

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



CMMPO Endorsed Amendment #3
2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program
(TIP)

March 19, 2025



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:

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

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:

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 #3 Transit Project Listing & Summary Materials

Proposed Amendment #3 to the 2025 - 2029 TIP Transit Listing

FFY 2025 Transit Project List Changes:

- Cost increase of **Project RTD0010857 – WRTA – Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response**. 5307 funding would increase by \$4 Million, from \$1,771,900 to \$5,771,900 and Toll Development Credit (TDC) funding would increase \$800,000, from \$200,000 to \$1,000,000.
 - Funding increase is used to purchase charging equipment and switchgear for the 7 battery-electric buses that are incoming to the WRTA sometime this calendar year and also for the systemwide CAD/AVL replacement project that will upgrade all existing ITS hardware on all WRTA vehicles.
- Cost increase of **Project RTD0010863 – WRTA – Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub**. 5307 funding would increase by \$800,000, from \$20,000 to \$820,000. Toll Development Credits (TDC) would also be added in the amount of \$160,000.
 - Funding increase is used to fund the renovation of the WRTA Hub Lobby. The project is soon nearing 90% design state, with construction to take place later this calendar year.
- Cost increase of **Project RTD011648 – WRTA – Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities**. 5307 funding would increase by \$200,000, from \$80,000 to \$280,000. Toll Development Credits (TDC) would also be added in the amount of \$40,000.
 - Funding increases are used for OPM services related to both the Hub Lobby Renovation and BeB Infrastructure Improvements at the M&O.



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

STIP: 2025 - 2029 (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 2025							\$23,920,284	\$23,976,227	\$4,795,463	\$1,148,594			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$23,920,284	\$23,976,227	\$4,795,463	\$1,148,594			
2025	RTD0010854		Operating	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Operating Assistance - Fixed Route and Paratransit	5307	\$58,403,670	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000				30.09.01	Operating Assistance to provide fixed-route and paratransit service throughout WRTA area.
2025	RTD0010854		Operating	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Operating Assistance - Fixed Route and Paratransit	SCA	\$58,403,670	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000			30.09.01	Operating Assistance to provide fixed-route and paratransit service throughout WRTA area.
2025	RTD0010855		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 40 FT Bus	5307	\$23,900,000	\$7,453,832	\$7,453,832				11.12.01	Replacing 35' and 40' buses that have exceeded useful life. Replacing 6 buses in FY 2025, 7 buses in FY 2026, and 3 buses in FY 2027. In FY 2025, TDCs are being used as a soft match (20%) for Sec. 5307 and Sec. 5339 funds.
2025	RTD0010855		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 40 FT Bus	5339	\$23,900,000	\$546,168	\$546,168				11.12.01	Replacing 35' and 40' buses that have exceeded useful life. Replacing 6 buses in FY 2025, 7 buses in FY 2026, and 3 buses in FY 2027. In FY 2025, TDCs are being used as a soft match (20%) for Sec. 5307 and Sec. 5339 funds.
2025	RTD0010855		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement 40 FT Bus	TDC	\$23,900,000	\$1,600,000		\$1,600,000			11.12.01	Replacing 35' and 40' buses that have exceeded useful life. Replacing 6 buses in FY 2025, 7 buses in FY 2026, and 3 buses in FY 2027. In FY 2025, TDCs are being used as a soft match (20%) for Sec. 5307 and Sec. 5339 funds.
2025	RTD0010856		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement Support Vehicles	5307	\$430,000	\$80,000	\$80,000				11.42.11	Replacing support vehicles that have reached the end of their useful life. Replacing 1 vehicle in FY 2025, 3 vehicles in FY 2026, 3 vehicles in FY 2027, and 1 vehicle in FY 2028.
2025	RTD0010856		RTA Vehicle Replacement	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Buy Replacement Support Vehicles	RTACAP	\$430,000	\$20,000		\$20,000			11.42.11	Replacing support vehicles that have reached the end of their useful life. Replacing 1 vehicle in FY 2025, 3 vehicles in FY 2026, 3 vehicles in FY 2027, and 1 vehicle in FY 2028.



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

STIP: 2025 - 2029 (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 2025							\$23,920,284	\$23,976,227	\$4,795,463	\$1,148,594			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$23,920,284	\$23,976,227	\$4,795,463	\$1,148,594			
2025	RTD0010857		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	5307	\$5,419,360	1771900 \$5,771,900	1771900 \$5,771,900				11.42.20	
2025	RTD0010857		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	RTACAP	\$5,419,360	\$192,975		\$192,975			11.42.20	
2025	RTD0010857		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response	TDC	\$5,419,360	200000 \$1,000,000		200000 \$1,000,000			11.42.20	
2025	RTD0010858		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Spare Parts for Revenue Rolling Stock	5307	\$5,135,482	\$729,453	\$729,453				11.12.40	
2025	RTD0010858		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Spare Parts for Revenue Rolling Stock	RTACAP	\$5,135,482	\$182,363		\$182,363			11.12.40	
2025	RTD0010861		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Fixed Route Bus Shelters	5307	\$367,746	\$35,604	\$35,604				11.92.02	
2025	RTD0010861		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority Regional Transit Authority: Purchase Fixed Route Bus Shelters	RTACAP	\$367,746	\$8,901		\$8,901			11.92.02	
2025	RTD0010863		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	5307	\$136,000	20000 \$820,000	20000 \$820,000				11.34.01	
2025	RTD0010863		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	RTACAP	\$136,000	\$5,000		\$5,000			11.34.01	
2025	RTD0010863		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub	TDC	\$136,000	\$160,000		\$160,000			11.34.01	
2025	RTD0010864	Worcester	RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	City of Worcester: Rehabilitation of Union Station	5337	\$29,235,751	\$4,594,376	\$4,594,376				11.34.03	Worcester Redevelopment Authority rehab/renovate of Worcester's Union Station. Sec. 5337 funding.
2025	RTD0010864	Worcester	RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	City of Worcester: Rehabilitation of Union Station	LF	\$29,235,751	\$1,148,594			\$1,148,594		11.34.03	Worcester Redevelopment Authority rehab/renovate of Worcester's Union Station. Sec. 5337 funding.
2025	RTD0010878		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	5307	\$2,850,974	\$2,068,200	\$2,068,200				11.44.02	
2025	RTD0010878		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	RTACAP	\$2,850,974	\$17,050		\$17,050			11.44.02	
2025	RTD0010878		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority: Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility	TDC	\$2,850,974	\$400,000		\$400,000			11.44.02	



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

STIP: 2025 - 2029 (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 2025							\$23,920,284	\$23,976,227	\$4,795,463	\$1,148,594			
Worcester Regional Transit Authority							\$23,920,284	\$23,976,227	\$4,795,463	\$1,148,594			
2025	WRTA011645		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Preventive Maintenance	5307	\$1,942,446	\$292,694	\$292,694				11.7A.00	Preventive Maintenance for WRTA vehicles and facilities.
2025	WRTA011645		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Preventive Maintenance	SCA	\$1,942,446	\$73,174		\$73,174			11.7A.00	Preventive Maintenance for WRTA vehicles and facilities.
2025	WRTA011646		Technical Assistance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Transportation Planning Services	5307	\$1,327,284	\$200,000	\$200,000				44.24.00	On-Call Short-Range Transportation Planning Services
2025	WRTA011646		Technical Assistance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Transportation Planning Services	SCA	\$1,327,284	\$50,000		\$50,000			44.24.00	On-Call Short-Range Transportation Planning Services
2025	WRTA011647		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Bus Stop Signage	5307	\$130,000	\$104,000	\$104,000				11.92.08	
2025	WRTA011647		RTA Facility & System Modernization	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Bus Stop Signage	RTACAP	\$130,000	\$26,000		\$26,000			11.92.08	
2025	WRTA011648		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities	5307	\$400,000	80000 \$280,000	80000 \$280,000				11.41.03	
2025	WRTA011648		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities	RTACAP	\$400,000	\$20,000		\$20,000			11.41.03	
2025	WRTA011648		RTA Facility & Vehicle Maintenance	Worcester Regional Transit Authority - Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities	TDC	\$400,000	\$40,000		\$40,000			11.41.03	

Amendment #3 Proactive Public Outreach Summary

Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization
Proposed Amendment #3 to the 2025 to 2029 TIP Available for Public Review & Comment

For information purposes and in accordance with the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization's (CMMPO) formal Public Participation Plan, the transportation staff of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) announces the release of the Proposed Amendment #3 to the CMMPO Endorsed 2025-2029 TIP transit project listing for the federally required 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 the listing of all transportation projects-highway, transit, intermodal-in the planning region programmed to receive federal-aid funding. Proposed TIP Amendment #3 includes a cost increase of three transit projects: #10857 – WRTA – Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response, #10863 – WRTA – Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub, and #11648 – WRTA – Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities.

