

Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)



**Cape Cod Commission Conference Room
3225 Main Street Barnstable, MA 02630**

CAPE COD
COMMISSION

Minutes: Monday, March 4, 2013

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Clinton Bench	Deputy Executive Director, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, (MassDOT) Office of Transportation Planning (OTP)/ Chairman, representing Richard A. Davey, Secretary/Chief Executive Officer (CEO), MassDOT
Austin Knight	Provincetown Selectman, Sub-Region D Rep., (D= Eastham, Wellfleet, Truro, and Provincetown)
Jason Steiding	Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
Ron Bergstrom	Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA)
Dennis Walsh	Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA)
Curtis Sears	Yarmouth Selectman, Sub-Region B Rep., (B= Yarmouth and Dennis)
Florence Seldin	Town of Chatham, Chair Board of Selectmen; Sub-Region C Alternate Representative (C= Brewster, Harwich, Chatham, and Orleans)
Terry Whalen	Town of Chatham
Mark Ells	Town of Barnstable
Daniel Santos, P.E.	Town of Barnstable, DPW
Sallie K. Riggs	Bourne Financial Development Corporation (BFDC)
Lance Lambros	Senator Therese Murray Office
Robert Burgmann, P.E.	Greenman -Pedersen, Inc.
Chris Adams	Delahunt Group
Ed Maroney	Barnstable Patriot
Calli Cenizal	MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
Timothy Kochan	MassDOT Highway Division District 5
Glenn Cannon, P.E.	CCC Technical Services Director
Priscilla Leclerc	CCC Senior Transportation Planner
Lev Malakhoff	CCC Senior Transportation Engineer
Steven Tupper	CCC Technical Services Planner
Maria McCauley	CCC Administrative Assistant

Call to order: Chairman Clinton Bench called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and asked all present for self-introductions.

Minutes of January 28, 2013 MPO meeting: Ron Bergstrom motioned to approve the MPO minutes from the January 28, 2013 meeting. Curtis Sears seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment: Clinton Bench inquired if there were any public comments. There were none.

Cape Cod Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment, FFY 2013-2016: Priscilla Leclerc, CCC Senior Transportation Planner, handed out copies of TIP Amendment Update packet and "side by side" comparison sheet and she reviewed changes to the Final Draft TIP Amendment for FFY 2013-2016. She explained that CCRTA Transit and Bike Shuttle amounts have changed due to a change required by the state to include the local amounts.

Priscilla stated that after the last MPO meeting she has received a letter from Dennis Walsh, CCRTA, explaining that the amounts in the TIP Amendment under "Transit" are equal to their CCRTA budget. Subsequently there is an adjustment in the bus rolling stock - \$1,420,108.00 is being added to the Public Draft TIP Amendment. There is also change in 5311: Rural Public Transit Service amount was \$46,018.00 but now the local match in an equal amount is shown, so the amount in the TIP Amendment is \$92,036.00. Federal amounts for the transit projects are all staying the same.

Priscilla informed the MPO that she held a public meeting at the Cape Cod Commission's building on February 6, 2013, and reported that she received a few general comments on road and transportation improvements on Cape Cod. Priscilla stated that she has received an e-mail that related to the Airport Rotary and she forwarded it to Glenn Cannon and Lev Malakhoff. She has also received a packet from the West Chatham Association, not related to the TIP Amendment year projects, which she forwarded to Clinton Bench. It is available if anybody would like a copy of that letter.

Calli Cenizal said that she would like to clarify the 5311 local match. She explained that the RTA has already committed the funds to 5311 and that MassDOT just wanted the amounts to be shown in the TIP Amendment.

Clinton Bench wanted to confirm that there have not been any additional line items added or removed from the Draft and that the amounts have only shifted within the existing line items.

Priscilla responded that that is correct.

Clinton Bench asked Priscilla to update him on the Rail Trail situation.

Priscilla replied that design for the Cape Cod Rail Trail extension was in the previous TIP and is just being moved to this year's TIP.

Clinton Bench also explained that the reduction in the TIP Amendment amounts under "Transit" is not a reduction of federal funding; it is rather a better way of reflecting amounts expected to be spent on capital equipment. Federal funds can be carried over to the next year on the transit side.

Ron Bergstrom asked where the Monomoy Shuttle service is in the TIP and what is happening with the project.

Priscilla responded that she has carried the amount over to the TIP 2013.

Terry Whalen stated that the town had a discussion with Fish & Wildlife regarding permitting a while back. The project is moving forward but not very quickly.

Ron Bergstrom asked who would be the contact person for the project in Fish & Wildlife.

Terry Whalen replied that the person to contact is David Brown.

Priscilla added that if the project is not ready for this year than we have to move it to the following year TIP.

Clinton Bench confirmed that MassDOT would have to know soon to move the funds to the TIP 2014.

Curtis Sears moved to approve the TIP Amendment. Mark Ells seconded the motion. TIP Amendment was approved unanimously.

