Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District (SRPEDD)
Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) Meeting.

**DRAFT** Minutes for the JTPG Meeting Held on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 2:00 PM
Held Remotely via Zoom in Accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

The following members and alternates were in attendance:

Stephanie Crampton, Chair........City of New Bedford
Joe Callahan...............................Town of Berkley
John Woods..............................Town of Carver
Tim Barber.................................Town of Dartmouth
Tom Ferry.................................Town of Dighton
Dan Aguiar.................................City of Fall River
Victoria D’Antonio....................Town of Freetown, alternate
Deborah Pettey............................Town of Freetown
Franklin Moniz...........................(Town of Lakeville
Josh Reinke.................................Town of Mansfield
Kevin Dumas...............................Town of Mansfield, alternate
Leeann Bradley...........................(Town of Middleborough
Dennis Morton.............................Town of Plainville
Scott Olobri...............................Town of Swansea
Bill Roth....................................City of Taunton
Alan Slavin.................................Town of Wareham
James Hartnett...........................(Town of Westport

The following members/alternates were NOT in attendance:

Town of Acushnet
City of Attleboro
Town of Fairhaven
City of Taunton
Town of Marion
Town of Mattapoisett
Town of Middleborough
Town of No. Attleborough
Town of Norton
Town of Raynham
Town of Rehoboth
Town of Rochester
Town of Seekonk
Town of Somerset
At-Large, City of Fall River
At-Large, City of New Bedford
At-Large, City of Taunton

Also in Attendance:

Raissah Kouame..........................MassDOT
Cheryll-Ann Senior...........................MassDOT
Lisa Estrela-Pedro............................SRPEDD
Lilia Cabral-Bernard.......................SRPEDD
Jackie Jones...............................SRPEDD
Jennifer Chaves.........................SRPEDD
Luis De Oliveira..........................SRPEDD
Joe Osborne..............................SRPEDD
Jamie Pisano................................VHB
Sid Kashi........................................GPI
Phil Viveiros................................McMahon Associates
Lisa Sherman.............................CDM Smith
Mel Jenks

Handouts:
The JTPG Agenda October 12, 2022
DRAFT JTPG September 14, 2022 Minutes
Draft JTPG By-laws

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:
Chair Stephanie Crampton called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM. Ms. Cabral-Bernard asked all members to unmute themselves so she could call the complete roll call of JTPG members, with the following being present at the time of the roll call.

Stephanie Crampton, Chair........City of New Bedford
Joe Callahan.........................................Town of Berkley
John Woods......................................Town of Carver
Tim Barber......................................Town of Dartmouth
Tom Ferry......................................Town of Dighton
Dan Aguiar......................................City of Fall River
Victoria D’Antonio.......................Town of Freetown
Franklin Moniz.........................Town of Lakeville
Josh Reinke.................................Town of Mansfield
Leeann Bradley............................Town of Middleborough
Dennis Morton..............................Town of Plainville
Scott Olobri.................................Town of Swansea
Bill Roth.....................................City of Taunton
Alan Slavin...................................Town of Wareham
Jim Hartnett.................................Town of Westport

2. Public Comments - Opportunity for the public to address the JTPG
There were no comments offered by the public.

3. Approval of Minutes – September 14, 2022 (Materials Attached & roll call vote needed)
Chair Crampton called for a motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2022. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Victoria D’Antoni. Ms. Cabral-Bernard then called the roll:

City of New Bedford.............Yes
Town of Berkley.......................Abstain
Town of Carver......................Yes
Town of Dartmouth............Yes
Town of Dighton.....................Yes
City of Fall River...............Yes
Town of Freetown...............Yes
Town of Lakeville..............Abstain
Town of Mansfield.............Yes
Town of Middleborough.....Abstain
Town of Plainville.............Yes
Town of Swansea..............Abstain
City of Taunton...............Abstain
Town of Wareham...........Yes
Town of Westport...........Yes

THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIVE ABSTENTIONS.

4. Regional Transit Authorities (RTA’s) Report
There were no representatives of either RTA present to present a report.
5. Approval of the Draft Update of the JTPG By-Laws (Materials Attached and a Voice-vote needed for approval.)