All interested parties are welcome to attend a virtual public meeting to discuss Proposed Amendment #3 on **Tuesday, March 11, 2025**, at 5:00 PM using ZOOM. The details to join the public meeting can be found on the CMRPC website meeting calendar. The established deadline for public comment on the Proposed Amendment #3 is 4:30 PM on **Wednesday, March 12, 2025**. Summary materials pertaining to the draft document and proposed amendments are available at www.cmrpc.org. Printed summary materials are available upon request at 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 Virtual Public Meeting

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

Proposed 2025 – 2029 TIP Amendment #3

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 Proposed Amendment #3 to the 2025-2029 TIP has been released for a 21-day public review and comment period and calls for changes to the FFY 2025 transit project listing. These changes are:

- Cost increase of **Project RTD0010857 – WRTA – Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response**. 5307 funding would increase by \$4 Million, from \$1,771,900 to \$5,771,900 and Toll Development Credit (TDC) funding would increase \$800,000, from \$200,000 to \$1,000,000.
- Cost increase of **Project RTD0010863 – WRTA – Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub**. 5307 funding would increase by \$800,000, from \$20,000 to \$820,000. Toll Development Credits (TDC) would also be added in the amount of \$160,000.
- Cost increase of **Project RTD011648 – WRTA – Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities**. 5307 funding would increase by \$200,000, from \$80,000 to \$280,000. Toll Development Credits (TDC) would also be added in the amount of \$40,000.

Summary materials pertaining to the above listed documents are available at www.cmrpc.org or by request at the CMRPC office.

There will be opportunities for the public to comment on the Proposed Amendment #3 to the 2025-2029 TIP during the virtual ZOOM meeting listed below:

Monday, March 17, 2025, at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83528252379?pwd=mUnQ7kpi1byZ2KJ2Is3PcHWJ2BnTR2.1>

Meeting ID: 835 2825 2379

Passcode: 745724

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

All written comments can be sent to Kevin Krasnecky at kkrasnecky@cmrpc.org and all comments received before the extended deadline on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 4:30PM 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 or through a representative have been discriminated against can 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 Amendment #3 to the 2025-2029 TIP Transit Project Listing

Date: Monday, March 17, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through ZOOM. Meeting materials are available on the CMRPC website calendar at <https://cmrpc.org/event/proposed-2025-2029-tip-amendment-3-virtual-public-meeting-2/>.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order & Around the Room Introductions
2. Proposed 2025-2029 TIP Amendment #3
 - TIP Amendment #3 Overview
 - Acceptance of Public Comment & Input
3. Adjournment

Please Note: All comments on the Proposed Amendment #3 to the 2025-2029 TIP should be forwarded to Kevin Krasnecky at kkrasnecky@cmrpc.org prior to the CMMPO-established 4:30 PM **extended** deadline on **Tuesday, March 18, 2025**.

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.

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 or through a representative have been discriminated can 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.

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.

Monday, March 17, 2025, at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83528252379?pwd=mUnQ7kpi1byZ2KJ2Is3PcHWJ2BnTR2.1>

Meeting ID: 835 2825 2379

Passcode: 745724

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the 2025-2029 Proposed Amendment #3 virtual public meeting held Monday, March 17, 2025, through ZOOM.

- **Guests:**
 1. None
- **CMRPC Staff Present:**
 1. Kevin Krasnecky
 2. Rich Rydant
 3. Jeff Howland

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 5:00 PM. Nobody from the public attended this meeting. Mr. Krasnecky closed the meeting at 5:15 PM

CMMPO & CMMPO Advisory Committee Proceedings

- CMMPO February 19, 2025 – Initiate Amendment
- CMMPO March 19, 2025 – Endorse Amendment
- Advisory Committee February 26, 2025 – Recommend Approval of Amendment

CMMPO February 19, 2025 – Initiate Amendment



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization

Date: Wednesday, **February 19**, 2025

Time: **4:00 PM**

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through Zoom Webinar (use link below). Additional meeting materials can be found through the CMRPC web calendar: <https://cmrpc.org/event/cmm-po-committee-12/>

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88611903506?pwd=SOx1AzhZtQjBNrP8mUTISKNNaAoaCP.1>

Webinar ID: 886 1190 3506

Password: 731722

Dial In: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Approval of January 15, 2024, Meeting Minutes
- Opportunity for Public Comment
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #3 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit & Highway Project Listings for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period
 - FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Readiness Day Updates
 - MicroProjects Update
 - New Project Candidate Presentation
 - 613311: Worcester – Millbury Street – Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements
- CY 2025 Safety Performance Measures (PM1)
 - **Potential Action:** Adopt State Safety Targets
- TIP/UPWP Guidance Summary
 - FFY 2025 UPWP Administrative Modification
- Staff Updates
 - Vernon Street Study RFP
 - E-Bike for Transit Mass CEC Grant Award
 - PROTECT Grant Update
- New Business
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 3:00 PM
 - CMMPO meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 4:00 PM

- Adjournment

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CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting, on **Wednesday, February 19th, 2025**. 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. Betsy Goodrich – designee to City Manager Eric Batista
6. Michelle Conlin – Shrewsbury, Northeast Subregion Representative
7. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative
8. John Daniel – Southbridge, Southwest Subregion Representative
9. Brad Kadelski – Brookfield, West Subregion Alternate

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

There were no CMMPO Ex-Officio Members present.

- **Guests:**

1. Chris Klem, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
2. Andrew Wang, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
3. Bill Filsinger – Boylston, Northeast Subregion Alternate
4. Jessica Revis
5. Robin Grimm, Sturbridge
6. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3
7. Daryl Amaral, MassDOT District #2
8. Steven Tyler, HSH
9. Pedro Hernandez, MassDOT
10. Michelle Scott, MassDOT

- **CMRPC Staff**

1. Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Project Manager – Transportation
3. Rich Rydant, Director of MPO Activities – Transportation
4. Zack Blais, Principal Planner – Transportation
5. Connie Mellis, Manager – Transit Planning
6. Yahaira Graxirena, Project Manager – Transportation
7. Nate Lewis, Assistant Planner – Transportation
8. Ryan Hurley, Assistant 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 – Approval of January 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Jesse Limanek to approve the January 15, 2025 meeting minutes. All members present voted to approve the January 15, 2025 meeting minutes.

Steve Woelfel – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes
Josh Rickman – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes
Bill Filsinger – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
John Daniel – 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 #3 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit and Highway Project Listings for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Kevin Krasnecky presented the Proposed Amendment #3. Mr. Krasnecky noted that the Highway Amendment was not ready for this meeting and will be pushed back to a future CMMPO meeting.

