

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



CMMPO Endorsed Amendment #5 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

April 16, 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:

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

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

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

Translation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ADA/ 504 Notice of Nondiscrimination

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

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

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

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

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Amendment #5 Highway Project Listing & Summary Materials

Proposed Amendment #5 to the 2025 - 2029 TIP Highway Listing

FFY 2025 Highway Project List Changes:

- Remove **Project 608961 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler Street and May Street** from FFY 2025. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.
- Cost increase of **Project 608778 – Southbridge – Intersection Improvements at Central Street, Foster Street, Hook Street and Hamilton Street**. The project cost is increasing \$914,202 and will be added to the STBG funding source. The new total project cost is now \$8,193,645.
 - Cost increases due to off-site hazardous material added due to inability for hazardous material to be utilized on-site, and unanticipated utility agreement costs.
- Remove **Project 610769 – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, S-33-002, Manchaug Road over Mumford River**. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.
- Remove **Project 612195 – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, W-44-091, I-290 over East Central Street**. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.

Central Mass Region Program

STIP: 2025 - 2029 (D)

Year	MassDOT Project ID	MPO	Municipality	MassDOT Project Description	District	Funding Source	Total Programmed Funds	Federal Funds	Non-Federal Funds	Other Information
Federal Fiscal Year 2025							\$104,525,008	\$84,643,758	\$19,881,250	
Section 1A / Regionally Prioritized Projects							\$20,142,326	\$16,213,861	\$3,928,465	
Roadway Reconstruction							\$11,404,931	\$9,123,945	\$2,280,986	
2025	602659	Central Mass	Multiple	CHARLTON- OXFORD- RECONSTRUCTION ON ROUTE 20, FROM RICHARDSON'S CORNER EASTERLY TO ROUTE 12, INCLUDES REHAB OF C-06-023 & REPLACEMENT OF O-06-002	3	CMAQ	\$2,776,050	\$2,220,840	\$555,210	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$78,222,752, CMAQ + NHPP + STBG Project is AC'd between 2022 and 2025, PM Score = 22 out of 27, Advertised on 4/23/22
2025	609049	Central Mass	West Brookfield	WEST BROOKFIELD- RESURFACING & RELATED WORK ON ROUTE 9, FROM 850' WEST OF WELCOME ROAD TO PIERCE ROAD (1 MILE - PHASE II)	2	STBG	\$8,628,881	\$6,903,105	\$1,725,776	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$8,628,881, Design Status = 100%, PM Score = 11 out of 27
Intersection Improvements							\$8,693,645	\$7,054,916	\$1,638,729	
2025	608778	Central Mass	Southbridge	SOUTHBRIDGE- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CENTRAL STREET, FOSTER STREET, HOOK STREET AND HAMILTON STREET	3	CMAQ	\$2,000,000	\$1,600,000	\$400,000	Construction, CMAQ + HSIP + STBG Total Project Cost = \$7,279,443, Design Status = Final Design, PM Score = 14 out of 27
2025	608778	Central Mass	Southbridge	SOUTHBRIDGE- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CENTRAL STREET, FOSTER STREET, HOOK STREET AND HAMILTON STREET	3	HSIP	\$1,000,000	\$900,000	\$100,000	Construction, CMAQ + HSIP + STBG Total Project Cost = \$7,279,443, Design Status = Final Design, PM Score = 14 out of 27
2025	608778	Central Mass	Southbridge	SOUTHBRIDGE- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT CENTRAL STREET, FOSTER STREET, HOOK STREET AND HAMILTON STREET	3	STBG	4279443 \$5,193,645	3423554 \$4,154,916	855889 \$1,038,729	Construction, CMAQ + HSIP + STBG Total Project Cost = \$7,279,443, Design Status = Final Design, PM Score = 14 out of 27
2025	608961	Central Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS ON CHANDLER STREET AND MAY STREET	3	CMAQ	\$2,000,000	\$1,600,000	\$400,000	Construction, CMAQ + HSIP + STBG Total Project Cost = \$6,000,526, Design Status = 25%, PM Score = 14 out of 27
2025	608961	Central Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS ON CHANDLER STREET AND MAY STREET	3	HSIP	\$1,000,000	\$900,000	\$100,000	Construction, CMAQ + HSIP + STBG Total Project Cost = \$6,000,526, Design Status = 25%, PM Score = 14 out of 27
2025	608961	Central Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS ON CHANDLER STREET AND MAY STREET	3	STBG	\$3,000,526	\$2,400,421	\$600,105	Construction, CMAQ + HSIP + STBG Total Project Cost = \$6,000,526, Design Status = 25%, PM Score = 14 out of 27
2025	S12938	Central Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT LAKE AVENUE AND BIGELOW DAVIS PARKWAY (FORMERLY HAMILTON STREET)(DESIGN ONLY, REF 613648)	3	STBG	\$500,000	\$400,000	\$100,000	This is for Design of Construction project programmed in 2029 (Project #613648). 20% of design match provided by City of Worcester.

