design or construction.

### FFY 2023

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

- Bid opening scheduled for November 7

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

- Bids opened on October 3

### FFY 2024

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

- Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Stage 1 was review complete
- Moving onto Utility meeting then Design Public Hearing (DPH)

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

- Plans, Specifications & Estimates (PS&E) Review complete
- Moving towards 6/29/2024 Advertising Date

609435 - PLYMPTON - BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, P-14-001 (445), WINNETUXET ROAD OVER

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## WINNETUXET RIVER

- Waiting on the 75% Design Submission

## FFY 2025

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

- At 100% Design
- Looking to program into 2024

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

- Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Stage 1 Review Complete
- 75% Design anticipated in March 2024
- New 25% Design Submission

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

- 100% Design completed
- PS&E expected in December 2023

## FFY 2026

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

- At 25% Design
- Awaiting 75% Design
- New Schedule is needed

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

- Reviewed the pre 25% Concept Plans
- Scoping meeting was held earlier this year

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

- Pre-25% Design
- Waiting on 25% Design Submission

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

- At 25% Design
- Revised 25% anticipated in May 2024

## FFY 2027

608506 - HANSON - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 14 (MAQUAN STREET), FROM THE

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## PEMBROKE T.L. TO INDIAN HEAD STREET AND RELATED WORK

- At 25% Design
- Awaiting Scheduling of Subsurface Utility Exploration (SUE)

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

- Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Review Completed
- 25% Design Submission anticipated in February 2024

## FFY 2028

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

- Anticipate 25% Design Submission in April 2024
- Completed Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Stage 1 Revision 1

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

- Less than 25% Design
- Anticipate 25% Design in May 2024

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

- Pre-25% Design
- Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) Stage 1 has been reviewed
- Scoping checklist is under review

## Construction Updates:

Stoughton - Safe Routes to School - Working on grades and the issue of puddling occurring. Working with town and school on type and color of masonry wall

Pembroke - Route 36 (Center Street) - Regular meetings have started (Every two weeks). Paving has started, and sidewalks and driveways are ongoing.

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

- **Amendment 1 (BAT, Brockton, and Plymouth Projects) - Review and Potential Release to Public Review and Comment Period**

Bill McNulty presented and discussed Amendment 1:

## FFY 2024

## Transit

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- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) PURCHASE OF MISCELLANEOUS POWER END ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
  - Adding Project
  - Total Project Cost is \$400,000
- BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT (BAT) - PURCHASE OF BATTERY ELECTRIC BUSES AND CHARGING EQUIPMENT
  - Adding Project
  - Funding: FTA No or Low Emissions Vehicle Program
  - Awarded: \$10,694,736.

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

#### National Culvert Removal Restoration and Replacement Grant Program

- PLYMOUTH - TOWN BROOK STREAM RESTORATION: DEEP WATER CULVERT REPLACEMENT
  - Adding Project
  - Awarded: \$2,000,000.

#### 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 release Amendment 1 to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period.

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

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously to release Amendment 1 to a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period.

### **8. Performance Based Planning and Brockton Area Transit (BAT) Transit Asset Management (TAM) Fiscal Year 2024 Transit State of Good Repair Targets**

- **Presentation, Discussion, and Possible Adoption of the Proposed Set of Federally Required Performance Targets Pertaining to Transit State of Good Repair**

Kelly Forrester presented the TAM Fiscal Year 2024 Transit State of Good Repair Performance Measures and Targets. The performance targets are as follows:

- Buses - X% of fleet exceeds default Useful Life Benchmark (ULB) of 14 - FY 2024 Target is 11%
- Cutaway Buses - X% of fleet exceeds default ULB of 10 - FY 2024 Target is 25%
- Vans - X% of fleet exceeds default ULB of 8 - FY 2024 Target is 21%
- Non-Revenue Service Automobile - X% of non-revenue service vehicles exceeds default ULB of 8 - FY 2024 Target is 60%
- Non-Revenue Service Truck - X% of non-revenue service vehicles exceeds default ULB of 8 - FY

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2024 Target is 40%

- Admin/Maintenance Facility - X% of facilities rated under 3.0 on TERM scale - FY 2024 Target is 0%

Chairperson Woelfel asked if there is a motion to approve the FY 24 Transit State of Good Repair Targets.

