



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

## Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization

Date:	Tuesday, March 26, 2019
Time:	12:30 PM
Location:	12 Olive Street, Greenfield, MA
Duration:	1 hour, 14 minutes
Facilitator:	Bryan Pounds, MassDOT OTP

**FCTPO Members in Attendance:**

- Bryan Pounds, MassDOT OTP (representing Stephanie Pollack, Secretary of MassDOT)
- Richard Masse, MassDOT– District 2 (representing Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway Administrator)
- Bill Perlman, FRCOG Regionally Elected Representative
- Kevin Fox, FRCOG Executive Committee
- Michael Perreault, FRTA (representing FRTA Chair Lance Fritz)
- Bob Dean, Western County Representative
- Jane Peirce, Eastern County Representative
- Marlo Warner II, DPW Director, City of Greenfield (representing Mayor William Martin)

**Guests:**

- Mark Moore, MassDOT District 1
- Peter Frieri, MassDOT – District 1
- Laura Hanson, MassDOT – District 2
- Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP
- Diana Szynal, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
- Robert Markel, Town Administrator, Town of Buckland

**Staff:**

- Maureen Mullaney, Transportation & GIS Program Manager II
- Beth Giannini, Senior Transportation Planner II
- Megan Rhodes, Senior Transportation/Land Use Planner
- Laurie Scarbrough, Transportation Planning Engineer
- Liz Jacobson-Carroll, Assistant Planner

**1 – Welcome and Introductions: Bryan Pounds**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m., and was followed by a round of introductions.

**2 – Review and Approval of the February 26, 2019 Meeting Minutes: Bryan Pounds**

*B. Dean moved to approve the February 26, 2019 minutes, B. Perlman seconded the motion, and the*

*motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.*

### **3 – Review and vote on preferred list of 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program projects using regional target funds: Laurie Scarbrough**

Since reviewing the “Universe of Projects” at the last meeting, staff members received confirmation of costs from MassDOT, L. Scarbrough said. After discussion with OTP, they propose the following changes to the preferred list of 2019, and 2020-24 projects:

- 2019 & 2020: to accommodate a cost increase in the 2019 Charlemont reconstruction/calming project, include A/C of \$7,860,350 in 2019 and \$691,801 in 2020. (Also, the Deerfield-Whately Routes 5 & 10 resurfacing will remain on the TIP, but will be funded with statewide HSIP in 2020.)
- 2021 & 2022: to accommodate a significant cost increase in the Buckland reconstruction (Conway St, South St, Conway Rd) project, include A/C of \$6,179,913 in 2021 and \$2,003,334 in 2022. This will necessitate bumping the Whately rehabilitation of the Haydenville Road project; see below.
- 2024: to accommodate the A/C of some of the cost of the Buckland reconstruction project to 2022, include A/C of the Whately rehabilitation project from 2022 to 2024 for \$3,286,110.

L. Scarbrough noted that there was not enough funding available in 2024 to include either Greenfield Wisdom Way or Greenfield Montague City Road.

In response to concern over a possible pattern of increasing costs, M. Moore explained that the Buckland increase resulted from additional discussion of fish passages, and that the Charlemont increase was due to subsequent inclusion of utility work.

Addressing concern over un-programmed balances, B. Pound explained that and surplus target funds will be used elsewhere in the state. M. Mullaney then noted that it is unusual to have target surpluses. As projects continue through design, often times cost increases use the surplus. Other times, smaller projects can be fit in to take up the extra.

M. Mullaney invited ideas, comments and questions from representatives of towns with projects on the list. M. Warner explained that Greenfield is assessing the stability of the hill beside Wisdom Way and that he is concerned it can't last the number of years expected to wait for funding. J. Peirce summarized progress in Orange, and B. Markel said that Buckland's 75% designs are expected soon.

B. Pound said that a vote on TIP Preferred Target Projects was not necessary, then confirmed that the group was in agreement with FRCOG's recommendations. In conclusion, he reminded those present that a vote would be taken on the draft TIP next month.