*Only includes funds counting against obligation authority

Central Mass Region Program

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Year	MassDOT Project ID	MPO	Municipality	MassDOT Project Description	District	Funding Source	Total Programmed Funds	Federal Funds	Non-Federal Funds	Other Information
Federal Fiscal Year 2025							\$104,525,008	\$84,643,758	\$19,881,250	
Transit Grant Program							\$43,750	\$35,000	\$8,750	
2025	S12936	Central Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER- PURCHASE OF NEW BICYCLE RACKS	3	CMAQ	\$43,750	\$35,000	\$8,750	Total Project Cost = \$43,750, Project is part of Micro-Projects Program, Local Match will be provided by City of Worcester.
CMAQ Programmed							\$4,819,800	\$3,855,840	\$963,960	
HSIP Programmed							\$1,000,000	\$900,000	\$100,000	
STBG Programmed							\$14,322,526	\$11,458,021	\$2,864,505	
Total Programmed for Central Mass Region Projects*							\$20,142,326	\$16,213,861	\$3,928,465	
Program Target for Central Mass Region Projects							\$25,974,513	\$20,779,610	\$5,194,903	
Target Funds Available for Central Mass Region Projects							\$5,832,187	\$4,565,749	\$1,266,438	
Section 1B / Earmark or Discretionary Grant Funded Projects							\$38,325,730	\$30,660,584	\$7,665,146	
Bridge Off-system Local NB							\$13,800,023	\$13,800,023	\$0	
2025	610769	Central Mass	Sutton	SUTTON- SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT, S-33-002, MANCHAUG ROAD OVER MUMFORD RIVER	3	BROFF	\$13,800,023	\$13,800,023	\$0	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$13,800,023, Design Status = 25%
Highway Resiliency Improvement Program							\$4,627,660	\$3,702,128	\$925,532	
2025	612608	Central Mass	Multiple	WORCESTER - SHREWSBURY- FLOOD RELIEF ON ROUTE 20, GRAFTON STREET (ROUTE 122) INTERCHANGE TO FLINT POND	3	Other FA	\$4,627,660	\$3,702,128	\$925,532	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$5,609,753, Design Status = Approved, PROTECT Discretionary Grant FY 22/23 Award Recipient (\$3,702,128 Other FA + state match)
Bridge Systematic Maintenance NB							\$30,598,070	\$24,478,456	\$6,119,614	
2025	612874	Central Mass	Multiple	SHREWSBURY- WORCESTER- BRIDGE PRESERVATION, S-14-021=W-44-115 (1RA & 1RB), I-290 (EB AND WB) OVER COMBINATION OF LAKE QUINSIGMOND AND LAKE AVENUE NORTH	3	HIP-BR	\$23,098,070	\$18,478,456	\$4,619,614	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$23,098,070, Design Status = Approved
2025	613208	Central Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER - BRIDGE PRESERVATION OF 11 STRUCTURES ON I-190 AND RAMPS	3	HIP-BR	\$7,500,000	\$6,000,000	\$1,500,000	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$7,500,000, Design Status = Approved
Earmark Discretionary							\$3,100,000	\$2,480,000	\$620,000	
2025	S13102	Central Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER - MILL STREET PLANNING & DESIGN EARMARK	3	HPP	\$2,500,000	\$2,000,000	\$500,000	\$2.5 million total cost. \$500,000 in match will be provided by City of Worcester. MA296
2025	S13118	Central Mass		WORCESTER - SS4A ACTION PLAN AND WORCESTER MAIN STREET SOUTH DEMONSTRATION PROJECT		SS4A	\$600,000	\$480,000	\$120,000	FFY 23 SS4A/Plan/Supp/Demonstration grant, \$480k federal award (\$120k match)

*Only includes funds counting against obligation authority



Central Mass Region Program

STIP: 2025 - 2029 (D)

Year	MassDOT Project ID	MPO	Municipality	MassDOT Project Description	District	Funding Source	Total Programmed Funds	Federal Funds	Non-Federal Funds	Other Information
Federal Fiscal Year 2025							\$104,525,008	\$84,643,758	\$19,881,250	
Section 2A / Federal Aid Funded State Prioritized Reliability Projects							\$35,056,952	\$28,969,313	\$6,087,639	
Bridge Off-system							\$20,199,674	\$16,159,739	\$4,039,935	
2025	609185	Central Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER- BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OF W-44-083, HARRISON STREET OVER I-290 & W-44-093, LAUREL STREET OVER I-290	3	STBG-BR-Off	\$20,199,674	\$16,159,739	\$4,039,935	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$20,199,674 Design Status = 75%
Safety Improvements							\$9,237,510	\$8,313,759	\$923,751	
2025	610717	Central Mass	Multiple	UXBRIDGE TO WORCESTER- GUIDE AND TRAFFIC SIGN REPLACEMENT ON A SECTION OF ROUTE 146	3	HSIP	\$7,081,899	\$6,373,709	\$708,190	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$7,081,899, Design Status = 25%
2025	613606	Multiple	Multiple	DISTRICT 1- DISTRICT 2- DISTRICT 3- VRU SYSTEMIC SAFETY PROJECT NEAR BUS STOPS	2	VUS	\$2,155,611	\$1,940,050	\$215,561	Referenced from Placeholder S12890 on Statewide Program.
Bridge-On-system-NHS							\$26,652,181	\$21,321,745	\$5,330,436	
2025	612195	Central-Mass	Worcester	WORCESTER- SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT, W-44-091, I-290 OVER EAST CENTRAL STREET	3	NHPP-PEN	\$26,652,181	\$21,321,745	\$5,330,436	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$26,652,181, Design Status = Approved
Highway Resiliency Improvement Program							\$982,093	\$785,674	\$196,418	
2025	612608	Central Mass	Multiple	WORCESTER - SHREWSBURY- FLOOD RELIEF ON ROUTE 20, GRAFTON STREET (ROUTE 122) INTERCHANGE TO FLINT POND	3	PRCT	\$982,093	\$785,674	\$196,418	Construction, Total Project Cost = \$5,609,753, Design Status = Approved, PROTECT Discretionary Grant FY 22/23 Award Recipient (\$3,702,128 Other FA + state match)
Non-Interstate Pavement							\$4,637,675	\$3,710,140	\$927,535	
2025	610721	Central Mass	Multiple	HARDWICK- NEW BRAINTREE- WARE- WEST BROOKFIELD- RESURFACING OF ROUTE 32	2	NHPP	\$4,637,675	\$3,710,140	\$927,535	
Section 2B / Federal Aid Funded State Prioritized Modernization Projects							\$11,000,000	\$8,800,000	\$2,200,000	
Roadway Reconstruction							\$11,000,000	\$8,800,000	\$2,200,000	
2025	608491	Central Mass	Mendon	MENDON- RESURFACING AND RELATED WORK ON ROUTE 16	3	NHPP	\$11,000,000	\$8,800,000	\$2,200,000	Construction, Project is AC'd between 2025 & 2026, Total Project Cost = \$24,724,764, Design Status = 100%

