



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

## Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization

Date:	June 22, 2016
Time:	1:00 p.m.
Location:	12 Olive Street, Greenfield, MA
Duration:	1.5 hours
Facilitator:	Stephen Woelfel, Chair

### **FCTPO Members in Attendance:**

Stephen Woelfel, MassDOT and representing Secretary Stephanie Pollack

Patrick J. Paul, MassDOT District 2 Highway Director and representing Highway Administrator Thomas Tinlin

Linda Dunlavy, Representing John Paciorek, Regionally Elected Representative

Lance Fritz, Franklin Regional Transit Authority

Robert Dean, Western County Representative

Bill Perlman, FRCOG Executive Committee

Tom Miner, FRPB NVM Member

### **Guests:**

Mark Moore, MassDOT – District 1

Peter Frieri, MassDOT District 1

Sonja Gray, MassDOT District 1

Jeff Hoynoski, MassDOT District 2

Richard Masse, MassDOT – District 2

Laura Hanson, MassDOT – District 2

Bryan Pounds, MassDOT – OTP

Michael Perreault, Franklin Regional Transit Authority

Donald Ouellette, Town of Greenfield

Chris Stoddard, Town of Greenfield

Sherry Patch, Town of Sunderland

Dianne Schindler, Town of Orange

Joshua Knechtel, Town of Orange

Rob Riggan, Buckland Select Board

Scott Reed, Economic Development Council of Western Mass

**Staff:**

Maureen Mullaney, Transportation and GIS Program Manager II

Laurie Scarbrough, Transportation Planning Engineer

Megan Rhodes, Senior Transportation and Land Use Planner

Jessica McMillin, Public Health Planner/Transportation Planner

Elizabeth Giannini, Senior Transportation Planner II

**1 – Welcome and Introductions: Stephen Woelfel (Chair)**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Chair, Stephen Woelfel. A round of introductions followed.

**2 – Review and Approval of March 23, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Linda Dunlavy MOVED to approve the March 23, 2016 minutes. Bob Dean SECONDED. The motion was approved.

**3 – Review and vote to endorse Amendment #2 to the 2016-2019 TIP: Maureen Mullaney, FRCOG**

Maureen Mullaney stated that Amendment #2 to the 2016-2019 TIP was released for a 30-day public comment period, ending April 27, 2016. No comments were received. Maureen stated that a handout was included in the meeting packet highlighting the changes to the TIP that were discussed last month. The amendment will affect two projects:

- The Deerfield-Bridge (Preservation) Replacement Project on McClellan Farm Road over the B&M Railroad cost estimate has increased from \$6,477,190 to \$7,363,753 to reflect utility adjustments for FY2016. In addition, the project description was updated from “Preservation” to “Replacement.”
- The Deerfield-Bernardston-Greenfield interstate maintenance and related work on Route I-91 project description was updated to include Deerfield, and remove mile-marker locations for FY2018.

Lance Fritz MOVED to approve the amendment as presented. Linda Dunlavy SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved.

Maureen Mullaney distributed the endorsement sheet to be signed by the signatories present.

**4 – Review and Vote to release for a 30-day public review and comment period Amendment #3 to the 2016-2019 TIP: Maureen Mullaney, FRCOG**

Maureen Mullaney stated that the summary of Amendment #3 to the 2016-2019 was included in the meeting packet.

Michael Perreault stated that Transit 5310 Project is slated for FY2017, not FY2016 as presented in the handout. Bryan Pounds stated that everything will be under FY2016 for the TIP. Originally, funds to replace 4 vans were requested, but it is actually only for 2 vans. The total cost presented in the amendment is for 2 vans, but the project description incorrectly states that 4 vans will be replaced. The project description needs to be updated to: "Buy replacement van (2)." Maureen stated that FRCOG staff will change the description prior to posting the amendment online.

Linda Dunlavy asked why the Colrain/Shelburne project cost went up. Mark Moore stated that the original estimates only considered side road work. They have found that Route 2 also has deficiencies that cannot be ignored. They have added pavement work to Route 2 to address elevation issues by adjusting the profile of Route 2 to match the profile of the side road.

Robert Dean MOVED to release the 2016-2019 TIP Amendment for a 30-day public comment period. Linda Dunlavy SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved.

Maureen stated that the amendment will be released for a 30 day public review period as soon as legal notice is prepared.

**5 – Review and Vote to endorse an Amendment to the 2016 UPWP: Megan Rhodes, FRCOG**

Megan Rhodes stated that the Amendment to the current UPWP that changed the parking needs inventory project in Turners Falls to a sidewalk inventory project in the same area was released for a 30-day comment period after the last TPO meeting. No comments were received.

Lance Fritz MOVED to endorse the Amendment to the 2016 UPWP as presented. Robert Dean SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved.

**6 – Review and vote to release for a 30-day public comment period the 2017-2021 TIP: Maureen Mullaney, FRCOG**

Maureen Mullaney stated that this was an especially challenging year to build the TIP. Limited funds and project readiness are always issues, but in this case projects had to be shifted up to two years from when they were expected to begin. Staff have tried to take all variables into account and maintain fairness among locally initiated projects so they remain in the same queue order, even if they have been pushed back. Staff have attempted to put together the best scenario available.

