



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization

Date:	April 25, 2017
Time:	12:30 p.m.
Location:	12 Olive Street, Greenfield, MA
Duration:	53 minutes
Facilitator:	David Mohler, Chair

FCTPO Members in Attendance:

David Mohler, MassDOT and representing Secretary Stephanie Pollack
Patrick J. Paul, MassDOT District 2 Highway Director and representing Highway Administrator
Thomas Tinlin
Robert Dean, Western County Representative
Bill Perlman, FRCOG Regionally Elected Representative
Kevin Fox, FRCOG Executive Committee Member
Michael Perreault- Representing Lance Fritz, Franklin Regional Transit Authority, Chair
Donald Ouellette, DPW- Representing the Mayor of Greenfield

Guests:

Mark Moore, MassDOT – District 1
Peter Frieri, MassDOT – District 1
Richard Masse, MassDOT – District 2
Laura Hanson, MassDOT – District 2
Bryan Pounds, MassDOT – OTP
Brandon Wilcox, FHWA
Sherry Patch, Town Administrator, Sunderland

Staff:

Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director
Beth Giannini, Senior Transportation Planner II
Laurie Scarbrough, Transportation Planning Engineer
Megan Rhodes, Senior Transportation/Land Use Planner
Ann Dunne, Assistant Planner

1 – Welcome and Introductions: David Mohler (Chair)

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Chair, David Mohler. A round of introductions followed.

2 – Review and Approval of March 28, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Bill Perlman MOVED to approve the March 28, 2017 minutes. Patrick Paul SECONDED. The motion passed unanimously.

3 – Review and vote to approve an adjustment to the 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program : Laurie Scarbrough, FRCOG

Laurie Scarbrough presented for review and endorsement an amendment to the 2017- 2021 Transportation Improvement Program.

In the Highway element of the TIP the following adjustment was proposed to move the project forward from FFY2019 to FFY2017.

FFY 2017, Statewide National Highway System Preservation Program: # 607182 Adjustment

- o DEERFIELD- BERNARDSTON- GREENFIELD, INTERSTATE MAINTENANCE & RELATED WORK ON ROUTE I-91.

Bill MOVED to approve the TIP adjustment as presented. Patrick Paul SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved

4 – Review and vote to release for a 21- day public review and comment period the 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program: Laurie Scarbrough, FRCOG

Laurie presented the 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Plan for review and vote to release for a 21-day public review and comment period.

Laurie attended a CMAQ consultation meeting and noted the highway projects were approved for CMAQ funds; however, the pilot project to operate increased passenger rail along the Knowledge Corridor was tabled by the CMAQ consultation committee. MASSDOT, FRCOG and PVPC are discussing other sources of funding with MassDOT. This project is tabled for now.

Laurie noted an error in the additional information for project # 607245 in 2020. The total project cost should read as \$1,654,952. The funds total is correct at \$ 3,791,324. Laurie will correct her spreadsheet before submitting to MassDOT for the public comment period.

It was noted the Transit TIP 2018 project # 111203 represents (2) two bus replacements at \$870,000.

Linda Dunlavy clarified that the \$1 million programmed in the FY 2018 Transit TIP (project #114102) represents the design and engineering of a new FRTA maintenance facility. In addition, \$951,250 is programmed in FY 2019 to complete the design and engineering of the

facility. Construction costs for the project are not yet programmed.

Bill Perlman made a motion to approve the release of the Draft 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Plan for a 21- day public review period and comment period as presented. Bob Dean SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved.

5 – Review and Vote to release for a 21- day public review and comment period the 2018 Unified Planning Work Program: Megan Rhodes, FRCOG

Megan Rhodes presented for review and vote to release for a 21-day public review and comment period the FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program.

Megan identified the tasks to be conducted under Group 3 (Transportation Planning Studies) projects in the UPWP.

3.1 Regional Transportation Plan - (4) four sub-tasks have been added.

1. Inventory of the Transportation of Hazardous Materials in Franklin County.
2. Evaluation of Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans
3. Mapping of Traffic Volumes for Franklin County.
4. Evaluate Low-Clearance Bridges for Improved Warning Systems.

