



## **CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CMMPO)**

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting, on **Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom Webinar.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Derek Shooster – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, designee to MassDOT Interim Secretary Phillip Eng
2. Ann Sullivan – MassDOT Highway Division District #3, designee to MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathon Gulliver
3. Josh Rickman – WRTA Administrator
4. Bob Hassinger – designee to CMRPC Commission Chair
5. Betsy Goodrich – designee to City Manager Eric Batista
6. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative
7. Jared Grigg – Spencer, West Subregion Representative
8. Leah Whiteman – Rutland, North Subregion Alternate

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

1. Miranda Briseno – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

- **Guests:**

1. Daryl Amaral – MassDOT D2
2. Sarah Bradbury – MassDOT D3

- **CMRPC Staff**

1. Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Manager, Transportation Improvement Program – Transportation
3. Zack Blais, Principal Planner, Environmental Planning – Transportation
4. Rich Rydant, Director, MPO Activities – Transportation

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**Agenda Item #1 – Introductions**

CMMPO Chair Derek Shooster opened the meeting at 4:00 PM. A roll call of CMMPO members was announced.

**Agenda Item #2 – Approval of February 18, 2026, Meeting Minutes**

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Leah Whiteman to approve February 18, 2026, meeting minutes. The members present voted to approve of the February 18, 2026, meeting minutes.

Derek Shooster – Yes	Betsy Goodrich – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes	Jesse Limanek – Yes
Josh Rickman – Yes	Jared Grigg – Abstain
Bob Hassinger – Yes	Leah Whiteman – Yes

**Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment**

There were no comments from the public at this meeting.

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

- **Potential Action:** Approval of the Proposed Amendment #4 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Amendment #4 includes changes to two projects to the FFY 2026-2031 TIP Highway Project Listing, including:

- #612190 – Holden – Bridge Replacement, H-18-004, Salisbury Street over G&W Railroad
  - FFY 2026 – total project cost increased from \$6,897,436 to \$8,825,098
- S13417 – Worcester – Mill Street Planning and Design (Federal Earmark for Design – MA296)
  - Project added to FFY 2026 under Section 1B (Earmark or Discretionary Grant Funded Project) in the amount of \$2,500,000
    - Earmark was originally programmed in FFY 2025, but was inexpedient to obligate, so it needs to be re-programmed into the active TIP.

Mr. Krasnecky noted that during the comment period MassDOT asked to table the approval of the Holden project until the April meeting as there is some ongoing work getting addressed with the bridge that may affect the cost, and they expect to have a more confident estimate for the April meeting.

There were no comments or questions.

Ann Sullivan made a motion and was seconded by Betsy Goodrich to approve the Worcester project included in Amendment #4 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing. All members voted unanimously.

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

Jesse Limanek – Yes  
Jared Grigg – Yes  
Leah Whiteman – Yes

- **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #5 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Amendment #5 includes two changes to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing, including:

- #610825 – Shrewsbury/Northborough – Rehabilitation and Box Widening on Route 20, from Route 9 to South Street
  - FFY 2026 - \$8,500,000 added to target funding and \$359,840 added in Earmark funding under Section 1B (Earmark or Discretionary Grant Funded Projects)
  - FFY 2029 – funding will be reduced from \$9,729,166 to \$6,158,947
  - FFY 2030 - \$2,929,694 in funding will be removed
  - Updated Total Project Cost is \$49,235,394
- #610769 – Sutton – Superstructure Replacement, S-33-002, Manchaug Road over Mumford River
  - Removed from FFY 2026 and will be reprogrammed in FFY 2028 on the new FFY 2027-2031 TIP.

Jared Grigg asked what year the Sutton project was being moved to. Mr. Krasnecky said FFY 2028. Jesse Limanek asked what the design status is for the Sutton project. Ann Sullivan replied that it is at 25% design, but other details are making the project difficult to determine how quickly it will move along.

- FFY 2027-2031 TIP Workshop – Review and Consensus of Preferred Option for FFY 2027-2031 TIP Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. The two funding options (Option A-B) for the FFY 2027-2031 TIP were reviewed for CMMPO members to reach a consensus of the option they preferred for staff to develop the draft TIP Highway Project Listing for the region. The funding options presented were based on the updates from TIP Readiness Day, which provided status updates for all target projects.

Jared Grigg asked why the Worcester project was prioritized over the Westborough project in 2030 as both scored the same. Mr. Krasnecky replied that design funding was allocated to the Worcester project in FFY 2025 and the Westborough project is much larger and likely to increase in cost. Jared Grigg also asked are the design funds allocated within each year. Mr. Krasnecky replied that they are under Option A but not all years under Option B.

