



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) Wednesday, March 20, 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
Bill Elovirta	Town of Becket	Mark Moore	MassDOT
Mark Seigars	Town of Lanesborough	Anuja Koirala	BRPC
James White	Town of Florida	Nick Russo	BRPC
Brooke Healy	Town of Lee	Ryan Griffis	BRPC
Scott Rodman	Town of Hinsdale	Alison Dixon	BRPC
		Brittany Ebeling	BEAT

I. Call to Order

Mr. Haupt called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

II. Introductions

The meeting attendees introduced themselves.

III. Approval of the Minutes from the February 18, 2025 TAC meeting

As the only member who attended the meeting, Mr. Haupt stated that, as the chair, he was authorized to unilaterally authorize the minutes on behalf of the committee, which he did.

IV. Discussion on the development of the 2026 – 2030 Transportation Improvement Program and provide direction on a preferred scenario

Ms. Koirala provided an overview of the 2026-2030 TIP project evaluation which was given at the previous meeting.

Scenario 1A is the preferred scenario, with the first project in FY25 is Ashland Street in North Adams, with an increased actual cost of \$11,085,532 – up from the total cost programmed of \$10,639,564, which would require an additional \$445,968 to be programmed and concluded the following fiscal year. For FY26, Mount Washington Road in Egremont, with a total cost of \$21,032,870, would be programmed for \$9,933,297, and the remaining \$11,099,297 the following fiscal year. For FY27, East Street in Pittsfield, with a total cost of \$7,096,206, would be programmed for \$1,544,813, and the remaining \$5,551,393 the following fiscal year. For FY28, Dalton Division Road in Dalton, with a total cost of \$15,351,595, would be programmed for \$7,596,147, and the remaining \$7,755,488 the following fiscal year. For FY29, Route 7 in Great Barrington, with a total cost of \$14,224,000, would be programmed for \$5,294,125, and the remaining \$8,929,875 the following year.

In the remaining scenarios, projects between FY26-28 are the same. In Scenario 1B, for FY29, Park Street in Great Barrington, with a total cost of \$31,403,428, would be programmed for \$18,552,389, and \$12,851,039 the following year, with a remaining total of \$12,851,039 to be programmed in FY31. In Scenario 1C, for FY29, Route 8 in Adams, with a total cost of \$20,070,372, would be programmed for \$5,294,125, and \$18,552,389 the following year, with a remaining total of \$1,517,983 to be programmed in FY31.

Mr. Siegars asked if these communities are being encouraged to apply for livable communities' funds, which

Mr. Frieri affirmed they are presented with all available options before applying.

Mr. Siegers introduced a motion, seconded by Mr. Elovirta, to approve Scenario 1A of development of the 2026 – 2030 Transportation Improvement Program. The motion was passed by a voice vote.

V. Receive an update on the Western Mass Regional MVP Unpaved Road Project

Ms. Dixon introduced the Western Mass Regional Unpaved Road Project funded through the state's municipal vulnerability preparedness program. After giving a brief history of the project's history, Ms. Dixon provided a link to the Berkshire County online interactive map to report public dirt road problems. Ms. Dixon encouraged attendees, as well as the general population, to utilize this resource to further develop the list of roads in need of attention. A proposal is being prepared for next year which will build municipal capacity by training DPW staff in recommended BMPs for unpaved roads and the use of the available toolkit.

Mr. Haupt asked about community outreach, and if materials had been shared with town administrators and managers for dissemination. Ms. Dixon affirmed she had and requested any additional contacts for her to reach out to. Mr. Haupt asked if this program was funded by EEA, which Ms. Dixon clarified was funded by EOEA.

VI. Receive an update on bridge conditions and information on bridge preservation activities

Mr. Russo showcased the website containing municipal bridge and culvert bridge conditions and locations. After providing a demonstration of the website and its functions, Mr. Russo discussed his efforts to detail available funding sources and best practices for bridge preservation techniques. The next step in this process, Mr. Russo discussed, is dissemination of these materials and hosting a seminar with municipal DPW on bridge preservation strategies.

Mr. Elovirta asked if this were a topic Mr. Russo would be interested in presenting at a future county highway association meeting, which Mr. Russo confirmed he would be. Mr. Rodman asked if funds are allocated to prevent deterioration such as painting, which Mr. Russo stated it was his understanding municipalities could put Ch. 90 funds towards efforts such as painting and other preservation issues.

VII. 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 and the purpose of a Vision Zero program. Mr. Russo provided statistics on Berkshire County and what this program seeks to achieve. The funding for this program is in its final round of applications, which BRPC is planning to apply for, as the future of this funding may be discontinued.

VIII. Member Items for Discussion

Mr. Frieri gave an update on the status of FY25 TIP projects. A bridge preservation in Adams is nearing 100% design and is anticipated to arrive by April; a bridge replacement in Lanesborough was granted a notice to proceed was issued at the end of January; a bridge replacement in Lee is expected to release its final design by the end of June; the reconstruction of Ashland Street in North Adams is under review by MassDOT; and a bridge replacement in North Adams is under study by the city, and has been determined by MassDOT is anticipated for 2026.

IX. Next Meeting Date – April 15, 2025

The next TAC meeting is scheduled to be held on April 15th, 2025.

ACTION: Mr. Siegars motioned to adjourn. Mr. Haupt adjourned the meeting at 5:06 pm.

Materials Distributed:

- [Agenda](#)
- [TAC February 18, 2025 Minutes Draft](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 TIP Scenarios](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 TIP Schedule](#)
- [Western Massachusetts Regional MVP Unpaved Roads Project](#)
- [Western Massachusetts Regional MVP Unpaved Roads Project Flyer](#)
- [Preserving and Maintaining Bridges in Berkshire County](#)
- [Berkshire County STEPS Fact Sheet](#)
- [MassDOT District 1 TIP Projects Update](#)

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