

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



CMMPO Endorsed Amendment #8 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

July 19, 2023



Document Prepared by:
Staff of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization
1 Mercantile Street, Suite 520, Worcester MA 01608

Prepared in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation – Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. The views and opinions of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation or the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Notice of Nondiscrimination Rights and Protections to Beneficiaries

Federal Title VI/Nondiscrimination Protections

The Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) hereby states its policy to operate its programs, services and activities in full compliance with federal nondiscrimination laws including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related federal and state statutes and regulations. Title VI prohibits discrimination in federally assisted programs and requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, including limited English proficiency, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal assistance.

Related federal nondiscrimination laws administered by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, or both prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, sex, and disability. These protected categories are contemplated within the CMMPO's Title VI Programs consistent with federal and state interpretation and administration. Additionally, the CMMPO provides meaningful access to its programs, services, and activities to individuals with limited English proficiency, in compliance with US Department of Transportation policy and guidance on federal Executive Order 13166.

State Nondiscrimination Protections

The CMMPO also complies with the Massachusetts Public Accommodation Law, M.G.L. c272 §§ 92a, 98, 98a, prohibiting making any distinction, discrimination, or restriction in admission to or treatment in a place of public accommodation based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability or ancestry. Likewise, CMMPO complies with the Governor's Executive Order 526, section 4, requiring all programs, activities and services provided, performed, licensed, chartered, funded, regulated, or contracted for by the state shall be conducted without unlawful discrimination based on race, color, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, disability, veteran's status (including Vietnam-era veterans), or background.

Filing a Complaint

Individuals who feel they have been discriminated against in violation of Title VI or related Federal nondiscrimination laws, must file a complaint within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory conduct to:

To file a complaint alleging violation of the State's Public Accommodation Law, contact the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory conduct at:

Ms. Janet Pierce, Executive Director
Central Massachusetts Regional Planning
Commission
1 Mercantile Street
Suite 520
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 756-7717

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination
(MCAD)
One Ashburton Place, 6th floor
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 994-6000
TTY: (617) 994-6196

Translation

English: If this information is needed in another language, please contact the CMRPC/CMMPO Title VI Specialist at (508) 756-7717.

Spanish: Si necesita esta información en otro lenguaje, favor contactar al especialista de Título VI de CMRPC/CMMPO al (508) 756-7717.

French: Si vous avez besoin d'obtenir une copie de la présente dans une autre langue, veuillez contacter le spécialiste du Titre VI de CMRPC/CMMPO en composant le (508) 756-7717.

Portuguese: Caso esta informação seja necessária em outro idioma, favor contatar o Especialista em Título VI do CMRPC/CMMPO pelo fone (508) 756-7717.

Vietnamese: Nếu bạn cần thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ khác, xin vui lòng liên lạc với Tiêu đề VI Chuyên CMRPC/CMMPO tại (508) 756-7717.

Chinese: 如果用另一种语言需要的信息，请联系第六章专门CMRPC/CMMPO (508) 756-7717。

Afrikaans: As jy inligting nodig het in 'n ander taal, kontak asseblief die Titel VI Spesialis CMRPC/CMMPO by (508) 756-7717.

ADA/ 504 Notice of Nondiscrimination

The CMMPO does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to its programs, services, or activities; in access to them; in treatment of individuals with disabilities; or in any aspect of their operations. The CMMPO also does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices.

This notice is provided as required by Title II of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding ADA and Section 504 may be forwarded to:

Ms. Janet Pierce, Executive Director
Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission
1 Mercantile Street
Suite 520
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 756-7717

This notice and document are available from the CMMPO in large print, on audio tape, and in Braille upon request.

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Amendment #8 Transit Project Listing & Summary Materials

Proposed Amendment #8 to the 2023 to 2027 TIP Transit List

FFY 2023/2024 – Addition of Community Transit Grant Program (FTA 5310) Vehicle Awards

- Add **WRTA011548 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$106,000 under 5310 funding source.
- Add **WRTA011549 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E2a)** to FFY 2023 & 2024. \$93,360 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$23,340 of GOBOND funding will be added in 2024. The total cost of the project is \$116,700.
- Add **WRTA011550 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-3 LF)** to FFY 2023 & 2024. \$453,413 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$106,555 of GOBOND funding will be added to 2024. The total cost of the project is \$559,968.
- Add **WRTA011570 – Town of Uxbridge – Buy Replacement Van (5310 Carryover)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604 under 5310 funding source.
- Add **WRTA011574 – Town of Millville – Buy Expansion Van (5310)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604. \$62,883 is 5310 funding and \$15,721 is LF funding.



STIP Investments Report

Program Activity: Transit, Worcester Regional Transit Authority

STIP: 2023 - 2027

Year	MassDOT Project ID	Municipality	Program	MassDOT Project Description	Funding Source	Total Project Cost	Total Programmed Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds	Other Funds	Project Score	FTA Line Item	Other Information
Federal Fiscal Year 2023							\$27,318,097	\$18,042,741	\$8,464,637	\$810,719			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$27,318,097	\$18,042,741	\$8,464,637	\$810,719			
2023	RTD0010853		Operating	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Operating Assistance - Fixed Route	5307	\$13,812,046	\$6,906,023	\$6,906,023				30.09.01	
2023	RTD0010853		Operating	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Operating Assistance - Fixed Route	SCA	\$13,812,046	\$6,906,023		\$6,906,023			30.09.01	
2023	RTD0010845		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	5307	\$585,982	\$479,552	\$479,552				11.42.20	
2023	RTD0010845		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	RTACAP	\$585,982	\$106,430		\$106,430			11.42.20	
2023	RTD0010849		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Fixed Route Bus Shelters	5307	\$72,771	\$48,000	\$48,000				11.32.10	
2023	RTD0010849		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Fixed Route Bus Shelters	RTACAP	\$72,771	\$24,771		\$24,771			11.32.10	
2023	RTD0010850		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Bus Stop and Electronic Signage for Fixed Route	5307	\$5,687	\$4,000	\$4,000				11.32.09	
2023	RTD0010850		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Bus Stop and Electronic Signage for Fixed Route	RTACAP	\$5,687	\$1,687		\$1,687			11.32.09	
2023	RTD0010846		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Spare Parts for Revenue Rolling Stock	5307	\$688,564	\$550,851	\$550,851				11.12.40	
2023	RTD0010846		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Spare Parts for Revenue Rolling Stock	RTACAP	\$688,564	\$137,713		\$137,713			11.12.40	
2023	RTD0010851		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	5307	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$4,000				11.34.01	
2023	RTD0010851		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	RTACAP	\$5,000	\$1,000		\$1,000			11.34.01	
2023	RTD0010852		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Rehabilitation of Union Station	5337	\$3,759,989	\$3,007,991	\$3,007,991				11.34.03	
2023	RTD0010852		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Rehabilitation of Union Station	LF	\$3,759,989	\$751,998			\$751,998		11.34.03	
2023	RTD0010877		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	5307	\$70,000	\$56,000	\$56,000				11.44.02	