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

The Old Colony MPO then voted unanimously to approve the FY 2024 Transit State of Good Repair Performance Measures and Targets.

## 9. Old Colony MPO Transportation Planning Certification Review Report

### ▪ Overview and Presentation

Joshua Barber of FHWA and Eric Papetti of FTA provided an overview of the Old Colony MPO Transportation Planning Certification Review.

The certification review components consist of ongoing oversight, federal actions taken, desk review, public input, site visit, and federal determination. Possible outcomes from the review are full certification, conditional certification, partial certification, or withholding certification and funding. Joshua Barber stated that Old Colony Planning Council is fully certified.

Commendations for Public Outreach and Involvement:

- For continually evaluating the effectiveness of its public outreach strategies, trying different approaches, and adjusting strategies to maximize the impact of its efforts
- Work to target community members through direct staff participation in BAT's regional coordinating council (RCC) meetings

MPO Organization Structure Recommendations:

- Complete a regular review and reaffirmation of the MOU every three years, as required in the document, or otherwise adhere to any new review cycle policy that may be developed in an MOU update
- Consider opportunities to include members in their Policy Board, JTC, and any other subcommittees that broaden the participation in the planning process and enhance involvement from historically underrepresented groups

Transportation Improvement Program & Project Selection Recommendations:

- The MPO should revisit and update, as necessary, the Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) as part of their TIP development process

Complete Street (Freight) Recommendation:

- The MPO is able to illustrate freight facilities, operation, and needs across region, but does not have freight-focused projects on the TIP that would be eligible for NHFP. The MPO should coordinate with MassDOT and freight stakeholders to program projects that would address the

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region's identified freight needs

Civil Rights - Title VI, ADA, EJ, LEP Recommendation:

- Consider regularly updating a list of contacts from groups that they have identified in the Title VI Plan Annual Report to represent the interests of the EJ and LEP communities
- Explore methods to strengthen relationship with Community Based Organizations to serve as representatives from EJ populations
- Consider opportunities to include members in the Policy Board, JTC, and other task groups/subcommittee that are reflective of the demographics of the Region

Performance Based Planning and Programming Recommendations:

- The MPO should identify methods to ensure it is meeting its intent to update its regional transit asset management and safety targets once BAT adopts new targets, and the MPO should work to incorporate the data that is used for setting those targets into its own planning processes
- The Federal Review Team credits the MPO for setting objectives and measures for region-specific goal areas outside for Federal requirements, but the MPO should strive to document consistent performance metrics across its various planning documents and from year-to-year to better assess its progress to meeting identified needs and goals in the region

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

Charles Kilmer reported on the following items:

- FY 2024 Community Transit Grant Program (CTGP) Vehicle Application Schedule Reminder PLUS Vehicle Guide Now Available
- Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program Open for Applications – Applications due October 31, 2023
- FY 2023 USDOT Thriving Communities Program is Now Open
- WalkMassachusetts - Beat the Bay State Contest which runs from November 1 thru 30. Participants, including group seek to walk at least nine hundred Miles in 30 days.

### 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).

#### 2023

- **November 21, 2023, at 10 AM**
- **December 19, 2023 at 10 AM**

## 11. Adjournment

Chairperson Woelfel adjourned the meeting at 10:34 AM.

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Respectfully submitted,

*Kyle Mowatt*

Kyle Mowatt, Senior Transportation Planner

### **List of Documents for the October 17, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting**

- Minutes of September 19, 2023, Old Colony MPO Meeting
- Staff Report for October 17, 2023 Old Colony MPO Meeting Agenda Items
- USDOT Transportation Certification Review Presentation