For the Transit Project Listing, there were three proposed changes for Amendment #3. They include:

- Cost increase of Project RD0010857 – WRTA – Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response.
 - 5307 increase from \$1,771,900 to \$5,771,900
 - Toll Development Credit (TDC) increase from \$200,000 to \$1,000,000
 - Funding increases will be used to purchase charging equipment and switchgear for the 7 battery-electric buses WRTA purchased that will be coming sometime this calendar year, and for the systemwide CAD/AVL replacement project that will upgrade all existing ITS hardware on all WRTA vehicles.
- Cost increase of Project RTD0010863 – WRTA – Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub.
 - 5307 increase from \$20,000 to \$820,000
 - Toll Development Credits (TDC) added in the amount of \$160,000
 - Funding increases will be used to fund the renovation of the WRTA Hub Lobby. The project is soon nearing 90% design, with construction to take place later this calendar year.

- Cost increase of Project RTD011648 – WRTA Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities
 - 5307 increase from \$80,000 to \$280,000
 - Toll Development Credits (TDC) added in the amount of \$40,000
 - Funding increases will be used for OPM services related to both the Hub Lobby Renovation and BeB Infrastructure Improvements at the M&O.

There were no questions following the announcements of the proposed changes.

John Daniel voted to approve the Proposed Amendment #3 and was seconded by Ann Sullivan. All members voted unanimously to approve the Proposed Amendment #3 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period.

Steve Woelfel – Yes
 Ann Sullivan – Yes
 Josh Rickman – Yes
 Bob Hassinger – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes
 Bill Filsinger – Yes
 Jesse Limanek – Yes
 John Daniel – Yes

- FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Readiness Day Updates

Kevin Krasnecky presented the FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Readiness Day updates, these included the following projects:

FFY 2025

- **608961 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler St. and May St.**
 - 25% design. 75% design is due soon.
 - Design not progressing quickly enough to address the ROW concerns before end of FFY 2025
 - City must resolve drainage design
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2026
- **610769 – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, Manchaug Rd. over Rumford River**
 - 25% design, 75% design due in April
 - The current schedule shows a May 2026 Advertisement date.
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2026
- **612195 – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, I-290 over East Central St.**
 - 25% design, 75% design due in April
 - The current schedule shows a January 2026 Advertisement date
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2026

FFY 2026

- **611933 – Sturbridge – Roundabout Construction at Route 20 and Route 131**
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due July 2025
 - ROW submission needed

- Potential Chapter 91 permitting needed for Cedar Pond impacts
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2027
- **612084 – Barre – Bridge Replacement, Old Coldbrook Rd. over Prince River**
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due June 2025
 - The current schedule shows the March 2027 Advertisement date
 - Still need ROW plan and potential A97
 - Will likely need wetlands permits
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2027
- **612092 – Uxbridge – Bridge Replacement, Homeward Ave. over PW Railroad**
 - Still need ROW and updated schedule submission
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2027
- **609186 – Dudley - Bridge Replacement, Route 131 over Quinebaug River**
 - Delays with preliminary design, 25% design due April 2025
 - Still need ROW submission
 - Will likely need environmental permits
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2027
- **612893 – Sturbridge – Improvements at Burgess Elementary School (SRTS)**
 - Pre-25% design
 - Determining impacts of boardwalk and environmental impacts
 - Potential re-scoping or revisiting appropriateness for SRTS funding
 - Designer to investigate other alternatives further
 - Recommendation to push back to unknown year at this time

FFY 2027

- **608990 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler St., from Main St. to Park Ave.**
 - Combined back into one project with 612011
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due March 2025
 - Still on track for FFY 2027
 - Likely to be AC'd due to high cost
- **611967 – Sturbridge/Charlton – Intersection Improvements on Route 49 at Putnam Rd., Walker Pond Rd. and Route 20**
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due March 2025
 - Updated project schedule needed
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2028
- **613367 – Westborough – Fisher St. Improvements (SRTS)**
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due March 2025

- Current design schedule shows FFY 2028 Advertisement date
- Recommended pushing back to FFY 2028

FFY 2029

- **608490 – Upton – Resurfacing and Related work on Route 140 and Roundabout Construction at Route 140, Church St. and Grove St.**
 - Pre-25 design, 75% design due February 2025
 - Project could potentially be moved up to FFY 2028

There were no questions following the Readiness Day updates.

- MicroProjects Update

Yahaira Graxirena provided the MicroProjects update, which included two applications that were received. These were:

- Millbury – Transit Access Enhancements – Elm Street and Main Street
 - Total Project Cost: \$6,150
- Westborough – Bicycle Parking – Multiple Locations
 - Total Project Cost: \$15,165.20

There were no comments or questions following the updates.

- New Project Candidate Presentation

- 613311: Worcester – Millbury Street – Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements

Pedro Hernandez, MassDOT, provided the presentation of TIP Project 613311. The project included bicycle and pedestrian improvements in Worcester on Millbury Street, from Harding Street to Vernon Street.

The project location was identified as a top 5% bicycle and pedestrian need statewide. It was also identified as a roadway that would benefit from improved pedestrian facilities and the addition of bicycle accommodation. Additionally, a WRTA bus route utilizes the project location, and the bus stops lack amenities, signage, and roadway striping. Some existing curb ramps are not ADA compliant and there is a lack of marked crossings at several intersections and bus stops.

Other than the WRTA utilizing the project location, it is also an REJ+ community and provides a link between Millbury Street (west of I-290) and the pedestrian bridge spanning Route 146. Improvements from the project will help provide connections to the Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Visitor Center, Middle River Park, College of Holy Cross, Blackstone River Bikeway, Walmart shopping area, and more.

The work will include improvements to bus stop amenities and infrastructure, sidewalk repair, ADA compliant curb ramps, and bicycle facilities. It will retain existing curb to curb widths except where it is necessary to expand sidewalks to incorporate bus stop

amenities and bicycle facilities. Additional work includes improved pavement markings, signage, and possible speed calming measures.

The project is at 25% design stage and surveys have been completed. The ROW acquisitions or easements and environmental permitting are still being determined. Utility relocations, except for some light poles, are not required. The current project cost estimate is \$3,475,000.

Betsy Goodrich noted the City's support for this project. There were additional questions or comments.

Agenda Item #5 – CY 2025 Safety Performance Measures (PM1)

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

Kevin Krasnecky presented this agenda item. As the CY 2025 Safety Performance Measures (PM1) was presented at the January CMMPO Meeting, Mr. Krasnecky just reviewed the five statewide safety targets.

The PM1 MassDOT targets for CY 2025 are:

- Total Fatalities: **365**
- Fatality Rate per 100 million VMT: **0.58**
- Total Serious Injuries: **2,622**
- Serious Injury Rate per 100 million VMT: **4.17**
- Total Combined Non-Motorist Injuries + Fatalities: **497**

Mr. Krasnecky said that the CY 2025 safety targets were presented to the CMMPO Advisory Committee and CMRPC's Transportation Committee and both had recommended the adoption of the State's targets.

Jesse Limanek made a motion and was seconded by Ann Sullivan to approve the adoption of the state safety targets for the CY 2025 Safety Performance Measures (PM1). All members present voted unanimously to approve the adoption of the state safety targets for the CY 2025 Safety Performance Measures (PM1).

Steve Woelfel – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes
Josh Rickman – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes
Betsy Goodrich – Yes

Michelle Conlin – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
John Daniel – Yes
Brad Kadelski – Yes

Agenda Item #6 – TIP/UPWP Guidance Summary

- FFY 2025 UPWP Administrative Modification

Sujatha Krishnan reviewed the TIP and UPWP guidance from MassDOT and USDOT. These included guidance regarding public participation, programming of earmarks, and coordination of

planning process activities. These also included a listing of key regulations that are required to be following for developing STIPS, TIPS, Public Participation processes, and UPWPs; as well as other additional applicable guidance for planning emphasis areas, UPWP reporting, UPWP Amendments and administrative modifications, inflation rates in the STIPs and TIPs, and advance construction (AC).

