



CAPE COD  
COMMISSION

# Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

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

**Draft Meeting Minutes: Monday, March 16, 2015**

## **MPO Members in Attendance**

## **Representing**

Clinton Bench	Massachusetts Department of Transportation, (MassDOT) Office of Transportation Planning (OTP)/ Chairman, representing Stephanie Pollack, Secretary of Transportation
Pamela Haznar	MassDOT Highway Division, District 5, Frank Depaola, MassDOT Highway Administration
R. Patrick Ellis	Sub Region A: Bourne, Falmouth, Mashpee and Sandwich
Sheryl A. McMahon	Sub Region B: Dennis and Yarmouth
Sims McGrath	Sub Region C: Brewster, Chatham, Harwich and Orleans
Richard Roy	Cape Cod Commission
Leo Cakounes	Barnstable County Commissioner
Daniel Santos, P.E.	Barnstable Town Council – Alternate
Jason Steiding	Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe – Alternate
Jill Goldsmith	Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA), Alternate
Joe Rodricks	Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee (CCJTC) (non-voting)

## **Others in Attendance**

## **Representing**

Bryan Pounds	MassDOT, OTP Liaison
Timothy Kochan	MassDOT Highway Division, District 5
Amy Getchell	MassDOT Highway Division, District 5
Kerry Morris	MassDOT
Lance Lambros	Barnstable/Yarmouth Massachusetts Area – District Representative at Massachusetts Senate Office of Senate President Therese Murray
Cathy Lynds	Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA)
Sally Riggs	Bourne Transportation Advisory Committee
Susan H. Rohrbach	Senator Dan Wolf
John Pearson	IPH/Massachusetts Coastal Railroad
Wayne Lamson	Steamship Authority
Stephen Buckley	openchatham.com
Dr. David E. Burns	WCA Chatham
Glenn Cannon, P.E.	Cape Cod Commission, Technical Services Director
Lev Malakhoff	Cape Cod Commission, Senior Transportation Engineer
Steven Tupper	Cape Cod Commission, Technical Services Planner
Patty Daley	Cape Cod Commission, Deputy Director

Patrick Tierney  
Caroline Harper  
Martha Hevenor  
Lisa Dillon

Cape Cod Commission, Technical Services Planner  
Cape Cod Commission, Planner  
Cape Cod Commission, Planner  
Cape Cod Commission, Administrative Assistant

**Call to order:**

Clinton Bench called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Members of the Board introduced themselves as well as the Cape Cod Commission staff and visitors.

**Minutes of February 23, 2015:**

Upon a motion by Sims McGrath to approve the minutes of February 23, 2015 with a technical correction to Roy Richard representing the Cape Cod Commission, second by Daniel Santos, the motion was passed unanimously. Pam Haznar abstained from vote.

**Public Comments:**

Dr. David Burns read his email statement to Lisa Dillon dated March 16, 2015 regarding his objection to a statement Mr. Travers made at the last MPO meeting on February 23, 2015. His objection relates to the comment regarding the Chatham project in which Mr. Travers stated that 50% of the people at the design public hearing are in opposition and 50% are in support of the project.

Steven Buckley referred to the attached email from Glenn Cannon dated March 6, 2015 regarding the FHWA's Public Involvement Plan for Massachusetts. Mr. Buckley feels that there is not enough public involvement. Mr. Buckley contacted the Federal Highway Administration with his concerns as outlined in the email and indicated that there were enough questions raised in the Plan for them to begin an investigation.

**Cape Cod MPO Vice- Chair Election:** Nominations and Voting  
— Clinton Bench, MassDOT Deputy Director of Planning

Glenn Cannon announced that a MPO Vice-Chair election is required. In the event that the Chairperson is unable to attend a meeting, the Vice-Chair will be required to step in and chair the meeting. R. Patrick Ellis volunteered for the position.

Upon a motion to appoint R. Patrick Ellis as the Vice Chairman of the MPO, second by Sheryl McMahon, the vote was passed unanimously.