Hyannis Access Implementation: Glenn Cannon, P.E., CCC Technical Services Director, presented an overview of the Hyannis Access project and discussed the process of selecting a design option for the Airport Rotary out of four alternatives narrowed down by the Hyannis Access Study in 2008. Glenn talked about going out to the community to get property/business owners involved with the project. The selected option, with grade separation at the Airport Rotary, has the least land takings even though all the properties on the airport side of Yarmouth Road will be taken for the planned roadway improvement - four lanes road with a raised median. Glenn added that property owners that would be affected by the land takings are very agreeable to the project because they struggle with current traffic conditions.

A four lane roadway will be continued from Rte. 28/Yarmouth Road intersection to Willow Street/Higgins Crowell Rd. There will be a roundabout at the intersection of Rte. 28 and Ridgewood Ave. A Roundabout was recommended by the Hyannis Fire Department because it is easier for the fire trucks to reverse direction at a roundabout and the fire department also needs a break in the raised median every 0.5 mile.

The section of Rte. 28 from the Airport Rotary to Rte. 28/Bearse's Way intersection which is one of the top 10 high crash locations in Barnstable, would also have four lanes, raised median and sidewalks on both sides. Glenn added that he believes that this is the safest option for the pedestrians.

Glenn also presented the goals of the Hyannis Access Implementation project that were taken into the consideration and the evaluation criteria used for selecting the Preferred Alternative. The Town will make a final presentation to the Town Council and then to the MassDOT. The project will cost about \$50 million.

Florence Seldin asked about the timeline for the project.

Glenn replied that it will be a two year design schedule and then a minimum two year construction schedule.

Florence Seldin inquired what will happen to the businesses that will be affected by the construction.

Glenn responded that the Town will provide businesses with relocation assistance but some businesses are just looking for a check for land taking.

Ron Bergstrom stated that this seems like an enormous, expensive and disruptive project. I have driven in and out of Hyannis hundreds of times and I never have any problems with the traffic. Why are we doing this?

Glenn replied that traffic routinely backs up around the Airport Rotary and on Rte. 28 and this project is to relieve congestion.

Ron Bergstrom asked about the Old Train Station and whether it is a historic building.

Glenn answered that it is not a historic structure. It is a large project but it is something that the state routinely undertakes. Businesses along Yarmouth Road are marginal because they don't have safe access and drivers don't want to take left turns.

Mark Ells added that Regional Transportation Center, regional medical facilities, hospital and business center for the whole of Cape Cod is all located in Hyannis. Safety and congestion require this project. We might address the intersection of Yarmouth Rd. and Rte. 28 first (in 2016) and see how that helps the traffic.

Clinton Bench commented that soon the MPO and MassDOT will be working on TIP 2014-2017. In 2015, we will be doing a new Regional Transportation Plan and by then we should know better what Mass DOT can handle in terms of major infrastructure projects and what funds might be available for mega projects.

Glenn added that Yarmouth Road Corridor was listed in Governor's list of projects that have to be addressed in this region.

Reports and Other Information: Tim Kochan, MassDOT District 5, provided project updates:

- 2013 ITS Improvements – the project is at 75% design status, working towards final design
- Intersection improvements in two locations in Orleans: Rte. 6A/Main Street and Rte. 28/Main Street – project is under design, moving towards 25% status; public meeting was held on February 26, 2013 and there was much positive feedback.
- Chatham has submitted Project Need Form and Project Initiation Form for intersection improvement project at Rte.28/Crowell Rd. /Queen Anne Rd. and Depot Rd.
- Mashpee has submitted PNF for Rte. 151 corridor improvements from Mashpee Rotary to Falmouth town line; it includes bike accommodations, access management and traffic light improvements.

Dennis Walsh, CCRTA, reported that Cape Rail demonstration project now has its own website: www.capeflyer.com Updates on the project will be posted on this website.

Priscilla Leclerc reminded MPO members that there will be an MPO certification review meeting coming up.

Clinton Bench explains that Federal Highway Administration conducts a review of MPO's of certain size. They provide a lot of comments, especially in respect to public outreach and environmental justice. They come for one day, from 9am till 4 pm and they need to hear from MPO members to know how the collaborative process between MassDOT and the region is working.

Clinton Bench also said that the review meeting is open to the public. Clinton Bench asked about the date of the next MPO meeting.

Priscilla responded she had it planned tentatively for May 20, 2013.

Clinton Bench responded that he would like the MPO to meet in April to release the TIP for public comment. After a short discussion it was decided that the next MPO meeting will be on April 22, 2013.

Dennis Walsh asked about the deadline for Grants Plus.

Callie Cenizal responded that competitive grants applications were due last Friday and other applications are due by the end of March but I will double check that date.

Curtis Sears moved to close the meeting. Austin seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Attachments:

- TIP Amendment FFY2013-2016 Update packet
- "Side by Side" Summary of TIP Amendments
- Hyannis Access Implementation presentation