3.2 Implementation of Van Sharing Programs and Other Transit Models for the Region

3.3 Vision Zero Initiative:

3.4 Resiliency of the Transportation System.

3.5 Create Interactive Online Bicycle & Pedestrian Maps

3.6 Bicycle and Rail Tourism

3.7 Route 5/10 Corridor Study in Deerfield and Whately

3.8 Hazardous Intersection Report Assessment

Don Ouellette asked about conducting a road safety audit to include south of Silver St, Greenfield, which is not included in the study.

Bill Perlman made a motion to approve for release for a 21-day public review and comment period the 2018 Unified Planning Work Program as presented. Bob Dean SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved.

6 – Review and approval of critical urban and rural freight corridors in Franklin County: Laurie Scarbrough , FRCOG

MassDOT is working on a Statewide Freight Plan, and intend to submit a draft plan to Federal Highway in June. Laurie presented the critical urban and rural freight corridors identified in Franklin County, making connections to primary highway state systems and major transportation systems. Roadways identified under this system are eligible for funding from the National Highway Freight Program. Route 2 was identified as critical to the movement of freight in the region and the State.

Laurie asked the TPO to release for public review for 21-days the critical urban and rural freight corridors identified for Franklin County:

Bill Perlman made a motion to approve for release for a 21-day public review and comment period the amended Critical Urban and Rural Freight Corridors in Franklin County. Bob Dean SECONDED. The motion was UNANIMOUSLY approved.

8 – Update from MassDOT District 1 & District 2

Peter Frieri gave the update from District 1.

FY17 Projects:

- Buckland Bridge Maintenance Route 112 over Route 2 and PAN AM RR., the design is at the PS&E stage. Will be advertised in the next few weeks.
- Buckland-Charlemont resurfacing & related work on route 2, from MM (R.R Bridge) to MM (Buckland/Shelburne T.L). Lane Construction was the lowest bidder.
- Colrain BR Replacement – Heath Rd over West Branch North River – was advertised 4/15/17.
- Heath BR Replacement – Route 8A over Mill Brook –we just received the PS&E in December. The bid opening is scheduled for 8/8/17.
- Shelburne BR Replacement Bardwell Ferry RD – 100% design received, under review by MassDOT.

FY18 Projects

- Charlemont – Resurface and traffic calming at Bardwell Ferry Rd over Dragon Brook. 75% design completion is anticipated by June 2017

The notice to proceed on the Route 2 Colrain-Shelburne Road improvements was issued to Baltazar Contractors Inc. in March 2017.

Laura Hanson gave the update from District 2

FY17 Projects:

Orange: Holtshire Rd over Millers River Bridge -100% design was submitted on Nov. 2016. The current advertising date is June, 2017. However, the Town needs to meet to discuss

relocating a utility pole first, which may delay this date.

- Montague: An update was given on the Canalside Bike Path & Pedestrian Crossing improvements on Montague City Road.
- Montague: An update was given on the Greenfield Road bike/pedestrian bridge construction. The concrete deck pour is scheduled for 4/28/17.

9 – Update from FRCOG

Linda Dunlavy reported on the progress of the van-sharing project, and noted the enthusiasm of the local social services organizations. An obstacle that has come to light is related to limitations from MassDOT that prevent the FRTA from donating some retired vans to these groups. Linda requested an explanation of the process, and requested assistance in releasing the vans.

Linda discussed work to expand passenger rail service on the Knowledge Corridor, and adding it to the TIP. The goal is to use CMAQ funding from FRCOG and PVPC to fund a pilot of the service. Discussion followed.

Laurie reported that work is underway to purchase and install bike racks throughout the region on public property. This work is part of project funded through the 2017 TIP using CMAQ funding. April 30 is the deadline for the first round of requests. There are funds left to offer a second round with a deadline of June 30. Staff will continue outreach to Franklin County Towns seeking participants.

10 – Update from FRTA

Michael Perreault reiterated the difficulty that the FRTA has faced in trying to donate the extra vans to social service organizations.

FRTA is monitoring their fixed routes, and collecting data to improve their systems. The report is due to the Exec. Board by May 18, 2017.

11 – Update from Franklin Regional Planning Board: FRPB

None

12 – Additional business not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours

None

13 – Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at 12:30 pm at 12 Olive Street, Greenfield, MA.

Bob Dean MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Bill Perlman SECONDED. The meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.