

Minutes of the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Meeting

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
60 Congress Street, 2nd Floor Large Conference Room
Springfield, Massachusetts 01104

Present were:

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Rick Adamcek	Town of Pelham, Highway Dept.	Heather Hannon	MassDOT OTP
Jessica Allan	Town of Easthampton Planning	Jeff Hoynoski	MassDOT District 2
Matt Chase	VHB	Thom Martens	Ware DPW
Michelle Chase	Agawam – Town Engineer	Jimmy Pereira	MassBike – Springfield
Mark Cressotti	City of Westfield	Amy Priest	Ludlow DPW
Jim Czach	Springfield DPW	Matt Sokop	Holyoke DPW
Dick Grannells	Southwick DPW		
PVPC Staff			
Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Andrew McCaul	Transportation Planner	Dana Roscoe	Principal Planner
Jeff McCollough	Senior Transportation Planner	Gary Roux	Principal Planner
		Louise Sullivan	Administrative Support

1. Introductory Remarks

Jim Czach opened the meeting at 10:19 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Czach asked for a motion to approve the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) minutes of May 14, 2014. Two changes to the May 14, 2014 minutes were requested and made, namely:

- Change Jim Czach’s affiliation from West Springfield to Springfield
- On page 3, change Mayor Alex Morse’s affiliation from City of Northampton to City of Holyoke

MOVED BY MARK CRESSOTTI OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD, SECONDED BY DICK GRANNELLS OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWICK, TO APPROVE THE AMENDED JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (JTC) MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2014. ALL IN FAVOR OF THE MINUTES AS AMENDED, NONE OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Czach asked Dana Roscoe to address agenda item #3.

3. Update 2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Currently out for Public Review

Mr. Roscoe announced that the 2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document remains out for public review until June 16, 2014 and the comments received to date during the public review have been distributed at today’s meeting. Mr. Roscoe stated that as a result of these comments, changes have been made to the 2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as indicated in the distributed document entitled *2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Proposed Changes Based on Public Review* and as delineated below:

FFY 2015 Projects – Part 1A: Federal Aid Target Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Springfield – North End & Brightwood Infrastructure Improvements	605222	Slight increase in project cost from \$4,233,000 to \$4,402,320
Wilbraham – Reconstruction of Boston Road (Route 20) from Dudley Street to 400 ft. east of Dumaine Street (0.28 miles)	607896	Correct Project ID from 607896 to 607869
Monson-Palmer – Resurfacing & Related Work on Routes 32 and Route 20	606663	Update design status from 75% design to P, S, & E
FFY 2015 Projects – Part 1B: Federal Aid Bridge Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
District 2 – Systematic Bridge Maintenance at Various Locations	607515	Add funding of \$1,849,536 (NHPP) per MassDOT Bridge List
FFY 2015 Projects – Part 1D: Federal Aid Major & State Category Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Southampton – Safe Routes to School	607453	Update funding from \$531,250 to \$800,000 per MassDOT Statewide TAP list
Northampton – Intersection Improvements at Pleasant Street and Conz Street Roundabout	605066	Update design status from 25% design to 75% design
West Springfield – Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway	603730	Move this project from FFY 2016 to FFY 2015 per MassDOT Statewide TAP List
FFY 2016 Projects – Part 1A: Federal Aid Target Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Springfield – Intersection Improvements: Roosevelt Avenue	603585	Increase Project cost from \$1,922,000 to \$1,976,000
FFY 2016 Projects – Part 1B: Federal Aid Bridge Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Belchertown-Warren-West Springfield Bridge Demolition	604626	Change Project ID from 604626 to 607524 and remove West Springfield from Project Description. Also, update cost from \$3,115,152 to \$2,477,738
District 2 – Systematic Bridge Maintenance at Various Locations	607516	Add funding of \$1,849,978 (NHPP) per MassDOT Bridge List

FFY 2016 Projects – Part 1D: Federal Aid Major & State Category Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Hatfield/Whately I-91 Maintenance	606577	Update funding from \$11,469,600 to \$11,597,040
District 2 – Storm Water ADA Retrofits at Various Locations	N/A	Add funding for \$740,000 (STP-FLEX) per MassDOT List
West Springfield – Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway	603730	Move funding of \$1,640,736 from FFY 2016 to FFY 2015 per MassDOT Statewide TAP List
Holyoke – Traffic Signal Upgrades	606450	Update funding from \$1,504,680 to \$1,564,867
Southwick – Route 57 Intersections	603477	Update funding from \$2,160,000 to \$3,617,872
Northampton – Roundabout Route 5/10 with Hatfield Street	606555	Update funding from \$2,917,000 to \$2,874,896
Westfield – Columbia Greenway (Center)	603783	Remove funding, \$6,784,162 – Statewide TAP per MassDOT list
Chicopee – Connecticut Riverwalk	602911	Update design from pre 25% to 25%
Chicopee – Chicopee Riverwalk	602912	Move funding from FFY 2016 to FFY 2018 per MassDOT List
FFY 2017 Projects – Part 1A: Federal Aid Target Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Longmeadow – Converse Street Resurfacing	606445	Update design status from 25% to 75% design
Agawam – Intersection Improvements at Route 187 and 57	604203	Update HSIP funding from \$465,000 to \$1,080,992
FFY 2017 Projects – Part 1B: Federal Aid Bridge Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Amherst – Bridge replacement over Mill River	607528	Update funding from \$2,075,304 to \$2,644,040
District 2 – Systematic Bridge Maintenance at Various Locations	607517	Add funding for \$1,849,963 (NHPP)
Agawam/West Springfield Bridge Reconstruction Including Route 147 over the Westfield River	605384	Add funding for \$14,757,120
FFY 2017 Projects – Part 1D: Federal Aid Major & State Category Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Granby/South Hadley Route 202 Resurfacing	607474	Update funding from \$1,585,920 to \$1,712,794 per MassDOT List
FFY 2018 Projects – Part 1A: Federal Aid Target Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe

Longmeadow – Route 5 Resurfacing	607430	Update design status from 25% to 75% design
FFY 2018 Projects – Part 1B: Federal Aid Bridge Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
District 2 – Systematic Bridge Maintenance at Various Locations	607595	Add funding for \$1,624,800
FFY 2018 Projects – Part 1D: Federal Aid Major & State Category Projects	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Chicopee – Chicopee Riverwalk	602912	Move funding from FFY 2016 to FFY 2018 per MassDOT List
TRANSIT FFY 2015	Proj. ID	Changes Stated by Mr. Roscoe
Purchase of buses in August		Move 5307 funding from FFY 2015 to FFY 2014
Westfield ITC which was originally programmed in FFY 2012		Add \$1,700,000 in Section 115 funding into FFY 2015

Mr. Roscoe stated that the MPO will meet next Wednesday, June 18th, to address the 2015 – 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Mr. Czach underscored that if the JTC members have any questions or concerns about their communities’ TIP projects, they should attend the meeting on June 18th. Mr. Czach then moved on to Item 4 of today’s agenda.

4. Update 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Currently out for Public Review

Mr. Roux indicated that the public review period for the draft 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) has been extended until June 16, 2014. Mr. Roux reported that a comment was received from MassDOT in Boston in the form of a request that an updated coordinated public transit, human-services plan be included in the UPWP in order to bring the UPWP into compliance with the new MAP-21 federal planning rule. Mr. Roux stated that this request will be incorporated into the draft UPWP and added that he expects to receive more comments from MassDOT later this week.

5. Pioneer Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Meeting Scheduled for June 18, 2014

Mr. Roscoe reported a meeting start time change for the June 18th MPO meeting from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

6. Update Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) Currently Out for Public Review

Mr. Roux reported that there was a lengthy discussion held at last month’s JTC meeting regarding the comments received on the new proposed Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC) document and he noted that the proposed TEC’s public review and comment period has been extended to Monday, June 16th. Mr. Roux indicated that there is ample time for comments and making changes to the TEC since the goal is not to begin using these proposed transportation evaluation criteria until next year. Mr. Roux said that a suggestion was proffered at the May 14th JTC meeting to have the JTC create an online survey with TEC-related questions that would provide an opportunity for individuals to submit comments and to identify the transportation projects that they deem most important. Mr. Roux reported that as a result, staff met with Jim Czach and drafted a simple

survey which incorporates the comments received from the JTC members during their discussion of the proposed TEC at their May 21st JTC meeting.

Mr. Roux explained that the next step will be to distribute this TEC survey entitled “Types of Transportation Projects Important to You” in order to determine what the survey respondents feel are the most needed transportation projects. Mr. Roux explained that this TEC survey states that a total of \$400 million in federal dollars is expected to be allocated to transportation improvement projects in the Pioneer Valley region over the next 20 years and the responses to the survey will assist in the development of a new way to evaluate future regional transportation improvement projects. Mr. Roux indicated that the survey respondents are being asked to rank the types of projects listed from “1” to “7” with “1” being the most important. Mr. Roux added that each number can only be used once and when the survey scores are totaled, the most important projects will have the lowest scores.

Mr. Roux emphasized the importance of bringing this TEC survey before the MPO members at their June 18th meeting given Mayor Alex Morse’s request that the transportation evaluation criteria be publicized to the greatest extent possible. Mr. Roux added that the survey will be translated into Spanish and into some other languages as well. At this point, several suggestions for modifications and changes to the TEC survey were made by the JTC members and after the discussion period, Mr. Roux stated that most of the JTC members’ suggestions and comments would be integrated into the draft TEC survey and he urged the JTC members to email any other comments or feedback they might have to him at gmroux@pvpc.org.

Mr. Czach thanked Mr. Roux for his report and called on Jeff McCollough to take up the next agenda item.

7. Survey of JTC Representatives: Race, Ethnicity, and Income

Mr. McCollough reported that Title VI is applicable to the administration of the Pioneer Valley’s transportation improvement projects because it prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance which includes the federal and state funding of highway and transit improvement projects. Mr. McCollough stated that an anonymous survey entitled “Self-Identification Survey” has been created to determine the race, ethnicity, age, disability and household income of the JTC members in an attempt to make the JTC more effective and to determine the viability of Title VI. Mr. McCollough indicated that when staff does its Title VI update next year, the survey results can be reported. Mr. McCollough added that completing the survey is not a requirement but he would like to receive any comments or feedback that the JTC members may have.

8. Other Business

Mr. Czach reminded the JTC members that the MPO will meet next Wednesday on June 18th at 11:00 a.m. and he asked if there were any other business items. There being no other business items, Mr. Czach called for a motion to adjourn

9. Adjourn

MOVED BY MATT SOKOP OF THE CITY OF HOLYOKE, SECONDED BY DICK GRANNELLS OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWICK, TO ADJOURN THE JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 11, 2014.

This JTC meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Relevant documents distributed at this meeting:

- Joint Transportation Committee June 11, 2014 Meeting Agenda
- Joint Transportation Committee May 14, 2014 Meeting Minutes
- *2015 – 2018 Pioneer Valley Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Proposed Changes Based on Public Review*
- *Draft – Types of Transportation Projects Important to You* (survey)
- *Self-Identification Survey* (Race, Ethnicity, and Income)
- *TIP Comments Received During Public Review* (May 2, 2014 to June 16, 2014)