Ms. Krishan also informed the members that staff did an Administrative Modification to the current FFY 2025 UPWP budget. Element 3.5 (Livability/Complete Street) funding was modified to show the 2.5% funding for Complete Street as required by FHWA. The total funding for this element stayed the same but the funding split between Element 3.5 and Complete Streets was changed.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #7 – Staff Updates

- Vernon Street Study RFP

Yahaira Graxirena updated the group that the RFP for the Vernon Street Study was released at the end of January. A proposal meeting was recently held and more than 20 firms attended. The deadline for applying for the RFP is March 19 (the next MPO Meeting), and a firm will be selected for the project.

- E-Bike for Transit MassCEC Grant Award

Ms. Graxirena updated the group that MetroMobility received a MassCEC grant award for E-Bikes to address first and last mile connections with transit, for example bikesharing facilities. They are currently looking for places to install facilities in Worcester. They could also work with other cities on similar projects.

- PROTECT Grant Update

Zack Blais updated the group that staff have been working with the Town of Northbridge on a PROTECT Resilience Grant. However, the FHWA placed the grant program on a freeze to review the program. If or when the program returns, changes to the NOFO will be made, in which staff will consider when continuing work with the Town of Northbridge on the PROTECT Resilience Grant.

Agenda Item #8 – New Business

John Daniel and other members asked for a copy of the TIP Readiness Day sheet. Mr. Krasnecky said the project listing used during the Readiness Day updates will be sent to all the CMMPO members.

Agenda Item #9 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 3:00 PM
- CMMPO Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 4:00 PM

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

Bob Hassinger made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Ann Sullivan. The meeting concluded at 4:40 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zack Blais, Transportation Principal Planner

CMMPPO March 19, 2025 – Endorse Amendment



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization

Date: Wednesday, **March 19**, 2025

Time: **4:00 PM**

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through Zoom Webinar (use link below). Additional meeting materials can be found through the CMRPC web calendar: <https://cmrpc.org/event/cmm-po-committee-13/>

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88611903506?pwd=SOx1AzhZtQjBNrP8mUTISKNNaAoaCP.1>

Webinar ID: 886 1190 3506

Password: 731722

Dial In: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Approval of February 19, 2025, Meeting Minutes
- Opportunity for Public Comment
- CMRPC Vernon Street/I-290 Interchange Transportation Study Presentation
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #3 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit Project Listing
 - **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Adjustment #4 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit Project Listing
 - **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #5 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period
 - FFY 2030 TIP Project Candidates PM Scoring Review
 - FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Workshop
 - Review & Consensus of Preferred Option for FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Highway Project Listing
 - Review of FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 Statewide Highway Project Listing
 - Review of FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 Transit Project Listing
- FFY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
 - Budget & Major Task Listing
- Staff Updates
 - Environmental Consultation
 - State Streets for All (SS4A)
 - Housing

- DPW Regional Forum – March 26th
- Status of Remote Meetings
- New Business
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 3:00 PM
 - CMMPO meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 4:00 PM
- Adjournment

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CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting, on **Wednesday, March 19th, 2025**. 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. Betsy Goodrich – designee to City Manager Eric Batista
6. Michelle Conlin – Shrewsbury, Northeast Subregion Representative
7. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative
8. Jared Grigg – Spencer, West Subregion Representative

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

- Derek Shooster – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
- Joshua Barber – Federal Highway Administration

- **Guests:**

1. Bill Filsinger – Boylston, Northeast Subregion Alternate
2. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3
3. Daryl Amaral, MassDOT District #2
4. Stephanie Abundo, MassDOT
5. Kevin Barry
6. Dan Lamere
7. Eleanor

- **CMRPC Staff**

1. Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Project Manager – Transportation
3. Rich Rydant, Director of MPO Activities – Transportation

4. Zack Blais, Principal Planner – Transportation
5. Yahaira Graxirena, Project Manager – Transportation
6. Jeff Howland, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer – 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 – Approval of February 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Jesse Limanek made a motion and was seconded by Michelle Conlin to approve the February 19, 2025 meeting minutes. All members present voted to approve the February 19, 2025 meeting minutes.

Steve Woelfel – Yes	Betsy Goodrich – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes	Michelle Conlin – Yes
Josh Rickman – Yes	Jesse Limanek – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes	

Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #4 – CMRPC Vernon Street/I-290 Interchange Transportation Study Presentation

Yahaira Graxirena announced that the Steering Committee for the Vernon Street/I-290 Transportation Study recently interviewed various consultants regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) and a decision was made. The Committee will be notifying the consultants of the decision and contacting the chosen consultant to say that they will be moving forward with the project with their firm. The contract will be completed before the announcement of the winning firm.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #5 – Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #3 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this agenda item. Amendment #3 included three changes to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit Project Listing. These include:

- **Project RTD0010857** – WRTA – Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response (COST INCREASE)
 - 5307 funding increased by \$4 million (\$1,771,900 to \$5,771,900)
 - Toll Development Credits (TDC) funding increased \$800,000 (\$200,000 to \$1 million)
 - Funding to be used to purchase charging equipment and switchgear for 7 battery-electric buses, and also for systemwide CAD/AVL replacement project to upgrade all existing ITS hardware on all WRTA vehicles
- **Project RTD0010863** – WRTA – Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub (COST INCREASE)
 - 5307 funding increased by \$800,000 (\$20,000 to \$820,000)
 - TDC added in amount of \$160,000

- Funding to be used for the renovation of the WRTA Hub Lobby. The project is nearing 90% design state. Construction is to take place later this 2025 calendar year.
- **Project RTD011648** – WRTA – Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities (**COST INCREASE**)
 - 5307 funding increased by \$200,000 (\$80,000 to \$280,000)
 - TDC added in the amount of \$40,000
 - Funding to be used for OPM services related to WRTA Hub Lobby Renovation and BeB Infrastructure Improvements at the M&O.

There were no comments or questions.

Ann Sullivan made a motion and was seconded by Betsy Goodrich to approve the Proposed Amendment #3. All members present voted unanimously to approve the Proposed Amendment #3 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit Project Listing.

Steve Woelfel – Yes
 Ann Sullivan – Yes
 Josh Rickman – Yes
 Bob Hassinger – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes
 Michelle Conlin – Yes
 Jesse Limanek – Yes
 Jared Grigg – Yes

- **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Adjustment #4 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this agenda item. Adjustment #4 included five FFY 2025 Community Transit Grant Awards to the FFY 2025 Transit project listing. The FY 2025 Community Transit Grant Awards were:

- **Project WRTA012026** – Rutland Council on Aging – Extended Transportation
 - Total Project Cost - \$50,000
 - 5310 Funding - \$16,883
 - Education and Transportation Funding (ETF) - \$33,117
- **Project WRTA012027** – WRTA – Expansion of WRTA Travel Training Program
 - Total Project Cost - \$115,275
 - 5310 Funding - \$92,220
 - SCA Funding - \$23,055
- **Project WRTA012028** – WRTA – Holden to Worcester – Extended Service Hours
 - Total Project Cost - \$20,000
 - 5310 Funding - \$10,000
 - SCA Funding – \$10,000
- **Project WRTA012029** – WRTA – SCM Elderbus – ReadyBus Service
 - Total Project Cost - \$90,000
 - 5310 Funding - \$45,000
 - SCA Funding - \$45,000

- **Project WRTA012030** – WRTA – SCM Elderbus Midday Shuttle
 - Total Project Cost - \$40,000
 - 5310 Funding - \$20,000
 - SCA Funding - \$20,000

Following the updates, Jared Grigg asked what a travel training program was. Josh Rickman answered it is a WRTA program that helps people who want to learn to travel independently using the WRTA’s regular bus system. WRTA offers it to anyone and reaches out to different groups, like schools and senior centers.