*Only includes funds counting against obligation authority

Amendment #5 Proactive Public Outreach Summary

Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization
Proposed Amendment #5 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 #5 to the CMMPO Endorsed 2025-2029 TIP highway 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 #5 includes a cost increase for Southbridge Project #608778 and the removal of three projects from FFY 2025. The three projects being removed are Worcester Projects #608961 and #612195 and Sutton Project #610769.

All interested parties are welcome to attend a virtual public meeting to discuss Proposed Amendment #5 on **Tuesday, April 8, 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 comments on the Proposed Amendment #5 is 4:30 PM on **Wednesday, April 9, 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 #5

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 #5 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 highway project listing. These changes are:

- Remove **Project 608961 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler Street and May Street** from FFY 2025. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.
- Cost increase of **Project 608778 – Southbridge – Intersection Improvements at Central Street, Foster Street, Hook Street and Hamilton Street**. The project cost is increasing \$914,202 and will be added to the STBG funding source. The new total project cost is now \$8,193,645.
- Remove **Project 610769 – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, S-33-002, Manchaug Road over Mumford River**. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.
- Remove **Project 612195 – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, W-44-091, I-290 over East Central Street**. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.

The meeting agenda and summary materials pertaining to the above listed documents are available on the CMRPC website calendar at <https://cmrpc.org/event/proposed-2025-2029-tip-amendment-5-virtual-public-meeting/>.

There will be opportunities for the public to comment on the Proposed Amendment #5 to the 2025-2029 TIP during the virtual ZOOM meeting **Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 5:00 PM**. The Zoom meeting connection details are included on the meeting agenda.

All written comments can be sent to Kevin Krasnecky at kkrasnecky@cmrpc.org and all comments received before Wednesday, April 9, 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:

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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 #5 to the 2025-2029 TIP Highway Project Listing

Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM

Place: This meeting will be held virtually through ZOOM. Connection details are included on this agenda and meeting materials are available on the CMRPC website calendar at <https://cmrpc.org/event/proposed-2025-2029-tip-amendment-5-virtual-public-meeting/>.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order & Around the Room Introductions
2. Proposed 2025-2029 TIP Amendment #5
 - TIP Amendment #5 Overview
 - Acceptance of Public Comment & Input
3. Adjournment

Please Note: All comments on the Proposed Amendment #5 to the 2025-2029 TIP should be forwarded to Kevin Krasnecky at kkrasnecky@cmrpc.org prior to the CMMPO-established 4:30 PM deadline on **Wednesday, April 9, 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.

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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.

Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84953254330?pwd=bbbDCBkd5rt1CUQ9uBo7VPvDNMlvi3.1>

Meeting ID: 849 5325 4330

Passcode: 687449

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 #5 virtual public meeting held Tuesday, April 8, 2025, through ZOOM.

- **Guests:**

1. Peter Boria, Spencer
2. Arno Bounphasoysonh, Southbridge
3. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3

- **CMRPC Staff Present:**

1. Kevin Krasnecky
2. Rich Rydant
3. Jeff Howland

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Call to Order & Around the Room Introductions

Kevin Krasnecky, CMRPC, called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM and made introductions.

Proposed Amendment #5 to the 2025-2029 TIP Highway Project Listings

Kevin Krasnecky reviewed this agenda item with the attendees. Mr. Krasnecky said that Amendment #5 includes the following changes to the Highway Project listing:

- Remove **Project 608961 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler Street and May Street** from FFY 2025. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.
- Cost increase of **Project 608778 – Southbridge – Intersection Improvements at Central Street, Foster Street, Hook Street and Hamilton Street**. The project cost is increasing \$914,202 and will be added to the STBG funding source. The new total project cost is now \$8,193,645.
 - Cost increases due to off-site hazardous material added due to inability for hazardous material to be utilized on-site, and unanticipated utility agreement costs.
- Remove **Project 610769 – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, S-33-002, Manchaug Road over Mumford River**. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.
- Remove **Project 612195 – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, W-44-091, I-290 over East Central Street**. This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.

There were no questions or comments related to the Proposed 2025-2029 TIP Amendment #5.

Before Mr. Krasnecky closed the public meeting, he mentioned the deadline for public comments on the Proposed Amendment #5 is 4:30 PM on Wednesday, April 9th. With no additional comments or questions, the 2025-2029 Proposed Amendment #5 virtual public meeting closed at 5:08 PM.

