



# BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

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## MINUTES OF THE Berkshire Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Tuesday, February 18, 2025

*Meeting Held Via Zoom Video Communications*

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

### TAC Representatives/Alternates:

Sam Haupt, Chair	Town of Peru		
Peter Frieri	MassDOT	Nick Russo	BRPC
Anuja Koirala	BRPC	Ryan Griffis	BRPC

### **I. Call to Order**

Mr. Haupt called the meeting to order at 4:07 pm.

### **II. Introductions**

The meeting attendees introduced themselves.

### **III. Approval of the Minutes from the May 21, 2024 TAC meeting**

Mr. Haupt noted that the minutes on the agenda were for April 16, 2024 – not the most recent meeting of May 21, 2024 – but that the May minutes was the one shared prior to the meeting and available online. This error was to be corrected in the meeting minutes. Mr. Haupt stated that, as the chair, he was authorized to unilaterally authorize the minutes on behalf of the committee, which he did.

The minutes for April 16, 2024, will be discussed at a later date.

### **IV. Discussion on the development of the 2026 – 2030 Transportation Improvement Program and project evaluation scores**

Ms. Koirala provided an overview of the 2026-2030 TIP project evaluation. Of the 17 projects, 3 are programmed using a regional target, 2 are funded through statewide funding, and 6 are unfunded. Providing the list of projects, which are ordered according to the total project score and color coordinated, Ms. Koirala briefly described each project, with Mr. Frieri providing important context and past funding to explain why projects are being submitted for TIP funding. Moving on, Ms. Koirala described the three bike trail projects that are PRC approved. After going over the annual target of funding received and changes between 2026-2030, Ms. Koirala detailed the anticipated changes in projected costs due to inflation and other influencing factors for individual projects. Ms. Koirala ended by providing a calendar for the TIP schedule, with the MPO discussion on project evaluation scores and preliminary draft TIP listing on February 25 and TAC discussion on March 18.

### **V. Presentation on Berkshire County’s Safe Travel and Equity Plan for our Streets (STEPS) Comprehensive Safety Action Plan**

Mr. Russo briefly detailed recent actions taken by Berkshire County’s Safe Travel and Equity Plan for our Streets (STEPS) Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. The website has been launched, and a quarterly newsletter is being released, with the most recent one being sent in January and the upcoming one to be sent in March. The action plan and Vision Zero proclamation are publicly available. After showcasing the high-injury network dashboard and certain areas, Mr. Russo discussed future possible actions and uncertainty due to changes in federal priorities. Mr. Russo ended by mentioning that Vision Zero’s working group is accepting new volunteers through its application portal and providing his contact

information to any interested members.

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

Mr. Frieri gave an update on the status of TIP projects. For FY24, three bridge projects and one road reconstruction have been advertised for construction, and notices to proceed have been granted for a total cost of \$25,595,536. For FY25, a bridge replacement in Lanesborough, a notice to proceed was issued at the end of January; a bridge preservation in Adams was completing its 100% design review and had a cost increased to \$7,279,075; a bridge in Lee was at 100% design and was issued a notice to proceed; the reconstruction of Ashland Street in North Adams's final design was received in February and is currently under review; and MassDOT has determined a bridge preservation in North Adams that they will not be able to advertise until next year, and will need to be reprogrammed.

## **VII. Next Meeting Date – March 18, 2025**

**ACTION:** Mr. Haupt adjourned the meeting at 5:11 pm.

### **Materials Distributed:**

- [Agenda](#)
- [TAC May 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes Draft](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 TIP Projects Evaluation](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 TIP Projects Evaluation Description Sheets](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 TIP Development](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 TIP Development Scenario 1](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 TIP Schedule](#)
- [MassDOT District 1 TIP Projects Update](#)