

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



CMMPO Endorsed Amendment #2 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

January 17, 2024



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.

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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 #2 Transit Project Listing & Summary Materials

Proposed Amendment #2 to the 2024 to 2028 TIP Transit List

FFY 2024:

- Increase funding for **RTD0010855 – WRTA Buy Replacement 35 Ft Bus**. 5307 funding would increase by \$1,010,00 for a new total of \$8,189,019. TDC funding would increase by \$95,804 for a new total of \$1,637,804.
- Add **WRTA011642 – On-Call (short-term) Planning Services** project to FFY 2024 for a total of \$250,000. \$200,000 will be 5307 funding and \$50,000 will be SCA funding.
- Add **WRTA011643 – Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities** project to FFY 2024 for a total of \$506,000. \$404,800 will be 5307 funding and \$101,200 will be SCA funding.



STIP Investments Report

Program Activity: Transit, Worcester Regional Transit Authority

STIP: 2024 - 2028 (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							\$40,523,580	\$26,884,805	\$12,503,790	\$1,134,985			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$40,523,580	\$26,884,805	\$12,503,790	\$1,134,985			
2024	RTD0010854		Operating	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Operating Assistance - Fixed Route and Paratransit	5307	\$99,153,755	\$10,066,359	\$10,066,359				30.09.01	Operating Assistance to provide fixed-route and paratransit service throughout WRTA area.
2024	RTD0010854		Operating	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Operating Assistance - Fixed Route and Paratransit	SCA	\$99,153,755	\$10,066,359		\$10,066,359			30.09.01	Operating Assistance to provide fixed-route and paratransit service throughout WRTA area.
2024	RTD0010855		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus	5307	\$27,473,630	7179019 \$8,189,019	7179019 \$8,189,019				11.12.02	Replacing 35' buses that have exceeded useful life. Replacing 7 buses in FY 2024, 6 buses in FY 2025, 7 buses in FY 2026, and 3 buses in FY 2027. In FY 2024, TDCs are being used as a soft match (20%) for Sec. 5307 and Sec. 5339 funds.
2024	RTD0010855		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus	5339	\$27,473,630	\$530,981	\$530,981				11.12.02	Replacing 35' buses that have exceeded useful life. Replacing 7 buses in FY 2024, 6 buses in FY 2025, 7 buses in FY 2026, and 3 buses in FY 2027. In FY 2024, TDCs are being used as a soft match (20%) for Sec. 5307 and Sec. 5339 funds.
2024	RTD0010855		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus	TDC	\$27,473,630	1542000 \$1,637,804	1542000 \$1,637,804				11.12.02	Replacing 35' buses that have exceeded useful life. Replacing 7 buses in FY 2024, 6 buses in FY 2025, 7 buses in FY 2026, and 3 buses in FY 2027. In FY 2024, TDCs are being used as a soft match (20%) for Sec. 5307 and Sec. 5339 funds.
2024	RTD0010856		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement Support Vehicles	5307	\$365,000	\$120,000	\$120,000				11.42.11	Replacing support vehicles that have reached the end of their useful life. Replacing 2 vehicles in FY 2024, 2 vehicles in FY 2025, and 2 vehicles in FY 2026.
2024	RTD0010856		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement Support Vehicles	RTACAP	\$365,000	\$30,000		\$30,000			11.42.11	Replacing support vehicles that have reached the end of their useful life. Replacing 2 vehicles in FY 2024, 2 vehicles in FY 2025, and 2 vehicles in FY 2026.



STIP Investments Report

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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							\$40,523,580	\$26,884,805	\$12,503,790	\$1,134,985			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$40,523,580	\$26,884,805	\$12,503,790	\$1,134,985			
2024	RTD0010857		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	5307	\$2,893,148	\$520,813	\$520,813				11.42.20	
2024	RTD0010857		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	RTACAP	\$2,893,148	\$130,204		\$130,204			11.42.20	
2024	RTD0010858		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Spare Parts for Revenue Rolling Stock	5307	\$4,335,803	\$436,848	\$436,848				11.12.40	
2024	RTD0010858		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Spare Parts for Revenue Rolling Stock	RTACAP	\$4,335,803	\$109,212		\$109,212			11.12.40	
2024	RTD0010861		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Fixed Route Bus Shelters	5307	\$328,079	\$28,044	\$28,044				11.92.02	
2024	RTD0010861		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Fixed Route Bus Shelters	RTACAP	\$328,079	\$7,011		\$7,011			11.92.02	
2024	RTD0010863		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	5307	\$30,250	\$8,000	\$8,000				11.34.01	
2024	RTD0010863		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	RTACAP	\$30,250	\$2,000		\$2,000			11.34.01	
2024	RTD0010864	Worcester	RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	City of Worcester: Rehabilitation of Union Station	5337	\$28,947,826	\$4,539,941	\$4,539,941				11.34.03	Worcester Redevelopment Authority rehab/renovate of Worcester's Union Station. Sec. 5337 funding.
2024	RTD0010864	Worcester	RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	City of Worcester: Rehabilitation of Union Station	LF	\$28,947,826	\$1,134,985			\$1,134,985		11.34.03	Worcester Redevelopment Authority rehab/renovate of Worcester's Union Station. Sec. 5337 funding.
2024	RTD0010878		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	5307	\$387,979	\$40,000	\$40,000				11.44.02	
2024	RTD0010878		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	RTACAP	\$387,979	\$10,000		\$10,000			11.44.02	
2024	T00042		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Purchase Replacement Vans	5307	\$3,549,150	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000				11.12.15	Replace vans that have exceeded their useful life. Replacing 10 vans in FY 2024, and 7 vans in FY 2026. In FY 2024, TDCs are being used as a 20% soft match.
2024	T00042		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Purchase Replacement Vans	TDC	\$3,549,150	\$360,000		\$360,000			11.12.15	Replace vans that have exceeded their useful life. Replacing 10 vans in FY 2024, and 7 vans in FY 2026. In FY 2024, TDCs are being used as a 20% soft match.