STIP Investments Report

Program Activity: Transit, Worcester Regional Transit Authority

STIP: 2023 - 2027

Year	MassDOT Project ID	Municipality	Program	MassDOT Project Description	Funding Source	Total Project Cost	Total Programmed Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds	Other Funds	Project Score	FTA Line Item	Other Information
Federal Fiscal Year 2023							\$27,318,097	\$18,042,741	\$8,464,637	\$810,719			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$27,318,097	\$18,042,741	\$8,464,637	\$810,719			
2023	RTD0010877		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	RTACAP	\$70,000	\$14,000		\$14,000			11.44.02	
2023	RTD0010843		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus (9)	5307	\$5,541,148	\$5,541,148	\$5,541,148				11.12.02	
2023	RTD0010843		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus (9)	TDC	\$5,541,148	\$1,108,230		\$1,108,230			11.12.02	
2023	RTD0010893		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority - Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus (1)	5339	\$553,916	\$553,916	\$553,916				11.12.02	
2023	RTD0010893		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority - Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus (1)	TDC	\$553,916	\$110,783		\$110,783			11.12.02	
2023	T00235		Mobility Assistance Program	Town of Shrewsbury - Funding for operation of Shrewsbury Council on Aging vehicle with a focus on out-of-town trips (5310)	5310	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$25,000				30.09.01	
2023	T00235		Mobility Assistance Program	Town of Shrewsbury - Funding for operation of Shrewsbury Council on Aging vehicle with a focus on out-of-town trips (5310)	ONF	\$50,000	\$25,000			\$25,000		30.09.01	
2023	T00237		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - Holden demand response service (5310)	5310	\$24,000	\$12,000	\$12,000				30.09.01	
2023	T00237		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - Holden demand response service (5310)	LF	\$24,000	\$3,000			\$3,000		30.09.01	
2023	T00237		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - Holden demand response service (5310)	SCA	\$24,000	\$9,000		\$9,000			30.09.01	
2023	T00238		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - midday demand response service (5310)	5310	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$15,000				30.09.01	
2023	T00238		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - midday demand response service (5310)	LF	\$30,000	\$3,750			\$3,750		30.09.01	
2023	T00238		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - midday demand response service (5310)	SCA	\$30,000	\$11,250		\$11,250			30.09.01	
2023	T00239		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - ReadyBus Service (5310)	5310	\$90,000	\$45,000	\$45,000				30.09.01	
2023	T00239		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - ReadyBus Service (5310)	LF	\$90,000	\$11,250			\$11,250		30.09.01	
2023	T00239		Mobility Assistance Program	WRTA - ReadyBus Service (5310)	SCA	\$90,000	\$33,750		\$33,750			30.09.01	



STIP Investments Report

Program Activity: Transit, Worcester Regional Transit Authority

STIP: 2023 - 2027

Year	MassDOT Project ID	Municipality	Program	MassDOT Project Description	Funding Source	Total Project Cost	Total Programmed Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds	Other Funds	Project Score	FTA Line Item	Other Information
Federal Fiscal Year 2023							\$27,318,097	\$18,042,741	\$8,464,637	\$810,719			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$27,318,097	\$18,042,741	\$8,464,637	\$810,719			
2023	WRTA011548		RTA Vehicle Replacement	WRTA - Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E)	5310	\$106,000	\$106,000	\$106,000				11.12.15	
2023	WRTA011549		RTA Vehicle Replacement	WRTA - Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E2a)	5310	\$116,700	\$93,360	\$93,360				11.12.15	
2023	WRTA011550		RTA Vehicle Replacement	WRTA - Buy Replacement Vans (5-3 LF)	5310	\$559,968	\$453,413	\$453,413				11.12.15	
2023	WRTA011570		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Town of Uxbridge - Buy Replacement Van (5310 Carryover)	5310	\$78,604	\$78,604	\$78,604				11.12.15	
2023	WRTA011574		RTA Fleet Upgrades	Town of Millville - Buy Expansion - Van (5310)	5310	\$78,604	\$62,883	\$62,883				11.12.15	
2023	WRTA011574		RTA Fleet Upgrades	Town of Millville - Buy Expansion - Van (5310)	LF	\$78,604	\$15,721			\$15,721		11.12.15	



STIP Investments Report
Program Activity: Transit, Worcester Regional Transit Authority

STIP: 2023 - 2027 (D)

Year	MassDOT Project ID	Municipality	Program	MassDOT Project Description	Funding Source	Total Project Cost	Total Programmed Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds	Other Funds	Project Score	FTA Line Item	Other Information
Federal Fiscal Year 2024							\$24,560,065	\$15,204,284	\$8,596,263	\$759,518			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$24,560,065	\$15,204,284	\$8,596,263	\$759,518			
2024	RTD0010854		Operating	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Operating Assistance - Fixed Route	5307	\$14,466,170	\$7,233,085	\$7,233,085				30.09.01	
2024	RTD0010854		Operating	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Operating Assistance - Fixed Route	SCA	\$14,466,170	\$7,233,085		\$7,233,085			30.09.01	
2024	RTD0010857		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	5307	\$553,914	\$443,131	\$443,131				11.42.20	
2024	RTD0010857		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	RTACAP	\$553,914	\$110,783		\$110,783			11.42.20	
2024	RTD0010861		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Fixed Route Bus Shelters	5307	\$60,000	\$48,000	\$48,000				11.32.10	
2024	RTD0010861		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Fixed Route Bus Shelters	RTACAP	\$60,000	\$12,000		\$12,000			11.32.10	
2024	RTD0010862		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Bus Stop and Electronic Signage for Fixed Route	5307	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$4,000				11.32.09	
2024	RTD0010862		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Bus Stop and Electronic Signage for Fixed Route	RTACAP	\$5,000	\$1,000		\$1,000			11.32.09	
2024	RTD0010858		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Spare Parts for Revenue Rolling Stock	5307	\$789,993	\$631,994	\$631,994				11.12.40	
2024	RTD0010858		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Spare Parts for Revenue Rolling Stock	RTACAP	\$789,993	\$157,999		\$157,999			11.12.40	
2024	RTD0010863		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	5307	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$4,000				11.34.01	
2024	RTD0010863		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	RTACAP	\$5,000	\$1,000		\$1,000			11.34.01	
2024	RTD0010864		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Rehabilitation of Union Station	5337	\$3,797,589	\$3,038,071	\$3,038,071				11.34.03	
2024	RTD0010864		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Rehabilitation of Union Station	LF	\$3,797,589	\$759,518			\$759,518		11.34.03	
2024	RTD0010878		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	5307	\$75,000	\$60,000	\$60,000				11.44.02	



STIP Investments Report

Program Activity: Transit, Worcester Regional Transit Authority

STIP: 2023 - 2027 (D)

Year	MassDOT Project ID	Municipality	Program	MassDOT Project Description	Funding Source	Total Project Cost	Total Programmed Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds	Other Funds	Project Score	FTA Line Item	Other Information
Federal Fiscal Year 2024							\$24,560,065	\$15,204,284	\$8,596,263	\$759,518			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$24,560,065	\$15,204,284	\$8,596,263	\$759,518			
2024	RTD0010878		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	RTACAP	\$75,000	\$15,000		\$15,000			11.44.02	
2024	RTD0010855		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus (7)	5307	\$3,783,186	\$3,026,549	\$3,026,549				11.12.02	
2024	RTD0010855		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus (7)	RTACAP	\$3,783,186	\$756,637		\$756,637			11.12.02	
2024	RTD0010856		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement Support Vehicles (3)	5307	\$195,000	\$156,000	\$156,000				11.42.11	
2024	RTD0010856		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement Support Vehicles (3)	RTACAP	\$195,000	\$39,000		\$39,000			11.42.11	
2024	RTD0010894		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority - Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus (1)	5339	\$699,318	\$559,454	\$559,454				11.12.02	
2024	RTD0010894		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority - Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus (1)	RTACAP	\$699,318	\$139,864		\$139,864			11.12.02	
2024	WRTA011549		RTA Vehicle Replacement	WRTA - Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 E2a)	GOBOND	\$116,700	\$23,340		\$23,340			11.12.15	
2024	WRTA011550		RTA Vehicle Replacement	WRTA - Buy Replacement Vans (5-3 LF)	GOBOND	\$559,968	\$106,555		\$106,555			11.12.15	

Amendment #8 Proactive Public Outreach Summary

**Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization
Proposed 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #8 and Draft Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP):
2050 Connections Available for Public Review & Comment**

For information purposes and in accordance with the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization's (CMMPO) formal Public Participation Plan, in full compliance of Environmental Justice regulations, the transportation staff of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) announces the release of the Proposed 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #8 and Draft Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP): 2050 Connections for the 21-day public review and comment period, now underway.

The Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 (c) grant applicant, a member of the CMMPO, states that the public involvement process adopted for the development of the TIP satisfies the public hearing requirements that pertain to the development of the Program of Projects for regular Section 5307, Urbanized Area Formula Program, grant applications including the provision for public notice and the time established for public review and comment.

The TIP is a listing of all transportation projects for highway, transit, and intermodal in the planning region programmed to receive federal-aid funding. Amendment #8 will add five Community Transit Grant Program Vehicle Awards to FFY 2023 & 2024. The LRTP: 2050 Connections includes policies, initiatives, programs, and multi-modal infrastructure improvement projects anticipated over the next 20-year period.

All interested parties are welcome to attend a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Amendment #8 and Draft LRTP: 2050 Connections on **Monday, July 10, 2023** at 5:00 PM using Zoom. The details to join the meeting can be found on the CMRPC website meeting calendar. The established deadline for public comment is 4:30 PM on **Wednesday, July 12, 2023**. Summary materials pertaining to the proposed amendment and draft document is available at www.cmrpc.org. Printed summary materials are available upon request from the CMRPC office. CMMPO meetings are conducted in accessible locations and close to public transit. Materials can be provided free of charge in accessible formats and languages other than English. If you would like special accommodations, such as an interpreter, please contact the Title VI Coordinator, (508) 459-3313, or TitleVICoordinator@cmrpc.org at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

Notice of Public Meeting

A notice is hereby given of the availability of the following documents/materials for public review and comment by decision makers, stakeholders, and the general public:

Draft LRTP: 2050 Connections

Proposed 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #8

What is the LRTP? The LRTP: 2050 Connections includes policies, initiatives, programs, and multi-modal infrastructure improvement projects anticipated over the next 20-year period.

What is the TIP? The CMMPO TIP lists the highway and transit projects in the CMMPO region that are programmed to receive federal funds during these fiscal years. The 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #8 calls for changes to FFY 2023/2024 of the transit project listing. These changes are:

Community Transit Grant Program (FTA 5310) Vehicle Awards

- Add **WRTA011548 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$106,000 under 5310 funding source.
- Add **WRTA011549 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E2a)** to FFY 2023 & 2024. \$93,360 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$23,340 of GOBOND funding will be added in 2024. The total cost of the project is \$116,700.
- Add **WRTA011550 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-3 LF)** to FFY 2023 & 2024. \$453,413 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$106,555 of GOBOND funding will be added to 2024. The total cost of the project is \$559,968.
- Add **WRTA011570 – Town of Uxbridge – Buy Replacement Van (5310 Carryover)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604 under 5310 funding source.
- Add **WRTA011574 – Town of Millville – Buy Expansion Van (5310)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604. \$62,883 is 5310 funding and \$15,721 is LF funding.

Summary materials pertaining to the above listed items are available at www.cmrpc.org or by request from the CMRPC Offices.

There will be opportunities for the public to comment on the Draft Long Range Transportation Plan: 2050 Connections and Proposed 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #8 during the virtual ZOOM meeting listed below:

Monday, July 10, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82759911232?pwd=NmFaTEtmMzBJNFdVdlJpYXF4MTFGQT09>

Meeting ID: 827 5991 1232

Passcode: 381261

Dial by your location

- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

All written comments received before Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 4:30 PM will be fully considered.

CMMPO meetings are conducted in accessible locations and materials can be provided in accessible formats free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, alternative material formats such as audio, Braille, and large print), as available. Interpreter and other translation requests must be made at least fourteen (14) business days before the meeting. Materials in alternative formats must be requested at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting. For accommodations or language assistance, or to request information or file a complaint, contact the CMMPO Title VI Coordinator by phone at (508) 756-7717, by fax at (508) 792-6818, or by email at TitleVICoordinator@cmrpc.org.

The Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 (c) grant applicant, a member of the CMMPO, states that the public involvement process adopted for the development of the TIP satisfies the public hearing requirements that pertain to the development of the Program of Projects for regular Section 5307, Urbanized Area Formula Program, grant applications including the provision for public notice and the time established for public review and comment.

The CMMPO fully complies with all Federal and Commonwealth of Massachusetts nondiscrimination protections, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations, in all of its programs and activities. The CMMPO does not discriminate on the basis of: race, color, national origin, English proficiency, or age, ancestry, background, disability, gender, gender identity or expression, income, religion, sex, sexual orientation or expression, or military status. Any person who believes himself/herself was discriminated against may, himself/herself or through a representative, file a complaint with the CMMPO. A

complaint must be filed no later than 180 days after the date on which the person believes the discrimination occurred.

Title VI prohibits discrimination in federally assisted programs and requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin (including Limited English Proficiency) be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance.

Related federal non-discrimination laws administered by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, sex and disability. These protected categories are contemplated within CMMPO's Title VI Program, consistent with federal interpretation and administration. Additionally, CMMPO provides meaningful access to its programs, services and activities to individuals with limited English proficiency, in compliance with US Department of Transportation policy and guidance on federal Executive Order 13166. CMMPO also complies with the Massachusetts Public Accommodation Law, M.G.L. Chapter 272, Sections 92a, 98, and 98a prohibiting making any distinction, discrimination, or restriction in admission to or treatment in place of public accommodation based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or ancestry. Likewise, CMMPO complies with the Governor's Executive Order 526, Section 4 requiring that all of its programs, activities, and services provided, performed, licensed, chartered, funded, regulated, or contracted shall be conducted without unlawful discrimination based on race, color, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, disability, veteran's status, or background.

If this information is needed in another language, please visit www.cmrpc.org and use the Google Translate feature.

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Polish:

Jeżeli informacja zawarta na stronie www.cmrpc.org jest potrzebna w innym języku, prosimy o skorzystanie z funkcji Google translate.

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Chinese (Traditional):

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Virtual Public Meeting to Discuss the Proposed 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #8 & Draft Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP): 2050 Connections

Date: Monday, July 10, 2023

Time: 5:00 PM

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through ZOOM. Connection details are available at the bottom of the agenda and on the CMRPC website calendar at <https://www.cmrpc.org/draft-lrtp-and-2023-2027-tip-amendment-8-public-meeting>

AGENDA

1. Call to Order & Around the Room Introductions
2. Proposed 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #8
 - TIP Amendment #8 Overview
 - Acceptance of Public Comment & Input
3. Draft Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP): 2050 Connections
 - Draft LRTP: 2050 Connections Overview
 - Acceptance of Public Comment & Input
4. Adjournment

Please Note: All comments on the Proposed 2023-2027 TIP Amendment #8 and Draft LRTP: 2050 Connections should be forwarded to Kevin Krasnecky at kkrasnecky@cmrpc.org prior to the CMMPO-established deadline of 4:30 PM on **Wednesday, July 12, 2023**.

