



BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

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MINUTES OF THE Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Meeting Held Via Zoom Video Communications

Meeting Materials: <https://berkshireplanning.org/event/berkshire-mpo-virtual-meeting-3/>

MPO Representatives/Alternates Present:

Stephen Woelfel	MassDOT (Representing Secretary Jamey Tesler)
Mark Moore	MassDOT District 1 (Representing Highway Administrator Gulliver)
John Boyle	North Central Towns Delegate
John Duval	BRPC Chair
Christine Hoyt	North Subregion Alternate
Michael Nuvalle	City of North Adams
Kent Lew	Southeast Subregion Delegate
Jim Lovejoy	Southwest Subregion Delegate
Sarah Vallieres	BRTA Representative

Others Present:

Justin Gilmore	BRPC
Chris Klem	MassDOT OTP
Anuja Koirala	BRPC
Derek Krevat	MassDOT OTP
Clete Kus	BRPC
Andrew Reovan	FHWA
Nick Russo	BRPC

I. Call to Order – Introductions

Mr. Woelfel called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Meeting attendees introduced themselves via a roll call conducted by Mr. Kus.

II. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 28th, 2022 (Action Item)

ACTION: Motion by Ms. Hoyt, seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the meeting minutes from the June 28th, 2022, MPO meeting.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Stephen Woelfel – Yea
Mark Moore – Yea
John Duval – Yea
Sarah Vallieres – Yea
Mike Nuvalle – Yea
Christine Hoyt – Yea
John Boyle – Yea

Kent Lew – Yea
Jim Lovejoy – Abstain

VOICE VOTE: Mr. Lovejoy abstained from voting. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of an amendment (4th amendment) to the 2022-2026 TIP and to add 5310 funding and authorize the Chair to sign the endorsement on behalf of the MPO members (Action Item)

Ms. Koirala explained that after the last meeting, the MPO released the 4th amendment to the 2022-2026 TIP for a 21-day public comment period. The amendment covers the addition of two project expenditures, utilizing 5310 funding, made on behalf of BRTA for a replacement bus (<30 ft. bus) and for travel training. No public comments were received. These projects are ready to be approved by the MPO.

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Lovejoy, seconded by Mr. Nuvalle to approve the 4th amendment to the 2022-2026 TIP and authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of the MPO.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Stephen Woelfel – Yea
Mark Moore – Yea
John Duval – Yea
Sarah Vallieres – Yea
Mike Nuvalle – Yea
Christine Hoyt – Yea
John Boyle – Yea
Kent Lew – Yea
Jim Lovejoy – Yea

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

V. Consideration of an amendment (5th amendment) to the 2022-2026 TIP and authorize a 21-day public comment period to add 5317 funding (Action Item)

Ms. Koirala mentioned that recently MPO staff found out that the Town of Great Barrington was awarded 5317 funding to implement the 'Demand-Response New Freedom Project,' which is more akin to a Microtransit model. 50% of the project funding comes from the federal level and the other 50% is a local match. This amendment should go out for a 21-day public comment period. This amendment will also include the cost increase to the 'BRTA – S&B Fare Collection Upgrades.'

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Lovejoy, seconded by Mr. Boyle to release the 5th amendment to the 2022-2026 TIP for a 21-day public comment period.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Stephen Woelfel – Yea
Mark Moore – Yea
John Duval – Yea
Sarah Vallieres – Yea
Mike Nuvalle – Yea
Christine Hoyt – Yea
John Boyle – Yea
Kent Lew – Yea

Jim Lovejoy – Yea

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried.

VI. Status Reports from Member Agencies

Mr. Moore provided a brief [update on District One projects](#) to the MPO.

VII. Other Business

Mr. Klem mentioned that he posted the link to the design public hearing taking place tonight and posted a link to the North Adams design public hearing, which isn't until next month.

Ms. Koirala mentioned that the Berkshire Flyer is running smoothly thus far. There have been three sold out weekends so far and we are coming up on our fourth – which is good news.

There was no other business.

VIII. Next Meeting date – August 23rd, 2022

The next MPO meeting will be held on August 23rd, 2022.

ACTION: Mr. Lovejoy motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Boyle. Mr. Woelfel adjourned the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

Materials Distributed:

- [Meeting Agenda](#)
- [Draft BMPO June 28, 2022, Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Revised BMPO FFY 2022-2026 TIP Transit 4th & 5th Amendment](#)
- [MassDOT District 1 TIP Project Update](#)