

Joint Transportation Planning Group

Minutes of meeting held on May 19, 2010 at the Mansfield Town Hall, 6 Park Row, Mansfield

In attendance were the following:

Lee Azinheira, Town of Mansfield

Charles Cristello, Town of Middleborough

David Cabral, Town of Seekonk

Peter Donnelly, Town of Carver

Duarte Andrade, City of New Bedford

Zeb Arruda, City of New Bedford

Jamie Pisano, VHB

Timothy Letton, GPI

Tim Kochan, MassDOT Highway Division

Paul Mission, SRPEDD

Adam Recchia, SRPEDD

Christopher Cardaci, SRPEDD

John Clover, City of Attleboro

Andrew Sousa, Town of Westport

Byron Holmes, City of Fall River

Fred Cornaglia, City of Taunton

Manuel H. Silva, City of New Bedford

Bill Fitzgerald, Town of Fairhaven

Robert Patneau, GPI

Michael Chong, FHWA

Jim Hadfield, SRPEDD

Lisa Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD

Stacy Sousa, SRPEDD

Jacqueline Schmidt, SRPEDD

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 2:10 pm by Chairman Lee Azinheira.
2. **Approval of the Minutes, April 14, 2010** - A motion was made to approve the minutes of the JTPG meeting held on April 14, 2010 as submitted. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY
3. **Presentation on proposed Mass Coastal Feeder Train** – The representative for the MCFT Project was unable to attend the meeting; Mr. Mission gave a brief presentation on the proposed Mass Coastal Feeder Train project. The project would provide commuter rail service from Sandwich and Wareham to the Middleborough/Lakeville MBTA Station. The line would use existing rail lines already in use by the SEMASS Energy Train and Mass Coastal freight services. Staff will attempt to get a formal presentation from the proponent at a future JTPG meeting.
4. **Project Status Report/Discussion of 2011-14 Transportation Improvement Program(TIP) Development** – The following projects were discussed:
 - FFY 2010
 - Fairhaven Reconstruct Bridge Street at Alden Road – Waiting for 75% Design
 - Seekonk Resurface Route 152 (Central Ave) and Baker’s Corner – Cost Estimate Increase from \$3.3 to \$4.2 million, currently on the TIP and subject to a 30 day comment period. The project cost may increase to \$5.3 million.
 - Freetown Elm Street Bridge – Potential cost increase from \$2.3 to \$3 million is expected. Mr. Kochan explained that there is a possibility the project cost could be adjusted to fit financial constraint.
 - Middleborough Nemasket Storm Water Pollution Mitigation Enhancement –Pre 25% design. Mr. Cristello explained that the project was simple and should be able to be submitted in time for FFY 2010 funding.
 - Westport Central Village Enhancement – Pre 25% design, design may not be completed in time for FFY2010 funding.
 - New Bedford Shore Side Electrification Project – Project needs CMAQ committee approval, on the agenda for the next CMAQ committee meeting June 2, 2010.
 - FFY 2011
 - New Bedford Reconstruct Mill Street and County Street Intersections – Public hearing held April 6, 2010. Cost Estimate has decreased from \$5.4 million to \$4.7 million

- Attleboro Tiffany Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – Pre 25% design, potential environmental conflicts. May need to be moved to a later TIP year.
- Taunton Safety Improvements on Route 140 (County Street) from Route 24 to Depot Drive – 25% design, stalled due to outstanding Section 61 finding.
- New Bedford Reconstruct Route 6 at Route 140 – Safety Audit held March 23, 2010. Updated cost estimate needed.

FFY 2012

- Wareham Reconstruct Route 6/28 –Project involves installing a median barrier along the length of the corridor to control turning movements and prevent crossover crashes. Project will be funded over 3 years, FFY 2012-2014 at a total cost of \$13 million.
- Fairhaven Reconstruct Four Route 6 Intersections – Funded through HSIP and Section 1A. The project is at 25% design. MassDOT estimates the project cost to be \$2.4 million.
- North Attleborough Reconstruct Route 1A, Route 1, and Route 120 – Pre-25% design, no consultant has been assigned. May need to be moved to FFY 2013.
- Mattapoisett Multi-Use Class 1 Path Phase 1B – Pre 25% design. Right of Way plans are under review, project may require an Environmental Impact Report.