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

STIP: 2024 - 2028 (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							\$40,523,580	\$26,884,805	\$12,503,790	\$1,134,985			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$40,523,580	\$26,884,805	\$12,503,790	\$1,134,985			
2024	WRTA011642		Operating	On-call (short-term) Planning Services.	5307	\$250,000	\$200,000	\$200,000				44.24.00	
2024	WRTA011642		Operating	On-call (short-term) Planning Services.	SCA	\$250,000	\$50,000		\$50,000			44.24.00	
2024	WRTA011643		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities	5307	\$506,000	\$404,800	\$404,800				11.7A.00	
2024	WRTA011643		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities	SCA	\$506,000	\$101,200		\$101,200			11.7A.00	

Amendment #2 Proactive Public Outreach Summary

**Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization
Proposed 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #2 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 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #2 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 includes the cost increase of WRTA – Buy Replacement 35 Ft Bus project and the addition of two new projects to FFY 2024. The new projects are On-Call (short-term) Planning Services and Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities.

All interested parties are welcome to attend a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Amendment #2 on **Tuesday, January 9, 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, January 10, 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:

Proposed 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #2

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 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #2 calls for changes to FFY 2024 of the transit project listing. These changes are:

- Cost Increase for **RTD0010855 – WRTA Buy Replacement 35 Ft Bus**. 5307 funding would increase by \$1,010,000 for a new total of \$8,189,019. TDC funding would increase by \$95,804 for a new total of \$1,637,804.
- Add **WRTA011642 – On-Call (short-term) Planning Services** project to 2024 for a total of \$250,000. \$200,000 will be 5307 funding and \$50,000 will be SCA funding.
- Add **WRTA011643 – Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities** to 2024 for a total of \$506,000. \$404,800 will be 5307 funding and \$101,200 will be SCA 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 Proposed 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #2 during the virtual ZOOM meeting listed below:

Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85636102080?pwd=MjdWSEpUOGIzZHRLWThPa0ZKSXM3dz09>

Meeting ID: 856 3610 2080

Passcode: 814653

Dial by your location

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

All comments forwarded to Kevin Krasnecky at kkrasnecky@cmrpc.org and received before Wednesday, January 10, 2024 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.

Translations

English:

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

Portuguese:

Se esta informação é necessária em outro idioma, por favor visite www.cmrpc.org e use o Google Translate.

Spanish:

Si necesita esta información en otro idioma, por favor visite www.cmrpc.org y utilice Google Translate.

French:

Si vous désirez ces renseignements dans une autre langue, prière de vous servir de Google Translate qui se trouve à l'adresse suivante: www.cmrpc.org.

Polish:

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

Vietnamese:

Nếu thông tin này là cần thiết trong một ngôn ngữ khác, vui lòng truy cập www.cmrpc.org và sử dụng các tính năng của Google Translate.

Chinese (Traditional):

如果此信息需要以另一種語言，請訪問www.cmrpc.org並使用谷歌翻譯功能。



Virtual Public Meeting to Discuss the Proposed 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #2

Date: Tuesday, January 9, 2024

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/proposed-2024-2028-tip-amendment-2-public-meeting>.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order & Around the Room Introductions
2. Proposed 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #2
 - TIP Amendment #2 Overview
 - Acceptance of Public Comment & Input
3. Adjournment

Please Note: All comments on the Proposed 2024-2028 TIP Amendment #2 should be forwarded to Kevin Krasnecky at kkrasnecky@cmrpc.org prior to the CMMPO-established deadline of 4:30 PM on **Wednesday, January 10, 2024**.

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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Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85636102080?pwd=MjdwSEpUOGIzZHRLWThPa0ZKSXM3dz09>

Meeting ID: 856 3610 2080

Passcode: 814653

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 2024-2028 Proposed Amendment #2 virtual public meeting held Tuesday, January 9, 2024 through ZOOM.

