

April 23, 2025

6:30 PM Regular Meeting

Remote SRPEDD Commission Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88356007241?pwd=GKheLQgstKB38d8pzYDrsoa0tIx2Jw.1>

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Welcome
- Page 2 2. Approval of Minutes – March 26, 2025* (*Vote requested*)
- 3. Reports
 - a. Chair
 - b. Executive Director
- 4. Consent Agenda
 - Page 6 a. Contracts * (*Vote to receive report and place on file*)
- 5. Committee Reports
 - Page 7 a. Finance Committee * (*Vote to receive report and place on file*)
 - Page 8 • FY'26 Q3 Budget Update * (*Vote to receive and place on file*)
 - Page 10 b. Joint Transportation Planning Group/MPO * (*Vote to receive and place on file*)
- 6. Programs and Project Updates:
 - a. [Taunton Route 140 Corridor Study](#)
 - Page 23 b. Environmental Committee Report * (inclusive of MEPA report)
- 7. Old Business
 - Page 24 a. [Technical Assistance](#) * (*Vote to receive and place on file*)
- 8. New Business
 - Page 31 a. MA Ocean Advisory Commission (OAC) Rep Appointment/Re-Appointment *
- 9. Roundtable: Opportunity for Commissioners to provide updates on local topics, projects or matters of regional interest
- 10. Adjourn

Per MGL c. 30A § 18-25, all meetings posted at: <https://srpedd.org/about-srpedd/meetings/>

FUTURE MEETINGS: May 28, 2025; Jun. 25, 2025; July 23, 2025; *No Aug. Mtg.*;
Sept. 24, 2025 (Annual Mtg.); Oct. 22, 2025; Dec. 10, 2025

NOTE: *An Exec. Cmte Meeting will be convened in the absence of a Commission quorum.*

AGENDA ITEM: Minutes, # 2

SRPEDD Commission Meeting – Draft Minutes

March 26, 2025

Remote Meeting via Zoom

Present:**Commissioners:**

V. Alfaro, Acushnet	C. Vitale, Dartmouth	R. Trapilo, Fairhaven	D. Aguiar, Fall River
L. Bradley, Middleboro	N. Hills, Marion	J. Robbins, Mattapoisett	M. Clarner, No. Attleboro
L. Ferreira, Rehoboth	D. DeMaggio, Roch.	N. McDonald, Somerset	R. Peirce, Somerset
G. Hovorka, Swansea	B. Fitzgerald, Taunton	J. Moran, Wareham	J. Whitin, Westport
C. McDermott, Attle. A/L	G. Saddler, F.R A/L	A. Slavin, N.B. A/L	

Guests/Staff:

D. Belknap, SRPEDD	P. Carr, Fairhaven	J. Jones, SRPEDD	L. Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD
G. King, SRPEDD	K. Porter, SRPEDD	S. Royer, SRPEDD	J. Walker, SRPEDD

Absent:

J. Kelley, Acushnet	G. Ayrassian, Attleboro	P. Fellini, Attleboro	S. Leary, Berkley
T. McCrohan, Berkley	B. Cullum, Carver	T. Bott, Carver	J. Carvalho, Dighton
R. Woods, Dighton	K. Estes, Dartmouth	A. Saunders, Fairh.	J. Ferreira, Fall River
D. Pettey, Freetown	D. Lodge, Lakeville	L. Carboni, Lakeville	B. Roche, Mansfield
T. Burr, Marion	T. Farley, Middleboro	J. Ponte, N.B.	M. Borg, No. Attleboro
K. Snyder, Norton	S. Warchal, Norton	M. Mullen, Plainville	C. Desprez, Plainv.
A. Niccoli, Raynham	C. Sullivan, Raynham	P. Ciaburri, Rochester	P. Dunn, Seekonk
S. Cadime, Seekonk	J. Hansen, Swansea	J. Pateakos, Taunton	S. Quirk, Wareham
M. Soares, Westport	T. Lobo, Taunton A/L	A. Eaton, N.B. A/L	

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:31 P.M. by Chairwoman Clarner.
2. **Approval of Minutes – February 26, 2025:** A motion was made to approve the February 26, 2025, minutes. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. **Reports:**
 - a. **Chair:** No report.
 - b. **Executive Director:** Mr. Walker provided updates on the recent return of commuter rail to Southeast Mass after 67 years with MBTA trains now connecting New Bedford, Fall River, and East Taunton with Boston and locations in between. He mentioned that the long work and wait were over, and that it was something for the state and region to celebrate with new mobility options for residents and visitors, expanded connectivity, and promise of related development. Mr. Walker updated Commissioners on the recent extension of remote/hybrid meetings through June 2027, with the Governor looking into making the changes permanent potentially by way of the upcoming Municipal Empowerment Act. He posted the MMA Press Release for the signed extension in Zoom chat, adding that the continuing option of hybrid meetings is beneficial for reasons beyond

increased convenience for meeting attendees and expanded attendance across all the agency's many meetings, including ease of and enhancement of information exchange via screen sharing, availability of the chat function, and others.