Lilia Cabral-Bernard informed the group that Jim Hartnett of Westport asked a question about at-large commissioners at the last meeting and she wanted to clarify the answer to that question. Upon further review of the JTPG By-laws language which states, “The JTPG is allowed 6 at-large commissioners; 2 for the New Bedford area, 2 for the Fall River area, one for the Attleboro area and one for the Taunton area,” staff determined that the language allows for someone who does not necessarily live in, or does not necessarily work for, one of the region’s cities to be eligible to represent the low-income and minority populations of those cities and surrounding areas as an At-Large Commissioner at these meetings.

She continued by explaining that as part of the requirement within the JTPG by-laws, she distributed the draft by-laws, along with a copy of the SMMPO MOU to all JTPG members and alternates, as well as to all Mayors, Select Board members or comparable forms of town government within the SRPEDD region, for review and comment. She also attached the draft to the invitation to this meeting one week prior, giving everyone ample opportunity to review and comment. She received one question regarding the by-laws, but no comments.

She asked the group for a motion to approve the JTPG by-laws. Victoria D’Antoni made the motion and John Woods seconded it. She then asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the draft by-laws. Hearing none, she then called the roll as follows:

- City of New Bedford……………..Yes
- Town of Berkley…………………..Yes
- Town of Carver…………………..Yes
- Town of Dartmouth………………Yes
- Town of Dighton…………………..Yes
- City of Fall River…………………..Yes
- Town of Freetown………………..Yes
- Town of Lakeville…………………Yes
- Town of Mansfield………………..Yes
- Town of Middleborough………..Yes
- Town of Plainville…………………Yes
- Town of Swansea…………………..Yes
- City of Taunton…………………..Yes
- Town of Wareham…………………Yes
- Town of Westport…………………Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
6. TIP Projects Update - MassDOT District 5
Ms. Cheryll-Ann Senior of MassDOT district 5 presented updates to TIP projects for the group as follows:

FFY2022
Taunton - Reconstruction of Route 44 from Arlington Street to Route 104. This project has been advertised.

Attleborough - Intersection Improvements at Routes 1, Route 1A and 123. This project has also been advertised.

FFY2023
Rehoboth - Intersection Improvements at Winthrop & Anawan, that is Route 44 & 118. This is at 100% design and the revised PS&E submittal has been reviewed.

New Bedford – Corridor Improvements and related work on County Street from Nelson Street to Union Street is currently at 75% with the anticipated 100% design due on November 25.

FFY2024
Mansfield - Reconstruction of Route 106 is currently at 25% design. The 75% design is due in February of 2023 and there was a recent utility walk.

Wareham - Improvements on Route 6 and Swift’s Beach Road. The 25% design is complete and the 75% design is due in January.

Taunton - Corridor Improvements on Broadway (Route 138) from Purchase Street to Jackson, Phase II is currently at 25%. The 75% submittal is due in February, and it has had a utility meeting.

Dartmouth - Corridor Improvements on Route 6 from Faunce Corner Road to Hathaway Road is at 25% with the 75% design due in April.

FFY2025
Wareham - Shared Use Path adjacent to Narrows Road and Minot Ave is currently at 25%, awaiting a revised set of 25% plans and a revised schedule to go with them.

Swansea - Improvements on Route 6 at Gardner’s Neck Road is at 100% design and we are waiting for a revised schedule for the PS&E.

Lakeville - Reconstruction of Route 79 from the Taunton city line to Clear Pond Road. It's presently at 75% and we are anticipating receiving their 100% on November 18.

Norton - Intersection Improvements at West Nain Street (Route 123) at North & South Worcester Streets. This is at 25% with the 75% due any day, actually on October 18.

Mansfield – Multi-modal accommodations on School Street from Spring Street to West Street. This is at 25% and they are waiting on the 75% design submission for this.
FFY2026
Plainville- Reconstruction of Route 1A from Charlene Lane to Everett Street. This is at 25% design with the 75% design due next August.

Mattapoisett - Corridor Improvements and Related Work on Main Street, Water Street, Beacon Street and Marion Road. This is at 25% and waiting for the 75% design due in January.

New Bedford - Intersection Improvements at Mount Pleasant and Nash Road. It's currently at less than 25% design stage and they need a revised schedule submission.

FFY2027
Dartmouth - Reconstruction and Related Work on Faunce Corner Road from Old Fall River Road to the MassDOT-owned Railroad Crossing. This is at less than 25% and it needs a revised schedule.

Dartmouth – Corridor Improvements on Dartmouth and Prospect Streets. This is currently at 25% and they are awaiting a revised schedule.

Westport - Intersection Improvements at Route 177 at Robertson & Tickle Road, they are at 25% awaiting the 75% design submission, and a new schedule is needed for this project also.