CMMPO & CMMPO Advisory Committee Proceedings

- CMMPO March 19, 2025 – Initiate Amendment
- CMMPO April 16, 2025 – Endorse Amendment
- Advisory Committee March 26, 2025 – Recommend Approval of Amendment

CMMPO March 19, 2025 – Initiate 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=SOx1AzhZtQjBNrP8mUTlSKNnAaoaCP.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
Ann Sullivan
Josh Rickman
Bob Hassinger

Betsy Goodrich
Michelle Conlin
Jesse Limanek
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) | ○ Sustainability |
| ○ State of Good Repair (PM2) | ○ Equity |
| ○ Congestion (PM3) | ○ Economics |
| ○ Security | ○ Stormwater Management |
| ○ Multimodality | ○ 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

CMMPO April 16, 2025 – Endorse Amendment



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization

Date: Wednesday, **April 16**, 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-14/>

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88611903506?pwd=SOx1AzhZtQjBNrP8mUTlSKNnAaoaCP.1>

Webinar ID: 886 1190 3506

Password: 731722

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

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Approval of March 19, 2025, Meeting Minutes
- Opportunity for Public Comment
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #5 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing
 - **Potential Action:** Release the Proposed Amendment #6 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period
 - **Potential Action:** Release Draft FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period
- WRTA Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan Update
 - Concurrence with Updated TAM Targets
- FFY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
 - **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2025 UPWP for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period
- Regional Housing Transportation Plan Update
- Staff Updates
 - Vernon Street/I-290 Transportation Study
 - SS4A
- New Business
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 3:00 PM
 - CMMPO meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, May 21, 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, April 16th, 2025**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom Webinar.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Derek Shooster – 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. John Daniel – Southbridge, Southwest Subregion Representative
8. Jared Grigg – Spencer, West Subregion Representative

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

No Ex-Officio Members were present.

- **Guests:**

1. Bill Filsinger – Boylston, Northeast Subregion Alternate
2. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3
3. Daryl Amaral, MassDOT District #2
4. Jonathon Church, MassDOT
5. Heather Butler
6. Peg Dean, Southbridge
7. Pete Boria, Spencer
8. Steven Tyler, HSH

- **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
6. Yahaira Graxirena, Project Manager – Transportation
7. Jordan Hollinger, Planning and Transportation Researcher – Transportation
8. Nate Lewis, Assistant Planner – Transportation

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Agenda Item #1 – Introductions

CMMPO Chair Derek Shooster opened the meeting at 4:02 PM. A roll call of CMMPO members was announced.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of March 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Jared Grigg made a motion and was seconded by Bob Hassinger to approve the March 19, 2025 meeting minutes. All members present voted to approve the March 19, 2025 meeting minutes.

Derek Shooster – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Michelle Conlin – Yes

Josh Rickman – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Jared Grigg – Yes

Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment

CMMPO Chair Derek Shooster commented that the reason this month's meeting had to defer to Microsoft Teams was due to Zoom having an outage shortly before the start of the CMMPO Meeting. A Teams meeting link was created and sent to the CMMPO members and other interested parties to inform them of the change. The updated meeting link was also posted on the CMRPC website calendar.

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #4 – Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #5 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing

CMRPC staff, Kevin Krasnecky, presented this item. The proposed amendment includes four changes to FFY 2025, including:

- **Project #608961** – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler Street and May Street
 - Remove from FFY 2025
 - Will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft FFY 2026-2030 TIP
- **Project #608778** – Southbridge – Intersection Improvements at Central Street, Foster Street, Hook Street and Hamilton Street
 - Cost increase - \$914,202 (added to STBG funding source)
 - New total project cost - \$8,193,645
 - Cost increase due to off-site hazardous materials inability to be utilized on-site and unanticipated utility agreement costs
- **Project #610769** – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, S-33-002, Manchaug Road over Mumford River
 - Remove from FFY 2025
 - Will be programmed in FFY 2026 of Draft FFY 2026-2030 TIP

- **Project #612195** – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, W-44-091, I-290 over East Central Street
 - Remove from FFY 2025
 - Will be programmed in FFY 2026 of Draft FFY 2026-2030 TIP

There were no questions or comments regarding these changes.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Jared Grigg to approve the Proposed Amendment #5 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing. All members present voted unanimously to approve the Proposed Amendment #5.

Derek Shooster – Yes
 Ann Sullivan – Yes
 Josh Rickman – Yes
 Bob Hassinger – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes
 Michelle Conlin – Yes
 John Daniel – Yes
 Jared Grigg – Yes

- **Potential Action:** Release the Proposed Amendment #6 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

CMRPC staff, Kevin Krasnecky, presented this item. The proposed amendment includes one change to FFY 2025, which includes:

- **Project #613208** – Worcester – Bridge Preservation of 11 Structures on I-190 and Ramps
 - Cost increase - \$8,268,663
 - New total project cost - \$15,768,663

Jared Grigg asked what the reason was for the cost increase. Both Derek Shooster and Ann Sullivan responded with details about the project. The cost increase was mainly due to the increase in steel prices.

There were no additional comments or questions.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Jared Grigg to release the Proposed Amendment #6 to the FFY 2025 to FFY 2029 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period. All members present voted unanimously to release the Proposed Amendment #6.

Derek Shooster – Yes
 Ann Sullivan – Yes
 Josh Rickman – Yes
 Bob Hassinger – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes
 Michelle Conlin – Yes
 John Daniel – Yes
 Jared Grigg – Yes

- **Potential Action:** Release Draft FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

CMRPC staff, Kevin Krasnecky, presented this item. Mr. Krasnecky presented both the Draft FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP Highway and Transit Project Listings. Further, Mr. Krasnecky noted that staff also compiled a TIP summary document and Technical Appendix which includes additional information required by MassDOT and FHWA. All draft TIP documents are posted on the CMRPC website.

There were no comments or questions regarding the project listings.

Jared Grigg made a motion and was seconded by Bob Hassinger to release the Draft FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 TIP for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period. All members present voted unanimously to release the Draft FFY 2026 to FFY 2030 for public review and comment period.

