

**Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee**

*Transportation Advisory Group for the Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization*

C/O CAPE COD COMMISSION, P.O. BOX 226

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**Cape Cod Commission Conference Room**

**3225 Main Street (Route 6A), Barnstable, MA 02630**

**Minutes - Friday, April 3, 2009**

*Name*

Robert Burgmann, P.E., Chairman

Rick Tellier

Bob Bersin, P.E.

Joe Rodricks, P.E.

Neil Andres

Chris Nickerson

Paul Tilton, P.E.

Charleen Greenhalgh

George Allaire, P.E.

Mark Budnick

Lee Peck

Joanne O'Keefe

Timothy Litton

Bill Travers

Ed Maroney

Susan Rohrbach

Dennis Walsh

Wayne Taylor

Robert Patreaude

Wayne Lamson

Pamela Haznar

Jeffrey Mullan

Larry Cole

John Diaz

Sgt. Kyle Takakjian

Patty Daley

Priscilla N. Leclerc

Lev Malakhoff, Ph.D.

Glenn Cannon, P.E.

Andrew Koziol

*Representing*

Town of Barnstable, Town Engineer

Town of Bourne, DPW Director

Town of Brewster, Director, Department of Public Works

Town of Dennis, Engineer

Town of Eastham, Superintendent DPW

Town of Harwich, Highway Director

Town of Sandwich, Director, Department of Public Works

Town of Truro, Assistant Town Administrator

Town of Yarmouth, Director, Department of Public Works

Town of Orleans, Highway Manager

AECOM

Town of Sandwich

GPI

MHD District 5

*The Barnstable Patriot*

Office of State Senator Robert O'Leary

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority

Mashpee, MPO Sub-region A

GPI

Steamship Authority

Mass Highway District 5

EOT Undersecretary

Harwich, MPO Sub-region B

GPI

Truro Police

CCC Director of Technical Services

CCC Senior Transportation Planner

CCC Senior Transportation Engineer

CCC Transportation Engineer

CCC Transportation Analyst

**Call to Order:** Chairman Robert Burgmann, P.E., Barnstable, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:07 a.m.

**Minutes of March 6, 2008** The minutes were approved.

## **Projects Update and related information/next Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Priscilla Leclerc, CCC reported that financial information for the next TIP including Years 2010 through 2013 is expected to be available at the end of April or early May. Priscilla handed out a list of updated projects that will be reviewed with MHD for the next TIP and the next stimulus round. The discussion then turned to project updates:

- Bob Burgmann stated the Town has been asked to sign a 2<sup>nd</sup> MOU on landscaping on Rte 132
- The Town is asked to do a lot more, such as, trash pick-up, etc.
- Pam Haznar responded on this particular issue that District 5 does not have the resources, everything is privatized on Cape.
- Barnstable landscaping – advertising is scheduled for 4/11
- Barnstable 6A resurfacing – 4/29 bid open date
- Barnstable Rte 28 relocations – waiting for 100% submission, advertising date is 7/4/09
- Barnstable Rte 149 @ 6 – Town & consultant met this week
- Bourne Scenic Highway was advertised and bids opening 4/14
- Rte 6 & Rte 28 over Cohasset Narrows Bridge – on accelerated bridge program (moving ahead)
- MHD District 5 received the PNF for section of Rte 28 in Chatham, including the intersection of George Ryder Rd.
- Chatham bridge over Mitchell River – on accelerated bridge program
- Dennis Rte. 6A - May 16<sup>th</sup> advertise
- 2 Bridges in Dennis– Upper County Rd. & Rte. 28 (over Swan Pond River) are also on the accelerated bridge program
- Dennis Rte. 134 – project approved by the Project Review Committee, consultant working with town
- Falmouth Chapaquoit Rd over Falmouth Harbor - 75% final reviews are being done
- Falmouth Rte. 28 Reine's Corner section design plans are at 100%
- Orleans 6A & Rte 28 – getting a consultant on board (for design)
- Sandwich Rte 6 at 130 ramps – consultant concept presented and the Town commented
- Yarmouth – Old Townhouse & Forest St. 25% in Boston

## **State Transportation Plan update/Outreach Results**

Using the Smart Board, Priscilla Leclerc briefly updated the group on the state plan, and linked to [www.youMoveMassachusetts.org](http://www.youMoveMassachusetts.org) web site, showing one of the ten themes on-line, as an example. Priscilla encouraged those present to view the state efforts to date, and added that a draft plan is expected this summer. Priscilla also mentioned federal reauthorization efforts are in discussion, and showed the AASHTO website “[arewethereyet.transportation.org](http://arewethereyet.transportation.org)” launched on April 2, 2009.

## **Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)**

- Priscilla Leclerc, CCC, reported that the HSIP committee approved four 2009 Cape locations for Road Safety Audits, and the Audits are expected to begin in May.
- The Dennis location may be changed to Rte. 6 @ Rte 134. In addition, you received a memo and flyer that Andy Koziol put together to share with your police departments

**Governor Patrick's Transportation and Economic Security Plan** *Excutive Office of Transportation (EOT)*  
*Undersecretary Jeffrey Mullan*

Jeffrey Mullan mentioned the You Move MA website that includes the long range state transportation plan which establishes themes projects and policy reform was filed, along with a senate bill and today a house bill is being filed.

