



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization

Date:	Tuesday, May 26, 2020
Time:	12:00 PM
Location:	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/775429245 or +1 (866) 899-4679 Access code: 775-429-245
Duration:	53 minutes
Facilitator:	David Mohler, MassDOT OTP

FCTPO Members in Attendance:

Dave Mohler, MassDOT OTP (representing MassDOT Secretary Stephanie Pollack)
Richard Masse, MassDOT– District 2 (representing Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway Administrator)
Steve Ellis, Eastern County Representative
Marguerite Willis, Western County Representative
Kevin Fox, FRCOG Executive Committee
Bill Perlman, FRCOG Regionally Elected Representative
Michael Perreault, FRTA (representing FRTA Chair Lance Fritz)
Marlo Warner II, DPW Director, City of Greenfield (representing Mayor Roxann Wedegartner)
Ken Miller, Federal Highway Administration (non-voting member)

Guests:

Peter Frieri, MassDOT District 1
Laura Hanson, MassDOT – District 2
Paula Simmons, MassDOT – District 2
Heather Butler, Town of Buckland (Town Administrator)
Brian Domina, Town of Whately (Town Administrator)
Fred Orloski, Town of Whately (Select Board)
Gabrielle Volker, Town of Orange (Town Administrator)
Geoff Kravitz, Town of Sunderland (Town Administrator)

Staff:

Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director
Maureen Mullaney, Transportation & GIS Program Manager II
Ryan Clary, Sr. GIS Specialist
Helena Farrell, Land Use & Natural Resources Planner
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: Dave Mohler

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 April 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes: Dave Mohler

Perlman moved to approve the April 28, 2020 minutes, Masse seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously (Mohler, Masse, Warner, Fox, Perlman, Ellis, Perrault) with one abstention (Willis).

3 – Review and vote to endorse the DRAFT FY 2021-25 TIP: Laurie Scarbrough

Scarbrough summarized staff responses following the public comment period:

- The narrative was improved and minor corrections were made following comments from DOT.
- The project to rehabilitate Haydenville Road was maintained on the list for 2025, in keeping with comments of support from the Town of Whately.
- The project to reconstruct and widen Conway Street, Summer Street, South Street and Conway Road was moved from 2022 to 2021 after comments of reassurance from the Town of Buckland that it would be ready for a timely ROW review.
- As a result of the above rescheduling, the two Route 2 intersection improvement projects in Greenfield were moved from 2022 to 2023

It was noted that un-programmed FFY 2022 funds may allow for amendments to the TIP to address cost increases in scheduled projects, or for projects not yet proposed to be included.

Willis left the meeting at 12:15, prior to the motion.

Perlman moved to endorse the DRAFT FY 2021-25 TIP, including the moving of the Buckland project to FFY 2021 and the Greenfield projects to FFY 2023, Fox seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously (Mohler, Masse, Warner, Fox, Perlman, Ellis, Perrault) with no abstentions.

4 – Review and vote to endorse the DRAFT FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): Megan Rhodes

Rhodes summarized staff responses following the public comment period:

- More detail was included on plans to develop a bike share program in Franklin County (Task 3.2).
- A step was added to the project to develop a regional electric vehicle charging station program; staff will investigate potential CMAQ funding (Task 3.4)
- A step was added to the project to plan and implement Franklin County Bikeway trailblazing signs; staff will investigate potential CMAQ funding (Task 3.5)
- A comment regarding assessment of FRCOG – FRTA collaboration was not addressed, as no contract exists between the two organizations

Masse moved to endorse the DRAFT FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Ellis seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously (Mohler, Masse, Warner, Fox, Perlman, Ellis, Perrault) with no abstentions.

5 – Review and vote to endorse the DRAFT Amendment to the MOU establishing the FCTPO: Maureen Mullaney

Mullaney summarized staff responses following the public comment period:

- Clerical errors were corrected, and organizational names were updated
- The organization charged with appointing sub-regional members was changed from the Franklin County Selectmen's Association to the FRCOG Council
- A vice-chairmanship position was added to the organizational structure

Perlman moved to endorse the DRAFT Amendment to the MOU establishing the FCTPO, Ellis seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously (Mohler, Masse, Warner, Fox, Perlman, Ellis, Perrault) with no abstentions.