Derek Shooster – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Michelle Conlin – Yes

Josh Rickman – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Jared Grigg – Yes

Agenda Item #5 – WRTA Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan Update

- Concurrence with Updated TAM Targets

CMRPC staff, Connie Mellis, presented this item. The WRTA TAM helps develop a process for operating, maintaining, and improving public capital assets throughout the assets' life cycle. With that, public transit agencies are required to establish performance measures and targets. The most recently updated TAM Plan that was adopted by the WRTA Advisory Board was in FY 2022.

The updated TAM performance target is for vans. At the end of 2024, MassDOT issued updated guidance to extend the Useful Life Benchmark (ULB) from 6/7 years to 8 years. This update applies to all MAP vans model years 2022 and newer, which is about 50% of the WRTA van fleet. Therefore, WRTA are looking for concurrence from CMMPO members to update the 2022 WRTA TAM Plan Performance Targets to reflect this guidance.

There were no questions regarding the updates.

All members concurred with the updated TAM targets.

Agenda Item #6 – FFY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2025 UPWP for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

CMRPC staff, Sujatha Krishnan, presented this item. Amendment #2 included a budget change to the FFY 2025 UPWP:

- **Element 2, Task 2.5 – Regional Housing and Transportation Plan**
 - Reduce budget by \$150,000 and move to FFY 2026 UPWP

- Updated FFY 2025 budget for Task 2.5 - \$100,000

There were no comments or questions regarding this change.

Jared Grigg made a motion and was seconded by Ann Sullivan to Release Proposed Amendment #2 to the FFY 2025 UPWP for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period. All members present voted unanimously to release Proposed Amendment #2 for public review and comment period.

Derek Shooster – Yes

Betsy Goodrich – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Michelle Conlin – Yes

Josh Rickman – Yes

John Daniel – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Jared Grigg – Yes

Agenda Item #7 – Regional Housing Transportation Plan Update

CMRPC staff, Jordan Hollinger, presented this item. Mr. Hollinger provided a presentation on the Regional Housing and Transportation Study.

The purpose of the study is to analyze the intersection between housing and transportation, as the two are often the most expensive items in a household's budget and are also interwoven. Similar to the rest of the state, Central Massachusetts has also seen rising housing and transportation costs, and it is critical to understand these gaps at a regional and granular scale.

Regarding budget, the maximum reward to fund this study is \$200,000 and is federally funding under the UPWP. The funds are available until September 30, 2026.

Below are the four main tasks and multiple sub-tasks within the Scope of Work:

1. Existing Conditions
 - Housing assessment
 - Transportation system analysis
 - Housing and transportation connection
 - Development constraints
2. Stakeholder Engagement
 - Stakeholder identification
 - Engagement methods and activities
 - Key engagement outcomes
3. Suitability Analysis
 - Suitability criteria development
 - Suitability Analysis
 - Interpretation and application of findings
4. Final Report and Housing and Transportation Toolkit
 - Regional housing and transportation strategies
 - Housing and Transportation Toolkit

- Final Report

More updates will be released on the proposals and proposal review process, as well as the project selection process in the near future.

There were no comments or questions.

Agenda Item #8 – Staff Updates

- Vernon Street/I-290 Transportation Study

CMRPC staff, Yahaira Graxirena, announced that this project/study proposal is still in negotiations with the consultant in order to move forward with the Scope of Work. The consultant chosen will be announced once the negotiations are finalized.

- Safe Streets for All (SS4A)

CMRPC staff, Sujatha Krishnan, announced that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the SS4A will be released within the next 2-3 weeks.

Agenda Item #9 – New Business

Yahaira Graxirena announced news of the new statewide E-bike voucher by the MassCEC, which works at the point-of-sale and is based on household income and number of individuals living in a household. The deadline is April 28 and there are 3,000 vouchers available. Ms. Graxirena also announced that May is bike month, with many events being scheduled.

Josh Rickman announced that on April 26th the new WRTA Fixed-Route schedules will be released. More information on this is available on the WRTA website.

Agenda Item # 10 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 3:00 PM
- CMMPO Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 4:00 PM

Agenda Item #11 – Adjournment

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

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zack Blais, Transportation Principal Planner

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



Meeting of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Committee

Date: Wednesday, **March 26**, 2025

Time: **3:00 PM**

Place: Zoom Webinar Virtual Meeting

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

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

AGENDA

- Around the Room Introductions
- Approval of **February 26, 2025** Meeting Minutes
- FFY 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Seeking recommendation concerning CMMPO endorsement of the Proposed Amendment #5 to the 2025-2029 TIP Highway Project Listing
- FFY 2026 – 2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Seeking recommendations concerning CMMPO endorsement of the Draft Options for the 2030 TIP Highway Target Projects
 - Review of the 2026 – 2030 Statewide Highway Project Listing
 - Review of the 2026 – 2030 Transit Project Listing
- FFY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
 - Budget and Major Task Listing
- CMRPC Vernon Street / I-290 Interchange Transportation Study
 - Presentation
- Staff Updates
 - Environmental Consultation
 - April 3, 2025, all virtual
 - Status of RFPs
 - Safe Streets for All
 - Regional Access to Housing
- New Business
 - Status of Remote Meetings
- Next Meetings:
 - CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 3:00 PM

- CMMPO Meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 4:00 PM

➤ Adjournment

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

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Zoom Meeting Details

Topic: CMMPO Advisory Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

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

Passcode: 444139

Join via audio:

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+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 **March 26th, 2025**. The hybrid meeting was held virtually through Zoom.