- MA Highway has 1900 employees, with just 400 paid on operating budget, and the rest through bonds or capital budget.
- \$725M annual for road and bridge spending program, \$250M for the accelerated bridge program, adopted flagger reform, 40% increase in project delivery speed, and large part of governor's economic security plan. We need to move employees out of capital spending.
- RTA is facing declining service, is not properly subsidized and must borrow for operating expenses.
- MBTA reaches 74% of the Commonwealth's population, and has record ridership – 1.4 million trips/day. However, "T" has an enormous debt load, 5.2 billion in debt with \$160M in operational deficit for FY10, \$230M operational deficit by FY11 and facing rate hikes.
- MTA – 2.2 billion in "Bid Dig" debt, \$125M structural deficit recurring on Metropolitan Highway System, suffers from regional inequity, and the toll burden is spread unfairly. Years of buildup, since 1990, no money in gas tax. Tolls on Mass Highways have increased by 177%, fares increased by 100%. \$2 billion is not full cost of "Bid Dig" debt; there is a massive debt load, more than \$6 billion paid by the Commonwealth.
- Leaving us with record spending and unmanageable debt load and lack of trust in government in general and state transportation in particular.
- The Governor's plan is an option for change.

Governor Patrick's plan includes:

- A renewed focus on user fees, deferring maintenance and relationship of infrastructure to economic development. Rewards for greater cooperation; think regionally and globally.
- Plan to reform would include tort reform, move MHD/EOT off bonds, authorize PPP/create economic development office (scorecard agency wide).
- Respect – buy/build green, reduce number of fees at RMV and encourage Massport help.
- Rebuild – revised organizational chart (extremely comprehensive), create transportation fund, rail and transit division, rebuild RMV and aviation transport division.
- Renew/convert highway fund to transportation fund, raise gas tax by \$.19
- For more information see [www.Mass.gov/youmovemassachusetts](http://www.Mass.gov/youmovemassachusetts)
- RTA – raise gas tax and get increase to be dedicated for roadway maintenance.
- Jeffrey Mullan mentioned rebuilding trust is a big issue - most debt is result of "Big Dig".

**Comments/Discussion:**

- Advanced projects in Bourne, 6A Barnstable, \$2million in Dennis 6A and Oaks Bluff terminal replacement.
- Joanne O'Keefe (Sandwich) regarding infrastructure map – Cape is lacking in many areas as being unserved. We need restoration of federal revenue sharing and long range planning. Problems with roads, noticeably better in Mashpee. Loss of revenue/need long range plan, need money to come back to cities and towns – need Chapter 90 funds to be successful. Has to be other ways of looking at it (revenue) need more money going into pavement and provisions.
- Prevailing wage is a problem and these wages need to be bargained.

- Jeffrey Mullan mentioned its all about pricing, pricing control and Commonwealth must do it on its own.
- Bob Burgmann, Barnstable, fixing potholes is our immediate need; projects get delayed thru highway dept. Jeffrey Mullan responded that we are trying to deliver more jobs quickly.
- For example Bearse's Way & Rte 6 resurfacing project instead MA highway is delaying; no equity in system. Neil stated that 7- year figure is accurate – step-up review process by setting up the timing – like MEPA or CCC reviews; more staff is needed.
- John Diaz – on design side, the design cost is typically 10% of construction cost, but towns are funding a huge expense in design when going through TIP process – with review and changes required.
- Patty Daley asked how MPO's will be included, and Jeffrey Mullan replied thru Governor's plan, 75% of fund will be to the Highway District.
- Joanne O'Keefe of Sandwich states that many Cape areas un-served – restoration of federal revenue sharing (from 1982) tax collected and back to town In Long Range Plan \$500,00 into every city and town, \$175million should restore Federal Revenue sharing, double taxing.
- Bob Burgman asked George Allaire about Chapter 90 one of successful programs need indexing increase for Chapter 90. Jeffrey Mullan replied one cent on gas.
- Joe Rodricks – Dennis, national infrastructure costs and conditions:  
  - Flagmen \$10-15 hourly – average other states
  - \$34 hourly in Mass
- Jeffrey Mullan stated pricing control is important
- Bob Bersin is looking for a shovel ready Town project – reluctant to propose a project for the TIP
- Bob Bersin – Barnstable Bearse's Way TIP changed
- MHD controls review readiness, another project in August
- Local towns doing designs for state projects
- Neil Andres MEPA CCC time line deadlines for review
- Jeffrey Mullan \$1 billion – keep bridge – get out of smaller projects, either hire engineers or push out work.
- Jeffrey Mullan – the TIP is a federal process neither the house bill or the senate bill have revenue included – reform first.
- Bob Bersin – gas tax vs. tolls for maintenance and paying “Big Dig” debt – tolls should pay that debt.
- Jeffrey Mullan – one commonwealth needs user fees and a balance of tolls and fees, senate bill prohibits it.
- Pam Haznar, D5 on projects – we do not hold up a project at municipal level, we do have a backlog of state maintenance.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none

**Adjourn** - The CCJTC voted to adjourn at approximately 10:45 a.m.