**MPO Sub Region D Representative:** Discussion and Vote to Authorize Special Election.  
— Glenn Cannon, CCC Director of Technical Services

Mr. Cannon explained that Cheryl Andrews declined her nomination to the MPO due to scheduling conflicts. He referred to the Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization Sub-Region D Special Election Process, 2015 Action Items and Dates.

Mr. Cannon explained that these recommendations are not specifically spelled out in the MOU. Mr. Bench suggested a sub region D special election.

Upon a motion to move forward with a sub region E special election by Roy Richardson, second by Sims McGrath, the vote was passed unanimously.

**Route 6 Median Replanting Plan: Presentation and Discussion**  
— Amy Getchell, MassDOT District 5

Ms. Getchell discussed the Rte. 6 median project. She stated that the replanting project will be in conjunction with the resurfacing project and the focus is to enhance safety in the Sagamore to Barnstable area of Rte. 6. She stated that there is a 25' set back requirement by Federal Highway Guidelines when removing tree obstacles. The Rte. 6 median was over cleared at the 59.5-61.6 mile markers as well as at the 62.7-63.7 mile markers. She explained that a stakeholder group has been formed in which the Cape Cod Commission & MassDOT are part of. This group helped determine the best plan for revegetating the median. There were 2 meetings in December in which comments gathered and a plan was prepared and given to the contractor. This project will be completed by Memorial Day in May, 2015. The cost of this revegetation is being paid by the contractor.

Ms. Getchell explained that discussions on ways to improve notification during this process. She indicated that there is no process for public outreach with regard to maintenance projects. MassDOT is looking at a program to provide more outreach to the residents. The project engineer will be required to fill out a form to notify the town with all of the information on the projects and potential impacts. The district as well as the MPO will be informed. She stated that since maintenance projects are not on the TIP notifications of these projects will be sent via email to the Towns, MPO and Delegations. Ms. Haznar stated that updates on these projects will also be announced at the CCJTC and MPO Meetings. Mr. Cannon requested that larger projects come to the CCJTC in presentation format and Ms. Haznar agreed.

Based on the concerns expressed by the Community, Ms. Getchell explained that since the Cape is a unique area, MassDOT has agreed to relax Federal Highway Guidelines, site specific and will be a considering during the design stage of projects.

Mr. Cannon stated that discussions regarding the replanting and long-term planning of the entire corridor may be coming to the MPO as well as CCJTC.

Mr. McGrath asked if there had been an assessment of guard rails along the corridor. Ms. Getchell indicated that the area is under review and the funds will be from the state.

Lance Lambros asked for a copy of the Federal Guidelines that we would like to see. Representative Hunt is using existing funds.

Mr. Bench commented that there is \$1 million uncommitted funds available in the 2016 TIP.

**Regional Transportation Plan: Draft Goals and Objectives and Performance Measures.**  
— Steve Tupper, CCC Technical Services Planner

Mr. Tupper reviewed a power point on the Regional Transportation Plan. The presentation includes the updated RTP schedule, the document outline, performance based planning, DRAFT goals and safety. The presentation also includes each transportation mode with the existing infrastructure conditions by the numbers, updated resiliency planning, safety conditions, the universe of projects, and addressing canal crossing options with approaches for the RTP. He summarized each of the Goals which are Safety, Environmental and Economic Vitality, Livability and Sustainability, Multimodal Options/Healthy Transportation, Congestion Reduction, System Preservation and Freight Mobility.

Mr. Tupper also presented the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan, Chapter 7: Analysis of Alternatives which was endorsed on August 22, 2011 for consideration in developing the Universe of Projects for the 2016 RTP.

Mr. Bench suggested highlighting this document as a “DRAFT” as it is a continually evolving document. A new document is needed as the performance measures are quantifiable. Mr. Tupper welcomed the feedback and stated that he will prepare a revised document for presentation to the MPO.

It was clarified that the safety data provided in the presentation is updated every 3 years due to the time it takes to update the data which is on an ongoing basis.

MassDOT is in the process of an 18 month study on the canal crossing study. The data will take time to process as it changes daily and we will need options for addressing these changes.