CMMPO Advisory Committee Members Present:

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

Ex-Officio Members Present:

- N/A

CMRPC Staff Present:

- Sujatha Krishnan
- Nathan Lewis
- Rich Rydant
- Kevin Krasnecky
- Yahaira Graxirena
- Jeff Howland
- Adam Wriggins

Guest:

- N/A

Agenda Item #1 – Around the Room Introductions

Chair Adam Menard opened the meeting at 3:04 PM. A roll-call of the CMMPO Advisory members was announced, followed by the rest of the attendees.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of February 26th, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Minutes for February 26th, 2025, CMMPO Advisory meeting were considered for approval. Chair Menard entertains a motion to approve the February 26th, 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.

Agenda Item #3 – FFY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Action Item: Seeking recommendation concerning CMMPO endorsement of the Proposed Amendment #5 to the 2025-2029 TIP Highway Project Listing

Mr. Krasnecky provided an overview of the Proposed Amendment #5 to the 2025 – 2029 TIP Transit listing that will be released for public review and comment:

- **Remove Project 608961 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler Street and May Street from FFY 2025.** This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.
- **Cost increase of Project 608778 – Southbridge – Intersection Improvements at Central Street, Foster Street, Hook Street and Hamilton Street.** The project cost is increasing \$914,202 and will be added to the STBG funding source. The new total project cost is now \$8,193,645.
 - Cost increases due to off-site hazardous material added due to inability to utilize hazardous material on-site, and unanticipated utility costs.
- **Remove Project 610769 – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, S-33-002, Manchaug Road over Mumford River.** This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.

- **Remove Project 612195 – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, W-44-091, I-290 over East Central Street.** This project will be programmed in FFY 2026 of the Draft 2026-2030 TIP.

There will be a public meeting to comment on April 8th.

There were no comments at the time.

Chair Menard motioned to recommend approval of these changes to the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO). Conor McCormack moved, and Karin Valentine-Goins seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- **Action Item:** Seeking recommendations concerning CMMPO endorsement of the Draft Options for the 2030 TIP Highway Target Projects

Mr. Krasnecky provided an overview of the TIP development process and the four programming options under consideration. He walked through the worksheet shared on screen, which is used to present TIP project options to the CMMPO members. The worksheet includes various data points for each project, such as the project ID, the municipality in which the project is located, the roadway name or number, and a brief description of the proposed improvements, project scoring (if applicable), and any estimated greenhouse gas savings. It also outlines the current TIP year in which the project is programmed (within the FFY 2026–2030 timeframe), the total federal participating construction cost, and the potential funding source for each project. Additionally, the worksheet features the four different programming options that the staff developed for the CMMPO consideration.

Mr. Krasnecky explained that several projects saw significant cost increases during TIP development, which required shifting projects, especially in the later years—to stay within fiscal constraints. As a result, some projects were pushed back to later years, and none of the new projects proposed over the past few months could be programmed in the cycle.

In 2026, all four programming options included the same set of projects. These projects are the Worcester Pleasant Street Bike and Pedestrian Improvements, the Upton Route 140 Culvert Replacement, and the reprogramming of the Worcester Chandler Street and May Street project, which had been removed in Amendment #5. Also included were two “micro” projects—one in Millbury focused on transit access improvements and another in Westborough for bicycle parking. Each option included a placeholder for TIP design funding, should a community require it in that year. Approximately \$7 million remained

unspent in 2026, leaving some flexibility while still remaining under fiscal constraint. Mr. Krasnecky noted that project costs are likely to increase as the year progresses.

In 2027, all four options stayed within fiscal constraints, with very limited unallocated funding.

- Option A included partial funding for the Worcester Chandler Street project, along with projects in Uxbridge, Northbridge, and Upton, in addition to micro project funding and TIP design placeholders.
- Option B programmed the full cost of the Chandler Street project and the Sturbridge Route 20/131 roundabout but could not accommodate TIP design funding.
- Option C covered a larger share of the Chandler Street project, as well as the Northbridge and Sturbridge projects, while still including placeholders for micro projects and TIP design.
- Option D omitted Chandler Street entirely, but included the Uxbridge, Northbridge, and Sturbridge projects, and reserved funding for micro projects and design.

For 2028, TIP funds were nearly fully committed across all four options. The Oxford Route 12 project, which had increased in cost to over \$20 million, was split over multiple years through advanced construction.

- Option A included a portion of funding for Oxford, the Rutland Route 122/Pleasantdale project, the remaining Chandler Street funds, and the Sturbridge roundabout.
- Option B included partial Oxford funding, micro projects, TIP design placeholders, and the Uxbridge and Northbridge projects.
- Option C offered similar funding allocations but also included the remainder of the Chandler Street project.
- Option D programmed the Spencer Route 9/49 intersection project in addition to partial funding for Oxford and Rutland, and the first year of advanced construction funding for Chandler Street.

In 2029, the options were mostly aligned. All four included funding for micro projects and TIP design.

- Options A, B, and C programmed the Spencer project this year.
- Option D had been funded in 2028.
- Each option included the remaining funds for the Oxford Route 12 project.
- Option B also reintroduced the Rutland project, which had not been funded in 2028.
- Option D, the final phase of funding for the Chandler Street project was also included.

Mr. Krasnecky noted that across all four options, there were only minimal funds left unspent.

In 2030, all four options were identical. They each included placeholders for micro projects and TIP design funding, as well as the three projects originally programmed in 2029 but pushed back due to fiscal constraint: West Brookfield Route 9 Phase 3, Westborough Route 30, and Worcester's Lake Avenue/Bigelow-Davis Parkway intersection improvements.

Mr. Krasnecky stated that staff recommend Option D as the preferred programming scenario. MPO members expressed support for this recommendation, and Option D would be used to develop the draft TIP. He concluded the presentation by displaying a one-page summary of the recommended scenario.