Mr. Trapilo mentioned that this will be his last meeting having come to the end of his Fairhaven Planning Board term, and Mr. Patrick Carr will be the interim Member as he departs. Mr. Walker thanked Mr. Trapilo for his much-appreciated service, indicating that he would be missed, and that the Commission and staff looked forward to hopefully being able to welcome him back soon.

4. Consent Agenda:

- a. **Contracts:** Chairwoman Clarner referred Commissioners to the contracts listed in the packet, reading each individually for the Board's consideration.

Be it resolved that the SRPEDD Commission authorizes the Chairman, Treasurer, Officers, and Executive Director, as appropriate, to negotiate and execute the following contracts:

1. With Save the Bay to secure consultant services to design and install a riparian perennial planting in fulfillment of the work program associated with the Nemasket River Riparian Buffer Restoration TNC grant agreement, for an amount not to exceed \$4,172.
2. With Commonplace Landscape and Design to secure consultant services to design and install a living willow shoreline fence in fulfillment of the work program associated with the Nemasket River Riparian Buffer Restoration TNC grant agreement, for an amount not to exceed \$9,960.
3. With Horsley Witten to secure design and permitting support consultant services in fulfillment of the work program associated with FY 2025 Assawompset Ponds Complex – Nemasket River Sedimentation Mitigation, Water Supply Preservation, and Flood Management DER Grant, for an amount not to exceed \$143,000.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the contracts listed above and as read. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Committee Reports:

- a. **Finance Committee:** Mr. Hills reported the Finance Committee met on March 19, 2025, at SRPEDD and remotely via Zoom. The February 19, 2025, Finance meeting minutes were approved. the Treasurer's Report for February 2025 received, and a warrant for expenses signed off on in the amount of \$128,274.63. The Committee reviewed the February 2025 month-end General Journal entries.

Prior to adjournment, Ms. Chang was presented with a cake in honor of her retirement and thanked for her many years of service. Mr. Walker mentioned SRPEDD will be hosting a luncheon for her scheduled for Monday, March 31 at noon at SRPEDD with Commissioners, Committee members, past and present colleagues, and fellow staff all cordially invited to attend.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Finance Committee report. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. **Joint Transportation Planning Group/MPO:** Ms. Estrela-Pedro reported that the JTPG met on February 12th and the SMMPO met on February 18th. She mentioned the minutes can be found on page 9. She highlighted at the meetings there was discussion for a GATRA bid for service between Fall River and Brockton and the assistance of both RTAs with connections to new South Coast Rail stations. She mentioned the Transportation department is working on development of an Age-Friendly and Dementia Plan for the region. She mentioned this was the outcome of the Regional Transportation Plan, which highlighted that the region's population is aging. Ms. Estrela-Pedro stated that the Dementia Plan was discussed at both meetings, and it was released for a 21-day comment period, and was recently approved at the MPO meeting to be included in the Unified Planning Work Program. Ms. Estrela-Pedro entertained questions from the Commission.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Transportation report. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Programs and Project Updates:

- a. **FFY'26-30 Draft Transportation Improvement Highway Project List:** Ms. Estrela-Pedro presented on the FFY'26-30 Draft Transportation Improvement Highway project list and referred Members to page 18. She explained in detail statewide projects, including earmarks for bridge replacements and new projects for Taunton and Freetown. Ms. Estrela-Pedro explained regional target projects, and the prioritization scenario used to allocate funding. She answered questions about project timelines and the design process.
- b. **Environmental Subcommittee Report (inclusive of MEPA report):** Ms. Belknap reported that the next Environmental Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 9th. Ms. Belknap stated the next meeting will be more of procedural discussion, and to decide on top priorities moving forward from among those identified and explored at previous meetings. She mentioned that the next order of business will also be to elect a committee chair/co-chairs, and overall frequency and formality of meetings to follow. Ms. Belknap entertained questions from the Members.

7. Old Business:

- a. **Technical Assistance:** Mr. King referred Commissioners to the monthly update on projects contained in the packet on page 25. Mr. King mentioned that he and fellow staff are available to discuss projects as needed by email or calling the office.

Ms. Bradley stated that she saw that Plympton was listed in the Technical Assistance report and asked if they have switched from Old Colony Planning Council to SRPEDD. Mr. King mentioned no they have not moved, that they chose SRPEDD as a partner to help them comply with the Section 3A Bylaw. He mentioned SRPEDD is working with them on developing the bylaw and running the technical compliance model.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Technical Assistance report. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. New Business:

- a. **2025-2026 Commissioner (Re-)Appointment Forms Mayor/Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, At-Large due May 19, 2025:** Mr. Walker referred Members to the 2025-2026 Commissioner re-appointment and At-Large Commission nomination forms beginning on page 32 and due on May 19, 2025. Mr. Fitzgerald asked who the forms needed to be signed by. Mr. Walker mentioned it varies

by community, but for the most part, Members should begin with their Planning Board Chair or Select Board Chair, depending upon their position with the city or town, as that is the most common signatory, however, in some communities it is the Mayor or Town Administrator who ultimately signs.