There were no further comments or questions.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Betsy Goodrich to approve the Proposed Adjustment #4. All members present voted unanimously to approve the Proposed Adjustment #4 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Transit Project Listing.

Steve Woelfel	Betsy Goodrich
Ann Sullivan	Michelle Conlin
Josh Rickman	Jesse Limanek
Bob Hassinger	Jared Grigg

- **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #5 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Kevin Krasnecky presented this agenda item. Proposed Amendment #5 included several changes to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing. These included:

- **Project 608961** – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler Street and May Street **(REMOVE PROJECT FROM FFY 2025)**
 - This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP.
- **Project 608778** – Southbridge – Intersection Improvements at Central Street, Foster Street, Hook Street and Hamilton Street **(COST INCREASE)**
 - Cost Increase - \$914,202 (added to STBG funding source)
 - New Total Project Cost - \$8,193,645
 - Cost increases due to off-site hazardous materials issues and unanticipated utility agreement costs.
- **Project 610769** – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, S-33-002, Manchaug Road over Mumford River **(REMOVE PROJECT FROM FFY 2025)**
 - This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP.
- **Project 612195** – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, W-44-091, I-290 over East Central Street **(REMOVE PROJECT FROM FFY 2025)**
 - This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP.

Jared Grigg asked why the projects that were being removed from FFY 2025 were not ready. Kevin Krasnecky replied that at TIP Readiness Day staff were told that the three projects being pushed back were not ready to be advertised in FFY 2025 and therefore, they had to be pushed back. Ann Sullivan added details for the Worcester project, noting that delays are due to issues with the water line and work with degrading is necessary. Also, the Right of Way (ROW) was not going to be completed in time to advertise in FFY 2025.

There were no further comments or questions.

Jared Grigg made a motion and was seconded by Jesse Limanek to approve the release of the Proposed Amendment #5 for public comment. All members present voted unanimously to approve the release of Proposed Amendment #5 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period.

Steve Woelfel
Ann Sullivan
Josh Rickman
Bob Hassinger

Betsy Goodrich
Michelle Conlin
Jesse Limanek
Jared Grigg

- FFY 2030 TIP Project Candidates PM Scoring Review

Kevin Krasnecky presented this agenda item. The FFY 2030 TIP Project Candidates that were scored included:

- **Project #613875** – Auburn/Worcester – Improvements on Route 20 (Washington Street), from 1,000’ east of Commerce Drive to the Auburn/Worcester TL, **\$6,512,940**
- **Project #613873** – Sturbridge – Improvements on Route 20 (Charlton Road), from 1,000’ east of Hall Road to east of the I-84 Ramps, **\$6,559,461**
- **Project #613261** – Worcester – Lincoln Street Transit Infrastructure Improvements, **\$3,335,000**
- **Project #613311** – Worcester – Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements on Millbury Street, **\$3,322,634**

The Categories for project scoring include:

- Safety (PM1)
- State of Good Repair (PM2)
- Congestion (PM3)
- Security
- Multimodality
- Sustainability
- Equity
- Economics
- Stormwater Management
- Travel and Tourism

Mr. Krasnecky summarized the scoring criteria for all candidate projects. The scoring results from highest to lowest are:

- **Project #613261** – Worcester – Lincoln Street: **15 points**
- **Project #613311** – Worcester – Millbury Street: **15 points**
- **Project #613873** – Sturbridge – Route 20: **13 points**

- **Project #613875** – Auburn/Worcester – Route 20: 12 points

Following the presentation, Michelle Conlin asked how a roadway is determined to be unreliable. Mr. Krasnecky replied that there is a dataset that staff used to determine reliability. There is a formula that is used based travel time during multiple time periods each day. If the results are above a define ratio then the segment is considered unreliable.

- FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Workshop
 - Review and Consensus of Preferred Option for FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this agenda item. Mr. Krasnecky reviewed the four funding options (Options A-D) for the FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Highway Project Listing. CMMPO members present were asked to provide a consensus of the option they preferred so staff can develop the draft TIP highway project listing. The funding options were based on the updates from TIP Readiness Days, which provided status updates for all target projects.

Jared Grigg asked why the Spencer Route 9 & 49 project was not included in FFY 2028 in any of the scenarios and pushed back to FFY 2029. Mr. Krasnecky replied that it did not financially fit under a few options and staff decided to fund the entirety of the Worcester Chandler Street project in FFY 2028 for Option D. Sujatha Krishnan also replied that there is not enough money for all current projects to be funded in FFY 2028, therefore some projects needed to be pushed back to be in fiscal constraint. Ann Sullivan added that at TIP Readiness Day, this project had design issues, showing that it may not be ready for FFY 2028.

After much discussion, the CMMPO members chose Option D for staff to develop the draft TIP, although a couple members wanted additional time to review the Options. Option D includes the following projects:

FFY 2026

- #610535 – Worcester: Pleasant Street Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements, \$6.009 Million
- #608456 – Upton: Route 140 Culvert Replacement, \$2.554 Million
- #608961 – Worcester: Chandler Street & May Street Intersection Improvements, \$8.475 Million
- Micro-Project – Millbury: Elm Street & Main Street Transit Access Improvements, \$6,150
- Micro-Project – Westborough: Purchase of Bike Racks, \$8,207
- CMMPO TIP Design Funding Placeholder, \$1 Million

FFY 2027

- #610931 – Uxbridge: Route 16 Rehabilitation, \$15.358 Million

- #609441 – Northbridge: Route 122/Sutton St/School St/Upton St Intersection Improvements, \$4.886 Million
- #611933 – Sturbridge: Route 20 & Route 131 Roundabout, \$8.067 Million
- Micro-Projects Program Placeholder, \$400,000
- CMMPO TIP Design Funding Placeholder, \$1 Million

FFY 2028

- #613655 – Rutland: Route 122 & Pleasantdale Road Intersection Improvements, \$3.255 Million
- #611988 – Oxford: Route 12 Rehabilitation, \$5.500 Million
- #608990 – Worcester: Chandler Street Resurfacing & Intersection Improvements, \$23.246 Million
- Micro-Projects Program Placeholder, \$75,000

FFY 2029

- #611988 – Oxford: Route 12 Rehabilitation, \$17.053 Million
- #613097 – Spencer: Route 9 & Route 49 Intersection Improvements, \$13.787 Million
- Micro-Projects Program Placeholder, \$400,000
- CMMPO TIP Design Funding Placeholder, \$500,000

FFY 2030

- #612779 – West Brookfield: Route 9 Improvements (Phase III), \$13.231 Million
- #613242 – Westborough: Route 30 Improvements, \$10.237 Million
- #613648 – Worcester: Lake Avenue & Bigelow Davis Parkway Intersection Improvements, \$7.786 Million
- Micro-Projects Program Placeholder, \$400,000
- CMMPO TIP Design Funding Placeholder, \$500,000
- Review of FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 Statewide Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this agenda item. Mr. Krasnecky summarized the current draft 2026-2030 statewide highway projects for the members.

There were no comments or questions.

- Review of FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this agenda item. Mr. Krasnecky summarized the current draft 2026-2030 TIP transit projects for the members.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #6 – FFY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- Budget and Major Task Listing

Sujatha Krishnan presented this agenda item. Ms. Krishnan reviewed the budget and major tasks for the FFY 2026 UPWP. Regarding the FFY 2026 UPWP Budget, each UPWP Element sees funding changes from the FFY 2025 UPWP:

- FFY 2026 Element 1 Total: \$457,323
 - Increases by \$714
- FFY 2026 Element 2 Total: \$465,000
 - Decreases by \$15,000
- FFY 2026 Element 3 Total: \$643,161
 - Increases by \$34,486
- FFY 2026 Element 4 Total: \$404,926
 - Decreases by \$30,074
- FFY 2026 Element 5 Total: \$35,000
 - Increases by \$5,000
- FFY 2026 Deobligated UPWP Funds Total: \$650,000
 - Increases by \$300,000
- FFY 2026 BIL Discretionary Grant Total: \$375,000
 - Increases by \$225,000

The overall FFY 2026 UPWP Budget increases by \$580,200 and the total FFY 2026 UPWP Budget is \$2,685,484.

