



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization

Date:	Tuesday, May 3, 2022
Time:	12:00 PM
Location:	https://zoom.us/j/95874652140?pwd=R0ZRRXVQRGNWVlqVk9Dak1qUGlpQT09 Meeting ID: 958 7465 2140 Passcode: +d0aL1jjTM
Duration:	1 hour, 1 minute
Facilitator:	Steven Woelfel, MassDOT OTP

FCTPO Members in Attendance:

Steven Woelfel, MassDOT (representing MassDOT Secretary Jamey L. Tesler)
 Paula Simmons, MassDOT District 2 (representing MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver)
 Bill Perlman, FRCOG Regionally Elected Representative
 Kevin Fox, FRCOG Executive Committee
 Eric Twarog, FRTA Chair
 Heather Butler, Western County Representative
 Steve Ellis, Central County Representative
 Marlo Warner II, DPW Director, City of Greenfield (representing Mayor Roxann Wedegartner)

Guests:

Michelle Ho, FHWA
 Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP
 Derek Shooster, MassDOT OTP
 Mark Moore, MassDOT District 1
 Peter Frieri, MassDOT District 1
 Daryl Amaral, MassDOT District 2
 Laura Hanson, MassDOT District 2
 Tom Ruta, MassDOT District 2
 Michael Perreault, FRTA
 MJ Adams, City of Greenfield
 Brian Domina, Town of Whately

Staff:

Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director
 Laurie Scarbrough, Transportation Planning Engineer
 Beth Giannini, Senior Transportation Planner II
 Megan Rhodes, Senior Transportation/Land Use Planner
 Liz Jacobson-Carroll, Assistant Planner

1 – Welcome and introductions

-Woelfel

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m., and was followed by a round of introductions.

2 – Review and Approval of the March 22, 2022 Meeting Minutes:

B. Perlman moved to approve the March 22, 2022 minutes, E. Twarog seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously with one abstention (M. Warner). (H. Butler and K. Fox were not present for the vote.)

3 – Review and vote to release an amendment to the 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for a 21-day comment period:

-Scarborough

Scarborough explained that \$1,155,457 of federal infrastructure funding is coming to the region, and that FRCOG staff have been working closely with partners to determine what can be spent on FFY22 projects, and what will be transferred to FFY23 projects.

She then reviewed Amendment #2, which included three changes to the FFY 2022 Highway Project List. Two of these were to regionally prioritized projects: first, the FRTA maintenance solar array installation was added to section 1A, and funds were flexed from the regional target to FTA transit projects (total cost \$1 million); second, the Franklin County bikeway sign installation project funding source was changed from Surface Transportation Block Grant to Community Multiscale Air Quality funds (total cost \$200,000). The third change was to move the state-prioritized reliability project to replace the bridge on East Oxbow Road in Charlemont from FFY 2022 to FFY 2024 (total cost \$2,896,458), as it is not ready. Krevat explained that while the transfer and obligation of the transit funds must fall within FFY 2022, the spending may extend into the new year.

B. Perlman moved to release Amendment #2 to the FFY 2022-2026 TIP for a 21-day comment period, M. Warner seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. (K. Fox not present for the vote.)

4 – Review and vote to release the draft FY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for a 21-day comment period: Laurie Scarborough

Scarborough provided an overview of the 125-page draft TIP by explaining components listed in the table of contents. She reviewed an itemized list of transit projects for each year, and two versions (options A and B) of an itemized list of highway projects for each year. Ellis recommended that estimates of inflation be included in the calculations of project costs of multi-year plans. Scarborough stated that option A has an unprogrammed balance of \$4.67M, while option B listed projects that have not been reviewed by MassDOT PRC. Dunlavy recommended that the TPO release the Draft TIP with the option A highway project list and revisit it for a future amendment after the projects in option B had advanced through the MassDOT process.

B. Perlman motioned to release the draft FY 2023-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for a 21-day comment period with the option A Highway Project List, M. Warner seconded the motion and the motioned passed unanimously.

5 – Review and vote to release the FY 23 Unified Planning Work Program for a 21-day comment period: Megan Rhodes

Rhodes described the four sections of the UPWP, each a grouping of staff tasks and projects, in the 58-page document: 1. Management and Support of the Planning Process; 2. Data Collection and Analysis Activities; 3. Transportation Planning Studies; and 4. Ongoing Transportation Activities. Section 3 is the most variable, year-to-year. It includes resiliency projects and culvert assessments, public facing county-

wide outdoor recreation map, updating the regional transportation plan, road safety for vulnerable populations, the Franklin County Forward Program (small, innovative projects), preparing designs for pedestrian improvements to be ready for potential construction funding opportunities, supporting the marketing and study of passenger rail service, and piloting a project to assess dirt road vulnerability.

B. Perlman motioned to release the FY 23 UPWP for a 21-day comment period; M. Warner seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. (S. Ellis was not present for the vote.)

6 – Updates from MassDOT District 1

Frieri reported that the FFY21 project on the four streets in Buckland (606463: Conway St, etc.) is underway, and that the anticipated completion is in the fall of 2023. There are no projects currently programmed for FFY22. The 25% design submittal is anticipated late summer 2022 for the FFY23 bridge preservation project in Colrain-Lee-Stockbridge.

7 – Updates from MassDOT District 2

Amaral reported that a notice to proceed on the FFY22 project to install protective screening on the French King Bridge over the CT River on Route 2 was issued on 4/6/22, and that the related resurfacing contract was awarded to Eurovia Atlantic Coast LLC (low bid of \$3,495,690). The design for the FFY23 project involving the reconstruction of North Main Street in Orange has been re-approved, he said, and the design is at 75%. The 100% design is due 6/13/22, and the anticipated ad date of December 2, 2023. The 75% design for the FFY23 project to reconstruct two intersections on Route 2 in Greenfield is due 5/8/22, and the projected ad date is 5/13/23.

8 – Update from FRCOG: Linda Dunlavy

Dunlavy said that the FRCOG has received an additional \$100,000 for marketing of the Valley Flyer. Linda and Beth will meet with *the watsons*, the marketing firm that created and marketed the strategy, tomorrow to discuss extension of the campaign. Dunlavy encouraged those who have not already done so to complete the MARPA survey recently sent by Giannini.

9 – Update from FRTA: Eric Twarog

Twarog reported that work on the FRTA maintenance facility is progressing nicely; the delivery of pre-fabricated components has begun. Work on the Elm Terrace bus stop continues apace, with completion anticipated by 6/30/22, he added. The delivery of new busses began 4/22; several will be in service by the end of the week, others by September.

10 – Update from FRPB:

None.

11 – Public Comments

None.

12 – Additional business not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours

Shooster noted that MassDOT launched its long-range transportation plan, “Beyond Mobility”, yesterday.

13 – Next Meeting/Adjourn

The next scheduled meeting of the TPO is Thursday, May 26, 2022, at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 PM.

Documents Distributed / Presentations Viewed:

- The meeting agenda
- DRAFT Minutes of the 3-22-22 FCTPO meeting
- FY 2022 TIP Highway Amendment 2 summary
- Franklin 2022-2026 TIP Highway Project List Amendment 2 DRAFT
- Franklin 2023-2027 TIP Narrative DRAFT (being sent in a separate email because of the size)
- Franklin 2023-2027 TIP Transit Project List DRAFT
- Franklin 2023-2027 Draft TIP Highway Project List with unassigned funding
- Projects Under Consideration for the Franklin 2023 TIP
- DRAFT FY 2023 UPWP
- MassDOT District 1 report