- **Guests:**

1. Peg Dean, Southbridge
2. Jared Grigg, Spencer

- **CMRPC Staff Present:**

1. Kevin Krasnecky
2. Rich Rydant

The CMMPO fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. The CMMPO does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, English proficiency, income, religious creed, ancestry, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, military service, or gender identity or expression. Any person who believes himself/herself or any specific class of persons have been subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI or related statutes or regulations may, himself/herself or via a representative, file a complaint with the CMMPO. A complaint must be filed no later than 180 calendar days after the date on which the person believes the discrimination occurred.

Call to Order & Around the Room Introductions

Kevin Krasnecky, CMRPC, called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM and introduced the attendees.

Proposed Amendment #2 to the 2024-2028 TIP Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky reviewed this agenda item with the attendees. Mr. Krasnecky said that Amendment #2 includes the following changes to the Transit Project listing:

- Cost Increase for RTD0010855 – WRTA Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus: 5307 funding would increase by \$1,010,000 for new total of \$8,189,019. TDC funding would increase by \$95,804 for a new total of \$1,637,804.
- WRTA011642 – On-Call (short-term) Planning Services: Add project to FFY 2024 for a total of \$250,000. \$200,000 will be 5307 funding and \$50,000 will be SCA funding.
- WRTA011643 – Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities: Add project to FFY 2024 for a total of \$506,000. \$404,800 will be 5307 funding and \$101,200 will be SCA funding.

Peg Dean asked about the On-Call (short-term) Planning Services project. Mr. Krasnecky said the WRTA is procuring a professional firm for on-call transportation planning services related to larger-scale projects involving bus stops, network analyses, service standards, etc.

Before Mr. Krasnecky closed the public meeting, he mentioned the deadline for public comments on the Proposed Amendment #2 is 4:30 PM on Wednesday, January 10th. With no additional comments or questions, the 2024-2028 Proposed Amendment #2 virtual public meeting closed at 5:11 PM.

CMMPO & CMMPO Advisory Committee Proceedings

- MPO December 20, 2023 – Initiate Amendment
- MPO January 19, 2024 – Endorse Amendment
- Advisory Committee January 3, 2024 – Recommend Approval of
Amendment

MPO December 20, 2023 – Initiate Amendment



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization

Date: Wednesday, **December 20**, 2023

Time: **3:30 PM**

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through Zoom. The 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-122>

AGENDA

- Introductions
- Approval of November 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Opportunity for Public Comment
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Transit List for 21-day Public Review and Comment Period
 - FFY 2029 TIP Project Candidates
- Title VI Program Update
 - **Potential Action:** Approval of the Title VI Program Updates
- 2023 Transportation Activities Overview
- Staff Updates
 - Federal Discretionary Grants
 - Migrant Transportation
- New Business
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – January 3, 2024 at 3:00 PM
 - CMMPO meeting (virtual) – January 17, 2024 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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CMMPO Zoom Meeting Details

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82085001869?pwd=ZUF1cm1yZFA3b3VxY0dXRUoxZEJNdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 8500 1869

Passcode: 278051

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+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, December 20th, 2023**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Steve Woelfel – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, designee to MassDOT Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt
2. Ann Sullivan – MassDOT Highway Division District #3, designee to MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathon Gulliver
3. Joshua Rickman – WRTA Administrator
4. Janet Pierce – designee to CMRPC Commission Chair
5. Steve Rolle – designee to City Manager Eric Batista
6. Shelby Marshall – Westborough, Northeast Subregion Representative
7. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative
8. John Daniel – Southbridge, Southwest Subregion Representative
9. Stephanie Mulroy – Holden, North Subregion Representative

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

1. Derek Krevat, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

- **Guests:**

1. Sarah Cannamela, MassDOT
2. Brian Pigeon, City of Worcester
3. Daryl Amaral, MassDOT District #2
4. Ben Breger, MassDOT District #2
5. Peter Boria, Spencer
6. 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. Rob Raymond, Project Manager – Transportation
8. Nathan Lewis, Public Outreach Coordinator – Transportation
9. Eric Gemperline, Associate Planner – Transportation
10. Tyler Distefano, Transit Planner – Transportation

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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 November 15, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the November 15, 2023, meeting of the CMMPO were considered for approval. Jesse Limanek motioned to accept the minutes and was seconded by Stephanie Mulroy. A roll call vote was announced, and members voted to approve the minutes.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Shelby Marshall – Abstain

Joshua Rickman – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Janet Pierce – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Steve Rolle – Abstain

Stephanie Mulroy – Abstain

Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #4 – Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Transit List for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Amendment #2 includes three changes to FFY 2024:

- Cost Increase for RTD0010855 – WRTA Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus: 5307 funding would increase by \$1,010,000 for new total of \$8,189,019. TDC funding would increase by \$95,804 for a new total of \$1,637,804.
- WRTA011642 – On-Call (short-term) Planning Services: Add project to FFY 2024 for a total of \$250,000. \$200,000 will be 5307 funding and \$50,000 will be SCA funding.
- WRTA011643 – Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities: Add project to FFY 2024 for a total of \$506,000. \$404,800 will be 5307 funding and \$101,200 will be SCA funding.