- 9. Roundtable: Opportunity for Commissioners to provide updates on local topics, projects or matters of regional interest:** Chairwoman Clarner mentioned that she believes that there is inevitably going to be a drop off in EPA grants and other federally funded grants that are routed through the state, and that she is hoping the Environmental Committee can help come up with alternative sources of funding, to keep important initiatives going. She stated there are many great service and non-profit organizations that operating in our communities, and that perhaps increased partnering with them might be an option.

Mr. Pierce stated that he was looking for the draft Resiliency Plan on the SRPEDD website and was unable to find it. Mr. King mentioned that the plan can be circulated to members, and he gave the website to members in the chat. He mentioned it may be marked as draft, but it is considered final and that staff can remove the *draft* watermark.

- 10. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, via Zoom at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Saddler, Secretary

Date: 4/23/2025

AGENDA ITEM: Contract Approvals, # 4.a.

Be it resolved that the SRPEDD Commission authorizes the Chairman, Treasurer, Officers, and Executive Director, as appropriate, to negotiate and execute the following contracts:

1. With the City of Taunton to design, develop, and facilitate a full-scale exercise to validate the recently completed ASHE Response Tool Kit and other Taunton Public Schools plans, policies, and procedures for an amount not to exceed \$10,000 (supplemented by DLTA).
2. With the Town of Fairhaven to prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) for an amount not to exceed \$35,955.
3. With the Nature Conservancy to advance 90% designs and secure necessary permits for the Upper Nemasket Channel Restoration Project for an amount not to exceed \$93,000.

AGENDA ITEM: Finance Committee Report # 5.a.

The Finance Committee met April 16, 2025, at SRPEDD -88 Broadway. The March 19, 2025, Finance meeting minutes were approved, the Treasurer's Report for February 2025 was received, and a warrant for expenses signed-off on in the amount of \$128,274.63.

Cash & Funds: March 1, 2025	\$ 1,233,900.76
Cash Receipts: Mar. 1 – 31, 2025	<u>\$ 104,462.99</u>
Total Cash Accounted for:	\$ 1,338,363.75

Disbursements: Mar. 1 – 31, 2025	\$ 346,213.68
Cash & Funds: March. 31, 2025	<u>\$ 992,150.07</u>
Total Cash Accounted for:	\$ 1,338,363.75

The Committee also reviewed the March 2025 month-end General Journal entries.

Finally, Mr. Walker presented the Committee with the FY'25 Q3 Budget Update, with contracted projects and revenues totaling \$6,295,550, a conservative but solid quarterly snapshot of continuing growth and diversification across the agency's three busy departments. He expressed appreciation for the attentive efforts and steady progress that new CFO Austin Horowitz and Assistant Finance Officer Dan Merline had been making on such core functions as reporting and information systems, among others, and that he was looking forward to partnering on the implementation of further refinements with regard to the production of several longstanding reporting instruments and processes, beginning with next month's draft FY'26 budget. In all, he shared, heading into the final quarter of FY'25, the agency's finances look good and the team stands ready to pivot shortly to another busy year.



Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District

88 Broadway • Taunton, MA 02780 • Phone (508) 824-1367 • Fax (508) 823-1803

FY'25 Q3 Draft Budget Update		PROP: 4/16/25		SUMMARY Pg. 1	
REVENUE		FY 25 APP 1/2025	FY 25 Q3 PROP. 4/2025	CHANGE: 1/2025 to 4/2025	PERCENT CHANGE
1. FEDERAL & STATE GRANTS					
a.	MASSDOT.-3C*	1,864,604	1,864,603	-1	0.00%
b.	GATRA-SEC.5307*	-	-	0	
c.	EDA*	70,000	70,000	0	0.00%
d.	EPA CPRG	527,774	527,774	0	0.00%
e.	FHWA SS4A	312,739	312,739	0	0.00%
f.	HOMELAND SEC/EOPSS*	137,084	137,084	0	0.00%
g.	DLTA (2024)*	331,975	331,975	0	0.00%
h.	DLTA (2025)	98,495	98,495	0	0.00%
Sub-total		3,342,671	3,342,671	0	0.00%
2. ASSESSMENTS		138,312	138,312	0	0.00%
3. MUNICIPAL & LOCAL					
a.	20251231 Acushnet MP 070124	100,000	100,000	0	0.00%
b.	20241231 AgeSpan ARPA DEI 020124	25,000	25,000	0	0.00%
c.	20250630 APC Earmark 111424	200,000	200,000	0	0.00%
d.	20260630 Berkley Economic Dev Plan 010125	85,000	85,000	0	0.00%
e.	20260730 Brownfields 090922	369,829	369,829	0	0.00%
f.	20250630 Carver Economic Dev Plan 010125	89,000	89,000	0	0.00%
g.	20250630 Community Planning Grant 3x 111523	52,933	52,933	0	0.00%
h.	20251231 Dartmouth HPP 040124	40,000	40,000	0	0.00%
i.	20250630 DLTA-A allocation 18mo 010224	165,663	165,663	0	0.00%
j.	20251231 Dighton HPP 013124	39,132	39,132	0	0.00%
k.	20250630 Fairhaven MVP	24,560	24,560	0	0.00%
l.	20250630 Fall River MVP	36,766	36,766	0	0.00%
m.	20241231 Fall River OSRP 120623	23,637	23,637	0	0.00%
n.	20241031 Flood Vulnerability Outreach 082124	4,000	4,000	0	0.00%
o.	20241231 Freetown Master Plan 030323	75,000	75,000	0	0.00%
p.	20241130 Freetown MBI	40,000	40,000	0	0.00%
q.	20260630 Lakeville Rules & Reg Review 010125	48,000	48,000	0	0.00%
r.	20250930 Mansfield Hazard Mitigation Plan 022624	28,387	28,387	0	0.00%
s.	20280630 Mass Gaming Commission	234,000	234,000	0	0.00%
t.	20251231 Middleborough MP (HCI) 2x 67500 20231211	94,447	94,447	0	0.00%
u.	20251130 Nature Conservancy Buffer Rest. 070224	90,000	43,029	-46,971	-52.19%
v.	20250930 North Attleboro GC ext 010324	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
w.	20241231 Norton Phase II 3ATA 022124	15,683	15,683	0	0.00%
x.	20250630 Plymouth Tri-Town	98,863	98,863	0	0.00%
y.	20241031 Plympton 3ATA (MHP) 110123	18,194	18,194	0	0.00%
z.	20241231 Raynham 3ATA ext 101723	10,959	10,959	0	0.00%
aa.	20250630 Raynham Rt. 138 Overlay District 022424	77,064	77,064	0	0.00%
bb.	20250731 Rehoboth Green Community TA		3,500	3,500	
cc.	20241231 Resilient Taunton Circuit Rider (RPA) 120122	67,286	67,286	0	0.00%
dd.	20250630 Rochester 3ATA 030124	15,000	15,000	0	0.00%
ee.	20240731 Rochester MP 022323	18,865	18,865	0	0.00%
ff.	20250630 SNEP Network Y5	11,215	11,215	0	0.00%
gg.	20241031 Somerset Brightman St. Bridge 010124	13,753	13,753	0	0.00%
hh.	20241031 Somerset retaining wall	18,463	18,463	0	0.00%
ii.	20241231 Somerset Rt. 103	70,646	70,646	0	0.00%
jj.	20250630 Swansea	50,435	50,435	0	0.00%
kk.	20241231 Swansea Rt. 6 Corridor Study 021523	71,415	71,415	0	0.00%
ll.	20250630 Swansea Storm Water Mgmt (CZM) 2x 50k 102523	92,170	92,170	0	0.00%
mm.	20251231 Taunton HPP (HCI) 2x 17500 010224	17,500	17,500	0	0.00%
nn.	20251231 Taunton Lights On	46,345	46,345	0	0.00%
oo.	20250930 Taunton Riv. Stewardship Council website 100124	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
pp.	20250630 Trail Mapping 082824	8,000	8,000		
qq.	20250930 Univ of Maine 100124	30,000	30,000		
rr.	20241231 Westport 3ATA ext 010224	8,500	8,500	0	0.00%
ss.	20250630 WHG Westport Beach Mgmt		68,078	68,078	
tt.	20241231 Westport HPP ext 010924	6,691	6,691	0	0.00%
uu.	20250630 Westport MVP 2.0 101523	10,048	10,048	0	0.00%
vv.	20250331 Westport Old High School	13,500	13,500	0	0.00%
ww.	20260630 Westport Rt. 6 010125		101,510	101,510	
Total Municipal Grants		2,663,450	2,789,567	126,117	4.74%
4. MISCELLANEOUS					
	Interest	25,000	25,000	0	0.00%
Sub-total		25,000	25,000	0	0.00%
TOTAL REVENUES		6,169,433	6,295,550	126,117	2.04%



Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District

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FY'25 Q3 Draft Budget Update			PROP: 4/16/25	SUMMARY Pg. 2	
EXPENDITURES		FY25 APP 1/2025	FY25 Q3 PROP 4/2025	CHANGE: 1/2025 to 4/2025	PERCENT CHANGE
1	SALARIES	2,921,144	2,853,313	-67,831	-2.3%
2	FRINGE BENEFITS	480,667	486,520	5,853	1.2%
3	TRAVEL	2,250	3,250	1,000	44.4%
4	BANK CHARGES	110	110	0	0.0%
5	PRINTING	500	1,000	500	100.0%
6	SUPPLIES	18,000	18,000	0	0.0%
7	ACCOUNTING & LEGAL	16,716	16,716	0	0.0%
8	COMPUTERS	68,734	71,215	2,481	3.6%
9	DUES & SUBSCRIP.	15,000	17,000	2,000	13.3%
10	EQUIP. LEASE	7,165	7,165	0	0.0%
11	INSURANCE	22,500	24,300	1,800	8.0%
12	MEETINGS & CONF.	24,500	24,500	0	0.0%
13	ADVERTISING	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
14	POSTAGE & TELEPHONE	7,500	7,600	100	1.3%
15	SERVICES (GMS & IT)	17,440	17,440	0	0.0%
16	BUILDING COSTS	59,320	59,320	0	0.0%
17	TRAFFIC COUNT VEHICLE	472	472	0	0.0%
18	EQUIP. SERV.& REPAIR	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
19	EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
20	CONSULTANTS/PASS THRU	381,084	381,084	0	0.0%
21	DIRECT COSTS	367,017	367,517	500	0.1%
22	LOCAL COST/INVEST.ACCT.	17,111	17,111	0	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		4,434,730	4,381,133	-53,597	-1.2%
TOTAL REVENUES		6,169,433	6,295,550	126,117	2.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		4,434,730	4,381,133	-53,597	-1.2%
EXCESS REV. OVER EXPEND.		1,734,703	1,914,417	179,714	10.4%