Discussion:

Mr. Bilotta asked whether the improvements at Lake Ave and Bigelow Davis are going to be funded by the state or if the city will be using their own funding for it.

Mr. Krasnecky responded, saying that the city will be putting some money towards it for design. The state and federal funds will cover the construction of the project.

Ms. Valentine-Goins asked if it is considered good practice to have a lot of money left over. She also asked if the Chandler St. project cost doubled.

Mr. Krasnecky mentioned that staff saw the issue with the \$7 million gap coming because one of the projects, the Sturbridge project, was originally scheduled for 2026, which would have eaten up that money. It wasn't going to be ready for 2026 and had to be pushed back and that's why there's that gap there now.

Ms. Valentine-Goins asked if the funds could be flexed for micro projects.

Mr. Krasnecky mentioned that there were only two microprojects. Chandler Street was in two phases, one and two.

Chair Menard motioned to recommend approval of these changes to the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO). Chris Payant moved, and Feanna Jattan Singh seconded. The motion passed unanimously with Rob Bilotta abstaining.

Review of the 2026 – 2030 Statewide Highway Project Listing

Mr. Krasnecky reviewed the statewide highway projects programmed by MassDOT. He shared the current draft listing of statewide projects programmed from Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2026 through 2030.

- FFY 2026, projects include the Sutton superstructure replacement on Manchaug Road over the Mumford River and the Shrewsbury/Worcester Bridge Preservation on I-290 over Lake Quinsigamond and Lake Avenue North. 2026 projects include the Southbridge Bridge Replacement on Mill Street over McKinstry Brook and the Quinebaug River, a superstructure replacement on I-290 over East Central Street in Worcester, resurfacing and related work on Route 16 in Mendon, the rehabilitation and box widening on Route 20 from Route 9 to South Street in Shrewsbury and Northborough, and the Holden Bridge Replacement on Salisbury Street over the GNW rail line.
- FFY 2027, the list includes the Barre Bridge Replacement on Coldbrook Road over the Prince River, and the West Brookfield Bridge Replacement on Long Hill Road over the Quinebaug River. Continued funding is allocated for the Shrewsbury/Worcester I-290 bridge project. Additional projects include the Dudley Bridge Replacement on Route 131 over the Quinebaug River, the Charlton Bridge Replacement on Route 20 over Cady Brook, and more funding for the Worcester I-290 superstructure replacement over East Central Street. Resurfacing and related work in Dudley and Southbridge on Route 131, and guide and traffic sign replacement on I-395 in Webster, Oxford, and Auburn. The Oxford Bridge Replacement on Route 56 over the French River is also included, as is the Auburn Bridge Replacement on Oxford Street over Kettle Brook. Also, the Shrewsbury Street Bridge Replacement over the MBTA/CSX Railroad and the Auburn Bridge Replacement on US Route 20 westbound over I-395.
- FFY 2028, the final portion of funding is allocated for the Shrewsbury/Worcester Bridge Preservation project. Other projects include the East Brookfield Bridge Replacement on Cove Street over the Seven Mile River and intersection improvements in Charlton on Route 49 at Putnam Road, Walker Road, and Route 20. Upton will receive resurfacing and related work on Route 140, along with the construction of a roundabout. Additional funding is also provided for the ongoing Shrewsbury/Northborough Route 20 rehabilitation project. Lastly, FFY 2028 includes the Westborough Fisher Street improvements, a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project.
- FFY 2029, the draft list includes the New Braintree Bridge Rehabilitation on Barre Road over Meadow Brook, continued funding for the Route 20 rehabilitation project in Shrewsbury and Northborough, and improvements at Burgess Elementary School in Sturbridge, another SRTS initiative.
- FFY 2030, the last round of funding is provided for the Shrewsbury/Northborough Route 20 project. Additionally, the year includes intersection and signal improvements at US Route 20 and Grafton Street in Shrewsbury.

There were no questions.

Review of the 2026 – 2030 Transit Project Listing

Mr. Krasnecky provided an overview of the Worcester Regional Transit Authority's (WRTA) transit project listings included in the Draft FFY 2026–2030 TIP.

Beginning in 2026, the first project listed is operating assistance for fixed-route and paratransit services, which is funded across all five years of the TIP for a total of just over \$52 million. The WRTA is also replacing several buses: six 40-foot buses are scheduled for replacement in 2026 and three more in 2027, for a total cost of \$8 million. Replacement of support vehicles is also planned, with three vehicles replaced in 2026, one in 2027, three in 2028, and one in 2029, totaling \$470,000.

Mr. Krasnecky noted several ongoing investments in support equipment for fixed-route and demand-response services, funded for approximately \$5.9 million throughout all five years of the TIP. Additionally, WRTA will continue to purchase spare parts for its revenue fleet, also funded annually through 2030 for a total of \$4.36 million.

Bus shelter installation is funded in 2026 and 2027 with a total budget of \$251,195. Renovations and maintenance to the WRTA Hub facility will also be funded annually over the five-year period, totaling \$136,000. Rehabilitation of Union Station is funded throughout the five years with a total allocation of \$30.2 million. WRTA Maintenance and Operations Facility will undergo renovations and maintenance with \$567,456 in funding across the TIP years.

Other major ongoing investments include preventative maintenance (\$2.465 million over five years), transportation planning services (\$1.577 million over five years), and engineering and design for WRTA facilities, which is funded through 2029 for a total of \$700,000.

Additional projects scheduled for 2026 include the purchase of four new fixed-route shuttle buses at a cost of \$900,000 and the purchase of new bus stop signs in 2026 and 2027, totaling \$1.18 million. Construction of a new administrative and operations facility is also slated for 2026, with \$2.7 million allocated for the project.