CMMPO meetings are conducted in accessible locations and materials can be provided in accessible formats free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, alternative material formats such as audio, Braille, and large print), as available. Interpreter and other translation requests must be made at least fourteen (14) business days before the meeting. Materials in alternative formats must be requested at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

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Monday, July 10, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82759911232?pwd=NmFaTEtmMzBJNFdVdlJpYXF4MTFGQT09>

Meeting ID: 827 5991 1232

Passcode: 381261

Dial by your location

- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the Draft Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), 2050 Connections and the 2023-2027 Proposed Amendment #8 virtual public meeting held Monday, July 10, 2023 through ZOOM.

- **Guests:**

1. Ann Sullivan, MassDOT – District #3
2. Liza Farr, Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning
3. Roberto Echevarria, Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning
4. Senator Michael Moore
5. Scott Delaney

- **CMRPC Staff Present:**

1. Kevin Krasnecky
2. Sujatha Krishnan
3. Rich Rydant
4. Yahaira Graxirena
5. Greer Jarvis

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Call to Order & Around the Room Introductions

Kevin Krasnecky, CMRPC, called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM and introduced the attendees.

Proposed Amendment #8 to the 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky reviewed this agenda item with the attendees. Mr. Krasnecky noted that Proposed Amendment #8 to the 2023-2027 TIP transit project listing was released for a 21-day public review and comment period by the CMMPO at their June 21st meeting. The Proposed Amendment calls for the addition of several Community Transit Grant Program (FTA 5310) Vehicle Awards. The vehicle awards included:

- Add WRTA011548 – WRTA Buy Replacement Van (5-1 type E) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$106,000 under 5310 funding source.
- Add WRTA011549 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E2a) to FFY 2023 and 2024. \$93,360 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$23,340 of GOBOND funding will be added in 2024. The total cost of the project is \$116,700.
- Add WRTA011550 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-3 LF) to FFY 2023 and 2024. \$453,413 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$106,555 of GOBOND funding will be added to 2024. The total cost of the project is \$559,968.
- Add WRTA011570 – Town of Uxbridge – Buy Replacement Van (5310 Carryover) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604 under 5310 funding source.
- Add WRTA011574 – Town of Millville – Buy Expansion Van (5310) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604. \$62,883 is 5310 funding and 15,721 is LF funding.

There were no comments or questions regarding Proposed Amendment #8.

Draft Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), 2050 Connections

Yahaira Graxirena reviewed this agenda item with the attendees. Ms. Graxirena provided an overview of each chapter in the LRTP. Chapter one explains what the LRTP is, what public outreach has been done, and discusses the five programmatic areas. The second chapter reviews the planning considerations, which include scenario planning, planning factors, emphasis areas, and community resources. The third chapter identifies linkages, which include land use projections and the transportation impacts as well as linking the document to the CMRPC Regional Plan *Imagine2050*. The fourth chapter reviews the planning areas, modes, and related programmatic areas. The included modes are freight, transit, non-motorized transportation, highways, and airports. The planning areas are safety, congestion management, asset management, environment, and emerging technologies.

Chapter five has all the needs of the region for each programmatic area and prioritizes them into various studies, initiatives, and projects. These needs were developed from regional workshops, equity analysis, greenhouse gas savings, modal plans, and much more. Public

meetings and a web map were also utilized to help identify the various needs and priorities. The sixth chapter is the financial plan, which is broken down by the five programmatic areas: active transportation, major infrastructure projects, system maintenance and operations, transit support, and climate change and resiliency. The anticipated funding between 2024 and 2050 is \$1,025,467,044. Both highway and transit financials are included in the chapter. Ms. Graxirena also noted the list of major infrastructure (MI) highway projects for each of the 5-year bands of the LRTP out to 2050. Additionally, major transit projects were also summarized. Lastly, chapter 7 includes the air quality conformity and GHG assessment. This information is provided by MassDOT and includes the overall emissions reductions from all the MI projects. The results show a reduction in GHG emissions and improvements in air quality in the region. There were no questions or comments regarding the Draft LRTP, 2050 Connections.

Before Mr. Krasnecky closed the public meeting, he mentioned the deadline for public comments on the Draft LRTP or Amendment #8 is 4:30 PM on Wednesday, July 12th. With no additional comments or questions, the Draft LRTP & 2023-2027 Proposed Amendment #8 virtual public meeting closed at 5:26 PM.

CMMPO & CMMPO Advisory Committee Proceedings

- MPO June 21, 2023 – Initiate Amendment
- MPO July 19, 2023 – Endorse Amendment
- Advisory Committee June 28, 2023 – Recommend Approval of Amendment

MPO June 21, 2023 – Initiate Amendment



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization

Date: Wednesday, **June 21**, 2023

Time: **4:00 PM**

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through Zoom.

Connection details are on the bottom of this agenda and in the meeting announcement email.

Additional meeting materials can be found through the CMRPC web calendar:

<https://cmrpc.org/cmm-po-meeting-118>

AGENDA

- Introductions
- Approval of May 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Opportunity for Public Comment
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **Potential Action:** Proposed Adjustment #7 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Highway Project Listing
 - **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project Listing for a 21-day Public Review and Comment Period
- FFY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
 - **Potential Action:** Endorse FFY 2024 UPWP
- Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
 - **Potential Action:** Release Draft LRTP *2050 Connections* for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period
- Trails Accessibility Project Presentation
- Staff Updates
 - Climate Pollution Reduction Grant
- New Business
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – June 28, 2023 at 3:00pm
 - Draft LRTP Virtual Public Meeting – July 10, 2023 at 5:00pm
 - CMMPO meeting (virtual) – July 19, 2023 at 4:00pm
- Adjournment

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videos, alternative material formats such as audio, Braille, and large print), as available. Interpreter and other translation requests must be made at least fourteen (14) business days before the meeting. Materials in alternative formats must be requested at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

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CMMPO Zoom Meeting Details

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85777863548?pwd=RE9Zcmh6Q3hNbFd2UnBsN3JFMGxKQT09>

Meeting ID: 857 7786 3548

Passcode: 518805

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- +1 301 715 8592 US
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CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting held **Wednesday, June 21st, 2023**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Steve Woelfel – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, designee to MassDOT Secretary Gina Fiandaca
2. Ann Sullivan – MassDOT Highway Division District #3, designee to MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathon Gulliver
3. Dennis Lipka – WRTA
4. Bob Hassinger – designee to CMRPC Commission Chair
5. Brian Pigeon – designee to City Manager Eric Batista
6. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative
7. Stephanie Mulroy – Holden, North Subregion Representative

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

1. Chris Klem, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
2. Derek Krevat, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

- **Guests:**

1. Arthur Frost, MassDOT District #3
2. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3
3. Daryl Amaral, MassDOT District #2
4. Mason Perrone – RI Division of Statewide Planning, Transportation Assistant Chief
5. Liza Farr, RI Division of Statewide Planning
6. Roberto Echevarria – RI Division of Statewide Planning, Transportation Principal Planner
7. Sean Hendricks, Town of Millbury
8. John Eul Jr., Town of Oxford

- **CMRPC Staff Present:**

1. Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Project Manager – Transportation
3. Zack Blais, Associate Planner – Transportation
4. Rich Rydant, Project Manager – Transportation
5. Yahaira Graxirena, Project Manager - Transportation
6. Nahrin Sangkagalo, Associate Planner – Transportation
7. Rowan Compton, Intern – Transportation
8. Sarah Plutnicki, Assistant Planner – RCCP

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Agenda Item #1 – Introductions

CMMPO Chair Steve Woelfel 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 May 17, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the May 17, 2023, meeting of the CMMPO were considered for approval. Bob Hassinger motioned to accept the minutes and was seconded by Jesse Limanek. A roll call vote was announced, and members voted unanimously approve the minutes, with one abstention.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Abstain

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #4 – Transportation Improvement Program

- **Potential Action:** Proposed Adjustment #7 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Proposed Adjustment #7 included the adjustment of funding for the Holden TIP Project #609219 – Pavement Rehabilitation on Main Street, Shrewsbury Street and Doyle Road, from State Police Barracks to Brattle Street. Following this adjusted funding, the new Total Project Cost remained at \$13,049,700. As part of this adjustment, three changes to funding were included:

- CMAQ Target funding reduced by \$293,711
- Statewide STBG funding reduced by \$1,505,840
- Statewide TAP funding added in the amount of \$1,799,551

There were no comments or questions.

