Members & Staff Resolve to:

1) Develop, refine, finalize and secure Planning Commission and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) endorsements of an updated version of the Pioneer Valley Regional Transportation Plan, along with a new, updated transportation project evaluation criteria/scoring system, both of which are aligned and consistent with our region’s needs as well as applicable federal and state requirements.

2) Launch implementation efforts directly linked to the just-released One Region, One Future bistate action plan which is designed to foster a connected, competitive, vibrant and green interstate Knowledge Corridor that is well-positioned for sustained economic strength, expansion and success.

3) Finalize and deliver an updated version of the Pioneer Valley’s Land Use Priority Plan by working in concert with the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, PVPC member cities and towns and other partners to reliably identify the region’s Priority Development Areas (PDAs) and Priority Preservation Areas (PPAs) thereby creating a new tool for informed decision making at all levels of government. Complete publication, rollout and presentation of the Comission’s new, ten year Plan for Progress document encompassing 2015-2025 and recruit lead implementors.

4) Work in concert with MassDOT, the MBTA, affected cities and towns and other partners to successfully complete the final phase of reconstructing the Pioneer Valley’ main north-south rail corridor including high level passenger platforms in Holyoke, Northampton, and Greenfield; signal system upgrades, bikeway tunnel and signage from Springfield north to the Vermont state line. Simultaneously, pursue analysis and advocacy campaign that could significantly boost the level of passenger rail service available on this travel corridor over the next 3 to 5 years.

5) Establish a strong, collaborative relationship and working rapport with Governor-elect Baker and his Administration as well as the new members and leaders in the Massachusetts State Legislature, all who formally assumed public office in January of 2015.

6) Continue to participate and assist MassDOT as the state moves forward in 2015 with the advertisement and award of the estimated $230 million, 3 year rehabilitation of the Route I-91 Viaduct Project in Springfield including MassDOT’s companion, long range alternatives study. Support completion of the Northern New England Intercity Rail Initiative which incorporates the Inland Route connecting Boston, Springfield, Hartford, and Montreal.

7) Advance in partnership with affected cities and towns as well as numerous other public and private sector partners, the initial, pilot phase of a regional bike share system by addressing essential components including capital and operating costs, potential vendors, procurement, branding and viable funding sources, among others.

8) Maintain PVPC leadership and support of the New England Knowledge Corridor Partnership and use the Partnership’s 15th anniversary as a means to elevate the Knowledge Corridor visibility including the public’s awareness and understanding of the Knowledge Corridor’s relevance and importance to the strength, vitality and overall competitiveness of this integrated interstate economy. Complete and release the final version of the Growth Business Study for the Connecticut portion of the Knowledge Corridor working with the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute.

9) Pursue a number of innovative planning initiatives and products that build the PVPC’s expertise and capabilities in a number of emerging areas including clean energy, health impact assessments, food security, region wide data sharing, emergency response, municipal shared services and last mile broadband access alternatives, among others.

10) Work with both the Congressional delegation in Washington, as well as the Massachusetts Legislature and Governor, to shape and advance legislative initiatives at the federal and state levels that support and benefit the Pioneer Valley and its residents. At the federal level, for example, key a initiative will include an extension or reauthorization of the “MAP-21” federal transportation law beyond May of 2015. At the state level, key priorities include statewide zoning reforms, enabling regional ballot initiatives and advancing transportation and environmental bond funding commitments for significant, in-region projects such as Connecticut River clean-up projects.