



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CMMPO)

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting, on **Wednesday, February 18th, 2026**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom Webinar.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Derek Shooster – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, designee to MassDOT Interim Secretary Phillip Eng
2. Ann Sullivan – MassDOT Highway Division District #3, designee to MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathon Gulliver
3. Nick Burnham – designee to WRTA Administrator
4. Bob Hassinger – designee to CMRPC Commission Chair
5. Betsy Goodrich – designee to City Manager Eric Batista
6. Bill Filsinger – Boylston, Northeast Subregion Alternate
7. John Daniel – Southbridge, Southwest Subregion Representative
8. Leah Whiteman – Rutland, North Subregion Alternate

- **CMMPO Ex-Officio Members Present:**

1. Miranda Briseno – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

- **Guests:**

1. Daryl Amaral – MassDOT D2
2. Sarah Bradbury – MassDOT D3
3. J Proias

- **CMRPC Staff**

1. Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Manager, Transportation Improvement Program – Transportation
3. Zack Blais, Principal Planner, Environmental Planning – Transportation

4. Rich Rydant, Director, MPO Activities – Transportation
5. Yahaira Graxirena, Director, Access and Mobility – Transportation

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Agenda Item #1 – Introductions

CMMPO Chair Derek Shooster opened the meeting at 4:00 PM. A roll call of CMMPO members was announced.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of January 21, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by John Daniel to approve January 21, 2026, meeting minutes. The members present voted to approve of the January 21, 2026, meeting minutes.

Derek Shooster – Yes	Betsy Goodrich – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes	Bill Filsinger – Abstain
Nick Burnham – Yes	John Daniel – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes	Leah Whiteman – (not present for minutes)

Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public at this meeting.

Agenda Item #4 – CY 2026 Safety Performance Measures (PM1)

- **Potential Action:** Adopt State’s Safety Targets

Following last month’s presentation on the CY 2026 Safety Performance Measures (PM1), members were requested to vote on adopting the state’s (MassDOT) safety targets.

For CY26, the five statewide (MassDOT) safety targets are:

- Total Fatalities: 357
- Fatality Rate per 100 Million VMT: 0.56
- Total Serious Injuries: 2,562
- Serious Injury Rate per 100 Million VMT: 4.03
- Total Combined Non-Motorist Injuries + Fatalities: 512

There were no comments or questions regarding this.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by John Daniel. All members present voted unanimously to approve the adoption of the state’s CY 2026 Safety Performance Measures (PM1).

Derek Shooster – Yes	Betsy Goodrich – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes	Bill Filsinger – Yes
Nick Burnham – Yes	John Daniel – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes	Leah Whiteman – (not present for vote)

Agenda Item #5 – Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #4 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. The proposed Amendment #4 includes two changes to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing:

- #612190 – Holden – Bridge Replacement, H-18-004, Salisbury Street over G&W Railroad
 - In FFY 2026, total project cost increased from \$6,897,436 to \$8,825,098.
- #S13417 – Worcester – Mill Street Planning and Design (Federal Earmark for Design – MA296)
 - Project added to FFY 2026 under Section 1B (Earmark or Discretionary Grant Funded Projects) in the amount of \$2.5 million.
 - This Earmark was originally programmed in FFY 2025, but was inexpedient to obligate, requiring reprogramming into the active TIP.

Bob Hassinger asked for more information on the Worcester project, and what “expedience” means. Derek Shooster replied that it simply means the project wasn’t obligated in 2025 and it needs to be added to the current TIP.

There were no further comments or questions.

Betsy Goodrich made a motion and was seconded by John Daniel to release the proposed Amendment #4 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-day public review and comment period. All members voted unanimously to release the proposed Amendment #4.