Ann Sullivan made a motion to approve the Proposed Adjustment #7 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Highway Project Listing and was seconded by Dennis Lipka. All members present voted unanimously to approve the Proposed Adjustment #7 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Highway Project Listing.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

- **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project Listing for a 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Proposed Amendment #8 includes the addition of several projects as part of the Community Transit Grant Program (FTA 5310) Vehicle Awards. These projects included:

- Add WRTA011548 – WRTA Buy Replacement Van (5-1 type E) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$106,000 under 5310 funding source.
- Add WRTA011549 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E2a) to FFY 2023 and 2024. \$93,360 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$23,340 of GOBOND funding will be added in 2024. The total cost of the project is \$116,700.
- Add WRTA011550 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-3 LF) to FFY 2023 and 2024. \$453,413 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$106,555 of GOBOND funding will be added to 2024. The total cost of the project is \$559,968.
- Add WRTA011570 – Town of Uxbridge – Buy Replacement Van (5310 Carryover) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604 under 5310 funding source.
- Add WRTA011574 – Town of Millville – Buy Expansion Van (5310) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604. \$62,883 is 5310 funding and 15,721 is LF funding.

Following the presentation, Dennis Lipka commented that WRTA have had a shortage of vans and deliveries lately and have been working to adjust numbers with the fiscal years to ensure vans will be purchased.

There were no other comments or questions.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Ann Sullivan to release Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project Listing for a 21-day public review and comment period. All members voted unanimously to approve the release of Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023 TIP Transit Project Listing for 21-day public review and comment period.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Agenda Item #5 – FFY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- **Potential Action:** Endorse FFY 2024 UPWP

Sujatha Krishnan presented this item. CMRPC staff were looking for members to approve the endorsement of FFY 2024 UPWP. Ms. Krishnan briefly reviewed the Table of Contents, as has been done in previous CMMPO meetings. In addition, Ms. Krishnan reviewed the “Task Summary by Funding Source” (budget), which outlines the funding totals for each of the Tasks under the UPWP Elements. In total, funding for the UPWP in FFY will be \$1,876,609. During the comment period Complete Streets funding is now listed separately under Task 3.5. Moreover, Ms. Krishnan mentioned that staff hosted a

public meeting on June 6 for the Draft FFY 2024 UPWP, and the public comments were made from the towns of Sutton and Shrewsbury are summarized in the endorsed version of the UPWP.

There were no comments or questions.

Ann Sullivan made a motion and was seconded by Jesse Limanek to endorse the FFY 2024 UPWP. All members voted unanimously to endorse the FFY 2024 UPWP.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Agenda Item #6 – Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

- **Potential Action:** Release Draft LRTP *2050 Connections* for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Sujatha Krishnan presented this item. This included a brief description of the Table of Contents. The first chapter breaks down what the LRTP is, what public outreach has been done, and discusses the five programmatic areas. The second chapter reviews the planning considerations, which include scenario planning, planning factors, emphasis areas, and resources. The third chapter identifies linkages, which include land use projections and the transportation impacts as well as linking the document to the CMRPC Regional Plan *Imagine2050*. The fourth chapter includes the review of the planning areas, modes and related programmatic areas. The included modes are freight, transit, non-motorized transportation, highways, and airports. The planning areas are safety, congestion management, asset management, environment, and emerging technologies. Chapter five includes all of the needs of the region for each programmatic area and prioritizes them into various studies, initiatives, and projects. These needs were developed from regional workshops, equity analysis, greenhouse gas savings, modal plans, and more. Public meetings and a web map were also utilized to help identify the various needs and priorities. The sixth chapter is the financial plan, which is broken down by the five programmatic areas: active transportation, major infrastructure projects, system maintenance and operations, transit support, and climate change and resiliency. The anticipated funding between 2024 and 2050 is \$1,025,467,044. Both highway and transit financials are included in the chapter. Ms. Krishnan also noted the listing of major infrastructure (MI) highway projects in each of the 5-year bands of the LRTP out to 2050. In addition, a short list of major transit projects was also discussed. Lastly, chapter 7 includes the air quality and GHG assessment. This chapter shows the overall emissions reductions from all the MI projects included in the LRTP. The results show a reduction in GHG emissions and improvements in air quality in the region.

Ms. Krishnan noted that a virtual public meeting for the draft LRTP will be hosted by staff on July 10, 2023. There were no comments or questions.

Stephanie Mulroy made a motion and was seconded by Dennis Lipka to release the Draft LRTP *2050 Connections* for 21-day public review and comment period. All members voted unanimously to release the Draft LRTP for a 21-day public review and comment period.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

Agenda Item #7 – Trails Accessibility Project Presentation

Sarah Plutnicki presented this item. This included a presentation on the CMRPC Inclusive and Accessible Trails Toolkit Project. The goal of the project is to create an Inclusion and Accessibility Trail Guide. This guide will serve as a toolkit to assess and improve knowledge, accessibility, and utilization of trails across the region. The hope is to increase outdoor recreational opportunities for all populations. The project is funded with a Mass Trails Grant provided by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

The Toolkit aims to create a rating/grading system for trails; provide recommendations for improving access to trails; develop mapping criteria to highlight accessibility concerns along trails; and demonstrate examples of the toolkit being utilized on seven trails in the region. Potential users of the Toolkit include local governments, land trusts, trail committees, trail users, and other landowners.

There will be a Youth Trails Stewardship Pilot Program to help with the effort. The youth will assist with the Toolkit, which will include developing a ranking criteria and performing trail audits. They will also assist with general trail mapping activities and the program will also do a trail walk in the region, which will include a trail event for all ages.

Several aspects are being considered for accessibility. These include knowledge and awareness of a trail; location of and transportation access to a trail; physical features of a trail; and comfort while on a trail. There have been two previous trail dialogue events and another sometime in September 2023 to go over the trail audit results and overview of the finalized grading rubric.

Next steps of the project include finalizing a draft rubric, forming the Youth Stewardship Program, completing the trail audits on seven trails in the region by the end of July/early August, and completing the Toolkit and presenting the findings by Fall 2023. The project is expected to be fully completed by December 2023.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #8 – Staff Updates

- Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Kevin Krasnecky presented about the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. Funding for the grant is provided by the Inflation Reduction Act, which was signed by President Biden in 2022. Available funding includes \$3.6 billion throughout the country. This is a non-competitive grant and CMRPC will receive \$1 million in planning funds over a 4-year period.

CMRPC will lead the effort and work with CMRPC communities, Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC), a few communities from Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) region, and the Northeast Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG). Overall, a total of 82 cities and towns will be included. A baseline inventory of emissions for all sectors will be developed by CMRPC, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and consultants. Several community engagement efforts will be conducted

to develop the needs, strategies, vulnerable areas for EJ populations, and potential projects. Staff will work with MPO's and RTAs to identify projects that could help reduce emissions.