Discussion:

Ms. Jattan Singh asked if the \$52 million for the Worcester Regional Transit Authority operating assistance for fixed route and paratransit was for new drivers.

Mr. Krasnecky mentioned that it is operating assistance to provide fixed route and paratransit services throughout the WRTA area.

Agenda Item #5 – FFY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Sujatha Krishnan gave an overview of the development of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026, which begins on October 1, 2025. CMRPC is currently comparing FY2025 and projected FY2026 budgets. Based on guidance from federal and MassDOT partners, CMRPC anticipates a modest 2% increase in highway funding, while transit funding through WRTA will decrease slightly due to federal funding challenges.

CMRPC will continue working on three consultant-supported projects: the Regional Housing and Transportation Plan, the Vernon Street/I-290 Interchange Study, and the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Action Plan and Demonstration Project. A major focus of the upcoming year will be the kickoff of the next Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), beginning in summer 2025. Additional funds will be allocated to support that process.

A new bicycle count program to track usage on trails and bike lanes more systematically, and the continuation of work under the Aging and Dementia-Friendly Action Plan, including the “Happy Factor” study. Mobility management opportunities with local communities will also be explored.

CMRPC staff will continue to provide support for local master plans, particularly transportation chapters, and complete the corridor profile study for West Boylston Street while initiating a new study for Route 122A in Rutland. Ongoing efforts related to congestion, safety, performance management, and travel demand modeling will continue as usual.

CMRPC also plans to begin work on a pedestrian plan as a follow-up to the regional bicycle plan. Trail-related work will continue in partnership with communities, including projects in Grafton, Blackstone Valley, and with the Charles River Headwaters Greenway. The agency is responding to community interest in updating Tier 2 Complete Streets Prioritization Plans and is looking into funding options for those updates.

In addition to LRTP outreach and data collection efforts, there will be a continued focus on climate resiliency and the integration of culvert and EV planning into CMRPC’s work.

On the transit planning side, CMRPC will continue to collaborate closely with WRTA, MassDOT, and local communities. Although the Lincoln Street Transit Enhancements project (proposed for 2030) is currently unfunded, staff will continue exploring funding options. Other ongoing or upcoming local efforts include micro-transit studies in Millbury and Leicester, and a transit corridor assessment in Shrewsbury along Maple Avenue.

Ms. Krishnan concluded by emphasizing that staff will serve as project leaders on the three consultant-supported studies and encouraged committee members to review the major task list and provide suggestions for any missing or new project ideas. A draft UPWP will be released in May, with advisory committee review and public comment to follow later that month.

Discussion:

Ms. Clark asked if walk audits will still be a part of the plan.

Ms. Krishnan responded affirmatively that CMRPC will continue that work as part of the Livability element.

Ms. Valentine-Goins asked what the timeline is for the SS4A project.

Ms. Krishnan mentioned the RFP will be released by mid-April, including a kick-off of the consultant process.

Agenda Item #6 – CMRPC Vernon Street/I-290 Interchange Transportation Study

Yahaira Graxirena provided a brief update on the Vernon Street/I-290 Transportation Study. Following the proposal deadline, CMRPC received seven proposals. The steering committee reviewed all submissions and selected the top four firms for interviews. Each firm was evaluated based on both its written proposals and interview performance.

The committee reached a strong consensus on a preferred consultant team, which is now undergoing the contracting process. Although the selected firm cannot be publicly announced until the contract is finalized, Yahaira noted the committee's confidence in the firm's qualifications and is optimistic about the work ahead.

CMRPC anticipates finalizing the contract within the next two weeks and will begin work shortly thereafter.

Agenda Item #7 – Staff Updates

Ms. Krishnan provided several staff-related updates:

- **Environmental Consultation:** Scheduled for Thursday, April 3rd, this virtual meeting will include a presentation by Derek Krevat from MassDOT's Office of Transportation Planning. He will discuss the work done as part of the MassDOT Resiliency Plan. CMRPC staff will also present environmental considerations in the UPWP, TIP, and Long-Range Transportation Plan. Meeting details are available on the CMRPC calendar.

- **Regional Housing and Transportation Plan RFP:** The RFP for this study was released on March 19th. A pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for Friday at 9 a.m. The proposal deadline is expected around April 14th or 15th, followed by interviews and then the contracting process.
- **Safe Streets for All:** The RFP for this initiative is expected to be released by mid-April.

Agenda Item #8 New Business

Remote Meeting Extension: Ms. Krishnan noted that legislation extending remote meetings through June 2027 is currently awaiting the governor’s signature. If not signed in time, future meetings—such as the next CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting—will require an in-person quorum, though hybrid attendance would still be allowed.

Webinar Format: CMRPC staff continue using the Zoom webinar format for virtual meetings to prevent disruptions such as “Zoom bombings.” Staff are working with Ms. Myska to ensure smoother access and participation for committee members.

Community Announcement

- **Week Without Driving – September 2025:**
Ms. Valentine-Goins announced that WalkBike Worcester will again support the Week Without Driving initiative this fall. Interest and participation in the event are growing nationally. A recent America Walks webinar included nearly 85 attendees, and this year’s event is expected to be significantly larger than in previous years.

Agenda Item #8 Next Meetings

Chair Menard announced the schedule for the next meeting:

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM
- CMMPO Meeting – Wednesday, April 16th, 2025, at 4:00PM

Agenda Item #9 – Adjournment

At 4:00 PM Chair Menard called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Valentine-Goins made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Jattan-Singh. The group voted unanimously to adjourn.

Meeting minutes prepared: Nathan Lewis, Public Outreach Coordinator

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Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission

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