

Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

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DRAFT Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2017

MPO Members in Attendance

Steve Woelfel
Pam Haznar
Leo Cakounes
Dan Santos
Harold Mitchell
R. Patrick Ellis
Sims McGrath
Sheryl McMahon

Representing

MassDOT, Office of Transportation Planning, representing Stephanie Pollack, MassDOT Secretary/Chief Executive Director
MassDOT Highway Division, District 5 representing Thomas Tinlin, MassDOT Highway Administrator
Barnstable County Commissioner
Representing Barnstable Town Council
Cape Cod Commission
Sub Region A: Bourne, Falmouth, Mashpee and Sandwich
Sub Region C: Brewster, Chatham, Harwich and Orleans
Sub Region B: Dennis and Yarmouth

Others in Attendance

Gabriel Sherman
Bill Travers
Terry Whalen
Tom Andrade
Tom Temple
Tom Currier
Tom Baron
Lynn Ahlgren
Wayne Lamson
Lance Lambros
Stephen Buckley
Elaine Gibbs
Gloria Freeman
David Burns, MD
Elaine Gibbs
Rick Leavitt
Seth Taylor
Elizabeth Savora
Christopher J Olsen
PC Butler
Peter Meninous
Rich Barry
Richard Fleming
Patty Daley
Glenn Cannon
Steven Tupper
Lev Malakhoff
Lisa Dillon

Representing

MassDOT, OTP Liaison
MassDOT Highway Division, District 5
Chatham, Town of, DPW
Dennis, Town of, DPW
Chatham, Town of
Chatham, Town of
Yarmouth, Town of
Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority
Steamship Authority
District Representative for State Senator Vinny deMacedo
openchatham.com
Chatham Citizen
Chatham Citizen
West Chatham Association, Inc
Chatham Citizen
West Chatham Village & Business Association
Chatham Selectmen
Resident
Cotuit Fire Department
Cotuit Resident
Owner of property at the Villaggio Restaurant
Citizen
Taxpayer
Cape Cod Commission
Cape Cod Commission
Cape Cod Commission
Cape Cod Commission
Cape Cod Commission

Call to order:

The Chairman, Steve Woelfel called the meeting to order at 1:00 and asked that members and the public introduce themselves.

Minutes of January 23, 2017

Upon a motion by Sims McGrath to approve the January 23, 2017 minutes, seconded by Patrick Ellis, the motion was passed unanimously. Ms. Haznar commented that when updates were given during public comment period she would like to clarify her response regarding the easements for the Chatham Project. Temporary easements last 5 years and that is a standard practice. Also, the construction duration has not been set as it has not been developed enough to make that determination.

Public Comment

Gloria Freeman stated that the advertisement in the meeting packet regarding the West Chatham roadway project has been discredited several times. It does not properly represent the businesses of West Chatham. The names of the businesses are outside the area of the project. The ad is fraudulent. Most businesses of West Chatham have provided you with petitions over the past 8 years and the project is moving forward without citizen's approval. Mr. Freeman's hopes that the project will be indefinitely postponed and thanked the committee for their time.

Dr. David Burns stated that he is representing the overwhelming number of businesses and citizens in West Chatham and the West Chatham Association, Inc and submitted his statement in writing.

Steve Buckley noted that in Fridays, February 24th, Cape Cod Times there is an article on the Rte. 28 Corridor study which is on today's agenda. He commented on the paragraph that states that the Cape Cod Commission has been working with MassDOT since 2012 on traffic studies and it's taking 1 year to get Cotuit on board, Chatham has been trying to get community buy in for 5-6 years. Can we explain why? Is the process different? Will the Chair allow for further clarification? Mr. Woelfel stated that when we start developing the TIP, we will discuss the West Chatham project in March. Mr. Woelfel doesn't understand what is meant by not allowing the public to speak, since Public Comment is part of the Agenda at the beginning of each meeting. Mr. Buckley stated that he is referring to points of clarification. Mr. Woelfel stated that as we get into the West Chatham project, next month he will be happy to answer questions and this is how meetings are always run. The Highway Administrator, Tom Tinlin is trying to get information in from all sides and determine his feeling about the project. Mr. Cannon stated that these are two different projects and the Cape Cod Commission wasn't involved in the beginning stage of the Chatham project as we are with the Cotuit project. Mr. Cannon stated all projects go through several steps beginning with the initial planning process through the design process. There were a number of meetings and a general consensus that a project of some sort should move forward. Mr. Woelfel added that IF West Chatham was to be moved off of the TIP there will be no "trading" of projects, that is not how the system works. The money will be freed up and any project in any community can compete for the funding. Mr. Buckley added for further clarification that in the past, members of the MPO have been addressed then specifically turn to the public asking if there are questions.. Mr. Woelfel added that once members have asked all questions, members of the public are welcome to speak.