Documents that are part of the grant include a short-term Climate Action Plan, a medium/long-term Climate Action Plan, and a Final Status Report. The Final Status Report will include information on what has been achieved, the projects that will be implemented, and how emissions have been reduced (and align with the States goals).

As for the current status of the grant, staff submitted the grant application at the end of May, and the planning process is expected to start in July. Staff will look at a few community plans to see what work was completed and projects were implemented to help determine what still needs to be done. These include Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Plans, Hazard Mitigation Plans, and Climate Plans. Future updates will likely be provided as more work has been completed.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #9 – New Business

Sujatha Krishnan announced that staff will be applying for Safe Streets for All Grant, which has a deadline of July 10th.

Agenda Item #10 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – June 28, 2023, at 3:00pm
- Draft LRTP Virtual Public Meeting – July 10, 2023, at 5:00pm
- CMMPO meeting (virtual) – July 19, 2023, at 4:00pm

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

Bob Hassinger made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Ann Sullivan. The meeting concluded at 5:00 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zachary Blais, Transportation Associate Planner

MPO July 19, 2023 – Endorse Amendment



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization

Date: Wednesday, **July 19**, 2023

Time: **4:00 PM**

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through Zoom.

Connection details are on the bottom of this agenda and in the meeting announcement email.

Additional meeting materials can be found through the CMRPC web calendar:

<https://cmrpc.org/cmm-po-meeting-119>

AGENDA

- Introductions
- Approval of June 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Opportunity for Public Comment
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project Listing
- Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
 - **Potential Action:** Endorsement of LRTP *2050 Connections*
 - **Potential Action:** Endorsement of Certification of the CMMPO Greenhouse Gases (GHG) Requirements
 - **Potential Action:** Endorsement of Self-Certification of the CMMPO Transportation Planning Process
- 2023 Regional Infrastructure Plan Presentation
- MA Vehicle Census Presentation
- Staff Updates
 - Age Friendly Walk Audit Update
 - Safe Streets for All Grant Application
 - Data Collection Activities
- New Business
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – TBD
 - CMMPO meeting (virtual) – TBD
- Adjournment

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American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, alternative material formats such as audio, Braille, and large print), as available. Interpreter and other translation requests must be made at least fourteen (14) business days before the meeting. Materials in alternative formats must be requested at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

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CMMPO Zoom Meeting Details

Join Zoom Meeting:

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CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting held **Wednesday, July 19th, 2023**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Steve Woelfel – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, designee to MassDOT Secretary Gina Fiandaca
2. Ann Sullivan – MassDOT Highway Division District #3, designee to MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathon Gulliver
3. Dennis Lipka – WRTA
4. Bob Hassinger – designee to CMRPC Commission Chair
5. Brian Pigeon – designee to City Manager Eric Batista
6. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative

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

1. Chris Klem, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
2. Derek Krevat, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
3. Chris Timmel, FHWA

- **Guests:**

1. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3
2. Derek Shooster, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
3. Benjamin Breger, MassDOT District #2
4. Keith Abaka
5. Peg Dean, Southbridge

- **CMRPC Staff**

1. Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Project Manager – Transportation
3. Zack Blais, Associate Planner – Transportation
4. Rich Rydant, Project Manager – Transportation
5. Yahaira Graxirena, Project Manager – Transportation
6. Connie Mellis, Project Manager - Transportation

7. Sarah O'Brien, Associate Planner - RCCP
8. Eric Gemperline, Associate Planner - Transportation
9. Kerrie Salwa, Project Manager - RCCP
10. Ian McElwee, Principal Planner - RCCP
11. Rowan Compton, Intern – Transportation

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Agenda Item #1 – Introductions

CMMPO Chair Steve Woelfel opened the meeting at 4:06 PM. A roll call of CMMPO members was announced, followed by the rest of attendees.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of June 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the June 21, 2023, meeting of the CMMPO were considered for approval. Ann Sullivan motioned to accept the minutes and was seconded by Dennis Lipka. A roll call vote was announced, and members voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #4 – Transportation Improvement Program

- **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project Listing. Mr. Krasnecky said there were no comments during the 21-day public review period and both the MPO Advisory Committee and CMRPC's Transportation Committee recommended endorsement of the amendment. The amendment included the addition of the following Community Transit Program (FTA 5310) Vehicle Awards in both FFY 2023 and 2024:

- Add **WRTA011548 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$106,000 under 5310 funding source.
- Add **WRTA011549 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E2a)** to FFY 2023 and 2024. \$93,360 of 5310 funding will be added to FFY 2023 and \$23,340 of GOBOND funding will be added to FFY 2024. The total cost of the project is \$116,700.
- Add **WRTA011550 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-3 LF)** to FFY 2023 and 2024. \$453,413 of 5310 funding will be added to FFY 2023 and \$106,555 of GOBOND funding will be added to FFY 2024. The total cost of the project is \$559,968.
- Add **WRTA011570 – Town of Uxbridge – Buy Replacement Van (5310 Carryover)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604 under 5310 funding source.
- Add **WRTA011574 – Town of Millville – Buy Expansion Van (5310)** to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604. \$62,883 is 5310 funding and \$15,721 is LF funding.

There were no questions or comments.

Mr. Krasnecky requested members to approve the proposed Amendment #8. Jesse Limanek made a motion and was seconded by Bob Hassinger to approve the Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project Listing. All members present voted unanimously to approve.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

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

- **Potential Action:** Endorsement of LRTP 2050 *Connections*

Sujatha Krishnan is requesting CMMPO members to endorse the LRTP 2050 *Connections*. Ms. Krishnan briefly reviewed the LRTP Hubsite, which includes a page dedicated to the endorsed LRTP 2050 *Connections* document. Additionally, there is also a dedicated page for the 2050 Connections Brochure, which has been translated in multiple languages. The Hubsite also includes updates for accessibility and language translation.

Jesse Limanek commented that the Hubsite looks great and accessible.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Ann Sullivan to endorse the LRTP 2050 *Connections*. All members voted unanimously to endorse the LRTP 2050 *Connections*.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

- **Potential Action:** Endorsement of Certification of the CMMPO Greenhouse Gases (GHG) Requirements

Ms. Krishnan announced that CMRPC staff are looking for CMMPO members to endorse the Certification of the CMMPO GHG Requirements as part of the LRTP 2050 *Connections*. Ms. Krishnan briefly explained the requirements as part of the certification.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Jesse Limanek to endorse the Certification of the CMMPO GHG Requirements. All members voted unanimously to endorse the Certification of the CMMPO GHG Requirements.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

- **Potential Action:** Endorsement of Self-Certification of the CMMPO Transportation Planning Process

Ms. Krishnan announced that CMRPC staff are looking for CMMPO members to endorse the Self-Certification of the CMMPO Transportation Planning Process as part of the LRTP 2050 *Connections*. Ms. Krishnan briefly explained the requirements as part of the certification.

Jesse Limanek made a motion and was seconded by Bob Hassinger to endorse the Self-Certification of the CMMPO Transportation Planning Process. All members voted unanimously to endorse the Self-Certification of the CMMPO Transportation Planning Process.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Dennis Lipka – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Agenda Item #6 – 2023 Regional Infrastructure Plan Presentation

Sarah O'Brien presented an overview of the 2023 Regional Infrastructure Plan. The planning effort was facilitated by the CMRPC. The goal of the plan was to work with towns to identify top issues faced with improving infrastructure in their towns.