There were no questions or comments regarding the proposed Amendment #2.

Stephanie Mulroy made a motion and was seconded by Shelby Marshall. All members voted unanimously to release the proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Transit List for 21-day public review and comment period.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Shelby Marshall – Yes

Joshua Rickman – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Janet Pierce – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Steve Rolle – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

- FFY 2029 TIP Project Candidates

Mr. Krasnecky summarized the list of the potential TIP project candidates for FFY 2029. They include:

- #612779: West Brookfield – Resurfacing and Related Work on Route 9 (Phase III)
- #613242: Westborough – Roadway Improvements on Route 30 (East Main Street), from Hastings Elementary to Thomas Newton Drive
- #613648: Worcester – Intersection Improvements at Lake Avenue and Bigelow Davis Parkway
- #613655: Rutland - Intersection Improvements at Route 122 and Pleasantdale Road

Mr. Krasnecky noted that the project proponents will be invited to the January CMMPO meeting to present the details of their projects.

There were no comments or questions regarding the project candidates.

Agenda Item #5 – Title VI Program Update

- **Potential Action:** Approval of the Title VI Program Updates

Nathan Lewis presented this item. Mr. Lewis explained that CMRPC has recently made several updates to Title VI notices and complaint procedures. MassDOT recently updated their template for the Title VI notice to the public and CMRPC has adopted this new template. The notice is available in multiple languages. CMRPC has also adopted the recently updated MassDOT Title VI Complaint Procedures and provided additional translated versions. Additionally, the Language Assistance Plan (LAP) has been updated with more recent Limited English Proficiency (LEP) data and new ADA disability data for auditory, visual, and cognitive disabilities have been added for the CMMPO region.

There were no questions or comments.

Steve Rolle made a motion and was seconded by Shelby Marshall to approve the Title VI Program updates. All members voted unanimously to approve the Title VI Program updates.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Shelby Marshall – Yes

Joshua Rickman – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Janet Pierce – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Steve Rolle – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

Agenda Item #6 – 2023 Transportation Activities Overview

Sujatha Krishnan presented this item. Ms. Krishnan provided a brief overview of CMRPC transportation activities during the past year.

Staff works on several required certification documents, including the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Additionally, Staff works in many planning areas, including safety, congestion management, asset management, emerging technologies, environment, and active transportation. Many studies were completed or are still in progress related to Corridor Profiles, technical assistance plans, and freight. Title VI is also important regarding Environmental Justice, Public Participation Plan (PPP), and Language

Assistance Plan (LAP). For transit planning, work includes community transit planning services as well as required reporting and studies. Next, CMRPC data services were summarized. The services include numerous types of data collection, the development of various dashboards, and community and regional technical assistance such as the Auburn Sidewalk Plan and the Worcester Bicycle Parking Inventory, among others. Staff also have a drone program and completed many drone flights for transportation purposes, like for the I-495/I-90 Interchange Reconstruction.

Going forward, staff will continue the implementation of the recently updated LRTP which includes various plans, studies, and initiatives as well as assisting on Federal Discretionary Grants (i.e., Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods).

Shelby Marshall asked who is responsible for the Regional Age and Dementia Friendly Initiatives work staff are doing. Ms. Krishnan replied that Yahaira Graxirena would be the current contact person.

There were no further questions or comments.

Agenda Item #7 – Staff Updates

- Federal Discretionary Grants

Ms. Krishnan announced that staff received the Safe Streets for All grant funding. This includes funding for a regional action plan and a Worcester Demonstration Project on Main Street.

- Migrant Transportation

Ms. Krishnan announced that staff were able to work with WRTA to provide transit service one day per week for the migrant population in the town of Sutton.

Agenda Item #8 – New Business

There was no new business.

Agenda Item #9 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – January 3, 2024, at 3:00PM
- CMMPO meeting (virtual) – January 17, 2024, at 4:00PM

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

John Daniel made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Janet Pierce. The meeting concluded at 5:00 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zachary Blais, Transportation Associate Planner

MPO January 19, 2024 – Endorse Amendment



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization

Date: Wednesday, **January 17, 2024**

Time: **4:00 PM**

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through Zoom Webinar. The 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://www.cmrpc.org/cmm-po-meeting-123>

AGENDA

- Introductions
- Remote Meeting Protocols & Procedures
- Approval of December 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Opportunity for Public Comment
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Transit List
 - **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #3 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Highway & Transit Lists for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period
 - FFY 2025 Micro-Projects Update
 - FFY 2029 Presentations by Project Proponents
 - Rutland #613655 – Intersection Improvements at Route 122 & Pleasantdale Rd
 - West Brookfield #612779 – Resurfacing & Related Work on Route 9 (Phase III)
 - Westborough #613242 – Roadway Improvements on Route 30 (East Main St)
 - Worcester #613648 – Intersection Improvements at Lake Ave & Bigelow Davis Pkwy
- Presentation on CY 2024 Safety Performance Measures (PM1)
- Staff Updates
 - Grants Funding
- New Business
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – January 24, 2024 at 3:00 PM
 - CMMPO meeting (virtual) – February 21, 2024 at 4:00 PM
- 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 Webinar Meeting Details

