



BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

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MINUTES OF THE Berkshire Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Meeting Held Via Zoom Video Communications

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

TAC Representatives/Alternates:

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|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------|
| Sam Haupt, Chair | Town of Peru | Clete Kus | BRPC |
| Bill Elovirta | Town of Becket | Anuja Koirala | BRPC |
| Joseph Aberdale | Town of Great Barrington | Nick Russo | BRPC |
| Peter Frieri | MassDOT | Ryan Griffis | BRPC |
| Chris Klem | MassDOT | 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 March 20, 2025 TAC meeting

Mr. Elovirta motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Haupt seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Discussion on the 2026 – 2030 Transportation Improvement Program and provide a recommendation to the MPO

Ms. Koirala provided an overview of the actions taken at the previous TAC meetings and the document which is due to be presented at the upcoming MPO meeting. Ms. Koirala offered to read the full list of projects, but Mr. Haupt insisted there was no need and asked for any outstanding transit projects which they should be aware of. Ms. Koirala showed the list of transit projects and gave a brief overview of those listed. Mr. Haupt asked if BRTA is still evaluating these proposed investments, which Ms. Koirala agreed they were. Mr. Klem asked if BRTA included any additional details or information on these projects, which Ms. Koirala said they did not. Mr. Klem stated he would reach out to BRTA to see if this was in error, and if not remind them that including project descriptions can be helpful.

Mr. Elovirta motioned to release the document to the MPO. Mr. Haupt seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. Discussion on the development of the 2026 Unified Planning Work Program; provide direction to staff

Mr. Kus discussed the purpose and focus of the UPWP for unfamiliar members. Mr. Kus went on to provide an overview of the focus areas and anticipated projects of the upcoming UPWP, including special studies, expansion of transit and rail service, bicycle and pedestrian study, and safety. Afterwards, Mr. Haupt asked if any funding was at risk due to changes in the federal government, which Mr. Kus stated he did not believe so, and was supported by Mr. Klem, who acknowledged there have been no changes he was aware of, and that UPWP funding is forward-funded from last year, which means any potential changes would occur in 2027.

VI. Member Items for Discussion

Mr. Frieri gave an update on the status of TIP projects. For FY25, three bridge projects and one road reconstruction have been programmed for a total cost of \$23,997,096. For FY25, the bridge replacement in Lanesborough was issued at the end of January; a bridge preservation in Adams completed its 100% design review in February; a bridge in Lee is expected to receive its final design in June; the reconstruction of Ashland Street in North Adams just received a revised final design and is currently under review.

VII. Next Meeting Date – May 27, 2025

Mr. Elovirta motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Aberdale. Mr. Haupt adjourned the meeting at 4:29 pm.

Materials Distributed:

- [Agenda](#)
- [TAC March 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes Draft](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 Highway TIP](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2026-2030 Transit TIP](#)
- [2026 UPWP Elements Focus](#)
- [MassDOT District 1 TIP Projects Update](#)