Following discussion, CMMPO members chose Option A for staff to develop the draft TIP. Option A includes the following projects:

FFY 2027

- #610931 – Uxbridge: Route 16 Rehabilitation, \$18.018 Million
- #609441 – Northbridge: Route 122/Sutton St/School St/Upton St Intersection Improvements, \$3.908 Million
- #S13466 – Grafton Micro-Project: Bicycle Education & Outreach, \$7,162

FFY 2028

- #611933 – Sturbridge: Route 20 & Route 131 Roundabout, \$18.400 Million
- #611988 – Oxford: Route 12 Rehabilitation, \$11.000 Million
- CMMPO TIP Design Funding Placeholder, \$1 Million
- Micro-Projects Program Placeholder, \$400,000

FFY 2029

- #611988 – Oxford: Route 12 Rehabilitation, \$11.522 Million
- #608990 – Worcester: Chandler Street Resurfacing & Intersection Improvements, \$13.000 Million
- Micro-Projects Program Placeholder, \$400,000
- CMMPO TIP Design Funding Placeholder, \$1 Million

FFY 2030

- #612779 – West Brookfield: Route 9 Improvements (Phase III), \$8.000 Million
- #608990 – Worcester: Chandler Street Resurfacing & Intersection Improvements, \$13.047 Million
- #613648 – Worcester: Lake Avenue & Bigelow Davis Parkway Intersection Improvements, \$7.517 Million
- Micro-Projects Program Placeholder, \$400,000
- CMMPO TIP Design Funding Placeholder, \$1 Million

FFY 2031

- #613242 – Westborough: Route 30 Improvements, \$10.237 Million
- #612779 – West Brookfield: Route 9 Improvements (Phase III), \$12.219 Million
- #613311 – Worcester: Millbury Street Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements, \$3.854 Million
- Micro-Projects Program Placeholder, \$400,000
- CMMPO TIP Design Funding Placeholder, \$1 Million

Jared Grigg made a motion and was seconded by Jesse Limanek to approve the Consensus of Preferred Option A for the Draft FFY 2027-2031 TIP Highway Project Listing. All members voted unanimously.

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

Betsy Goodrich – Yes  
Jesse Limanek – Yes  
Jared Grigg – Yes  
Leah Whiteman – Yes

- Review of FFY 2027-2031 Statewide Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Mr. Krasnecky provided a brief review of all projects within the FFY 2027-2031 Statewide Highway Project Listing.

Jared Grigg asked if all projects reviewed were MassDOT led projects. Mr. Krasnecky replied that yes, they are.

There were no further comments or questions regarding Statewide Highway Project Listing.

- Review of FFY 2027-2031 Transit Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Mr. Krasnecky provided a brief review of all projects within the FFY 2027-2031 Transit Project Listing.

Jared Grigg asked what support vehicles are. Josh Rickman said that they are maintenance trucks, tow/push trucks, plow vehicles, and other support vehicles.

There were no further comments or questions regarding the Listing.

#### **Agenda Item #5 – FFY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

- Budget and Major Task Listing

Sujatha Krishnan reviewed the FFY 2027 UPWP budget and major task listing. The budget table for FFY 2027 displays each element and task for the UPWP, as well as the federal funding and state match each task receives. As the budget shows, the total federal funding of the FFY 2027 UPWP is \$1,348,951. The state match is \$337,238. Combined, the total budget of the FFY 2027 UPWP is \$1,686,189.

Next, Ms. Krishnan highlighted major products and tasks that will be completed within the FFY 2027 UPWP. Among these include the FFY 2028-2032 TIP Development, Bicycle Count Program, grant technical assistance, Regional Trails Plan, Freight Planning Progress Report, and the SS4A Action Plan, among many others.

There were no comments or questions regarding the budget or major task listing.

- FHWA Guidance

Sujatha Krishnan also reviewed FHWA Guidance regarding the FFY 2027 UPWP. Federal guidance touches on many parts of the document, including the cover page, work elements, budget section, amendment and adjustment procedures, and appendices. The guidance included an example of a UPWP Task write-up and other recommended structures to help streamline future UPWP submissions. The guidance is to help create a more efficient document.

There were no comments or questions regarding the FHWA Guidance.

#### **Agenda Item #6 – Staff Updates**

- Vernon Connected Workshop Updates

Sujatha Krishnan updated the group on upcoming Vernon Connected events. The Jeff Speck event is on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> and there will be a workshop on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

- SS4A Subregional Meetings Updates

Sujatha Krishnan updated the group that the subregional meetings for the SS4A project have concluded. Staff will now aim to meet with communities individually to talk about safety concerns and needs and discuss the data.

- Environmental Consultation

Zack Blais updated the group that the Annual Environmental Consultation would be occurring on April 2 and briefly reviewed the agenda.

**Agenda Item #7 – New Business**

There was no new business.

**Agenda Item # 8 – Next Meetings**

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – March 25, 2026 at 3:00 PM
- CMMPO Committee meeting (virtual) – April 15, 2026 at 4:00 PM

**Agenda Item #9 – Adjournment**

Bob Hassinger made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Jared Grigg. The meeting concluded at 5:15 PM.

*Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zack Blais, Transportation Principal Planner*