



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization

Date:	July 28, 2015
Time:	12:30 p.m.
Location:	12 Olive Street, Greenfield, MA
Duration:	1.5 hours
Facilitator:	David Mohler, Chair

FCTPO Members in Attendance:

Trey Wadsworth, MassDOT and representing Secretary and CEO Richard Davey
Rich Masse, MassDOT Highway Division, and representing Administrator Francis DePaola
Linda Dunlavy, Representing John Paciorek, Regionally Elected Representative
Robert Dean, Western County Representative
Lance Fritz, FRTA Advisory
Tom Miner, FRPB NVM Member

Guests:

Peter Frieri, MassDOT District 1
Mark Moore, MassDOT District 1
Laura Hanson, MassDOT District 2
Kevin Wright, FHWA
Tina Cote, FRTA
Donna Feng, MassDOT

Staff:

Maureen Mullaney, Transportation and GIS Program Manager
Gretchen Johnson, Planning Grant Administrator
Laurie Scarbrough, Transportation Planning Engineer
Megan Rhodes, Senior Transportation Planner

1 – Welcome and Introductions: David Mohler (Chair)

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 pm by Chair, Trey Wadsworth (proxy for David Mohler). A round of introductions followed.

2 – Review and Approval of June 23, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Linda Dunlavy MOVED to approve the June 23, 2015 minutes. Lance Fritz SECONDED. meeting. The motion was approved.

3 – Review and Vote to Endorse the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Plan: Laurie Scarbrough, FRCOG

Laurie Scarbrough stated that the public comment period for the TIP has concluded. Laurie stated that the comments received were primarily asking for more information on projects or minor corrections. Laurie stated that she will be investigating a bicycle parking program for a possible 2016 project with the available \$50,000 in CMAQ funding. Laurie explained that the Schell Bridge project in Northfield was asked to be removed from the TIP because it is not CMAQ eligible. It is not eligible because the bridge is designed to accommodate emergency vehicles. Discussion followed. Linda Dunlavy asked Maureen Mullaney to draft a letter objecting to that determination and to cite all of the local pedestrian bridges that received CMAQ funding that are also designed to accommodate emergency vehicles.

Laurie stated that the highway section was updated to reflect the new Global Warming Solutions Act but additional information is needed to update the transit section.

Linda Dunlavy MOVED to endorse the 2016-2019 TIP Plan. Lance Fritz SECONDED. UNANIMOUSLY approved.

4 – Review and Vote to Endorse the 2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): Maureen Mullaney, FRCOG

Maureen Mullaney stated passed out a copy of the UPWP tasks with the budgets. It is unchanged from last month. Discussion followed.

Linda Dunlavy MOVED to endorse the 2016 Unified Planning Work Program as presented. Bob Dean SECONDED. The motion passed UNANIMOUSLY.

5 – Review and Vote to Endorse the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update: Megan Rhodes, FRCOG

Megan Rhodes stated that the comments received on the RTP were minor and have been incorporated into the document. Federal Highway requested that project phases be identified with their related estimated cost. The Town of Montague wrote letters requesting that the General Peirce Bridge be prioritized.

Linda Dunlavy MOVED to endorse the Regional Transportation Update as presented. Bob Dean SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved.

Endorsement sheets for the TIP, UPWP and RTP were passed around for signatures.

6 – Updates from the MassDOT District 1 and District 2

Peter Frieri gave the update from District 1. He stated that FFY15 lists two bridge replacements, one in Hawley and one in Colrain. FFY16 lists a bridge replacement in Heath. The Heath bridge design is at pre-25%. The Shelburne intersection improvements on Route 2 and Corlain/Shelburne Road had a traffic signal analysis that showed that a traffic signal is warranted at that intersection.

Laura Hanson gave the update for District 2. The Greenfield intersection improvements at Route 5/10 and Cheapside Street was advertised on July 25th. The bid opening will be October 20, 2015. The Montague pedestrian bridge on Hatchery Road and Greenfield Road had it's bid opening on June 9, 2015. District 2 received photos and concerns about the Gill Montague bridge. The concerns included drainage grates and poor road surface condition for bicyclists.

Tom Miner stated that the pavement surface has delaminated along the truck lane on Greenfield Mountain (Route 2 West). Laura Hanson offered to collect Tom's contact information after the meeting.

7 – Update from FRCOG

Linda Dunlavy stated that Beth Giannini represented the FRCOG, MassDOT and PVPC at a ceremony on Mt. Skinner thanking the agencies for their part conducting land protection. There was a public hearing for the regional pipeline project. The MBI has a board meeting scheduled for next week to discuss the Broadband project. There have been conversations to procure train sets to rehabilitate for commuter rail service in Western Mass. Two large grants were just awarded. The first grant is for regional preparedness and the other for Healthy Communities.

8 – Update from FRTA

Tina Cote stated that the FRTA the Comprehensive Service Analysis Plan is still within the public comment period. The new FRTA website has gone live. Any feedback on the website is welcome. Tina stated the closing date for the wooded property between the Transit Center and the next building on Olive Street is being coordinated. The updates to the bus stops have been mostly completed. Tina asked for suggestions on locations for bus shelters. The Greenfield Visitor's Center allowed a bench to be installed at the bus stop.

9 – Update from Franklin Regional Planning Board: Tom Miner, FRPB

Tom Miner stated that the FRPB's main focus has been the Regional Pipeline project. Tom thanked the FRCOG for the excellent placement of the Scenic Byway signs.

10 – Additional Business not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours

No business unforeseen was discussed.

11 – Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next FCTPO meeting will be scheduled as needed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.