### **4 – Update on the Regional Transportation Plan: Maureen Mullaney**

FRCOG staff members have concluded their public outreach and have drafted most chapters of the RTP, M. Mullaney said. She'll begin sending them to D. Krevat soon, will ask for TPO suggestions in April, present the draft at public meetings in June, and ask the TPO for a vote of endorsement in July. B. Pounds promised her needed financial data next week.

B. Perlman expressed his concern regarding pedestrian safety on the to-be-expanded shoulder between Mohawk Trail HS and Shelburne Falls. R. Masse expressed his understanding that while pedestrians should be accommodated, they do not have the right-of-way over snowplows. B. Pounds said that MassDOT could not definitively answer who has the right-of-way, as the situation is contextual. M. Moore concluded that while the situation is not unique, it is manageable.

## 5 – Updates from MassDOT District 1 & District 2: Peter Frieri, Laura Hanson

P. Frieri summarized the status of current projects in District 1:

- The contract for the resurfacing of the length of Route 2 in Shelburne was awarded to Warner Brothers on 3/13/19.
- The project to resurface and calm traffic on Route 2 in Charlemont will be advertised this year.

L. Hanson summarized the status of several current projects in District 2:

- C&A Construction is expected to begin work mid-May on the streetscape and pedestrian improvements on Route 63 in Erving.
- New England Infrastructure is in the process of completing the drilled shaft foundation system on Nash Mill Road (over the Green River) in Greenfield.
- Construction has begun on Route 91; the contractor will be milling and paving sections as other work is completed, and Phase 2 bridge work will follow.
- Utility relocation for the bridge replacement on Holtshire Road in Orange was completed 3/14/19, and demolition is expected to start in April. The project is scheduled for completion on 4/24/20.
- MIG Construction is working on Phase 2 North -- abutment footing on the McClellan Farm Road over the B&M Railroad in Deerfield.

Further, she mentioned that the submission deadline for the 25% design of the General Pierce Bridge rehabilitation project is due from the MassDOT consultant on 6/17/19. Please see the handout for additional details.

## 6 – Updates from FRCOG: Maureen Mullaney

M. Mullaney reported that FRCOG is nearly completed with its annual report, which describes the work and projects of all FRCOG's departments during calendar year 2018. It will be distributed to funders and constituents widely via email, and more selectively by mail. Anyone who would like a hard copy may email [mmullaney@frcog.org](mailto:mmullaney@frcog.org).

## 7 – Updates from FRTA: Michael Perrault

M. Perreault announced that the RTA Taskforce released a draft of its Regional Transit Plan last week, is taking public comments this week, and will send the final document to the Legislature soon after that.

Having recently been awarded a grant from MassDOT for a micro-transit pilot program serving low-income populations in several towns, FRTA staff is currently working on an MOU to address project goals, M. Perreault said. FRTA continues to advocate for funding in next year's budget to launch a pilot project for weekend service, he added, and the statewide Regional Transit Task Force report called for a sharp increase in funding to all RTAs.

FRCOG staff is collaborating with PVPC to launch a survey of train riders which will provide baseline data prior to the start of the pilot. To drive riders to the survey on-line, they are handing out postcards with web addresses and QR codes. The survey will run through July, and the data will guide future marketing.

## 8 – Updates from FRPB

None.

### 9 – Public Comments

None.

### 10 – Additional business not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours.

None.

### 13 – Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next scheduled meeting of the TPO is Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 12:30 PM. Following that meeting, staff will send out a draft of the TIP, B. Pound said, adding that the United Planning Work Program and Regional Transportation Plan will follow in June and July.

*B. Dean moved to adjourn the meeting, K. Fox seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 1:09 PM.*

#### **Documents Distributed / Presentations Viewed:**

- Agenda
- FRPB Minutes, February 26, 2019 – DRAFT
- 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Preferred Target Projects – DRAFT
- MassDOT Updates -- District 2, March 26, 2019
- MassDOT District One Report, March 26, 2019