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

Draft Minutes for the JTPG Meeting

Held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 2:00 PM

Held Hybrid via Zoom and SRPEDD Office in Accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law

The following members and alternates were in attendance:

Victoria Alfaro, Chair.....Town of Acushnet
 Michael Tyler.....City of Attleboro
 Joe Callahan.....Town of Berkley
 John Woods.....Town of Carver
 Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
 Thomas Ferry.....Town of Dighton
 Joshua Crabb.....Town of Fairhaven
 Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
 Franklin Moniz.....Town of Lakeville
 Norm Hills.....Town of Marion
 Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
 Justin Chicca.....City of New Bedford
 Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
 William O'Rourke.....Town of Plainville
 Norm Sturtevant.....Town of Raynham
 Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
 James Hartnett.....Town of Westport
 Michael Burris.....Town of Westport
 Chris McDermott.....At-Large, City of Attleboro
 Ashley Eaton.....At-Large, City of New Bedford
 Alan Slavin.....At-Large, Town of Wareham/ New Bedford Subregion

The following members/alternates were NOT in attendance:

Town of Freetown	Town of Rehoboth
Town of Mansfield	Town of Rochester
Town of Middleborough	Town of Seekonk
Town of North Attleborough	Town of Somerset
Town of Norton	Town of Swansea

Also in Attendance:

Jefferey Oaks.....South Coast Bikeway Alliance Member, Marion
 Gail Rodrigues.....Southcoast Bikeway Alliance Member
 Barbara Lachance.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Chris Klem.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Derek Shooster.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Shaun Handy.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Shayne Trimbell.....SRTA
 Mary Ellen DeFrias.....GATRA

Emma Yeh.....Pare Corp.
 Steve Findlen.....Howard Stein Hudson
 Nick Schonberger.....Mass Development
 Pamela Haznar.....McClure
 Phil Viveiros.....Bowman
 Lisa Estrela-Pedro.....SRPEDD (Attended at SRPEDD office)
 Andrea Duarte.....SRPEDD (Attended at SRPEDD office)
 Noah Soutier.....SRPEDD (Attended at SRPEDD office)
 Luis deOliveira.....SRPEDD (Attended at SRPEDD office)
 Jennifer Chaves.....SRPEDD
 Rebekah Rose.....SRPEDD
 Dan Brogan.....SRPEDD
 Jon Gray.....SRPEDD

Handouts:

JTPG Meeting Agenda for March 12, 2025
 DRAFT February 12, 2025, JTPG Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chair Victoria Alfaro called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM. Chair Alfaro made an announcement on how the meeting will be run using the Zoom webinar mode. Andrea Duarte asked all JTPG 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:

Victoria Alfaro, Chair.....Town of Acushnet
 Michael Tyler.....City of Attleboro
 John Woods.....Town of Carver
 Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
 Thomas Ferry.....Town of Dighton
 James Purcell.....Town of Dighton
 Joshua Crabb.....Town of Fairhaven
 Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
 Franklin Moniz.....Town of Lakeville
 Norm Hills.....Town of Marion
 Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
 Justin Chicca.....City of New Bedford
 Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
 William O'Rourke.....Town of Plainville
 Norm Sturtevant.....Town of Raynham
 Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
 James Hartnett.....Town of Westport
 Michael Burris.....Town of Westport
 Chris McDermott.....At-Large, City of Attleboro
 Ashley Eaton.....At-Large, City of New Bedford
 Alan Slavin.....At-Large, Town of Wareham

2. Approval of Minutes – February 12, 2025 (Materials Attached & roll call vote needed)

Chair Alfaro informed the group of an edit made to February's meeting minutes, Robert Araujo's

name was removed from the meeting as he was not present. Chair Alfaro called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2025, meeting. The motion was made by Janice Robbins and seconded by Mike Tyler. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....	Yes	Town of Mattapoisett.....	Yes
City of Attleboro.....	Yes	City of New Bedford.....	Yes
Town of Berkley.....	Abstain	Town of Plainville.....	Yes
Town of Carver.....	Yes	Town of Raynham.....	Yes
Town of Dartmouth	Yes	City of Taunton.....	Yes
Town of Dighton.....	Yes	Town of Westport.....	Yes
Town of Fairhaven.....	Yes	At-Large, City of Attleboro.....	Yes
City of Fall River.....	Yes	At-Large, City of New Bedford....	Yes
Town of Lakeville.....	Yes	At-Large, Town of Wareham.....	Yes
Town of Marion	Yes		

THE MOTION PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION.