FFY 2013

- Middleborough/Lakeville Construct Signals at I-495 Ramps with Route 105 – 25% design submittal due June 2010. PSE due in June 2011. District recommends moving from FFY 2013 to FFY 2011. Dispute between the Town of Middleborough and MassDOT District 5 over inclusion of the Clark Street East intersection with Route 105 in the I-495 Northbound off-ramp traffic signal has not been resolved.
- Raynham Reconstruct Route 44, Orchard Street and Route 24 off Ramp – The project is at pre 25 % design and is estimated to cost approximately \$3 million based on the concept plan.
- New Bedford Reconstruct Coggeshall Street and the Connection to I-195 – Improvements will be made to portions of Coggeshall Street as a part of the Fast Track New Bedford TIGER grant, which may decrease the project cost.

Potential Future Projects

- Fall River Plymouth Avenue Safety Improvements– Approximately \$4 million for safety improvements at Plymouth Avenue and Rodman Street and to pave portions of the corridor. Plymouth Avenue and Rodman Street is listed as the worst intersection in the region and the second worst intersection in the Commonwealth.
- Dartmouth Faunce Corner Road Bridge –This project was removed from the TIP at the request of FHWA due to the fact that funding has not been secured for the project for that year as represented in the TIP. The MPO still considers this project a high priority for the region and has sent a letter to the state explaining the importance of this project.
- Carver Resurface Route 58 – Mr. Donnelly requested a status update for the project in relation to placement on the TIP. Mr. Kochan replied that the project was passed through the MassDOT Project Review Committee.
- Seekonk Route 114A at Arcade Avenue – Mr. Cabral discussed the potential for restarting interest in this project. Seekonk is attempting to finish the design by next year.
- New Bedford JFK Highway Phase II – Pre 25% design, public hearing held April 28, 2010 to gain public input in the project design.

Mr. Hadfield discussed the development of the FFY 2011-2014 TIP. FFY 2011 is currently over-programmed, and some projects may need to be split up into smaller project to receive funding. Projects may need to be moved due to readiness and amount of funding required. SRPEDD has started criteria evaluation for all potential projects and will be contacting communities for updated project information.

5. **Other Business** – Mr. Hadfield explained that the FFY 2010-2013 TIP has been released for a 30-day public comment period which will expire June 7, 2010. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) was

released for a 45-day comment period that will expire June 22, 2010. A public meeting was held for both the TIP and PPP amendments on May 13, 2010 at which no comments were received.

Mr. Hadfield announced that SRPEDD will be participating in TIP day on June 2, 2010. TIP day consists of a conference call with all the regions to discuss projects funded through the TIP and specific issues related to these projects including permitting, environmental aspects, statuses and timetables.

Mr. Hadfield announced that SPREDD is starting the development of the 2011 Unified Planning Work Program and is looking for suggestions. Any input or study ideas please contact SRPEDD by email at info@srpedd.org or by calling 508-824-1367.

Mr. Mission explained that SRPEDD is in the process of updating the Regional Transportation Plan and is looking for input regarding how communities would like the transportation system to operate in the future. Specific topics include livability, sustainability, efficiency, mobility and growth. For questions and comments please contact Paul by email at pmission@srpedd.org or by calling 508-824-1367.

Ms. Schmidt announced that SPREDD is in the process of updating the Pavement Management Chapter of the Regional Transportation Plan. Pavement Conditions from 2008 have been mapped and will be distributed to the communities for input and updates. For questions and comments please contact Jackie by email at jschmidt@srpedd.org or by calling 508-824-1367.

6. **Date, Time, and Place for Next Meeting** – June 16, 2010 at 2:00 pm, Fort Taber, New Bedford.
7. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm by Chairman Azinheira.