

## Joint Transportation Planning Group

Minutes of meeting held on April 14, 2010 at MassDOT District 5 in Taunton

### In attendance were the following:

Lee Azinheira, Town of Mansfield

John Clover, City of Attleboro

Charles Cristello, Town of Middleborough

David Cabral, Town of Seekonk

Byron Holmes, City of Fall River

Peter Donnelly, Town of Carver

Tony Abreau, City of Taunton

Duarte Andrade, City of New Bedford

Frank Gay, GATRA

Bob Moitozo, Pare Corporation

Timothy Letton, GPI

Tim Kochan, MassDOT Highway Division

Jim Hadfield, SRPEDD

Linda Lally, SRPEDD

Adam Recchia, SRPEDD

Christopher Cardaci, SRPEDD

Bill Roth, Town of Fairhaven

Jonathan Henry, Town of Marion

Manuel H. Silva, City of New Bedford

Andrew Sousa, Town of Westport

Robert Lamoureux, Town of Seekonk

Randall Kunz, Town of Mattapoisett

Fred Cornaglia, City of Taunton

Roger Stolte, Town of Raynham

Joe Cosentino, SRTA

Jamie Pisano, VHB

Rachel Bain, MassDOT

Steve Smith, SRPEDD

Paul Mission, SRPEDD

Lilia Cabral, SRPEDD

Stacy Sousa, SRPEDD

Jacqueline Schmidt, SRPEDD

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 2:14 pm by Chairman Lee Azinheira.
2. **Approval of the Minutes, March 10, 2010** - A motion was made to approve the minutes of the JTPG meeting held on March 10, 2010 as submitted. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY
3. **2010 TIP Amendments/Adjustments** – The following TIP amendments/adjustments were discussed:
  - GATRA (Fixed Guideway Carryover) – Mr. Gay explained that \$1,466,674 of GATRA Section 5309 funds need to be moved from FFY 2011 to 2010 to utilize the funding for accessibility improvements to the Mansfield and Attleboro MBTA Stations; and that GATRA Section 5307 needs to be amended to include two projects a midlife bus rebuild for 3 buses totaling \$400,000 and a planning study for a proposed Plymouth Intermodal Transportation Center for a total of \$150,000.

A motion was made to amend \$1,466,674 of GATRA Section 5309 funds from FFY 2011 to 2010, and amend GATRA Section 5307 funds to include two projects, a midlife bus rebuild for 3 buses totaling \$400,000 and a planning study for a proposed Plymouth Intermodal Transportation Center for a total of \$150,000. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.

- SRTA (Fixed Guideway Carryover) – Mr. Cosentino explained that the Fall River Bus Terminal project would not be completed in FFY 2010 due to approval for a new location being sought from the Mayor. He further explained that the project should be moved to Section 5307 in FFY 2011, and that the funding in FFY 2010 should be used for four projects:
  - Structural renovation of the New Bedford Terminal (\$250,000)
  - HVAC Replacement at the New Bedford and Fall River Garages (\$562,500)
  - Tire Lease (\$50,000)
  - Safety and Security (\$65,000)

A motion was made to amend SRTA Section 5307 funds to replace the Fall River Bus Terminal Project in FFY 2010 with four projects, a structural renovation of the New Bedford Terminal for \$250,000, a replacement of the HVAC at the New Bedford and Fall River garages for \$562,500, a tire lease for \$50,000 and Safety and Security for \$65,000 and to move the Fall River Bus Terminal Project in Section 5309 from FFY 2010 to FFY 2011. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.

- Fast Track New Bedford – Ms. Bain informed the group that a TIGER grant was awarded to the Fast Track New Bedford project in the amount of \$20 million. The amount awarded was less than the \$21.7 million needed to complete the project, so the state will be funding the remaining \$1.7 million. This project needs to be programmed in the TIP in IC under TIGER.

A motion was made to amend the TIP to include the New Bedford Fast Track Project in the ARRA section for the amount of \$21.7 million. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.

- Highway Projects – Mr. Hadfield explained that the Fall River Spaghetti Ramp project alternatives are being considered, and in order to properly fund the project, the project needs to be moved within the non-federal section of the TIP from FFY 2010 to FFY 2013.