The Regional Infrastructure Plan included several facets. The following includes the top issues about each type of infrastructure:

- Water
 - Cost of connecting water systems
 - Cost of treatment chemicals
 - Cost of upgrades
 - Supply chain issues
 - Low capacity of water departments
 - Cost of resiliency projects
 - Cost to fix private pipes
 - Water source and pipe vulnerability
 - PFAS and other contaminants
 - Transit pipe breaks
 - High water bills
- Wastewater
 - Age of infrastructure
 - Replacement/upgrade issues
 - Treatment center capacity limits
 - Conflict between increased development and infrastructure capacity
 - Cost of new state regulations
- Stormwater
 - Public outreach/education on stormwater compliance
 - Friction between increasing development and cost of stormwater systems
 - Adopting and implementing Stormwater Management Bylaws
 - Town capacity to map current stormwater systems
 - Problems with undersized culverts
 - Lack of expertise in stormwater management design
 - Beaver infestation

- Road salt
- Energy
 - Electricity line lack resiliency
 - Staying on track to be net zero by 2050
 - Limited back up power
 - Costs from private electric companies
 - Prevalence of fallen trees on exposed wires
 - Shortage of transformers and increased costs
 - Pole replacements
 - Under capacity for development
 - Transitioning from gas powered municipal vehicles and equipment
 - Influx of solar energy
 - Sustaining a rapid transition to electrical over fossil fuels
 - Substations cannot handle new solar developments
- Natural Gas
 - Lack of natural gas providers
 - Size of existing gas lines
 - Lack of lines as a potential hinderance to future development
 - Slow process to establish new gas lines
 - Communication issues with gas companies
 - Gas leaks
- Broadband
 - Back-up generators for phone and cell towers
 - Deploying fiber optics
 - Coverage in rural or hilly areas
 - Company monopolies
 - Cybersecurity of infrastructure
 - Cost
 - Municipal capacity to develop broadband
 - Issues with cybersecurity impacting municipal infrastructure
 - Radio systems and towers for emergency town management

Following the presentation, Ms. O'Brien shared a link to the full plan which is at <https://www.cmrpcregionalservices.org/the-plan>.

Ann Sullivan commented that the plan has a lot of great information and resources for towns. There were no further questions or comments.

Agenda Item #7 – MA Vehicle Census Presentation

This presentation was postponed to a future meeting. The MA Vehicle Census website link was posted in the meeting chat for attendees to visit check out the data.

Agenda Item #8 – Staff Updates

- Age Friendly Walk Audit

Yahaira Graxirena provided a presentation on the Webster Square Age Friendly Walk Audit. The Audit was hosted by staff on July 18. Since 2020, Webster Square has had more than 200 crashes. Most crashes were property damage only, and there was a high number of hit and runs. There were 10 pedestrian crashes, resulting in two fatalities and five serious injuries. Half of the pedestrian crashes were individuals aged 55+. Many of the overall crashes happened in dark conditions. Ms. Graxirena shared several photographs that were taken during the audit to highlight some of the issues around Webster Square. The overall goal of the Audit is to bring community members together to share feedback of the area to help planning efforts to improve walking conditions.

Brian Pigeon applauded the CMRPC staff's effort on the Audit.

There were no other comments or questions.

- Safe Streets for All Grant Application

Sujatha Krishnan announced that CMRPC staff have applied for Safe Streets for All Grant. The application is to develop an action plan for Safe Streets for All for the region and would result in a regional plan. As part of the application, staff collaborated with Worcester to add a demonstration project in the Main South neighborhood. Staff are also working with the Town of Southbridge to see if similar collaborations can be made. For the grant, MassDOT is providing a 20% match. Grant awards are expected to be announced sometime around October, and CMMPO members will be updated.

There were no comments or questions.

- Data Collection Activities

Kevin Krasnecky presented an update on the CMRPC's data collection activities this year. Mr. Krasnecky said that the staff has about 277 planned traffic counts, and the focus will be in the southern towns. 33 of the locations are requested by MassDOT and 21 locations were requested by the towns. There will also be about 20 Turning Movement Counts (TMCs) completed this year, with about half already completed in the spring.

The staff is also working on its Asset Management program. There are about 300 pavement segments, around 2,000 ramps, and about 100 miles of sidewalks planned for this year. Additionally, staff will inventory the handicapped/accessible parking spaces during the sidewalk data collection. The CMMPO Asset Management Dashboard will also be updated with the new data.

Other data collection activities included culvert assessments in Sturbridge and Berlin, bike rack inventory along federal-aid roads, signal inventory at TMC locations, Travel Time & Delay studies along CMP-identified roadways, Park and Ride/Commuter Rail Lots utilization observations, and other community technical assistance as needed. Staff have already provided assistance for the towns of Berlin, Dudley, and Sutton.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #9 – New Business

Steve Woelfel announced that registration for Moving Together on October 4 is now open.

Agenda Item #10 – Next Meetings

Sujatha Krishnan said that there would likely be no CMMPO meeting in August and September unless there is an action that needs to be taken. Tentatively, the next meeting would be in October.

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – TBD
- CMMPO meeting (virtual) – October 18, 2023, at 4:00PM

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

Bob Hassinger made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Jesse Limanek. The meeting concluded at 4:45 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zachary Blais, Transportation Associate Planner

Advisory Committee June 28, 2023 – Recommend Approval of Amendment



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Committee

Date: Wednesday, **June 28**, 2023

Time: **3:00 PM**

Place: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Connection details are on the bottom of this agenda and in the meeting announcement email. Additional meeting materials can be found through the CMRPC web calendar:

<http://cmrpc.org/cmm-po-advisory-committee-meeting-25>

AGENDA

- Around the Room Introductions
- Approval of **May 24, 2023** Meeting Minutes
- CMMPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Seeking recommendation to the CMMPO concerning endorsement of the DRAFT LRTP 2050 Connections
- CMMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Seeking recommendation to the CMMPO concerning Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Listing
- CMRPC Regional Efforts: Trail Accessibility Project
 - Presentation
- Staff Updates
 - **Public Meeting (virtual):** Draft 2050 Connections. July 10, 2023 at 5:00PM
- New Business
 - CMMPO Advisory Membership
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 3:00 PM
 - CMMPO Meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 4:00 PM
- Adjournment

CMMPO meetings are conducted in accessible locations and materials can be provided in accessible formats free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, alternative material formats such as audio, Braille, and large print), as available. Interpreter and other translation requests must be made at least fourteen (14) business days before the meeting. Materials in alternative formats must be requested at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

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Zoom Meeting Details

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CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The minutes of the CMMPO Advisory Committee held **Wednesday, June 28, 2023**. This meeting was held virtually through Zoom.

CMMPO Advisory Committee Members Present:

- Adam Menard - Chair, Town of Auburn
- Chris Payant – Vicechair, Town of Westborough
- Jason Palitch – 495/Metrowest Partnership
- Ethan Belding – Central Massachusetts Agency on Aging
- Sarah Bradbury – MassDOT District 3
- Daryl Amaral – MassDOT District 2
- Karin Valentine-Goins – WalkBike Worcester
- Thomas Coyne - WRTA

Ex-Officio Members Present:

- Chris Klem – MassDOT OTP

CMRPC Staff Present:

- Sujatha Krishnan
- Yahaira Graxirena
- Kevin Krasnecky
- Eric Gemperline
- Greer Jarvis
- Sarah Plutnicki
- Rich Rydant

Others Present:

- Bailey Pennington – MassDOT District 2 Planning Intern

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Agenda Item #1 – Around the Room Introductions

Chairperson Adam Menard opened the meeting at 3:01 PM. A roll call of CMMPO Advisory members was announced, followed by the rest of the attendees.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of May 28, 2023 meeting minutes

Minutes for May 28, 2023, CMMPO Advisory meeting were considered for approval. Mr. Menard entertains a motion to approve the May 28, 2023, meeting minutes. Mr. Payant makes a motion to approve. The motion is seconded by Ms. Bradbury. Mr. Belding and Ms. Valentine-Goins abstained. The vote was unanimous in favor of approval.