Derek Shooster – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Bill Filsinger – Yes

Nick Burnham – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Leah Whiteman – Yes

- FFY 2027 to FFY 2031 TIP Readiness Day Updates

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Mr. Krasnecky provided a summary of the projects that were discussed at TIP Readiness Day. The updates included:

FFY 2026

- **608961 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler St. and May St.**
 - Currently at 75% design and 100% due this spring.
 - There is a risk to 2026 due to Right of Way (ROW) concerns.
 - Project is staying in 2026 for now.
- **610535 – Worcester – Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements on Pleasant Street.**
 - Currently at 25% design and the 75/100% design are under review.
 - Need revised Notice of Intent (NOI).
 - Recommended to stay in 2026 but there is a risk.
- **610769 – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, Manchaug Road. over Mumford River**
 - The revised 25% design and ROW plans are currently under review.
 - The ROW could be complicated, and it is recommended pushing back to 2028.

FFY 2027

- **609441 – Northbridge – Intersection Improvements at Route 122, School Street, Sutton Street, and Upton Street.**
 - Currently at 25% design and 75% plans are due in April.
 - Some risk to 2027 but still recommended staying in 2027.
- **610931 – Uxbridge – Rehabilitation of Route 16, from Taft Hill Road to 200 FT west of Main Street.**
 - Currently at 75% design and 100% plans are due in September.
 - Significant ROW and still need town meeting approval.
 - Some risk but still recommended staying in 2027.
- **611933 – Sturbridge – Roundabout Construction at Route 20 & Route 131.**
 - Currently at 25% design.
 - Design Public Hearing is likely to be scheduled soon.
 - Recommended pushing back to 2028.
- **612084 – Barre – Bridge Replacement, Old Coldbrook Road over Prince River.**
 - Currently at 25% design and 75% plans are due in May.
 - There are risks to ROW and environmental permitting.
 - Recommended pushing back to 2028.
- **609186 – Dudley – Bridge Replacement, Route 131 over Quinebaug River.**
 - Currently at Pre-25% design and 25% plans are due in June.
 - ROW submission is still needed.
 - Recommended pushing back to 2029.
- **612181 – Charlton – Bridge Replacement, US 20 over Cady Brook.**
 - Currently at Pre-25% design.
 - Updated project schedule and ROW submission needed.
 - Recommended pushing back to 2029.
- **612089 – Dudley/Southbridge – Resurfacing & Related Work on Route 131.**
 - Currently at 100% design and PS&E expected in May.
 - There is no ROW for this project.
 - Project could move up to 2026 if funding is available.
- **612092 – Uxbridge – Bridge Replacement, Homeward Avenue over Providence Worcester Railroad.**
 - Currently at 25% design.
 - Need revised sketch plans.
 - Recommended pushing back to 2028.
- **612192 – Auburn – Bridge Replacement, US 20 over I-395.**

- Currently at 25% design and 75% plans are due in April.
- There is no ROW for this project.
- There is a risk but still recommended to stay in 2027.

FFY 2028

- **608990 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler Street, from Main Street to Park Avenue.**
 - Currently at 25% design but needs a revised 25% plan submission.
 - Still needs a Design Public Hearing and approved ROW plans.
 - Recommended pushing back to 2029.
- **613655 – Rutland – Intersection Improvements at Route 122 and Pleasantdale Road.**
 - Currently at Pre-25% design and waiting on 25% plan submission.
 - Environmental permitting for this project might be challenging.
 - High risk but recommended staying in 2028.
- **613126 – East Brookfield – Bridge Replacement, Cove Street over Seven Mile River.**
 - Currently at Pre-25% design and waiting on 25% plan submission.
 - Still need ROW plans and town meeting approval.
 - Recommending pushing back to 2029.
- **611967 – Sturbridge/Charlton – Intersection Improvements on Route 49 at Putnam Road, Walker Pond Road, and Route 20.**
 - Currently at Pre-25% design and 75% plans are due in September.
 - Public Design Hearing is still needed.
 - Risk due to ROW but still recommended to stay in 2028.
- **608490 – Upton – Resurfacing & Related work on Route 140 and Roundabout Construction at Route 140, Church Street and Grove Street.**
 - Currently at 75% design and 100% plans are due in March.
 - Project design is changing and will have less ROW but will now address some drainage issues.
 - Recommended pushing back to 2029.

Bob Hassinger asked if the number of projects being pushed back was normal. Derek Shooster said it is a little higher than usual and MassDOT is trying to get better at recommending the correct programming year.

