



# 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 Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Tuesday, May 17, 2022

*Meeting Held Via Zoom Video Communications*

Meeting Materials: <https://berkshireplanning.org/event/berkshire-transportation-advisory-committee-meeting-3/>

### TAC Representatives/Alternates:

Sam Haupt, Chair	Town of Peru
Bill Elovirta	Town of Becket

### Others Present:

Peter Frieri	MassDOT District 1
Justin Gilmore	BRPC
Chris Klem	MassDOT OTP
Anuja Koirala	BRPC
Clete Kus	BRPC
Nick Russo	BRPC
Steve Savaria	Fuss & O'Neill

## **I. Call to Order**

Mr. Haupt called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

## **II. Introductions**

Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

## **III. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from April 19, 2022**

Mr. Haupt stated that a vote to approve the meeting minutes from the April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting will be held at a future meeting.

## **IV. Discussion on draft 2023 – 2027 Transportation Improvement Program and recommendation to the MPO**

Ms. Koirala mentioned that the draft 2023-2027 TIP has been circulated among MPO and TAC members. The draft has gone out for a 21-day public comment period. To date, no comments have been received by the public, one comment was received by MassDOT, and one comment was received by FHWA. The public comment period ends tomorrow (Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>) at 5:00 p.m. No significant changes have been made to the document and thus, Ms. Koirala did not go through each project listed. Ms. Koirala stated that she is looking for the TAC to recommend the MPO adopt the draft TIP document.

Mr. Haupt and Mr. Elovirta agreed by consensus to recommend the MPO adopt the draft 2023-2027 TIP document.

## **V. Discussion on the 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and recommendation to the MPO**

Mr. Kus proceeded to give a brief description of the UPWP – essentially stating that it is a yearly certification document that outlines BMPO staff work activities from one federal fiscal year to the next. As a financially constrained document, the UPWP outlines the costs associated with performing work activities. Those costs will be provided at the next MPO meeting. Mr. Kus proceeded to outline upcoming UPWP focus areas. Among the work activities outlined, updating the RTP, implementing the state’s carbon reduction plan, continuing regional bicycle and pedestrian planning efforts, moving forward with micro-transit, electric vehicles, buses, and charging equipment, updating the countywide Human Service Transportation Plan, assessing post-pandemic impacts on the transportation system, roadway safety, climate initiatives, and regional passenger rail service, were all highlighted.

Mr. Haupt emphasized the importance of pursuing the expansion of regional rail transit service including the Berkshire Flyer project.

Mr. Haupt and Mr. Elovirta agreed by consensus to recommend the MPO release the draft UPWP document for a 21-day public comment period.

## **VI. Member Items for Discussion**

Mr. Frieri proceeded to discuss [District 1 Project updates](#). There were no other member items for discussion.

## **VII. Next Meeting Date – June 21, 2022**

The next Berkshire TAC meeting date is June 21, 2022.

Mr. Haupt adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

### **Materials Distributed:**

- [Agenda](#)
- [Draft TAC April 19, 2022, Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Draft BMPO FFY 2023-2027 TIP](#)
- [Draft BMPO FFY 2023-2027 Transit TIP](#)
- [Draft Berkshire MPO FFY 2023-2027 TIP Document](#)
- [Draft UPWP Document](#)
- [MassDOT District 1 TIP Project Updates](#)