



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting held **Wednesday, August 17th, 2022**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Derek Krevat, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
2. Ann Sullivan, MassDOT Highway Division District #3, designee to MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathon Gulliver
3. Robert Hassinger, designee to CMRPC Commission Chair
4. Brian Pigeon, designee to acting City Manager Eric Batista
5. Shelby Marshall, Westborough, Northeast Subregion Representative
6. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative
7. Dennis Lamarche – Oxford, Southwest Subregion Representative

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

1. Chris Klem, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

- **Guests:**

1. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3
2. Laura Hanson, MassDOT District #2
3. Andrew Wang, MassDOT
4. David Adams, Southbridge, Southwest Subregion Alternate
5. Bill Cundiff, Spencer

- **CMRPC Staff Present:**

1. Sujatha Krishnan – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Project Manager – Transportation
3. Yahaira Graxirena, Project Manager – Transportation
4. Zack Blais, Associate Planner – Transportation

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Agenda Item #1 – Introductions

CMMPO Chair Derek Krevat opened the meeting at 4:00 PM. A roll call of CMMPO members was announced, followed by the rest of attendees.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of July 20, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the July 20, 2022, meeting of the CMMPO were considered for approval. Bob Hassinger motioned to accept the minutes and was seconded by Shelby Marshall. A roll call vote was announced, and members present voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

Derek Krevat – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes
Brian Pigeon – Yes

Shelby Marshall – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
Dennis Lamarche – Yes

Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #4 – FFY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Potential Action:** Approval of Amendment #7 to the FFY 2022-2026 TIP Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented on the Proposed Amendment #7 to the FFY 2022-2026 TIP Transit Project Listing, in which members will be voting to approve the Amendment #7. The Proposed Amendment #7 included an incorrect project description for Project #RTD0010503 at the time of release. The description was corrected and now the project will be buying 14 replacement vans instead of the intended 16 replacement vans. The listing was corrected, and the updated project name reads:

- Project #RTD0010503 – Worcester Regional Transit Authority – Buy Replacement Vans (14) for a total of \$930,846

A virtual public meeting was hosted on August 3, but nobody attended the meeting. Amendment #7 was also reviewed with the CMMPO Advisory Committee and CMRPC Transportation Committee, and both have recommended the endorsement of Amendment #7 to the FFY 2022-2026 TIP Transit Project Listing. With that, staff are looking for CMMPO members to endorse this Amendment #7.

Ann Sullivan made a motion and was seconded by Bob Hassinger to approve Amendment #7 to the FFY 2022-2026 TIP Transit Project Listing. All members voted unanimously to approve Amendment #7 to the FFY 2022-2026 TIP Transit Project Listing.

Derek Krevat – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes
Brian Pigeon – Yes

Shelby Marshall – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
Dennis Lamarche – Yes

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #5 – Staff Updates

- L RTP Sub-Regional Meetings

Yahaira Graxirena announced several L RTP Sub-Regional meetings coming up:

- Southwest Subregion: August 24, 2022 – Tri Valley Elder Services (10 Mill Street, Dudley)
- Northeast Subregion: September 8, 2022 – Westborough Forbes Building (34 West Main Street, Westborough)
- West Subregion: September 15, 2022 – North Brookfield Public Safety Building (185 North Main Street, North Brookfield)
- Southeast Subregion: September 22, 2022 – Grafton Police Department (28 Providence Road, Grafton)
- North Subregion: October 6, 2022 – West Boylston Senior Center (120 Prescott Street, West Boylston)

These meetings will be held by invite only.

Various topics ranging from transportation, stormwater, broadband infrastructure, etc., will be discussed throughout each of these meetings.

As for public events, August 18th staff will be at the Southbridge Public Library to discuss the L RTP in more detail with the public. On August 19, staff will be at the Beaver Brook Park Farmer’s Market, and next week staff will also be at the Worcester Common event. On September 11, staff will be in Westborough at the Westborough 4 Life Event. And finally, on September 16, staff will be at the Green Hill Block Party in Worcester. Other meetings with regional stakeholders and groups that represent disadvantaged populations in the region are also being planned as well.

Shelby Marshall asked how the structure of the workshops will be. Yahaira answered that the first part of the workshops will include a presentation, followed by discussions about the various topics and their priorities and needs.

- North Subregion CMMPO Representative Elections

Kevin Krasnecky announced that the North Subregion Representative, Barur Rajeshkumar, will be ending his term at the end of this upcoming September. With that, a subregional election is needed to fill that role. A date for the election will be determined by staff by the end of August. Invitations and notices will be sent out to the North Subregion selectboards by the first week of September. The new North Subregion Representative term would start October 1st.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #6 – New Business

Brian Pigeon announced the City of Worcester are in the midst of their L RTP planning efforts and are having a Transportation and Mobility working group session on August 18 virtually. He also announced that on August 15 the City of Worcester Department of Transportation and Mobility was created. This

department combines elements of economic development & planning and the public works department. All of the planning and designs will be housed in this department along with the parking enforcement division. More details will be provided going forward.

Sujatha Krishnan provided an update on grant opportunities under the Bipartisan infrastructure Law (BIL), including a grant opportunity for the Reconnecting Communities Grant. The grant is for improving infrastructure that was built during the 1950's and 1960's that divided communities and created a disadvantage to the Environmental Justice (EJ) communities, especially through cities. With that, MassDOT is partnering with CMRPC to and the City of Worcester to apply for this grant, which will look to update the Vernon Street Bridge. MassDOT will do a joint application with CMRPC for a planning grant to design the bridge and hopefully construct it in the future.

Chris Klem updated the group on the MassDOT LRTP. The first public survey they sent out ended at the end of July and they received about 1,200 responses. A second public survey was recently launched that is focused on building the public's priorities as they relate to the various state funding programs. With that, public priorities for transportation will be compared with budget tradeoffs. In addition to the LRTP, Mr. Klem noted that a Public Information Meeting will be held on September 14 for Route 20 Corridor Improvement Project in Shrewsbury. The project is currently listed in FFY 2026 of the TIP.

Agenda Item #9 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – TBD
- CMMPO meeting (virtual) – TBD

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

Bob Hassinger made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Ann Sullivan. The meeting concluded at 4:30 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zachary Blais, Transportation Associate Planner