6 – Review and vote to accept an Adjustment to the 2020 TIP: Maureen Mullaney

Mullaney explained the adjustment -- an increase in cost of \$483,146 -- to the Colrain intersection improvement project (607538) following a safety study, and the application of both regional and state STBG funds to cover the increase.

Perlman moved to accept an adjustment to the 2020 TIP, Masse seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously (Mohler, Masse, Warner, Fox, Perlman, Ellis, Perrault) with no abstentions.

7 – Presentation on the Franklin County Sustainable Stormwater Management Plan: Helena Farrell

Farrell's explanation of the difference between green and conventional infrastructure -- and her analysis and description of extensive potential application of the former in the Deerfield River, CT River and Millers River watersheds -- led to her presentation on the exemplary Buckland Green Infrastructure project in Shelburne Falls. Noting project leader Kimberly Noakes MacPhee, Farrell summarized FRCOG's concept design work with Buckland's Town Administrator and Highway Superintendent, and Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility's Chief Operator. The project aims to mitigate the erosive power of stormwater on Goodnow Mountain and the steep Crittenden Hill Road, a renowned feature of an international road race and a popular route of local pedestrians. It will involve the capture of water from sheet flow and two streams in a refurbished holding tank, culvert renovation, and road rehabilitation. Further, new bio-detention infrastructure with discharge to an existing swale will result in the creation of a stepped mountain path and a pocket park at the base of the slope above the village, she said. Butler noted the collaborative spirit of the project and the enthusiasm of Buckland department heads, herself included. Mohler expressed appreciation for the work, and thanked Farrell for the presentation.

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

For District 1, Frieri reported:

- The FFY 2019 resurfacing and traffic calming on Route 2 in Charlemont remains under construction.
- On FFY 2020 projects:
 - The 100% design of the 3-way intersection project at Route 112 in Colrain is under review.
 - The apparent low-bidder at the May 19th opening of bids on the project to replace the West Oxbow Road bridge in Charlemont is Clayton d. Davenport Trucking, Inc.
 - The PS&E on the Tower Road bridge replacement in Charlemont is under review, with ROW and ENV clearance pending
- The MassDOT project manager is working on rescheduling the cancelled public hearing (originally scheduled for 3/31/20) on the FFY 2021 project to reconstruct and widen four roads in Buckland

(606463).

For District 2, Hanson reported:

- On current projects:
 - Bids on the replacement of the Route 2 bridge over Route 202 in Orange were opened late April; the next step will be the issuing of a Notice to Proceed.
 - The project to resurface a section of Routes 5&10 in Deerfield and Whately was advertised in May; the next step will be the bid opening on July 7.
- The PS&E on the FFY 2020 project to resurface a section of Route 47 in Sunderland submitted in May is under review, and the advertising date remains September 12.
- There have been no changes, since the last meeting, to other construction projects.

9 – Updates from FRCOG: Maureen Mullaney

There was no update from FRCOG.

In response to Mullaney’s request for guidance, Mohler expressed support for FRCOG conducting summer traffic counts to gauge the impact of pandemic-related restrictions.

10 – Updates from FRTA: Michael Perrault

Perrault reported that FRTA is currently maintaining reduced service levels while closely monitoring ridership, and that it is planning an increase in service during Phase II of MA’s re-opening of the economy, possibly early next month.

11 – Updates from FRPB: Tom Miner

None.

12 – Public Comments

None.

13 – Additional business not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours

None.

14 – Next Meeting / Adjourn

The next scheduled meeting of the TPO is Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 12:00 PM.

Ellis moved to adjourn the meeting, Fox seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 12:53 PM.

Documents Distributed / Presentations Viewed:

- FCTPO meeting Agenda 05 26 2020
- TPO minutes 4-28-2020 DRAFT
- DRAFT Franklin 2021-2025 TIP Highway List vA
- DRAFT Franklin 2021-2025 TIP Highway List vB
- FINAL 2021-2025 TIP Transit Project List
- DRAFT Franklin 2021-2025 TIP Text – REVISED
- Franklin_2021_UPWP_DRAFT
- Franklin - FFY2021 UPWP Checklist

- DRAFT_Amendment_Franklin_MOU_4-25-2020
- 2020 Franklin TIP Highway Adjustment 1 Summary
- 2020 Franklin TIP Highway Adjustment 1
- TPO GI Presentation_05262020
- TPO GI Presentation_05262020
- District 1 05-26-20 Franklin TPO update
- District 2 Updates-20200526