Next, Ms. Krishnan summarized some of the major tasks that staff will be working on as part of the FFY 2026 UPWP. This includes the new Bicycle Count Program as well as the continuation of the data collection programs, TIP Development, EV Planning, and many more exciting planning efforts in the next year.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #7 – Staff Updates

- Environmental Consultation: The 2025 CMMPO Environmental Consultation will be hosted by staff on April 3, 2025, at 10:00am.
- Safe Streets for All (SS4A): Staff is currently finalizing the contract with MassDOT and FHWA is currently reviewing the Request for Proposals (RFP).
- Housing: The RFP was recently released and a preproposal meeting for interested consulting teams is scheduled for Friday, March 28th. The deadline to submit proposals is mid April.
- DPW Regional Forum – March 26th: Staff announced there would be a DPW Regional Forum on March 26th.
- Status of Remote Meetings: Staff announced that the status of remote meetings extension is currently being reviewed for its continuance by the state legislation.

Agenda Item #8 – New Business

Staff announced that an updated version of the CMRPC EV Dashboard has been released to the public.

Agenda Item #9 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 3:00 PM
- CMMPO Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 4:00 PM

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

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

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zack Blais, Transportation Principal Planner

**Advisory Committee February 26, 2025 – Recommend
Approval of Amendment**



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Committee

Date: Wednesday, **February 26**, 2025

Time: **3:00 PM**

Place: Zoom Webinar Virtual Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87882438119?pwd=MYN5ZVansearR4IT9L168ZhKY5fwpFQ.1>

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

AGENDA

- Around the Room Introductions
- Approval of **January 22, 2025** Meeting Minutes
- 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Seeking recommendation concerning CMMPO endorsement of the Proposed Amendment #3 to the 2025-2029 TIP Transit Project Listing
- 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - FFY 2026 TIP MicroProjects
 - Westborough Bicycle Parking
 - Millbury Transit Access Enhancements
 - FFY 2030 New Project Presentation
 - 613311: Worcester – Millbury Street: Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements
 - 2026-2030 TIP Readiness Day Updates
 - FFY 2030 TIP Potential Candidate Project – Performance Management Scoring Review
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Seeking recommendations concerning the ranking of FFY 2030 projects
- TIP / UPWP Guidance Summary
 - FFY 2025 Administration Modification
- Staff Updates
 - PROTECT
 - MetroMobility
 - Vernon Street RFP
- New Business
- Next Meetings:

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 3:00 PM
- CMMPO Meeting – Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 4:00 PM

➤ Adjournment

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Zoom Meeting Details

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/tZMlf-usrTMrG924Pf-5qiz6tcOhDc-YQzGN/jcs?icsToken=DL3-iG4M-yGkf5r0dgAALAAAANDoj6hSBzdhdAzTGulkgU_hUhe3XV5mX5RHLBJ-gfdnkjML0wZciZngd5fxSMJydxxaW5sH_SrnvzW9djAwMDAwMQ

Topic: CMMPO Advisory Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87882438119?pwd=MYN5ZVansear4IT9L168ZhKY5fwpFQ.1>

Passcode:444139

Phone one-tap:

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The minutes of the CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting held **January 22nd, 2025**. The hybrid meeting was held virtually through Zoom.

CMMPO Advisory Committee Members Present:

- Adam Menard – Town of Auburn
- Connor McCormack – Town of Millbury
- Chris Payant – Town of Westborough
- Matt Benoit – Town of Douglas
- Alex Salcedo – MassBike
- Karin Valentine-Goins – Walk/Bike Worcester
- Joanne Clark – AARP
- Robert Bilotta - CLW
- Feanna Jatta-Singh – NAACP, MAWOC
- Liz Myska – Visions Consulting L3C
- Sarah Bradbury – MassDOT District 3
- Daryl Amaral – MassDOT District 2

Ex-Officio Members Present:

- N/A

CMRPC Staff Present:

- Sujatha Krishnan
- Rich Rydant
- Kevin Krasnecky
- Yahaira Graxirena
- Jeff Howland

- Adam Wriggins

Guest:

- Jenny Gingras
- Kristen Belanger
- Doug Johnson
- Betsy Goodrich
- Jake Dorick

Agenda Item #1 – Around the Room Introductions

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

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of January 22nd, 2025, Meeting

Minutes

Minutes for the January 22nd, 2025, CMMPO Advisory meeting were considered for approval. Chair Menard entertains a motion to approve the January 22nd, 2025, meeting minutes. Mr. Payant makes a motion to approve. The motion is seconded by Mr. McCormack. The vote was unanimous in favor of approval with Karin Valentine-Goins Abstaining.

Agenda Item #3 – 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement

Program

Mr. Krasnecky provided an overview of the Proposed Amendment #3 to the 2025 – 2029 TIP Transit Listing being released for public review and comment that was presented at the MPO with 3 changes:

Cost increase of Project RTD0010857 – WRTA – Purchase Support Equipment for Fixed Route and Demand Response.

5307 funding would increase by \$4 Million, from \$1,771,900 to \$5,771,900 and Toll Development Credit (TDC) funding would increase \$800,000, from \$200,000 to \$1,000,000.

- Funding increase is used to purchase charging equipment and switchgear for the 7 battery-electric buses that are incoming to the WRTA sometime this

calendar year and also for the systemwide CAD/AVL replacement project that will upgrade all existing ITS hardware on all WRTA vehicles.

Cost increase of Project RTD0010863 – WRTA – Renovations and Maintenance to WRTA Hub.

5307 funding would increase by \$800,000, from \$20,000 to \$820,000. Toll Development Credits (TDC) would also be added in the amount of \$160,000.

- Funding increase is used to fund the renovation of the WRTA Hub Lobby. The project is nearing 90% design completion, with construction scheduled to take place later this calendar year.

Cost increase of Project RTD011648 – WRTA – Engineering and Design of WRTA Facilities.

5307 funding would increase by \$200,000, from \$80,000 to \$280,000. Toll Development Credits (TDC) would also be added in the amount of \$40,000.

- Funding increases are used for OPM services related to both the Hub Lobby Renovation and BeB infrastructure improvements at the M&O.

Fianna Jatta-Singh asked if there would be any indoor seating for passengers.

Kevin is unaware of the exact details of the WRTA Hub change, and Kevin said that they will reach out to the WRTA staff to find the answer.

Liz Myska asked about the consultation process for people with disabilities in the design of the facilities, specifically whether they were consulted and, if not, if they would have an opportunity to do so.

Sujatha mentioned that there is representation from the disability community on the WRTA Advisory Board and they were part of the entire process. But CMRPC will confirm that with the WRTA.

Liz mentions that she is the Vice Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Commission for the City of Worcester, and they have not yet presented it to them with the design.

Chair Menard motioned to recommend approval of these changes to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Conor McCormack moved, and Chris Payant seconded. The motion passed unanimously, with Liz Myska abstaining.

Agenda Item #4 – 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

FFY 2026 TIP MicroProjects

Westborough Bicycle Parking

Kristen Belanger presented the Westborough Bicycle Parking project, explaining that TIP funding will be used to install bicycle parking in two areas within the town. She outlined the project's goals:

- Encouraging residents to make short everyday trips using their bikes, resulting in reduced parking congestion and improved air quality through reduced emissions.
- Provide a safe and secure parking location for travel to work, school, recreation, downtown, and shopping.
- Create visibility within the community that highlights the efforts being made to improve pedestrian and bike infrastructure.

Kristen then presented data supporting the project, referencing various town plans, including the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan, Master Plan, Climate Action Plan, Downtown Development Plan, BWALT Multi-Use Trail Development, and Branding/Wayfinding initiatives.