Maureen described the proposed project listing for 2017. Discussion ensued concerning the local projects that were pushed back due to MassDOT's determination that the Charlemont – Roadway Reconstruction and Village Center Traffic Calming on Route 2 project and Colrain-Intersection Improvements at Main Road, Jacksonville Road (Rt. 112) and Greenfield Road project would not be ready to advertise in the years they were previously programmed (2017 and 2018, respectively).

Maureen continued to describe the proposed project listings in years 2018 through 2021. Mark Moore explained that the Colrain intersection project was bumped because there is one historic property in this project that requires a special permit before it is removed. MassDOT has suggested that this would add several years to the project design. Colrain is working on the design and expects to have it ready prior to 2020. Discussion followed.

Maureen presented the Transit TIP, which includes projects for 2017 through 2020. Michael Perreault stated that there are no projects requested for 2021 at this time. The FRTA is asking for \$20 million for construction of their maintenance facility project.

Laurie Scarbrough stated that the entire TIP besides the Highway and Transit project listing includes other documents, narrative text, funding sources, TPO procedures, and greenhouse gas tracking information for all projects in the last 2 years. Because the transit TIP was received by staff yesterday, the draft does not include greenhouse gas tracking information for transit projects, but this will be included for the final TIP when it is ready to be endorsed.

Robert Dean asked if the design for the new FRTA maintenance facility will include charging stations for future electric vehicles. Michael stated that the design does not include charging stations and it has not been a part of the design and oversight discussion. Bill Perlman stated that as an act of responsibility, we need to figure out how to get rid of vehicles using fossil fuels. He will vote against this if there is no plan in place to take electric vehicles into account.

Lance Fritz MOVED to release the 2017-2021 TIP for a 30-day public comment period. Linda Dunlavy SECONDED. Bill Perlman ABSTAINED. The motion was approved.

**7 – Review and Vote to release for a 30-day public comment period the 2017 UPWP: Megan Rhodes, FRCOG**

Megan Rhodes presented the proposed 2017 Unified Planning Work Program that FRCOG transportation staff will work on during the upcoming year. This year's UPWP includes projects that address sustainability, resiliency, and reliability of transportation projects, as well as travel and tourism. It also incorporates a section on the distribution of projects over the last 5 years in terms of equity across towns and Environmental Justice Title VI populations. Megan stated that projects have been equitably distributed, with 56% of EJ Title VI areas receiving transportation planning funds. Megan presented the 2017 UPWP proposed projects. Discussion ensued.

Bill Perlman MOVED to release the 2017 UPWP for a 30-day public comment period. Linda Dunlavy SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved.

**8 – Update from MassDOT District 1 & District 2**

Peter Frieri gave the update from District 1. Peter reported that the PS&E for the intersection improvements at Route 2 and Colrain/Shelburne Road will be completed by the end of the month or early July. Right of way will occur over the next 2-3 months.

A meeting was held between MassDOT Landscaping and the Charlemont Town Administrator regarding the Village Center Traffic Calming project at the end of March that went well. There will be a 25% design public hearing at the end of the summer to stay on track for advertisement. Robert Dean asked who is responsible for the right of way work. Peter replied that the state is responsible. Discussion ensued.

Laura Hanson gave the update for District 2. The Deerfield bridge project is at the PS&E stage, with the advertisement date set for July 23rd. The Erving intersection improvements at Route 2 and 2A notice to proceed was completed. On June 17<sup>th</sup> they will meet with the Warner Brothers contractor who was awarded the job.

## **8 – Update from FRCOG**

Linda Dunlavy stated that Kinder Morgan dismissed the pipeline project.

The first meeting of the Rural Policy Commission was held on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

The FRCOG is continuing and increasing collaboration between public health and transportation, recognizing the influence of transportation on public health and vice versa through work with Mass in Motion Franklin County.

Bryan Pounds asked about the status of the bike share program. Maureen Mullaney stated that the FRCOG has reached out to all municipalities to see who is interested in the bike rack purchase program. The deadline was June 20<sup>th</sup>. The FRCOG has received a lot of interest, and is getting quotes for installation.

## **9 – Update from FRTA**

Michael Perreault reported that on July 1<sup>st</sup> the FRTA will take over coordinating senior transportation services from the Orange COA, coordinating all calls, and will handle transportation for seniors in East County.

On August 1<sup>st</sup> fixed route changes will be launched.

The FRTA has begun pursuing acquisition and design for the new maintenance facility.

## **10 – Update from Franklin Regional Planning Board: Tom Miner, FRPB**

Tom Miner stated that the pipeline has consumed a lot of staff time, so they are pleased that the dismissal of the project will free up staff for other priorities.

Tom reported that Maureen Mullaney will come to the next FRPB meeting to give a presentation on the TIP and other transportation projects.

After discussing zoning reform, a new proposal to incorporate Senate Bill 2327 appears to be moving forward. Tom suggested that TPO members should support SB2327. Peggy Sloan can provide an electronic copy.

There will be a MassDOT meeting in early Fall to understand standards regarding responsibility for maintaining and repairing local and state bridges that might be damaged.

**11 – Additional business not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours**

There was no additional business.

**11 – *Next Meeting/Adjourn***

The next FCTPO meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 25th at 12:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.