CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The minutes of the CMMPO Advisory Committee held **Wednesday, July 27, 2022.** This meeting was held virtually through Zoom.

CMMPO Advisory Committee Members Present:

- Adam Menard – Chairperson, Town of Auburn

- Chris Payant – Vicechair, Town of Westborough

- Sandy Amoakohene – City of Worcester DPH

- Sarah Bradbury – MassDOT District 3

- Daryl Amaral – MassDOT District 2

- Alaa Abusallah – Town of Leicester

- Ethan Belding – Central Massachusetts Agency on Aging

- Jeremy Thompson – 495/Metrowest Partnership

CMRPC Staff Present:

- Faye Rhault

- Yahaira Graxirena

- Kevin Krasnecky

- Eric Gemperline

- Rich Rydant

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Agenda Item #1 – Around the Room Introductions

Chairperson Adam Menard opened the meeting at 3:00 PM. A roll call of CMMPO Advisory members was announced, followed by the rest of the attendees.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of June 22, 2022 meeting minutes

Minutes for June 22, 2022, CMMPO Advisory meeting were considered for approval. Chairperson Menard entertains a motion to approve the June 22, 2022, meeting minutes. Ethan Belding makes a motion to approve. The motion is seconded by Alaa Abusallah. The vote is unanimous in favor of approval except for Jeremy Thompson who abstained.

Agenda Item #3 – FFY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Transit List: Amendment #7

ACTION ITEM: Seeking recommendation to the CMMPO

Kevin Krasnecky presented for this item, in which staff asked members to release proposed Amendment #7 to the TIP Transit Project Listing for a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period. For FFY 2022, Amendment #7 includes the addition of the following Community Transit Grant Awards:

- o **Project #RTD0010496** – Town of Shrewsbury – Operating Assistance for a total of $56,000

- o **Project #RTD0010501** – Worcester Regional Transit Authority – SCM Elderbus Midday Service for a total of $30,000

- o **Project #RTD0010502** – Worcester Regional Transit Authority – Holden to Worcester Extended Service Hours for a total of $24,000

- o **Project #RTD0010503** – Worcester Regional Transit Authority – Buy Replacement Vans (16) for a total of $930,846

- o **Project #RTD0010514** – Worcester Regional Transit Authority – SCM ReadyBus Service for a total of $90,000

There were no comments or questions following the amendment presentation. Ms. Sullivan made a motion to recommend the amendment to the CMMPO. Ms. Abusallah seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 – CMMPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

- Public Outreach Efforts

Yahaira presented on this item, which included a review of updates for the CMMPO LRTP, which largely centered on updates to the Table of Contents.

Updates to the Table of Contents included seven (7) chapters:

1. **Introduction** – will build off the previous LRTP and the introduction of the five (5) Programmatic Areas: Major Infrastructure Projects; Asset Management and Operations;

Livability and Healthy Aging; Transit and Mobility Management; and Climate Change and Resiliency.

2. **The Process** – will provide information on the overall process of the development of the LRTP, which will include:

    a. Public Outreach – approach, methods, and tools to engage the public.

    b. Performance Management – presentation of national and regional goals and their relationship with Federal and regional metrics.

    c. Equity Considerations – geographic equity and the region's demographic characteristics.

    d. Federal, State, and Community – review Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), MassDOT Beyond Mobility (LRTP), Master Plans, and locally identified priorities.

3. **Linkages** – will discuss projections, including population projections, employment projections, and future growth. This will also bring into the forefront the work related to CMRPC's Regional Plan: Imagine 2050 and their three (3) "pillars" (economy, environment, and equity), and how it relates to cross-cutting themes (infrastructure, quality of life, community vitality, sustainability and resiliency, and education).

4. **Modes and Planning Areas** – contains a review of the modes that will be included in the LRTP, such as freight, transit, non-motorized, highways, and airports. This chapter will also include a review of planning areas for safety planning, congestions management process, asset management, and emerging technologies.