The town discussed potential locations for bicycle parking. Existing bike parking is currently available at the Library and Bay State Green Area. The newly selected locations are:

1. North of Route 9 - a high-recreation area that includes a town beach, recreational facilities, a dog park, land trust areas, baseball fields, and approximately 700 units of elderly housing.
2. South of Route 9 (Downtown Area) - Close to key community destinations such as the high school, library, town hall, retail stores, food pantry, medical facilities, Roche Bros. grocery store, Post 22 Training Center for adults with disabilities, community center, and senior center.

The project focuses on locations where a 3-mile distance is considered too far to walk but not far enough to require a car. Kristen presented a map illustrating a 3-mile radius from each proposed location, covering nearly all Westborough residents.

The funding request for the project is \$15,165.20, a portion of which is an \$8,600 in-kind contribution from the Department of Public Works (DPW) for installation and materials. The project will add:

- 7 circular racks on Main Street
- 13 inverted U-racks at other locations
- 40 new bicycle parking spots in total.

Millbury Transit Access Enhancements

Conor McCormack presented the WRTA Bus Stop Enhancements project for Downtown Millbury at the Main St & Elm St bus stop. The location previously had a bus shelter, but it was removed a few years ago. The project aims to improve amenities for bus riders by installing:

- A cloth awning attached to the Millbury Housing Authority building to provide shelter from the elements.
- A bench for rider comfort.
- A bus stop sign to increase ridership and awareness of the service.

Joanne Clark asked about the type of awning being installed, specifically whether it would be cloth or plastic. Conor clarified that it will be a cloth awning, designed to be non-permeable to rain, offering sufficient weather protection. Joanne expressed concerns about durability. Conor noted that the awning shown in the provided photo has lasted over a decade, suggesting it has a reasonable lifespan.

Karin Valentine Goins asked if a bus shelter was considered. Conor explained that a shelter previously existed but was removed due to conflicts with the intake vent on the Housing Authority building. The awning was chosen as a compromise solution.

Joanne recommended adding side partitions for additional weather protection. Conor said he would look into this option. Robert Bilotta inquired about the possibility of a windscreen. Conor stated that it is something they can explore further.

FFY 2030 New Project Presentation

613311: Worcester – Millbury Street: Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements

Kevin Krasnecky presented Project #613311, a MassDOT-led initiative focused on bicycle and pedestrian improvements along Millbury Street in Worcester. The project extends 1.1 miles from Millbury and Harding Street to Millbury and Vernon Street, just before the pedestrian bridge crossing Route 146.

Project Needs & Justification: Using a data-driven approach, this segment of Millbury Street has been identified as being in the top 5% statewide for bicycle and pedestrian improvements based on:

- High potential for biking and walking
- Significant bicycle and pedestrian safety risks

Existing Issues:

- WRTA bus stops lack amenities, signage, and roadway striping.
- Some curb ramps are not ADA-compliant.
- Several intersections and bus stops lacked marked crossings.
- No dedicated bicycle facilities currently exist.

Regional Significance:

The project enhances pedestrian and bus stop accommodations along the southwest border of Vernon Hill, a REJ+ Community (Racial and Economic Justice). It also improves connectivity across Route 146 to key destinations, including:

- The Blackstone Heritage Corridor Visitor Center
- Middle River Park
- College of the Holy Cross and its recreational areas
- Blackstone River Bikeway
- Walmart shopping area

Project Scope

- Bus stop reconstruction and amenities
- Sidewalk repairs and ADA-compliant curb ramps
- New bicycle facilities

- Retaining curb-to-curb widths, except where expansions are needed for bus stops and buffered bike lanes
- Pavement markings and signage
- Evaluation of speed limits & traffic calming measures in the 25% design process.

Project Status & Next Steps:

- Design Stage: 25% complete
- Consultant: The Engineering Corporation (TEC)
- Survey: completed
- Right-of-Way (ROW): Acquisitions & easements still being determined
- Utility Relocations: Minimal; only a few light poles affected
- Estimated Cost: \$3,475,000.

Discussion:

Feanna Jattan-Singh added a comment saying that the community would greatly improve from this project. Joanne pointed out that people are still upset about Mill Street, and that MassDOT should consider gathering more public input on this section. Karin Valentine Goins reacted saying that this project seems to already be done without any community input. Sujatha stepped in to explain that MassDOT will continue to get community input and that there may be a little confusion as Millbury Street was at one point thought to be MassDOT owned, but it turns out it is Worcester-owned.

Feanna Jattan-Singh asked if there be any bicycle parking added. Kevin added that he does not think so, just bike lanes and pedestrian accommodations.

Robert Bilotta added that this is excellent and will really help connect the corridors.

2026 – 2030 TIP Readiness Day Updates

Kevin Krasnecky presented the FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Readiness Day updates, these included the following projects:

FFY 2025

- **608961 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler St. and May St.**
 - Still at 25% design. 75% design is due soon.

- Design not progressing quickly enough to address the ROW concerns before the end of FFY 2025
 - City must resolve the drainage design
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2026
- **610769 – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, Manchaug Rd. over Rumford River**
 - Still at 25% design, 75% design due in April
 - The current schedule shows a May 2026 Advertisement date.
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2026
- **612195 – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, I-290 over East Central St.**
 - Still at 25% design, 75% design due in April
 - The current schedule shows a January 2026 Advertisement date
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2026

FFY 2026

- **611933 – Sturbridge – Roundabout Construction at Route 20 and Route 131**
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due July 2025
 - ROW submission needed
 - Potential Chapter 91 permitting needed for Cedar Pond impacts
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2027
- **612084 – Barre – Bridge Replacement, Old Coldbrook Rd. over Prince River**
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due June 2025
 - The current schedule shows the March 2027 Advertisement date
 - Still need ROW plan and potential A97
 - Will likely need wetlands permits
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2027
- **612092 – Uxbridge – Bridge Replacement, Homeward Ave. over PW Railroad**
 - Still need ROW and updated schedule submission
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2027
- **609186 – Dudley - Bridge Replacement, Route 131 over Quinebaug River**
 - Delays with preliminary design, 25% design due April 2025
 - Still need ROW submission
 - Will likely need environmental permits
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2027
- **612893 – Sturbridge – Improvements at Burgess Elementary School (SRTS)**
 - Pre-25% design

- Determining impacts of boardwalk and environmental impacts
- Potential re-scoping or revisiting appropriateness for SRTS funding
- Designer to investigate other alternatives further
- Recommendation to push back to an unknown year at this time

FFY 2027

- **608990 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler St., from Main St. to Park Ave.**
 - Combined back into one project with 612011
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due March 2025
 - Still on track for FFY 2027
 - Likely to be AC'd due to high cost
- **611967 – Sturbridge/Charlton – Intersection Improvements on Route 49 at Putnam Rd., Walker Pond Rd. and Route 20**
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due March 2025
 - Updated project schedule needed
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2028
- **613367 – Westborough – Fisher St. Improvements (SRTS)**
 - Pre-25% design, 25% design due March 2025
 - Current design schedule shows FFY 2028 Advertisement date
 - Recommended pushing back to FFY 2028

FFY 2029

- **608490 – Upton – Resurfacing and Related work on Route 140 and Roundabout Construction at Route 140, Church St. and Grove St.**
 - Pre-25 design, 75% design due February 2025
 - The project could potentially be moved up to FFY 2028

Joanne asked what impact the 1–2-year pushback has on residents. Kevin responded and mentioned that construction will not begin until the pushback date so the residents will not be impacted till then.