Ms. Bain explained that the Fall River Route 24 Resurfacing Project for FFY 2010 needs to be removed from the National Highway System Category because it has been completed. The Fall River and Westport/Dartmouth I-195 resurfacing projects have cost increases of \$6.2 million to \$8 million and \$10.3 million to \$12.7 million respectively which need to be reflected in the Interstate Maintenance section of the TIP.

A motion was made to amend the TIP to move the Fall River Spaghetti Ramp project within the non-federal section from FFY 2010 to FFY 2013, to remove the Fall River Resurface Route 24 project from FFY 2010 and to adjust the cost for the Fall River I-195 resurfacing project from \$6.2 million to \$8 million and the Westport/Dartmouth I-195 resurfacing project from \$10.3 million to \$12.4 million. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **Discussion and Approval of Revised Public Participation Plan** – Ms. Cabral discussed changes to the Public Participation Plan in accordance with the regularly scheduled updates. Changes were made to abbreviate the required public comment period to allow for extraordinary circumstances for the Regional Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program and major amendments. The Draft Public Participation Plan is available on the SRPEDD website:  
<http://www.srpedd.org/transportation/PPP%202010%20UPDATE%20wrkng.pdf>

A motion was made to approve revisions in the Public Participation Plan to include changes in the required public comment period for the Regional Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and major amendments to allow for abbreviated public comment periods under extraordinary circumstances. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.

5. **Initial Discussion of 2011-2014 TIP** – Mr. Hadfield announced that the 2011-2014 TIP needs to be developed and will be discussed at the next meeting. FFY 2011 is currently over-programmed, and some projects may need to be split up into smaller project to receive funding. SRPEDD will be starting a criteria evaluation for all potential projects and will be contacting communities for updated project information.

6. **Regional Transportation Plan** – Mr. Mission explained that SRPEDD is in the process of updating the Regional Transportation Plan. Individual chapters will be presented to the JTPG as progress is made.

Mr. Recchia discussed updates to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Chapter. This chapter is currently being revised to include updated crash data for the years 2006-2008. Urban corridors with a high number of pedestrian crashes, locations without sidewalks with a high number of pedestrian crashes, priority locations for sidewalks and corridors with a high number of bicycle crashes have been identified. Recommended bicycle routes were developed based on updates from communities.

Mr. Recchia also discussed socioeconomic projections that are used to create the travel demand model for the SRPEDD region. These projections include population, household and employment for 2035. Projections are distributed by MassDOT, discussed based on local knowledge/statistics and the distributed through the model. The model is then used to create the basis for the Congestion Chapter.

Ms. Schmidt discussed updates to the Airport Chapter. This chapter covers the Plymouth Municipal, New Bedford Regional, Taunton Municipal and Mansfield Municipal Airports. The chapter was updated using information received from the airport managers. Planned projects include mainly maintenance and safety improvements.

Mr. Mission discussed updates to the Bridge Chapter. There are thirty-two bridges in the region which are considered to be structurally deficient. Six of the thirty two bridges are part of the Fall River I-195 Spaghetti Ramp and are being studied by a task force to determine appropriate measures. Discussion ensued regarding which bridges were eligible for federal aid. It was determined that all bridges over twenty feet are considered eligible for federal aid, but communities are responsible for maintaining bridges under their jurisdiction.

7. **Other Business** – Mr. Cabral discussed an increase in the cost estimate for the Seekonk Route 152 and Baker's Corner Resurfacing project from \$3.3 million to \$4.3 million as a result of changes in the 75% design from a new design engineer.

A motion was made to amend the cost for the Seekonk Resurface Route 152 and Baker's Corner project from \$3.3 million to \$4.2 million. The motion was seconded and approved UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Hadfield announced that the next MPO meeting will be held on April 28, 2010 at 1 pm, location to be determined.

Mr. Smith announced that SRPEDD will be holding the Annual Dinner on May 26, 2010 at Benjamin's in Taunton. SRPEDD is currently seeking suggestions for awards, if you have any please contact SRPEDD before April 23, 2010.

8. **Date, Time, and Place for Next Meeting** – May 12, 2010 at 2:00 pm, location to be determined.
9. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 pm by Chairman Azinheira.