



BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

1 Fenn Street, Suite 201
Pittsfield, MA 01201
T: (413) 442-1521 · F: (413) 442-1523
TTY: 771 or (800) 439-2370
berkshireplanning.org

MINUTES OF THE Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Meeting Held Via Zoom Video Communications

Meeting Materials: <https://berkshireplanning.org/?s=MPO+meeting>

MPO Representatives/Alternates Present:

Zac Feury	City of North Adams
Andy Hogeland	North Towns Representative
Francisca Heming	MassDOT District 1 (Representing Highway Administrator Gulliver)
Sheila Irving	Chair of BRTA
Jim Lovejoy	Southwest Towns Representative
Ricardo Morales	City of Pittsfield

Others Present:

Justin Gilmore	BRPC
Anuja Koirala	BRPC
Derek Krevat	MassDOT OTP
Clete Kus	BRPC
Mark Moore	MassDOT District 1

I. Introductions

Mr. Lovejoy called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Meeting attendees introduced themselves via a roll call conducted by Mr. Kus.

II. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Note: Since a quorum was not met at the start of the meeting, MPO members moved on to items on the agenda that were non-action items.

III. Receive a presentation on the Berkshire County Electric Vehicle Charging Station Plan

Mr. Gilmore proceeded to provide MPO members with an overview of the recently completed Berkshire County Electric Vehicle Charging Station Plan. Mr. Gilmore stated that this plan is meant to inform the reader on the state of electric vehicles and charging station technology, and to provide municipal officials with the information needed to begin planning for and deploying electric vehicle charging station infrastructure. These efforts stem from major initiatives and commitments to address climate change. Transportation is the largest source of GHG emissions, and the shift toward electrification represents a major opportunity to work towards decarbonizing the transportation sector. Mr. Gilmore proceeded to review existing conditions, the current state of EV technology and charging stations, EV charging station equipment and installation costs, charging station ownership models and payment options, suitable locations to implement charging stations, funding and assistance programs, charging station planning tools, and recommendations moving forward.

Mr. Hogeland asked if the report was available on the Berkshire Planning website.

Mr. Gilmore stated that the report should be made available in the next week or two, MPO members will be sent a copy when it is made available.

Mr. Lovejoy asked about the funding programs available that assist in offsetting the costs associated with purchasing and implementing EV charging stations.

Mr. Gilmore review the [MassEVIP funding matrix](#) which outlines assistance information.

IV. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from June 22, 2021 (Action Item)

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Lovejoy, seconded by Mr. Hanlon to approve the meeting minutes from the June 22nd meeting.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Jim Lovejoy – Yea
Francisca Heming – Yea
Sheila Irving – Abstain
Zac Feury – Abstain
Andy Hogeland – Yea
Ricardo Morales – Abstain

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Irving, Mr. Feury and Mr. Morales all abstained from voting.

V. Approval of an amendment (4th amendment) to the 2021-2025 TIP and authorize chair to sign the certification documents on behalf of the MPO members (Action Item)

Ms. Koirala proceeded to review the 4th amendment to the 2021-2025 TIP. This amendment relates to cost increases for the Savoy bridge superstructure replacement on Center Road over Center Brook project and the Pittsfield bridge replacement on Mill Street over the W. Branch of the Housatonic River project. To date, no comments have been received by the public, and the MPO is requested to approve the amendment.

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Lovejoy, seconded by Mr. Hogeland to approve the 4th amendment to the 2021-2025 TIP and authorize the chairman to sign the certification document on behalf of MPO.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Jim Lovejoy – Yea
Francisca Heming – Yea
Sheila Irving – Yea
Zac Feury – Yea
Andy Hogeland – Yea
Ricardo Morales – Yea

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Status reports from member agencies

Mr. Moore provided a brief update District One project to the MPO.

VII. Other Business.

There was no other business.

VIII. Next meeting date – TBD

The next Berkshire MPO meeting date is TBD.

ACTION: Mr. Hogeland motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Morales. Mr. Lovejoy adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Materials Distributed:

- [Meeting Agenda](#)
- [Draft MPO June 22, 2021, Meeting Minutes](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2021-2025 TIP 4th Amendment](#)
- [Berkshire County Electric Vehicle Charging Station Plan Presentation](#)