FFY 2030 TIP Potential Candidate Project – Performance Management Scoring Review

Kevin Krasnecky presented the FFY 2030 TIP Potential Candidate Project – Performance Management and Scoring Review, which includes the following:

- #613875: Auburn/Worcester – Improvements on Route 20 (Washington Street), from 1000 FT east of Commerce Drive to the Auburn/Worcester TL, \$6,512,940
- #613873: Sturbridge – Improvements on Route 20 (Charlton Road), from 1,000 FT east of Hall Road to East of the I-84 Ramps, \$6,559,461
- #613261: Worcester – Lincoln Street Transit Infrastructure Improvements, \$3,335,000.
- #613311: Worcester – Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements on Millbury Street, \$3,322,634

The projects were scored on performance management

- 1st Category Safety (PM1): Objective: Reduce the number and rate of fatal and serious injury crashes in the region and move towards zero deaths.
 - Project will help reduce all types of crashes (1pt)
 - All 4 projects received a point
 - Project roadway has an identified HSIP crash cluster (1pt)
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street
- State of Good Repair (PM2): Objective: Maintain the highway infrastructure asset system in a state of good repair.
 - Project is improving roadway pavement (1pt), or project is improving roadway pavement in poor condition (2pts)
 - All 4 projects received a point
 - Project is rehabilitating or replacing a bridge (1pt), or Project is rehabilitating or replacing multiple bridges (2pts)
 - No projects received points
- Congestion (PM3): Objective: Achieve a significant reduction in congestion on the national highway system.
 - Project is improving an existing signalized intersection, installing a new signalized control or roundabout, or adding ITS (1pt)
 - Sturbridge – Route 20
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street
 - Project roadway is considered unreliable (1pt)
 - No projects received points
 - Project is potentially eligible for CMAQ funding (reducing emissions) (1pt)
 - All 4 projects received a point

- Project is along an established primary freight route (1 pt) or Project is on a primary freight route and reducing average freight delay (2pts).
 - Auburn/Worcester – Route 20 (1pt)
 - Sturbridge – Route 20 (1pt)
- Security: Objective: Enhance the transportation security coordination and preparedness regionwide.
 - Project roadway is a primary established evacuation route (1pt)
 - Auburn/Worcester – Route 20
 - Sturbridge – Route 20
 - Project roadway is listed in the town’s Hazard Mitigation/MVP Plan as a potential hazardous location (1pt)
 - Worcester – Millbury Street
- Multimodality Objective: Improve and/or expand transportation accessibility for all modes (bicycle, pedestrian, transit) in the region.
 - Project is improving existing or building new sidewalks (1pt)
 - All 4 projects received a point.
 - Project is improving existing or building new ADA ramps (1pt)
 - All 4 projects received a point
 - Project is increasing bike lane mileage or infrastructure (1pt)
 - All 4 projects received a point
 - Project is improving accessibility to fixed route transit (1pt)
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street
 - Worcester – Millbury Street
 - Project roadway is included in the community’s approved Complete Streets prioritization plan (1pt)
 - Sturbridge - Route 20
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street
 - Worcester – Millbury Street
- Sustainability: Objective: Avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental effects.
 - Project is within a Priority Development Area (PDA) (1pt)
 - Sturbridge – Route 20

- Worcester – Lincoln Street
 - Worcester – Millbury Street
 - Project includes extensive environmental mitigation work (1pt)
 - No projects received points
- Equity: Objective: Assure that improvements are fairly distributed among populations, towns, and subregions.
 - Project is within an identified Regional Environmental Justice Plus (REJ+) community (1pt)
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street
 - Worcester – Millbury Street
 - Project is within a community that is below the average per capita of distributed TIP target funds (1pt)
 - Auburn/Worcester – Route 20
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street
 - Worcester – Millbury Street.
- Economic: Objective: Improve the accessibility to jobs in the region.
 - Project improves mobility in an area that is losing job access between the 33rd and 55th percentile of other areas in the region (1pt) or improves mobility in an area that is losing job access greater than the 66th percentile (2pts)
 - Auburn/Worcester – Route 20 (2pts)
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street (2pts)
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street (2pts)
- Stormwater Management: Objective: Create a transportation network that is resilient to the impacts of stormwater.
 - Project is improving stormwater infrastructure (i.e. – drainage, culverts) (1pt) or project is improving stormwater infrastructure within an identified 100- or 500-year flood zone (2pts)
 - Auburn/Worcester – Route 20 (1pt)
 - Sturbridge – Route 20 (2pts)
- Travel and Tourism: Objective: Enhance the region’s travel and tourism opportunities.
 - Project is improving the mobility to/from tourist attractions/recreations areas (1pt)
 - Worcester – Millbury Street

- Scoring Results
 - Worcester – Lincoln Street – 15
 - Worcester – Millbury Street – 15
 - Sturbridge – Route 20 – 13
 - Auburn/Worcester – Route 20 – 12

Discussion:

Feanna Jattan Singh added that she agrees with the chart. Robert Bilotta mentioned that he would recommend Lincoln Street the most because there are a fair number of pedestrian accidents on the street itself, and it is a heavily foot-trafficked area. Joanne added: There’s a hospital, churches, and a school on Lincoln Street, so it is very congested. Karin Valentine Goins added their support for the Lincoln Street project.

Adam Menard added that Route 20 has a lot of development, so if those projects don’t receive funding this time around, he hopes the next one will.

Action Item:

Feanna Jattan Singh motioned for the current scoring rank of Lincoln Street #1, Millbury Street #2, Sturbridge Route 20, and Auburn/Worcester Route 20 combined as #3. Robert Bilotta seconded. The scoring review was approved unanimously.

FFY 2030 TIP Potential Candidate Project – Performance Management Scoring Review

Agenda Item #5 – TIP/UPWP Guidance Summary

Sujatha Krishnan presented a guidance summary based on input from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and MassDOT. Key points included:

- Alignment with State Initiatives: Ensuring CMRPC’s work connects with ongoing state-level projects.
- Integration with Community Master Plans: Incorporating local master plans into CMRPC’s work program.
- Statewide Plan Incorporation: Including elements from Beyond Mobility, the Freight Plan, and the Bike & Pedestrian Plan into regional planning efforts.

- Housing & Transportation Coordination: Examining housing and transportation together through Access to Regional Housing Study, with an RFP expected in the coming weeks.
- Federal Certification Recommendations:
 - De-obligating funds as required.
 - Ensuring discretionary grants and non-state projects are included in TIP documents.
- Financials for the 2030 TIP:
 - Projected a 2% increase in funding from federal and state sources.
 - The Livability budget increased from \$76,689 to \$89,080.
 - Complete Streets budget reduction from \$40,000 to \$27,609.

There were no questions following the presentation.

Agenda Item #6 – Staff Updates

Sujatha Krishnan provided an update on the PROTECT grant, noting that CMRPC identified two bridge structures in Northbridge for funding due to their nearly 100% design completion. However, federal and state partners have informed CMRPC that the grant is currently on hold, which has paused progress on the project.

Yahaira presented an update on MetroMobility, a software company specializing in bike-sharing solutions. They applied for a MassCEC grant to support transit connections with e-bikes and were awarded funding by MassCeC. The program will launch in Worcester, specifically near Union Station. An initial meeting was held with city officials to identify locations that best connect to transit.

The request for proposals (RFP) for the Vernon Street Project was released on January 31st. An initial meeting was held with interested parties, and the proposal submission deadline is this upcoming Friday. Following submission, the Steering Committee and CMRPC will conduct interviews to evaluate and rank consultants.

There were no questions regarding these updates.

Agenda Item #7 New Business

A public meeting will be held to discuss TIP Amendment #3.

Agenda Item #8 Next Meetings

Adam Menard announced the schedule for the next meeting:

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, March 26th, 2025: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM
- CMMPO Meeting – Wednesday, March 19th, 2025, at 4:00PM

Agenda Item #9 – Adjournment

At 4:20 PM Chair Menard called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Payant made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Valentine Goins. The group voted unanimously to adjourn.

Meeting minutes prepared: Nathan Lewis, Public Outreach Coordinator

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