



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CMMPO)

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting, on **Wednesday, June 17th, 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
9. John Daniel – Southbridge, Southwest Subregion Representative

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

1. Miranda Briseno – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

- **Guests:**

1. Daryl Amaral – MassDOT D2
2. Sarah Bradbury – MassDOT D3
3. Jim Proia
4. Doug
5. Adrian Buteyn
6. Whitney Burdge – Stantec

7. Jason Schreiber - Stantec

- **CMRPC Staff**

1. Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Manager, Transportation Improvement Program – Transportation
3. Rich Rydant, Director, MPO Activities – Transportation
4. Yahaira Graxirena, Director, Access and Mobility – Transportation
5. Nate Lewis, Associate Planner, Public Outreach Coordinator – 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 May 20, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Jesse Limanek to approve May 20, 2026, meeting minutes. With one member abstaining, all other members present voted to approve of the April 15, 2026, meeting minutes.

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

Betsy Goodrich – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
John Daniel – Abstain
Jared Grigg – 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 #7 Changes to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Proposed Amendment #7 includes the following changes:

- **612195 – Worcester – Superstructure Replacement, W-44-091, I-290 over East Central Street** will be removed from FFY 2026. This project will be programmed in FFY 2027 of the new 2027-2031 TIP.
- **614241 – District 2 & District 3 – VRU Crosswalk Installation at State Signals at Multiple Locations** will be added to FFY 2026. The Total Project Cost is \$622,383.

Jared Grigg asked why the Worcester bridge project moved back to FFY 2027. Ann Sullivan said it was due to another nearby bridge project in Worcester in which the detour routes for these projects would impact on each other and the timing of the construction for East Central Street could be more spaced out.

Ann Sullivan made a motion and was seconded by Josh Rickman to approve Proposed Amendment #7 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing. All members voted to approve the Proposed Amendment #7.

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

Jared Grigg – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
John Daniel – Yes
Leah Whiteman - Yes

- **Potential Action:** Approval of the Proposed Adjustment #8 Changes to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Proposed Adjustment #8 includes the following changes:

- **Project #610825 – Shrewsbury/Northborough – Rehabilitation & Box Widening on Route 20, from Route 9 to South Street.**
 - In FFY 2026, add \$7,129,141 in PROTECT (PRCT) funding under Section 2A (Federal Aid Funded State Prioritized Reliability Projects).
 - In FFY 2028, reduce the NHPP funding from \$17,060,095 to \$15,027,401, which is a decrease of \$2,032,694.
 - In FFY 2029, removed entire amount (\$5,096,447) of NHPP funding.

There were no comments or questions.

Jared Grigg made a motion and was seconded by Betsy Goodrich to approve Proposed Adjustment #8 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing. All members voted to approve the Proposed Adjustment #8.

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

Betsy Goodrich – Yes
Jared Grigg – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
John Daniel – Yes
Leah Whiteman - Yes

- **Potential Action:** Release Proposed Amendment #9 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. Proposed Amendment #9 includes the following changes:

- Cost increase for target **Project #608961 – Worcester – Intersection Improvements on Chandler Street and May Street** in FFY 2026. The cost has increased in the amount of \$1,645,731 for a new Total Project Cost of \$10,121,005. The changes are:
 - Add Carbon Reduction (CRP) funding in the amount of \$4,171,534.
 - STBG funding decreased from \$5,031,709 to \$1,750,053, a total decrease of \$3,281,656.
 - CMAQ funding increased from \$2,000,000 to \$2,040,014, a total increase of \$40,014.
 - HSIP funding increased from \$1,000,000 to \$1,715,835, a total increase of \$715,835
- Move **Project #605323 – Oxford – Bridge Replacement, O-06-030, (ST 56) Leicester Road over the French River** from FFY 2027 to FFY 2026. The updated Total Project Cost is \$4,594,106.

Jared Grigg asked what the reason was for the cost increase of the Chandler Street/May Street project. Mr. Krasnecky said that since the 75% design submission, the bid items have increased, mainly the utility estimates.

Derek Shooster asked the members if they would like to conditionally approve the changes included in this amendment so the CMMPO would not have to meet in July. If staff does receive any major comments during the public comment period, then the CMMPO would meet in July.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Jared Grigg to conditionally approve Proposed Amendment #9 to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP Highway Project Listing while also releasing for a 21-day public review and comment period. All members voted unanimously to conditionally approve and release the Proposed Amendment #9 for public comment.