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86745537403?pwd=OG5rNU82R0w5bVFxaWtjSkpIMWRtUT09>

Webinar ID: 867 4553 7403

Passcode: 025146

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- +1 312 626 6799 US



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting held **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom Webinar.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Steve Woelfel – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, designee to MassDOT Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt
2. Ann Sullivan – MassDOT Highway Division District #3, designee to MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathon Gulliver
3. Joshua Rickman – WRTA Administrator
4. Bob Hassinger – designee to CMRPC Commission Chair
5. Brian Pigeon – designee to City Manager Eric Batista
6. Shelby Marshall – Westborough, Northeast Subregion Representative
7. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative
8. John Daniel – Southbridge, Southwest Subregion Representative
9. Stephanie Mulroy – Holden, North Subregion Representative

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

1. Chris Klem, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

- **Guests:**

1. Daryl Amaral, MassDOT District #2
2. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3
3. Steven Tyler, Howard Stein Hudson
4. Todd Kirrane, Worcester
5. Betsy Goodrich, Worcester
6. Chris Payant, Westborough
7. Jeff Bridges, Spencer
8. John Morgan, CHA
9. Levente Mezo
10. Peg Dean, Southbridge
11. Chris Payant, Westborough

12. Monika Turek

- **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. Rob Raymond, Project Manager – Transportation
6. Adam Wriggins, Assistant Planner – Transportation
7. Nathan Lewis, Public Outreach Coordinator – Transportation
8. Eric Gemperline, Associate Planner – Transportation

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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.

Agenda Item #2 – Remote Meeting Protocols and Procedures

Sujatha Krishnan briefly reviewed updated remote meeting protocols and procedures following new changes, in which the meetings will be conducted in a Zoom Webinar format going forward.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of December 20, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the December 20, 2023, meeting of the CMMPO were considered for approval. Ann Sullivan motioned to accept the minutes and was seconded by Josh Rickman. A roll call vote was announced, and members voted to unanimously approve the minutes.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Shelby Marshall – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Joshua Rickman – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Agenda Item #4 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #5 – Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Transit List

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Proposed Amendment #2 included three changes to FFY 2024 of the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Transit List. The changes are:

- RTD0010855 – WRTA Buy Replacement 35' Bus: COST INCREASE. 5307 funding would increase by \$1,010,000 for new total of \$8,189,019. TDC funding would increase by \$95,804 for new total of \$1,637,804.
- WRTA011642 – On-Call (short-term) Planning Services: ADD PROJECT. Total cost of \$250,000. \$200,000 will be 5307 funding and \$50,000 will be SCA funding.
- WRTA011643 – Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities: ADD PROJECT. Total cost of \$506,000. \$404,800 will be 5307 funding and \$101,200 will be SCA funding.

Mr. Krasnecky noted that Proposed Amendment #2 was discussed with the CMMPO Advisory Committee and CMRPC's Transportation Committee and both recommended endorsement. A virtual public meeting to discuss the Amendment was also held on Tuesday, January 9th.

There were no comments or questions about the proposed changes.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Ann Sullivan to approve the proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Transit List. All members present voted unanimously to approve proposed Amendment #2.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Joshua Rickman – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Shelby Marshall – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

- **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #3 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Highway and Transit Lists for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Proposed Amendment #3 included several changes to FFY 2024 of the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Highway and Transit Lists.

The changes to the Highway List are:

- Worcester #610535 – Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements on Pleasant Street: REMOVE PROJECT
- Charlton-Oxford #602659 – Reconstruction on Route 20, from Richardson’s Corner Easterly to Route 12, Includes Rehab of C-06-023 and Replacement of O-06-002: Reduce statewide CMAQ funding to \$123,655. Reduce statewide HSIP funding to \$0. Reduce statewide NHPP funding to \$7,956,218. Reduce statewide STBG funding to \$0.

The changes to the Transit List are:

- WRTA011658 – Shrewsbury: Town of Shrewsbury – CTGP Shrewsbury Operating: ADD PROJECT. Total cost of \$25,000.
- WRTA011661 – Holden: WRTA-Holden to Worcester Extended Service: ADD PROJECT. Total cost of \$20,000.
- WRTA011686 – Town of Rutland – Rutland Extended Transportation: ADD PROJECT. Total cost of \$75,477.
- WRTA011687 – WRTA – SCM Elderbus – READYBUS Service: ADD PROJECT. \$70,000.
- WRTA011688 – WRTA – SCM Elderbus Midday Shuttle: ADD PROJECT. Total cost of \$34,000.

