



BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

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MINUTES OF THE Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Tuesday, December 22, 2020
Meeting Held Via Zoom Video Communications

MPO Representatives/Alternates Present:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| David Mohler | MassDOT (Representing Secretary Stephanie Pollack) |
| John Boyle | North Central Towns Representative |
| Zac Feury | City of North Adams |
| Kyle Hanlon | BRPC Chair |
| Andy Hogeland | Town of Williamstown |
| Bob Malnati | BRTA |
| Francesca Hemming | MassDOT District 1 (Representing Highway Administrator Gulliver) |
| Jim Lovejoy | Southwest Towns Representative |

Others Present:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Eammon Coughlin | BRPC |
| Peter Frieri | MassDOT District 1 |
| Justin Gilmore | BRPC |
| Anuja Koirala | BRPC |
| Derek Krevat | MassDOT OTP |
| Clete Kus | BRPC |
| Mark Moore | MassDOT District 1 |
| Andrew Reovan | FHWA |

I. Introductions

Mr. Mohler 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 the Meeting Minutes from November 24, 2020 (Action Item)

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Lovejoy, seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the meeting minutes from the November 24th, 2020 MPO meeting.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Malnati abstained from voting.

IV. Approval of an amendment (1st amendment) to the 2021-2025 Transportation Improvement Program and authorize Chairman to sign the certifications on behalf of MPO members (Action Item)

Ms. Koirala proceeded to update MPO members on the 1st amendment to the 2021-2025 TIP, stating that at the last meeting, the amendment was released for a 21-day public comment period. The amendment involves the Williamstown-Bridge Replacement, W-37-015, Main Street (SR 2) over the Green River, which is now programmed for FFY21. No comments were received over the 21-day comment period.

Mr. Hanlon asked for clarity on the nature of the change.

Mr. Frieri explained that the source of funding for the project changed to federal aid.

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Hogeland, seconded by Mr. Hanlon to approve the 1st amendment to the 2021-2025 TIP and authorize Chairman to sign certifications on behalf of MPO members.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

V. Endorse of BRTA's Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (Action Item)

Mr. Malnati proceeded to update MPO members on BRTA's Public Transit Agency Safety Plan. The plan essentially outlines BRTA's safety procedures and formalizes those processes. It also outlines key safety performance targets based on the review of the previous five years of BRTA's safety performance data.

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Lovejoy, seconded by Mr. Boyle to endorse BRTA's Public Transit Agency Safety Plan.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Overview of the 2022 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program development schedule

Ms. Koirala stated that the process of determining the FFY2022-FFY2026 TIP schedule will begin sometime in mid-January. Ms. Koirala proceeded to review the tentative schedule, mentioning that project solicitation forms are likely to go out around January 4th and are due back by the end of January 2021. OTP will provide regional targets in February. March will see preliminary discussions on the draft TIP listing, and by May the TIP should be endorsed, and published by August/September 2021.

VII. Status reports from Member Agencies

Mr. Frieri provided MPO members a status report of District One project updates. All updates are outlined in the District One Project Update sheet (found [here](#)).

Mr. Kus mentioned that yesterday, Governor Baker did sign on to the Transportation Climate Initiative, meaning that Massachusetts has not joined Connecticut, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia. Mr. Kus also mentioned that MassDOT just released standard operating procedures related to initiating roadway projects.

VIII. Other Business

There was no other business.

IX. Next Meeting Date – January 26, 2021

The next Berkshire MPO meeting date is January 26, 2021.

ACTION: Mr. Lovejoy motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Boyle. Mr. Mohler adjourned the meeting at 4:22 p.m.

Materials Distributed:

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft November 24, 2020 MPO Meeting Minutes
- FFY 2021-2025 TIP 1st Amendment
- BRTA Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan
- FFY 2022 – 2026 TIP Tentative Schedule
- MassDOT District 1 Project Updates