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

Betsy Goodrich – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
Jared Grigg – Yes
John Daniel – Yes
Leah Whiteman - Yes

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

- **Potential Action:** Approval of FFY 2027

Sujatha Krishnan presented this item. Ms. Krishnan reviewed the table of contents and summary of public comments. Ms. Krishnan said that a virtual public meeting was held on Tuesday, June 9th at 5:00 PM and only one person attended, with no comments received. MassDOT Office of Transportation also reviewed the document and provided a couple of comments. They were:

- The De-Obligated PL funds of \$250,000 were approved by MassDOT for the Vernon Connected Economic Impact Study and staff added the funding information to Task 4.4 as well as the budget tables.
- An accessibility issue with the Draft document was noted and staff will work to fix the issue for the CMMPO Endorsed document.

There were no comments or questions.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Ann Sullivan to approved FFY 2027 UPWP. All members voted unanimously to approve of the FFY 2027 UPWP.

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

John Daniel – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
Jared Grigg – Yes
Leah Whiteman - Yes

Agenda Item #6 – Public Participation Plan (PPP)

- **Potential Action:** Release Draft FY 2026 Public Participation Plan (PPP) for 45-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Nate Lewis presented this item. Mr. Lewis said that staff have completed the Draft FY 2026 PPP as summarized in the presentation that was given at the May CMMPO meeting. For the Draft PPP there is a 45-day public review and comment period. Two virtual public meetings will be held at 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM on July 21st.

Derek Shooster asked if there was a submission deadline for the PPP. Sujatha Krishnan said there is no deadline and staff will likely bring the PPP back to the CMMPO for approval at their September meeting.

Jesse Limanek made a motion and was seconded by Bob Hassinger to release the Draft FFY 2026 PPP for a 45-day public review and comment period. All members voted unanimously to release the Draft FFY 2026 PPP for public comment.

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

John Daniel – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes
Jared Grigg – Yes
Leah Whiteman - Yes

Agenda Item #7 – Vernon Connected Presentation

Jason Schreiber, Stantec, presented this item. Mr. Schreiber provided an overview of the public engagement activities for the Vernon Connected Study. There were 16 Community Pop-Up/Table Sessions, 250+ survey responses, 3 Public Workshops, 1 Special Public Event with Jeff Speck, many targeted stakeholder discussions, 5 Advisory Committee meetings, and 7 Steering Committee meetings. The Jeff Speck event was held on March 19, 2026, and had over 160 attendees. There was a public workshop held on March 24, 2026, and it had over 50 attendees. There was also an Oral History Event held on April 16, 2026, which was to share the history of the study area.

When thinking about changes in the corridor and how important it is to include those features the top 5 results for each category were shown. The top choices from each category were:

- Green Space Features: Trees
- Active Space Features: Playgrounds
- Programming Features: Public Art
- Building Features: Public Restroom
- Transportation Features: Multi-Use Path
- Connections Features: Pedestrian Bridge

Next, Mr. Schreiber summarized the project goals and showed and reviewed all the project ideas by types, such as Roadway, Pedestrian and Bicycle, Green and Open Space, and Development and Programming. Three scenarios were also shown and discussed. Scenario 1 was for neighborhood connections, Scenario 2 had a nodal focus, and Scenario 3 had a major park focus. A few park examples were shown from other states.

Lastly, Stantec will analyze metrics for a preferred scenario. There is also a final survey out for the public to take before July 6th.

Jared Grigg asked if emergency vehicles were considered. Mr. Scheiber said not specifically and not for operations. Bob Hassinger asked about the cost of the improvements. Mr. Schreiber said the cost and funding sources are not being considered at this time.

Agenda Item #8 – Staff Updates

- **Grant Applications:** Sujatha Krishnan said that CMRPC applied for a regional trails project through the Community One Stop program and staff also assisted multiple towns applying for a Strap Grant. For the grants through MassDOT’s Grant Central, staff assisted multiple towns for the first round and are awaiting the results while the second round is now open.
- **Charles River Headwater Greenway Project:** Nate Lewis said that CMRPC applied for and were awarded a Mass Trails grant for a feasibility study, partnering with MAPC. The grant amount was \$100,000. The length of the study area is about 8 miles and the project started in March. Bowman was selected as the consultant for the study. Staff recently completed a site visit to the area, and the study is expected to be completed by next June.

Agenda Item #9 – New Business

There was no new business.

Agenda Item # 10 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – June 24, 2026 at 3:00 PM
- CMMPO Committee meeting (virtual) – July 15, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Agenda Item #11 – Adjournment

Jared Grigg made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Bob Hassinger. The meeting concluded at 5:03 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Kevin Krasnecky, TIP Manager