Agenda Item #3 – CMMPO Long Range Transportation Plan

- **Potential Action:** Seeking recommendation to the CMMPO concerning endorsement of the DRAFT LRTP 2050 Connections

Ms. Graxirena presented this item.

This 2050 Connections Long Range Transportation Plan is open for public comment. Comments can be made on the LRTP hub site. The LRTP consists of seven chapters.

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Chapter 2 – Background: Emphasis areas and how we are addressing them threw out the documents, resources from MassDOT that all MPO gets. Scenario Planning is an activity.

Chapter 3 – Linkages: All things related to transportation – CMRPC regional plan tie to Imagine 2050 from transportation view are included here 0 public health, services, quality of life. Population and employment projections.

Chapter 4 - Planning Areas Modes and Related Programmatic Areas: Background Info and Analysis for Freight, Transit, Non-Motorized, Highways, Airports. Background for Planning Areas – Safety Planning, Congestion Management, Asset Management, Environment, Emerging Technologies

Chapter 5 – Program and Prioritization: The following had studies, initiatives or projects related to them: Public engagement, regional workshops, modal plans, BIL + MicroProjects Survey, Travel Demand Model, Data Integration, Equity Analysis, and Green-house Gas Savings. Final outreach opportunity was May 31st – Hybrid meeting to go over identified needs should be highlighted before next LRTP. An interactive map was created for online users and physical maps and notes were used for in person attendance.

Chapter 6 – Financial Plan – Regional Targets received until 2050. Funds are broken down and different scenarios for funding have been provided. Long range funding is important when considering Major Infrastructure Projects that will be funded at some point between now and 2050, highlights include the reconstruction of US Route 20 in Charlton and Oxford in 2023 – 2025, interchange reconstruction of US Route 20 in Shrewsbury and US Route 20 and Route 122 in Worcester in 2026 – 2030, Route 122 bridge replacement over I-290 in 2031 – 2035, the I-495/Route 9 interchange reconstruction in Westborough in 2036 – 2040, Route 146 and New Boston Road new grade-separated interchange in Sutton in 2041 – 2045, and Route 9 and Route 135 interchange replacement in Westborough in 2046 – 2050.

The following are transit projects occurring:

Worcester: Union Station Improvements, WRTA Transit Signal Priority, WRTA Bus Replacement Program – Fleet Electrification, WRTA Via On-Demand Service, East-West Commuter Rail Connections, and WRTA Expansion of weekend and late-night service.

Chapter 7 – Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Assessments: This chapter is provided by MassDOT based on major infrastructure projects occurring within the MPO.

Mr. Menard asks if there are any questions. There are no questions and Mr. Menard asks for a motion for the committee to endorse the 2050 Connections, the LRTP. Mr. Coyne makes a motion to endorse 2050 Connections. Ms. Valentine-Goins seconds the motion. The vote is unanimous in favor of endorsing 2050 Connections.

Agenda Item #4 – CMMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Amendment #8

- **Potential Action:** Seeking recommendation to the CMMPO concerning Proposed Amendment #8 to the FFY 2023-2027 TIP Transit Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Proposed Amendment #8 includes the addition of several projects as part of the Community Transit Grant Program (FTA 5310) Vehicle Awards. These projects included:

- Add WRTA011548 – WRTA Buy Replacement Van (5-1 type E) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$106,000 under 5310 funding source.
- Add WRTA011549 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-1 type E2a) to FFY 2023 and 2024. \$93,360 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$23,340 of GOBOND funding will be added in 2024. The total cost of the project is \$116,700.

- Add WRTA011550 – WRTA Buy Replacement Vans (5-3 LF) to FFY 2023 and 2024. \$453,413 of 5310 funding will be added to 2023 and \$106,555 of GOBOND funding will be added to 2024. The total cost of the project is \$559,968.
- Add WRTA011570 – Town of Uxbridge – Buy Replacement Van (5310 Carryover) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604 under 5310 funding source.
- Add WRTA011574 – Town of Millville – Buy Expansion Van (5310) to FFY 2023 in the amount of \$78,604. \$62,883 is 5310 funding and \$15,721 is LF funding.

Mr. Krasnecky asks for a recommendation of proposed amendment 8 the MPO. Mr. Menard ask for any questions. Mr. Coyne asks if it is typical if town vans being listed under the WRTA is common. Mr. Krasnecky responds that this is how MassDOT is presenting the data. Mr. Menard asks for a motion. Mr. Coyne makes a motion to recommend proposed amendment 8. Ms. Bradbury seconds the motion. The motion is unanimous.

Agenda Item #5 – CMRPC Regional Efforts: Trail Accessibility Project

Sarah Plutnicki presented this item. This included a presentation on the CMRPC Inclusive and Accessible Trails Toolkit Project. The goal of the project is to create an Inclusion and Accessibility Trail Guide. This guide will serve as a toolkit to assess and improve knowledge, accessibility, and utilization of trails across the region. The hope is to increase outdoor recreational opportunities for all populations. The project is funded with a Mass Trails Grant provided by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

The Toolkit aims to create a rating/grading system for trails; provide recommendations for improving access to trails; develop mapping criteria to highlight accessibility concerns along trails; and demonstrate examples of the toolkit being utilized on seven trails in the region. Potential users of the Toolkit include local governments, land trusts, trail committees, trail users, and other landowners.

There will be a Youth Trails Stewardship Pilot Program to help with the effort. The youth will assist with the Toolkit, which will include developing a ranking criteria and performing trail audits. They will also assist with general trail mapping activities and the program will also do a trail walk in the region, which will include a trail event for all ages.

Several aspects are being considered for accessibility. These include knowledge and awareness of a trail; location of and transportation access to a trail; physical features of a trail; and comfort while on a trail. There have been two previous trail dialogue events and another sometime in September 2023 to go over the trail audit results and overview of the finalized grading rubric.

Next steps of the project include finalizing a draft rubric, forming the Youth Stewardship Program, completing the trail audits on seven trails in the region by the end of July/early August, and completing the Toolkit and presenting the findings by Fall 2023. The project is expected to be fully completed by December 2023.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #6 – Staff Updates and New Business

Ms. Graxirena mentions that on July 10th there will be a meeting regarding 2050 Connections. Ms. Krishnan mentions that the Moving Together Conference will be held in October in Boston at the Sheraton Hotel.

Agenda Item #7 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee Meeting – September 27, 2023, at 3:00 PM

Agenda Item #9 – Adjournment

At 3:40 PM Chairperson Menard entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Coyne made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Payant The group voted unanimously to adjourn.

Meeting minutes prepared: Eric Gemperline, AICP, Transportation Associate Planner

Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission

Member Communities

Auburn	Northborough
Barre	Northbridge
Berlin	Oakham
Blackstone	Oxford
Boylston	Paxton
Brookfield	Princeton
Charlton	Rutland
Douglas	Shrewsbury
Dudley	Southbridge
East Brookfield	Spencer
Grafton	Sturbridge
Hardwick	Sutton
Holden	Upton
Hopedale	Uxbridge
Leicester	Warren
Mendon	Webster
Millbury	West Boylston
Millville	West Brookfield
New Braintree	Westborough
North Brookfield	Worcester

Central Mass Regional Planning Commission



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