Bryan Pounds stated that the study is looking at building a new bridge and replacement of the existing bridge with a potential crossing away from the 3 bridges. Financing options include a public/private partnerships as well as tolls. Ms. Haznar added that financing strategies are being discussed within the stakeholder groups and will be holding public meetings for further input. Sue Rohback asked if the Army Corp would be included and Mr. Cannon indicated that they will be part of the comprehensive group and there are looking at a host of ideas.

Mr. Sims asked when we can expect the outreach schedule to be completed for distribution. Ms. McMahon suggested adding evening meetings to increase attendance and Mr. Tupper stated that she would look into that. Once we have the schedule each Town should add to their website on the front page under “news and announcements”

Mr. Bench stated that comments should be submitted sooner rather than later. The next meeting in April will include the survey results, financials and a general overview for the release of the Draft in May of the RTP.

## **Reports and Other Information**

Mr. Cannon gave updates from the Cape Cod Commission as follows:

- There are important dates coming up with the Waste Water Plan
- The Commuter Rail in Buzzards Bay will be on the Bourne town ballot in May
- Rumble strips on Rte. 6 from Eastham to Provincetown are moving forward
- Wellfleet, Truro, Provincetown bike plan

Ms. Haznar gave the following updates from MassDOT:

#### Current In-house design projects

- The Belmont Circle project will include bicycle and pedestrian accommodations as well as updating pavement markings and improved signage
- Upgrading lighting and landscaping of the roundabout Rte. 6 ramp and Rte. 149

#### 2014 Projects

- The bid opening for the Dennis Yarmouth Rail Trail Extensions is in June
- The bid opening will be at the end of June for the resurfacing & related work on Rte. 28 in Bourne, at which time we will revisit the clearing
- There will be clearing of the signage at the on off ramps along the midcape highway
- The bid opening is in June for the Brewster 6A resurfacing project

#### 2015 Projects

- Intersection improvements at Rte. 28 and Bearses Way in Barnstable are at 75% submission. Funds will need to be added to this project due to the elevated cost
- The construction of a multi-use path over the Bass River is at 100% design and is in the process of advertising
- The intersection improvement at Rte. 6A and Main St and Rte. 28 and Main St are at 100% design

#### 2016 Projects

- A design public hearing was held for the Rte. 28 from George Ryder Rd to Barn Hill Rd in Chatham. All comments are posted on the town website, and there will be a public informational meeting in April
- Sidewalk issues and been resolved for the Rte. 28 from Dennis Commons Drive to Upper County Rd. in Dennis and is at 25% design

Ms Haznar also commented that the Chatham Mitchell River Bridge is in progress. There have been some erosion issues with the Dennis Yarmouth Bass River Bridge Project and would like to see more sign improvements on that bridge.

Ms. Haznar responded to Ms. Riggs questions about the timing of the Belmont Circle Project by stating that MassDOT is moving ahead with the design which will take 1 – 2 years.

Cathy Lindi stated that the CCRTA is working on with the Cape Cod Commission on the Comprehensive Service Assessment to comply with legal requirements.

Mr. Bench concluded the meeting with a reminder to focus on multi model projects for TIP programming.

**Next Meeting:** April , 2015 @ 1:00 pm at the Cape Cod Commission

### **Adjourn**

Upon a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m. by Sims McGrath, second by Sheryl McMahon, the vote was passed unanimously

### **Documents and Exhibits Used/Received:**

Agenda, March 16, 2015

Minutes, February 23, 2015

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) endorsed on March 28, 2011 & 2012 MOU Addendum endorsed, January 23, 2013

MPO Sub-Region D Special Election Process 2015 – Acton items and dates

Email from Cheryl Andrews regarding resignation from the MPO

Cape Cod Regional Transportation Plan Development presentation

2016 Cape Cod RTP Development summary sheet

2012 Regional Transportation Plan, Chapter 7: Analysis of Alternatives, endorsed August 22, 2011

Emails dated January 23, 2017 to Bryan Pounds, Tim Kochan & Bill Travers from Pamela Haznar regarding the RTP GOPM

Emails dated March 6, 2015 to Stephen Buckley from Glenn Cannon regarding the FHWA's Public Improvement Plan for Massachusetts