There were no further comments or questions.

- MicroProjects Update

Yahaira Graxirena presented this agenda item. Ms. Graxirena said staff received one application for MicroProjects funding in 2027. The project was for the town of Grafton, and it was for bicycle education

and outreach. MassBike will be partnering with the town for this project. The project details will be presented at the February MPO Advisory Committee meeting.

- FFY 2031 TIP Project Candidates PM Scoring Review

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. There are four FFY 2031 TIP candidate projects:

1. #613875: Auburn/Worcester – Improvements on Route 20 (Washington St.), from 1,000’ east of Commerce Dr. to the Auburn/Worcester TL, \$6,527,690
2. #613873: Sturbridge – Improvements on Route 20 (Charlton Rd.), from 1,000’ east of Hall Rd. to east of the I-84 Ramps, \$6,579,155
3. #613261: Worcester – Lincoln St. Transit Infrastructure Improvements, \$3,335,000
4. #613311: Worcester – Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements on Millbury St., \$3,475,000

The projects were scored in the categories of Safety (PM1), State of Good Repair (PM2), Congestion (PM3), Security, Multimodality, Sustainability, Geographic Distribution, Economic, Stormwater Management, and Travel and Tourism. After review, the final scores, from highest to lowest, were:

- Worcester – Lincoln Street: **15 points**
- Worcester – Millbury Street: **15 points**
- Sturbridge – Route 20: **13 points**
- Auburn/Worcester – Route 20: **12 points**

Derek Shooster asked what are the criteria for the Travel and Tourism category. Mr. Krasnecky replied that the focus is on looking at nearby connections the project makes, like parks, recreation areas, or other areas people frequently visit, and how the roadway may impact people’s ability to travel to those areas.

There were no further comments or questions.

Agenda Item #6 – TIP/UPWP Guidance Summary

Sujatha Krishnan presented this item. The FFY 2027-2031 TIP guidance includes both narrative and financial guidance. The narrative guidance includes:

- Narrative – project programming rationale; reliability of TIP project delivery
- Public Engagement – community outreach best practices
- Performance Measurement – target setting and planning; current targets
- Project Lists – creative use of regional target funds; statewide and interregional projects

The financial guidance lists target funding for each TIP year:

- 2027: \$30,955,126
- 2028: \$31,434,646
- 2029: \$31,923,756
- 2030: \$31,499,325
- 2031: \$32,192,859

The FFY 2027 UPWP guidance also includes both narrative and financial guidance. The narrative guidance includes:

- General Guidelines – amendment/adjustment procedures; municipal, regional, and statewide connections
- Administrative Items – direct cost budget; staff specification
- Task-Specific Guidelines – safety; multimodal; freight; housing, economic development, and land use; other data resources and activities; distribution analysis and public engagement; municipal coordination

The financial guidance provides the following updates:

- FFY 2027 Funding: \$1,695,590 (\$25,704 increase from FFY 2026 UPWP)
- FHWA PL Funding Increase: 2%
- FTA (5303) Planning Funding: TBD
- Complete Streets 2.5%: \$28,724.44

As for the timeline for these documents, the TIP will be released for public review in April and endorsed in May while the UPWP will be released for public review in May and endorsed in June.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #7 – Staff Updates

- Sujatha Krishnan mentioned that there will be future presentations regarding the Vernon Connected project.
- Yahaira Graxirena announced three upcoming Vernon Connected events in March.
 - March 4th – Coffee Chat on how I-290 Reshaped a Neighborhood, at Worcester Senior Center.
 - March 19th – Author Jeff Speck speaking about walking through the past, present, and future, at the BrickBox Theatre.
 - March 25th – Open House & Workshop at Girls Inc. of Worcester.

Agenda Item #8 – New Business

There was no new business.

Agenda Item # 9 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – February 25, 2026 at 3:00 PM
- CMMPO Committee meeting (virtual) – March 18, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

Bob Hassinger made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Ann Sullivan. The meeting concluded at 4:50 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zack Blais, Transportation Principal Planner