



# 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, January 9, 2024

*Meeting Held Via Zoom Video Communications*

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

### MPO Representatives/Alternates Present:

David Mohler	MassDOT (Representing Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt)
Francisca Heming	MassDOT District 1 (Representing Highway Administrator Gulliver)
Malcolm Fick	BRPC
Sheila Irvin	BRTA
Mike Nuvallie	City of North Adams
Ricardo Morales	City of Pittsfield
Christine Hoyt	North Subregion Delegate
John Boyle	North Central Subregion Delegate
George McGurn	Southwest Subregion Alternate

### Others Present:

Peter Frieri	MassDOT District 1
Mark Moore	MassDOT District 1
Clete Kus	BRPC
Nick Russo	BRPC
Thomas Matuszko	BRPC
Bob Malnati	BRTA
Ryan Griffis	BRPC
Derek Krevat	MassDOT
Chris Klem	MassDOT
Joshua Barber	FHWA

### **I. Call to Order – 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 Meeting Minutes from November 28, 2023**

**ACTION:** Mr. Morales introduced a motion, seconded by Mr. McGurn, to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2023, MPO meeting.

#### Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Mr. Mohler:	Yea
Ms. Heming:	Yea
Mr. Fick:	Abstain
Ms. Irvin:	Yea
Mr. Morales:	Yea
Mr. Nuvallie:	Abstain
Mr. Boyle:	Abstain
Mr. McGurn:	Yea

#### **IV. Consideration of Administrative Adjustments to the 2024 – 2028 TIP**

Ms. Koirala continued her explanation from the last meeting on the increased costs and purpose of the proposed amendment and where and how funding would be distributed for the TIP. No action was taken at the previous meeting, and only minor revisions had been made since last time, which Ms. Koirala detailed for attendees. There were no questions.

Ms. Hoyt joined the meeting before the conclusion of voting.

**ACTION:** Mr. Fick introduced a motion, seconded by Mr. Boyle, to approve the administrative adjustments to the 2024-2028 TIP.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Mr. Mohler:	Yea
Ms. Heming:	Yea
Mr. Fick:	Abstain
Ms. Irvin:	Yea
Mr. Morales	Yea
Mr. Nuvallie	Abstain
Mr. Boyle	Abstain
Mr. McGurn	Yea
Ms. Hoyt	Yea

#### **V. Approval of an amendment (Amendment #1) and administrative adjustments to the 2024-2028 TIP for the Transit and Highway sections; authorize the Chairman to sign the certification documents on behalf of the MPO members**

Ms. Koirala explained the purposes for this amendment and adjustments. A new highway project value was during the comment period received, reducing project cost by roughly ~\$470,000. Ms. Koirala then explained other adjustments transit sections, including vehicle replacements valued at approximately ~\$450,000 and 2.2 million respectively. There were no questions.

**ACTION:** Mr. McGurn introduced a motion, seconded by Mr. Nuvallie, to approve the administrative adjustments to the 2024-2028 TIP.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Mr. Mohler:	Yea
Ms. Heming:	Yea
Mr. Fick:	Yea
Ms. Irvin:	Yea
Mr. Morales	Yea
Mr. Nuvallie	Yea
Ms. Hoyt	Yea
Mr. Boyle	Yea
Mr. McGurn	Yea

#### **VI. Consideration of an amendment (Amendment #2, highway and transit) to the 2024-2028 TIP and authorize a 21 day comment period**

Ms. Koirala explained various highway and transit grants funding awarded to BRTA and municipalities for mobility assistance, fleet upgrades and equipment, and vehicle replacement. There were not questions.

**ACTION:** Mr. Fick introduced a motion, seconded by Mr. McGurn, to authorize the release of this amendment for a 21-day public comment period.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Mr. Mohler:	Yea
Ms. Heming:	Yea
Mr. Fick:	Yea
Ms. Irvin:	Yea
Mr. Morales	Yea
Mr. Nuvallie	Yea
Ms. Hoyt	Yea
Mr. Boyle	Yea
Mr. McGurn	Yea

## **VII. Presentation, discussion and action on Safety Performance Measure Targets**

Mr. Klem summarized a handout presented to members and available in meeting materials regarding the MassDOT CT24 Safety Performance Measure Targets (PM1). Mr. Klem explained the differences from prior years safety performance measures, as well as similarities and returning features, and its intended goals and measures. Mr. Russo continued the presentation by showing a comparison for Berkshire County against the statewide data, using available data for the region specifically and a similar methodology to MassDOT for creating two-year and four-year data projections.

Mr. Morales asked why separate year targets were the same, and Mr. Russo explained this was because projections of issues related to projections and graphics, but confirmed future projections would be lowered and accurately represented. Mr. Klem confirmed that MassDOT had encountered similar a similar issue and could provide relevant data if requested.

**ACTION:** Mr. Nuvallie introduced a motion, seconded by Mr. McGurn and Ms. Hoyt, to adopt the statewide safety targets presented.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Mr. Mohler:	Yea
Ms. Heming:	Yea
Mr. Fick:	Yea
Ms. Irvin:	Abstain
Mr. Morales	Yea
Mr. Nuvallie	Yea
Ms. Hoyt	Yea
Mr. Boyle	Abstain
Mr. McGurn	Yea

## **VIII. Status reports from Member Agencies**

Mr. Moore detailed five projects scheduled for FY 2024 in MassDOT District One and their anticipated timelines.

Ms. Irvin reported that BRTA completed a month of successful free rides and will be further discussing night service and connectivity with the Pioneer Valley and Franklin County at a future meeting.

Mr. Kus commented BRPC is in the signatory process for the Safe Streets for All contract agreement and will have a kickoff meeting in the near future. Future developments for this initiative will be shared with the MPO. As well, preparations for 2025 TIP is underway, and information has been sent to the towns requesting that from communities submit new projects and provide updated information on their existing

projects.

## **IX. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

## **X. Next Meeting date – February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The next MPO meeting is scheduled to be held on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**ACTION:** Mr. Boyle motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McGurn. Mr. Mohler adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.

### **Materials Distributed:**

- [Agenda](#)
- [BMPO November 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes DRAFT](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2024-2028 TIP Highway 1st Amendment](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2024-2028 TIP Transit 1st and 2nd Amendment & Adjustment](#)
- [Safety Performance Measure Targets CY24](#)
- [MassDOT District 1 TIP Projects Update](#)