Peter Meninous stated that he owns property within the Cotuit corridor. He commented that he is in favor of something being done in the corridor. He has had a chance to review "preliminary designs" and noted that there is a bus stop in front of two of his properties and feels that it poses a major safety concern. He has plans in the further develop one of the locations and is opposed to a bus stop being in front of that property. He would appreciate if consideration could be taken in relocating the bus stop

Elaine Gibbs stated that she is aware that the 100% design has been reviewed by MassDOT (Chatham Project) and that it has gone back to HSH with questions. She asked when it is due back so that the public can see the final design as well as the cost of the project. Ms. Gibbs also asked about the project taking 2 or 4 seasons and the answer was not known. She doesn't understand how you could not know the length of time a project will take given a project budget. Ms. Gibbs also asked if we lose the money if the project doesn't move forward. Mr. Woelfel stated that MassDOT does NOT lose federal money. Another region will use the money. Mr. Cannon stated that we do everything we can to keep the money in our Region. Ms. Haznar added that MassDOT received 100% design last week and will be reviewing with HSH.

Rick Levitt wanted the MPO to understand that there is wide spread support for the Chatham Project throughout the community. Mr. Leavitt comments are attached.

Lance Lambrose announced the State Senate's 2017 Commonwealth Conversations Tour, Senator DeMacedo is having a workshop in conjunction with Senator Brady and Senator Sear on Tuesday, March 7 at Mass Maritime. The workshop is capped at 75 people, so if you are interested you should enroll ASAP. Mr. Lambrose stated that this year, there is a transportation component which will be discussing transportation throughout the state.

Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2021 Cape Cod Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 1: The TIP is a recommended list of transportation projects to be advertised/eventually constructed using Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Federal Highway and Federal Transit Administration funding. Cape Cod Commission (CCC) staff will describe the proposed Amendment to the 2017-2021 TIP in which the National Park Service is looking at add a roadway pavement overlay for Doane Road in Eastham, a Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Route 6 repaving job will increase in cost, and the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority is reallocating its spending in the TIP to adjust planned expenditures on transit equipment, facilities, software and planning as indicated on the schedule posted with this agenda. CCC staff will give a presentation outlining the public comments received on the amended TIP that was released for public comment at the January 23, 2016 CCMPO meeting. The CCMPO will discuss and may vote whether to endorse the TIP Amendment 1. – Steven Tupper, Cape Cod Commission Transportation Planner

Mr. Tupper presented a power point. The presentation describes the TIP required TIP Amendments, Draft Amendment Schedule, Public Comments, Highway Projects and the Transit Program. Mr. Tupper also presented public comments and the TIP Amendment FFY 2017-201 Document.

Upon a motion to approve the Federal Fiscal Year 2017-2021 Cape Cod Transportation Improvement Program TIP Amendment by Leo Cakounes, seconded by Patrick Ellis, the vote was passed unanimously

Mr. Sims asked for clarification on the repaving projects. Could we have the geographic brackets on that? The acceleration and deceleration lanes for exit ramps were modified where they could be and will this pursued in the other resurfacing project. Ms. Haznar stated that this project butts into the Dennis Harwich project and runs through Dennis Harwich Brewster and Orleans. Mr. Sims asked if drainage work would be incorporated and Ms. Haznar stated that there is a storm water element included as well as reviewing the Acceleration and deceleration lanes.

Federal Fiscal Year 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): The UPWP is a list of transportation planning projects scheduled for funding and implementation as outlined in the Federal Fiscal Year 2018 (October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018) UPWP document. Cape Cod Commission staff will give a presentation outlining the planning process that leads to development of the UPWP. The CCMPO will discuss potential planning projects for inclusion into the UPWP. – Glenn Cannon, Cape Cod Commission Director of Technical Services

Mr. Cannon presented a power point. The presentation describes the UPWP, lists Tasks 1 – 4 and includes the DRAFT FY2017 UPWP Funding Summary.

Mr. Cakounes asked if within the climate change category do we look at Harbors and parking lots as there are towns that have lost their parking lots. Mr. Cannon stated that parking lots are being looked at through the Cape Cod Commission in conjunction with the RTA due to the overwhelming demand for summer services and satellite parking lots are being considered. Mr. Woelfel added that the Feds are clear that it is for Surface transportation.

Ms. Daley added that the Cape Cod Commission received a \$500,000 NOAA Grant and we will be looking at the impacts of sea level rise which will include harbors.

Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (CCMPO) Public Participation Plan (PPP) Amendment: The CCMPO PPP outlines the process by which the CCMPO solicits public involvement as part of the transportation planning process. Cape Cod Commission (CCC) staff will describe the proposed amendment to change the public comment period for future draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), United Planning Work Program (UPWP), and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) documents from thirty (30) days to twenty-one (21) days. CCC staff will give a presentation outlining the public comments received on the proposed amendment that was released for a forty-five (45) calendar day public comment period at the January 23, 2016 CCMPO meeting. The CCMPO will discuss the amendment consider and any public comments received during the comment period to date. A final vote will not be taken by the CCMPO at this meeting. – Glenn Cannon, Cape Cod Commission Director of Technical Services

Mr. Cannon presented the Public Participation Plan for review. He stated that there have been no public comments to date but staff has noted some technical corrections.

Route 28 Cotuit Corridor Study (Santuit-Newtown Road to Route 130): Cape Cod Commission staff will describe their work on the Route 28 Cotuit Corridor Study ("Study"), which is a study of the roadway from Santuit-Newtown Road to Route 130 in Cotuit, Massachusetts. The Study was conducted under the Federal Fiscal Year 2017 Unified Planning Work Program. The Study presents transportation alternatives which have been identified through a public outreach process to improve safety, reduce congestion, and improve accommodation of all road users on Route 28 from Santuit-Newtown Road to Route 130 in Cotuit, MA. Staff will also discuss the public outreach conducted and answer questions the CCMPO members may have. – Steven Tupper, Cape Cod Commission Transportation Planner

Mr. Tupper presented a power point. The presentation included the Study Area, Project Goals, Existing Conditions, Outreach that has been completed, Visioning Exercises, Issues, Suggestions, Concept Review Exercise, Diagrams, Key Short-Term Recommendations and the Next Steps.

Reports: MassDOT Highway Division District 5 Staff will give a status report on existing and planned transportation projects underway across Cape Cod. Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority and Cape Cod Commission staff will report on recent and upcoming activities that staff has participated in.

Pam Haznar stated that there was a resubmission for the Chatham project, but all other projects are at the design stage. Two weeks ago there was a readiness days meeting which is held annual with different sections of MassDOT, We look at projects for future TIP placement as well as current TIP projects in anticipation of the upcoming TIP development. There is concern about Dennis Rte. 28 corridor project. Plans were accepted in August and MassDOT is actively moving ahead this is a large project with ROW takings, everything is being done to get to the finish line with this project. It will more than likely have a conditional ROW cert which is under the discretion of Federal Highway and plan to have everything ready by the end of the Federal Fiscal Year, except the ROW cert. Hoping the project be advertised Mid-September if the conditional ROW cert is accepted.

Mr. Ellis asked that MassDOT look into plans of resurfacing on Rte. 6A Merchant Rd to Chipman Rd in Sandwich, MA. This section of the road hasn't been paved since 1999 and is in rough shape. Ms. Haznar stated that its not on her list, but she will look into it.

Lynn Algren from the CCRTA is in the process of updating the FY 18 budget and will provide additional information in a few months.

Mr. Cannon informed the Committee of upcoming events from MassDOT regarding the Capital Investment Plan and schedule from State Senate regarding MASSMOVES upcoming workshops.

Adjourn

Upon a motion to adjourn by Sims McGrath, seconded by Sheryl McMahon, the

Documents and Exhibits

Agenda, February 27, 2017

DRAFT Minutes, January 23, 2017

TIP FY 2017-21 DRAFT Amendment Power Point

TIP FY 2017-21 Amendment Public Comments

TIP FY 2017-21 Amendment Document

UPWP FFY 2018 Power Point

PPP 2017 Amendment Document

Cotuit Route 28 Corridor Study Power Point

Email from Debbie Aikman, dated 1/31/17 to Glenn Cannon RE: West Chatham project

Chronicle Ad RE: West Chatham Road Improvements from Rick Leavitt

History of Chatham's Main Street Project from Rick Leavitt

Policies-Priorities from Rick Leavitt

Email from Rick Leavitt dated 1/30/17 to Glenn Cannon RE: West Chatham TIP Project

Email from Amanda Love to Gloria Freeman dated 1/22/17 RE: Letter to MPO on the West Chatham Project

MassDOT updates dated 2/16/17

Petition addressed to Mr. David Mohler, MassDOT from Daniel Meservey

Email from Brendan Read dated 1/15/17 to Glenn Cannon RE: Affordable suggestions to improvements Cape Mass Transit

Letter from Seth Taylor RE: MassDOT Project #606596

MASSMoves Workshop flyer

MassDOT Capital Investment Plan Update Flyer