Mansfield – Route 106 Improvements, Phase II. They don't have an update on this since they have not received any schedule information from them.

Kevin Dumas asked if they normally provided this information as an attachment and Lisa responded that this information is provided in the meeting minutes which will be distributed prior to the next meeting.

7. MEPA Projects Updates - Raynham Park Redevelopment DEIR / Somerset Prysmian Brayton Point DEIR
Luis De Oliveira presented on both DEIRs but stated that Sean Hilton actually conducted the review of the Raynham Park redevelopment. Mr. De Oliveira then summarized the Raynhamp project, including 1,053,000 square feet and approximately 620 surface parking spaces planned, and the peak hour traffic expected with projected trips. SRPEDD recommends that given the signal warrants analysis at the Simulcast facility entrance, the proponent should coordinate with town officials on special events in order to mitigate traffic impacts and revisit the signal warrants if traffic at the site begins to increase. In addition, SRPEDD recommends that any users of the warehouse consider truck travel in off-peak hours to further mitigate any impacts that the site may have on normal traffic function.

He continued with a summary of Somerset Prysmian Brayton Point; the site of a former coal fired power plant in the southern portion of the town of Somerset. The new project site consists of approximately 47 acres to design, manufacture, and deliver transmission cable to support offshore wind projects in the United States.
SRPEDD recommended revisiting the analysis for the existing geometry to see if the intersection would still operate efficiently, and to establish and enforce a designated truck route for entering and exiting the site. In the past residents have expressed concerns regarding heavy vehicles in the area.

SRPEDD’s final comment was that bicycle racks should be considered on site to encourage employees to seek alternate modes of transportation for their commute. This would assist in minimizing vehicle traffic entering and exiting the site at nearby intersections.

Joe Callahan asked if the footprint would be increased by the project redevelopment and also if any wetlands will be disturbed. Mr. De Oliveira said he did not review this project so he wasn’t entirely sure.

8. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Development
Lisa Estrela-Pedro announced that October 1 was the start of a new Fiscal Year and the start of the update of the Regional Transportation Plan which looks out to the year 2050. We have been conducting continuous public outreach, including a series of webinars for the public and a survey on transportation issues. She then displayed the RTP project page from the SRPEDD website page where staff has placed webinar recordings, including one on bike and pedestrian infrastructure, one on Rethinking Safety in our region, one on Driving Economic Development and our most recent one which will be posted shortly, entitled “Where the River Meets the Road” on culverts and climate change. Staff also has a new survey that’s been posted on this webpage and she will share all these links after the meeting with the group so please go and take the survey, and share it with everyone within your community.

Also, in addition to that, she explained that staff is rolling out some informational videos, the first one explaining the overall RTP, and she played that for the group.

Following the screening she informed the group that staff will be rolling out additional videos, talking about pavement and bridges. Also, as part of our RTP continuous outreach, staff will be going out to community events and promoting our Regional Transportation Plan, asking people to take the survey, if anyone is in Middleboro this Saturday staff will be at the Crantoberfest, so stop by and say hi. And if you have any events in your community that you think you would be worthwhile for staff to attend, please put it in the chat or send an email.

She also promoted Mass DOT’s long range transportation plan development, which is called Beyond Mobility. They also have a project webpage. Staff will share the link for that as well. MassDOT is hosting a virtual public meeting on October 28 at 6pm. And that link will also be shared for anyone that would like to attend

9. Other Business
Ms. Estrela-Pedro announced meetings including this Thursday, in the city of Fall River at the Morton Middle School, this is an in-person meeting, that the MBTA will be hosting concerning the South Coast
Rail Project Phase I and its status. The recording of the SCR meeting will be posted to the project website, following the meeting. In addition to that, MassDOT will be holding a design public hearing for ADA retrofits at various locations, and in our region that involves the communities of Fairhaven and Swansea to be held on November 9 at 6pm virtually. She then shared one more announcement on grant programs, part of BIL, that have been rolled out. The ATTAIN program, which promotes advanced technologies to improve safety and reduce travel time for drivers and transit riders and that can serve as national examples. The information can be found on the grants.gov website. Staff will also send out a link. Applications close on November 18.

10. Date and Time for Next Meeting
The Chair announced the time and date for the next meeting as November 9 at 2:00 PM to be held remotely.

11. Adjourn
The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Kevin Dumas and seconded by Victoria D’Antoni. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 2:48 PM.