Shelby Marshal made a motion and was seconded by Jesse Limanek to approve the release of the proposed Amendment #3 to the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP Highway and Transit Lists for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period. All members present voted unanimously to approve the release of proposed Amendment #3 for 21-day public review and comment period.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Joshua Rickman – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Brian Pigeon – Yes

Shelby Marshall – Yes

Jesse Limanek – Yes
John Daniel – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – Yes

- FFY 2025 Micro-Projects Update

Sujatha Krishnan provided updates on the FFY 2025 Micro-Projects Program.

Ms. Krishnan mentioned that for FFY 2024 projects, the Town of Southbridge submitted the scope of work and is in the contracting process with MassDOT for their grant. The Quaboag Connector has flexed their funds to Pioneer Valley Transit Authority and the Town of Ware to access the funds.

For FFY 2025, the deadline for the Micro-Project Application is February 21st, 2024. Interest has included the City of Worcester to purchase bicycle racks through an application. Ms. Krishnan announced that anyone interested should reach out to Yahaira Graxirena.

There were no comments or questions.

- FFY 2029 Presentations by Project Proponent

- Rutland #613655 – Intersection Improvements at Route 122 and Pleasantdale Road: Ann Sullivan presented this project. Existing issues at this intersection include speed, safety, and was a High Crash location from 2017-2019. Route 122 Average Daily Traffic (ADT) is 5,917 and the roadway also provides an important connection to Worcester. The scope of the project is to construct a roundabout at the intersection, but other alternatives will also be considered. Also included are improved bike accommodations and upgraded signage and pavement markings. The project is currently at pre-25% design stage and survey work is being done. Required environmental permits and ROW acquisitions or easements are being determined. Utility relocations will be required. The current cost estimate of the project is \$3,013,900. There were no comments or questions following the presentation.
- West Brookfield #612779 – Resurfacing and Related Work on Route 9 (Phase 3): John Morgan, from CHA, presented this project for the town of West Brookfield. The entire Route 9 reconstruction project includes 4.3 miles. Phase 3 is 1.6 miles and includes resurfacing and related work. Roadway width varies between 24' to 26' and the 85% vehicle speeds are 45 MPH. Existing issues include safety for all users, pavement condition, and drainage issues. Safety concerns include snow and ice, shoulder width/visibility, truck traffic, speeding, signage/pavement markings, and bicycle and pedestrians. The proposed new roadway section includes two 12' travel lanes and two 5' shoulders to accommodate bicycle/pedestrians. There is also the Lamberton Brook culvert that would need to be improved. The project is currently at the pre-25% design stage and the 25% design is anticipated to be submitted in Fall 2024. Survey work and data collection is ongoing. The estimated project cost is \$14,000,000.

Shelby Marshall asked if this is the more complex Phase of the Route 9 project. Mr. Morgan said it is similar, but it does include a culvert which the other phases do not. There were no other comments or questions.

- Westborough #613242 – Roadway Improvements on Route 30 (East Main Street): Chris Payant, Westborough, and Steven Tyler, HSH, presented this project. The goals of the project are to improve traffic safety, improve bicycle/pedestrian safety, fill multimodal connectivity gaps, improve existing shared-use path crossing, improve congestion, and promote economic development through improved walkability and bikeability. Next steps for the project are to perform a topographic survey, conduct evaluation of Flanders Road intersection, conduct local community outreach, and complete the pre-25% design submission.

Shelby Marshall commented that this is a highly interested area of the community for needs of connectivity and bicycle and pedestrian improvements. There were no other comments or questions.

- Worcester #613648 – Intersection Improvements at Lake Avenue and Bigelow Davis Parkway: Betsy Goodrich and Todd Kirrane presented this project. The goal of the project is to improve traffic control at the intersection to reduce speeding, improve safety, and create better multi-modal access for all with a particular focus on vulnerable roadway users. Existing conditions include a significant amount daily traffic, stop sign controlled, non-compliant ADA ramps, and sidewalks. The intersection is a Top 5% HSIP Crash Cluster and has long pedestrian crossing distances. Other problems include speeding, inadequate bike/micro-mobility facilities, multiple conflict points, and lack of gaps & long queues for turning traffic. The project includes traffic control through a traffic signal or a roundabout; a reduced footprint intersection and shorter crosswalks; right sized travel lanes to manage speeds; separated/protected bicycle lanes; and widened sidewalks/improved streetscape. Project planning and design is expected to be completed by the city in 2024-2025.

Rich Rydant asked what the estimated project cost is. Mr. Kirrane said that it is \$6.7 million. There were no other comments or questions.

Agenda Item #6 – Presentation on CY 2024 Safety Performance Measures (PM1)

Eric Gemperline presented this item.

Each year MPO's are required to either set their own or adopt the State's safety performance targets and must be incorporated into Certification Documents. MassDOT's overarching goal is towards zero deaths. The performance measures are presented in 5-year rolling averages. Further, federal law prohibits States from using increasing targets.