3. Public Comments – Opportunity for the Public to address the JTPG

Jeffrey Oaks, resident of Marion and the town’s Southcoast Bikeway representative, presented to this group that for over 30 years, the Town of Marion and the Commonwealth have invested time and money into Marion’s shared use path that is nearing completion. Final design plans are due this month and construction is set to begin within a year. The project will boost local businesses, improve air quality, and provide a safe commuting route, including a Safe Routes to School connection. Potential federal funding cuts threaten the future of the shared use path and Mr. Oaks requested continued support and prompt notification if funding cuts become a risk, to ensure this long-awaited project becomes a reality.

4. Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) Report - RTA Updates

Shayne Trimbell reminded the group that the South Coast Rail service will begin in less than two weeks, a long-awaited milestone. To support early morning departures and late evening arrivals, SRTA is partnering with VIA to provide micro-transit connections to the New Bedford and Fall River stations. An expanded fixed-route bus service will connect passengers to the New Bedford Downtown Station and Fall River Depot, ensuring seamless transit options. Ms. DeFrias noted that preparations are also underway for GATRA’s Middleborough Station realignment and the opening of the East Taunton Station, with schedule adjustments planned for Mansfield and Attleboro. Federal funding uncertainties remain a concern, as the DOT’s operating budget for this year has not been confirmed, making capital planning and budgeting challenging.

Lisa Estrela-Pedro asked Mr. Trimbell if micro-transit service would extend into the weekend or just weekday. Mr. Trimbell responded that service will operate Monday through Friday from 4 AM to 8 AM and 5 PM to 9 PM, funded by a MassDOT grant through one of the Fair Share Act programs. This schedule was set before the MBTA expanded its commuter rail trip schedule, so SRTA will monitor ridership and adjust as needed. While there is potential for future expansions to weekends or midday service, the current plan aligns with the original vision of providing transit connections outside fixed-route service hours. SRTA will proceed with the established schedule and evaluate its effectiveness over time.

5. Community of Practice Discussion - Opportunity for Members to Share Questions, Project Updates, Challenges, Success Stories, Lessons Learned

Mike Tyler raised concerns about the coordination between MassDOT and SRPEDD regarding the South Avenue Corridor Improvement Project. Attleboro has been actively working with MassDOT, it appears that updates are not being adequately communicated to SRPEDD, leading to discrepancies in project status

understanding, particularly in relation to the TIP list and transportation planning. The project is at 25% design, awaiting MassDOT comments before scheduling a public hearing. Given the project's importance to the city and its connection to future I-95 Exit 3 improvements, Mr. Tyler emphasized the need for better alignment and communication among all parties involved to ensure smooth progress. Ms. Estrela-Pedro responded that while MassDOT considers a project at the 25% design stage once plans are submitted, SRPEDD does not classify it as such until after a design public hearing has been held. Given that 25% design plans often go through multiple revisions, this process can take up to a year. Due to regional funding constraints, many projects are at a similar stage of readiness, and only a limited number can be programmed at a time. She noted that the key takeaway is that by keeping the South Avenue Corridor Improvement Project moving through design, there remains a possibility for it to advance sooner than its current placement in 2029 or 2030, depending on future TIP development and project readiness. Discussion ensued about additional communication between Attleboro and SRPEDD.

Joshua Crabb shared an update on his efforts to advance a future TIP project. While still awaiting official confirmation from the Project Review Committee, the town of Fairhaven is proactively moving forward by securing agreements with a consultant and surveyor. Fairhaven is committed to the project and has initiated right-of-way research and other preliminary steps, signaling to MassDOT that the town is prepared to move forward. Barbara Lachance responded that Mr. Crabb's project was approved and that official letters will be sent out soon. Due to recent revisions and technical difficulties, there has been a delay in processing, but the letters should be issued within the next two weeks.

Nick Schoenberger highlighted efforts to improve traffic safety along Fall River's North Main Street, particularly between Bedford Street and past the YMCA. The lack of stop signs and traffic-calming measures has led to excessive speeding in this commercial district. Appreciation was expressed for guidance received from Andrea Duarte and to Jon Gray on advancing discussions with the administration but noted a challenge in securing approval for a curb cut necessary to install a rapid rectangular flashing beacon. Mr. Schoenberger is committed to developing a plan and welcomes further input from SRPEDD, including a potential site visit to explore solutions and funding opportunities.