5. **Programmatic Areas: Needs and Priorities** – will discuss studies, initiatives, and projects related to modal plans; BIL and MicroProjects survey; Travel Demand Model; data integration; equity analysis; public engagement results; regional workshops; and GHG savings.

6. **Financial Plan** – includes funding options, financial constraints, and projected revenues and expenses for highway projects and initiatives, transit projects and initiatives, and non-motorized projects and initiatives.

7. **Air Quality and Green House Gases (GHGs) Assessment** – contains a background conformity evaluation provided by MassDOT.

There were no questions or comments.

Agenda Item #6 – CMMPO Data Collection Program Presentation

Eric Gemperline presented this item, which was a review of the CMMPO data collection program.

The purpose of the data collection program is to inform the regional planning process and support projects and tasks identified in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). All data collected and related services are available to communities and planning partners as needed. Data is collected mainly on federal-aid eligible roadways, although data collection may be conducted on non-federal-aid eligible

roadways if required by a project or requested by a community depending on the program. CMRPC collects many different types of data, including:

- Traffic Counting

    o 1,151 federal-aid locations monitored by staff (200-300 locations counted each year)
    o About 30 additional locations counted on behalf of MassDOT each year
    o Traffic counters collect total vehicle volume, vehicle speed, and vehicle classification

- Turning Movement Counts (TMCs)

    o 15-30 TMCs conducted each year – only when school is in session (spring and fall)
    o Monitor the condition of intersections in the region
    o Before and after projects are completed to determine effectiveness of the improvements

- Pavement Condition Surveys

    o "Windshield" surveys collected along federal-aid roadways, excluding Interstates
    o Data collected on 3-year rotating cycle
    o Data is inputted into the Pavement Management Software to determine Pavement Condition Index (PCI)
    o Also used to run scenarios to determine regional condition scores, backlogs, and costs to maintain condition

- Sidewalk and Curb Ramp Inventory

    o Mainly focused on federal-aid eligible roadways
    o Significant amount of local network roads in database from Complete Streets projects
    o Four-year cycle to match LRTP development
    o Data collected using a walking survey method

- Culvert Surveys

    o Staff have only assessed culverts on federal-aid eligible roadways in West Brookfield, as well as select culverts in Berlin, Oxford, and Sutton for specific projects
    o Staff have completed maps, dashboards, and reports for assessed culverts
    o Staff can train others to assess culverts per the NAACC protocols

- Traffic Signal Inventory (Pilot)

    o Uses existing datasets to identify traffic signals in region for assessment
    o Staff coordinated with District staff to determine available data to include in pilot program
    o Staff conducted limited inventory of traffic signals in region
    o Staff looks to expand effort and integrate it with other data collection efforts

- Bicycle Facility Inventory

    o Staff utilized available data to generate Bicycle Compatibility Index (BCI) score for federal-aid eligible roadways in region
    o BCI measures how roads can accommodate bicycles

- o Staff submits updates to MassDOT Bike Inventory File as data is collected
- o Staff will resume trail counts

Staff also includes many other data collection efforts and analyses, including:

- Park and Ride Data
- MBTA Commuter Rail Parking Data
- Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Dashboard
- CMRPC Drone Program
- Cameras for TMCs and other counts
- MassDOT "Big Data" sets

  - o RITIS
  - o Conveyal
  - o Strava

- Crash Data

  - o Working with local police
  - o MassDOT Impact Site

Sandy Amoakohene asked if the Bicycle Compatibility Index was available for all towns in the region. Ms. Faye Rhault responded yes and that she would be happy to share the link. There were no further questions.

Agenda Item #5 – Staff Updates

No Staff Updates are available

Agenda Item #6 – New Business

No Updates are available.

Agenda Item #7 – Adjournment

At 3:30 PM Chairperson Menard entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Payant made the motion to and was seconded by Ms. Amoakohene. The group voted unanimously to adjourn.

Meeting minutes prepared: Eric Gemperline, Transportation Associate Planner.