The MassDOT safety targets for CY 2024 are:

- Total fatalities: 377
- Fatality rate per 100 million VMT: 0.61
- Total serious injuries: 2,708
- Serious injury rate: 4.36 per 100 million VMT
- Total combined non-motorist injuries + fatalities: 445

Mr. Gemperline then described MassDOT's methodologies in setting their safety targets for the above categories. Graphics were also displayed showing the historical data and projected targets for the 5-year rolling averages for both the State and CMMPO in each safety category.

Mr. Gemperline explained that while the goal is towards zero deaths and injuries, the State's targets are not "goals" but realistic targets considering the events of the last 3+ years. Mr. Gemperline also noted that the CMMPO must either set their own five quantifiable safety targets or adopt the MassDOT targets that were presented by February 29, 2024. These targets must be included in the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIPs.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #7 – Staff Updates

- Grants Funding

Sujatha Krishnan updated the group that CMRPC staff was awarded Safe Streets for All Action Plan funding for Main Street in Worcester. Staff are waiting to hear back on results for Thriving Communities Grant and the Reconnecting Communities Program Grant. Staff will also be helping several communities with the RAISE Grant, which is due at the end of February. Shelby Marshall asked the difference between Thriving Communities and Reconnecting Communities Grant Programs. Ms. Krishnan explained that the Thriving Communities Grant is only for regional and state level planning studies. The project that staff applied for was a feasibility study for the Blackstone River Bikeway. The Reconnecting Communities Program Grant is for communities that were disadvantaged during the highway building era. The project staff submitted was for the Vernon Street bridge over I-290 area that connects Kelley Square and the Vernon Hill area.

Agenda Item #8 – New Business

Ms. Krishnan asked the group to share any input for ways staff could improve the new Zoom webinar process of CMMPO meetings.

Steve Woelfel reminded the group of the upcoming MassDOT Innovation Conference on April 30th to May 1st and that registration is now open.

Agenda Item #9 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – January 24, 2024, at 3:00PM
- CMMPO meeting (virtual) – February 21, 2024, 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

**Advisory Committee January 3, 2023 – Recommend Approval
of Amendment**



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Committee

Date: Wednesday, **January 3**, 2024

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/cmmpo-advisory-committee-meeting-26>

AGENDA

- Around the Room Introductions
- Approval of **November 29, 2023** Meeting Minutes
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Seeking recommendation concerning CMMPO endorsement of the Proposed Amendment #2 to the 2024-2028 TIP Transit Project Listing
 - FFY 2029 TIP Project Candidates
- Transit Planning Presentation
- Advisory Committee Bylaws
 - Discussion
- Staff Updates
 - Federal & State Funding Opportunities
- New Business
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 3:00 PM
 - CMMPO Meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 4:00 PM
- Adjournment

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Zoom Meeting Details

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87809179209>

Meeting ID: 878 0917 9209



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The minutes of the CMMPO Advisory Committee held **January, 3, 2023**. This meeting was held virtually through Zoom.

CMMPO Advisory Committee Members Present:

- Adam Menard - Chair, Town of Auburn
- Chris Payant – Co-Chair, Town of Westborough
- Connor McCormack – Town of Millbury
- Alex Salcedo – MassBike
- Collin Reuter – Green Hill Park Coalition
- Claudia Paiva – Latino Education Institute
- Caleigh McLaren – Blackstone Watershed Collaborative
- Benji Kemper – Center for Living and Working
- Sarah Bradbury – MassDOT District 3
- Daryl Amaral – MassDOT District 2
- Joann Clarke - AARP

Ex-Officio Members Present:

- Chris Klem – MassDOT OTP

CMRPC Staff Present:

- Sujatha Krishnan
- Yahaira Graxirena
- Kevin Krasnecky
- Eric Gemperline
- Rich Rydant
- Rob Raymond
- Nathan Lewis
- Connie Mellis

- Tyler Distefano
- Nahrin Sangkagalo

Guest:

- Sarah Cannomela - MassDOT

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Agenda Item #1 – Around the Room Introductions

Chairperson Adam Menard opened the meeting at 3:03 PM. A roll call of CMMPO Advisory members was announced, followed by the rest of the attendees.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of November 29, 2023, meeting minutes

Minutes for November 29, 2023, CMMPO Advisory meeting were considered for approval. Mr. Menard entertains a motion to approve the November 29, 2023, meeting minutes. Mr. Payant makes a motion to approve. The motion is seconded by Mr. McCormack. The vote was unanimous in favor of approval. Ms. Clarke abstained.

Agenda Item #3 – Transportation Improvement Program

- **ACTION ITEM:** Seeking recommendation concerning CMMPO endorsement of the Proposed Amendment #2 to the 2024-2028 TIP Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Amendment #2 includes three changes to FFY 2024:

- Cost Increase for RTD0010855 – WRTA Buy Replacement 35 FT Bus: 5307 funding would increase by \$1,010,000 for new total of \$8,189,019. TDC funding would increase by \$95,804 for a new total of \$1,637,804.
- WRTA011642 – On-Call (short-term) Planning Services: Add project to FFY 2024 for a total of \$250,000. \$200,000 will be 5307 funding and \$50,000 will be SCA funding.
- WRTA011643 – Preventative Maintenance for WRTA Vehicles and Facilities: Add project to FFY 2024 for a total of \$506,000. \$404,800 will be 5307 funding and \$101,200 will be SCA funding.