6. SMMPO Technical Assistance Program Presentation

Luis de Oliveira presented an overview of the SMMPO's Community Technical Assistance Program and a review of 2024 requests. This program provides support to member communities for local transportation concerns that do not require comprehensive planning studies. Services include traffic counts, road issue evaluations, truck analyses, signal and stop warrant analyses, speed zoning recommendations, and intersection evaluations. In 2024, SRPEDD received 16 technical requests from 11 communities, with some towns submitting multiple requests. The team conducted signal warrant analyses, multi-way stop warrant reviews, historical data comparisons, and traffic counts, among other assessments. Three projects are already scheduled for 2025, including work in Carver, Westport, and Taunton. Communities can submit requests year-round via SRPEDD's website, with data collection typically occurring from April to November. Mr. de Oliveira encouraged early submissions and offered assistance with the application process. Mr. Tyler praised the Community Technical Assistance Program, highlighting its simplicity, efficiency, and thoroughness. He commended SRPEDD for providing Attleboro with a well-structured and informative report on the North Main Street and Holden Street intersection. The detailed analysis enabled the city to develop an effective plan for improvements. He emphasized the professionalism and user-friendly nature of the program, strongly recommending it to other communities. Nick Schonberger asked how an application can be submitted, and who is responsible for submitting it. Mr. de Olivera replied that an application must be submitted by an official community representative, such as a DPW official or a Select Board member. Applications can be submitted through the SRPEDD Technical Assistance website form or downloaded and sent to Mr. de Olivera. Chair Alfaro asked how communities have utilized this program after receiving the report and what steps have they taken to address issues in the identified intersection or study area? Mr. de

Olivera replied that communities typically use the program's report in various ways. Some collaborate with MassDOT to advance necessary improvements, while others use the information for long-term planning or potential TIP project submissions. In some cases, the report serves as a reference without immediate action. A past example includes a signal warrant analysis for Route 123 at the I-495 ramps in Norton, which later led to a signal installation.

7. Draft 2026-2030 TIP MassDOT Statewide Highway Projects List

Lisa Estrela-Pedro presented to the JTPG a Draft of the MassDOT Statewide Highway Projects List, which prioritizes state-funded projects at the state level without impacting regional target funds. Notable updates include funding deficits for two earmarked projects in Dighton and Raynham in 2026, requiring offsets to remain on the TIP. New bridge preservation projects were introduced in Taunton and Freetown. Several projects were deferred, including bridge replacements in Fall River and Freetown which moved to 2027, intersection improvements in Somerset and a Safe Routes to School project in Fall River which both shifted to 2028. A resurfacing project on I-495 in Raynham, Taunton, and Norton was added to 2027. Updates for 2029-2030 include adjustments to projects in New Bedford, Freetown, and Middleboro, along with a new pavement preservation project for I-195 in New Bedford. She entertained questions to which there were none.

8. Draft 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Regional Target Highway Project Programming Considerations Preferred List (Materials Attached & Roll Call Vote Needed to recommend to the SMMPO)

Ms. Estrela-Pedro presented the preliminary regional target-funded TIP projects lists for 2026-2030, focusing on three funding scenarios. She stated that staff are looking for a preferred scenario list from JTPG and SMMPO and that this is a preliminary list staff are using to begin developing the 2026-2030 TIP, noting changes are still possible if project costs increase. Scenario 1, based on initial TIP readiness day recommendations, resulted in project deferrals, including Westport's Intersection Improvements at Route 177 and Roberts Road/Tickle Road project being pushed from 2026 to 2027 and Attleboro's Corridor Improvements on Route 123, from Lathrop Road to Thatcher Street project being pushed beyond 2030 due to fiscal constraints. Scenario 1 would not program any new projects in 2030. Scenario 2 prioritizes projects based on the SMMPO's evaluation criteria, shifting projects like Norton's Intersection Improvements at West Main Street (Route 123) North Worcester Street and South Worcester Street from 2026 to 2027, New Bedford's Intersection Improvements at Mount Pleasant Street and Nash Road from 2027 to 2028, and Mattapoisett's Corridor Improvements and Related Work on Main Street, Water Street, Beacon Street And Marion Road from 2028 to 2029 to maintain fiscal balance. Scenario 2 programs one new project in 2030, Taunton's Intersection Improvements at Winthrop Street (Route 44) and Highland Street. Scenario 3 aims to maximize regional target funding, keeping more projects in earlier years while allowing for cost increases. Scenario 3 programs a different new project in 2030, Raynham's Intersection Improvements at North Main Street (Route 104), Pleasant Street, South Main Street (Route 104) and Orchard Street. Each scenario involved strategic adjustments to remain fiscally constrained while accommodating project priorities. The committee reviewed project placements and funding balances, with discussions on advancing projects if they progress more quickly than anticipated.

Ms. Estrela-Pedro asked members to vote on a preferred scenario to recommend to the SMMPO. Mr. Tyler expressed support for Scenario 2, emphasizing that it best aligns with SRPEDD's evaluation criteria scores. He highlighted the importance of prioritizing projects based on need, referencing a high-scoring project in Attleboro that serves a low-income, elderly neighborhood and three schools. The project addresses safety concerns on a hazardous stretch of Route 123. Mr. Tyler stated that while acknowledging that 2029 is later than ideal, Attleboro officials are willing to wait their turn but advocate for using evaluation scores as the guiding principle for project prioritization. Jim Hartnett asked if there was a scenario that would keep Westport's project in Fiscal Year 2026 instead of moving it to 2027; he acknowledged that while they would