Chairperson Menard entertains a motion to recommend the proposed TIP Amendment #2. Mr. Payant makes a motion to recommend the amendment. Mr. McCormack seconds the motion. The recommendation passes unanimously.

Agenda Item #4 – Potential TIP Project Candidates for FFY 2029

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item.

- #612779: West Brookfield – Resurfacing & Related Work on Route 9 (Phase III)
- #613242: Westborough – Roadway Improvements on Route 30 (East Main Street), from Hastings Elementary to Thomas Newton Drive
- #613648: Worcester – Intersection Improvements at Lake Avenue and Bigelow Davis Parkway
- #613655: Rutland – Intersection Improvements at Route 122 and Pleasantdale Road

There were no further questions.

Agenda Item #5 – Transit Planning Presentation

Connie Mellis presented this item.

The presentation started with an overview of transit planning. In the region the WRTA provides fixed routes and paratransit service. Regionally, transit consists of intercity bus service, MBTA commuter rail, and demand response services.

The WRTA is the largest provider in the region, covering 37 communities around Worcester, including towns that fall outside of the CMRPC region. Conversely The far southeast (Blackstone Valley) portion as well as the Town of Hardwick in the west and northwest do not have WRTA service at the moment. There is discussion of towns in the region joining the WRTA service area as they are not part of any transit authority.

WRTA offers fixed route service in 15 communities using a hub-and-spoke model based out of the WRTA hub in Worcester. WRTA offers fixed-route bus and paratransit service to city centers, shopping facilities, medical facilities, housing developments, and other densely populated locations. Ridership has recovered to pre-pandemic levels and is averaging 3 million trips a year.

For paratransit, WRTA provides most of the region's services using a combination of providers including local Councils on Aging and the WRTA's van division. This service is required under American with Disabilities Act. Other paratransit services are offered in select communities through senior centers and SCM Elderbus or Ready Bus provided through MassDOT grant funding and FTA formula funds.

A relatively new service that is gaining popularity is on-demand response service. Currently, it is offered in Shrewsbury and Westborough through a pilot grant fund. This service is contracted out to Via and the service has increased ridership 10-fold compared to the shuttle bus service it replaced, provided 30,000 trips in FY23. A similar service in the west of the region, the Quaboag Connector, continues to be a vital lifeline for the rural communities in the area.

Intercity bus service is provided by Greyhound and Peter Pan, which depart from the WRTA hub. Additionally, three communities are serviced by MBTA commuter rail stations, Worcester, Grafton, and Westborough. WRTA adjusts schedules as needed to meet the train at the station.

Public participation occurs in transit through the LRTP, TIP, and UPWP. Current topics that have been brought up are the East-West Commuter Rail, rural transit, migrant transit, and elder/paratransit needs.

Ms. Clarke mentions her work with WalkFit and Liz Myska and reported problems with paratransit and training and asks if the WRTA and Liz Myska can connect. Ms. Mellis responds that she will bring up the subject with the WRTA.

Agenda Item #6 – Advisory Committee Bylaws

Yahira Graxirena presented this item.

The CMMPO recently updated their memorandum of understanding which in turn triggered an update to the CMMPO Advisory Committee bylaws. The CMRPC transportation staff, which is permanently

assigned to assist the CMMPO Advisory Committee, has undertaken a revision and refinement for the new bylaws.

Ms. Graxirena went over the revised bylaws as of January 3, 2024, highlighting changes noted in red in the document. Changes involved updating of archaic language and streamlining of the bylaws.

Ms. Krishnan makes a note that the quorum is a simple majority of eleven members of board and would like to see language confirming that the quorum is based on that number (6), not total members. Chairperson Menard is happy with the six-member majority for quorum. The revised bylaws will be shared with members to be discussed and voted on in the next meeting.

Agenda Item #7 – Staff Updates – Federal and State Funding Opportunities

Yahaira Graxirena presented this item.

The Town of Sutton and Millbury received Fair Share funds to supplement local chapter 90 funds. Some available grants include RAISE discretionary grants which the Town of Southbridge and City of Worcester are interested in applying for. The Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Pilot program by MassDOT is also open, interested parties should contact Ms. Mellis. Additional grants available include the Green School Bus Rebate program, EPA Environmental Justice grants, and MassTrail grants. CMRPC can work with any communities interested in applying for these grants.

Ms. Krishnan adds that CMRPC was recently awarded \$600,000 through the Safe Streets for All grant to develop an action plan for the region and a demonstration projection in the City of Worcester. Updates will be provided to the board.

Agenda Item #8 – New Business

No new business.

Agenda Item #9 – Next Meeting

January 24, 2024, at 3:00 PM

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

At 3:42 PM Chairperson Menard entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Payant made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Reuter. 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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