prefer their project to be scheduled sooner, 2027 could still be feasible. He cautioned against relying on evaluation scores, as their project, with a score of 29, may never rank higher than others despite significant investments made in its design. Mr. Hartnett also raised concerns about the cost and impact of requiring shared-use paths and bike lanes in every project. While supportive of bike infrastructure, Mr. Hartnett pointed out that in this case, the shared-use path would not connect to an existing network, yet it adds significant costs, requires land takings, and may involve wetland filling and Army Corps approvals. Mr. Hartnett suggested that the group reconsider a blanket requirement for shared-use paths and bike lanes in future projects, advocating instead for a more case-by-case approach. Ms. Estrela-Pedro acknowledged the concern and stated that the design schedule will be reassessed. She expressed a preference for keeping the project in 2027 to ensure it secures funding and is completed on time. Upon reviewing the timeline, if it is determined that the project could be ready in 2026 with confidence, she would consider advancing it. Discussion ensued with Justin Chicca, Alan Slavin, and Mr. Aguiar contributing concerns about adding mandatory bicycle lanes to new projects. Chair Alfaro requested that the topic be revisited at a later meeting. Mr. Aguiar asked for clarification on whether the group is recommending that all three scenarios be sent to the SMMPO for consideration or if they need to prioritize one scenario over the others. Ms. Estrela-Pedro replied that the group is being asked to recommend one scenario to the SMMPO. While all three scenarios will be presented, the goal is to provide the SMMPO with a clear recommendation from the JTPG for consideration.

Chair Alfaro called for a motion to recommend a scenario to the SMMPO. A motion was made by Dan Aguiar to recommend Scenario 2 to the SMMPO and was seconded by Mike Tyler. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....Yes	Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes
City of Attleboro.....Yes	City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of Berkley.....Yes	Town of Plainville.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes	Town of Raynham.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes	City of Taunton.....Yes
Town of Dighton.....Yes	Town of Westport.....Yes
Town of Fairhaven.....Yes	At-Large, City of Attleboro.....Yes
City of Fall River.....Yes	At-Large, City of New Bedford....Yes
Town of Lakeville.....Yes	At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes
Town of MarionYes	

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Other Business

Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided a brief update regarding remote meetings under the Open Meeting Law. She stated that clarification is being sought regarding Open Meeting Law requirements for this advisory group. If the current extension is not renewed, in-person attendance may be required for voting, with at least 16 members present to take action. For now, hybrid meetings will continue, but updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Ms. Duarte announced some opportunities to the group. The South Coast Bikeway Alliance (SCBA) is seeking additional members, particularly from Swansea, Somerset, and Fall River, as these communities currently lack representation in the advocacy group. She encouraged members to share SCBA contact information with anyone who may be interested. Additionally, several upcoming trainings are available through Bay State Roads, including a Complete Streets Safety Countermeasures training in Westhampton, a virtual ADA Municipal Transition Plan development and tracking training, a pavement maintenance training in Chestnut Hill, and Creating Accessible Communities workshop in Marion on April 15.

Ms. Estrela-Pedro stated that the development of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is underway, and community technical requests are a key part of it. If communities have additional needs or require larger studies, they are encouraged to reach out to see if those can be accommodated by the program.

Mr. Slavin commented that there is growing concern over the impact of federal funding uncertainties, particularly regarding school transportation, alternative energy, and other federally funded programs. With large-scale layoffs and shifting priorities in Washington, the stability of these initiatives remains uncertain. Given the unpredictability of future budgets, there is a strong recommendation for collective lobbying efforts rather than individual advocacy to ensure continued support for critical programs.

10. Date and Time for Next Meeting

Date and Time for the next meeting is April 09, 2025, at 2:00 PM with the goal of holding a hybrid session. Attendees were encouraged to plan for in-person attendance to ensure a quorum, pending further updates on Open Meeting Law requirements.

11. Adjourn

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Justin Chicca and seconded by Dan Aguiar. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM.

**Draft Minutes of the Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO) Meeting
on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 1:00 PM - Held remotely via Zoom.**

The following members were in attendance:

Derek Shooster-----Representing Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Acting MassDOT Secretary, **Chair**
Richard Bilski-----Representing Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway Div. Administrator
Cathleen DeSimone-----Mayor of Attleboro
Daniel Aguiar-----Representing Paul Coogan, Mayor of Fall River
Jamie Ponte-----Representing Jon Mitchell, Mayor of New Bedford
Jay Pateakos-----Representing Shauna O’Connell, Mayor of Taunton
Marie Clarner-----SRPEDD Commission Chair
Shayne Trimbell-----Representing Erik Rousseau, SRTA Administrator
Mary Ellen DeFrias-----GATRA Administrator

Ex-officio, non-voting members in attendance:

Joshua Barber-----Representing Joi Singh, FHWA Division Administrator
Victoria Alfaro-----Joint Transportation Planning Group Chair

The following were also in attendance:

Anthony Jones----- Federal Highway Administration
Dana Hanson-----Office of Congressman Auchincloss
Caterina Pereira----- Office of Congressman Auchincloss
Chris Klem----- Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Shaun Handy----- Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Barbara Lachance----- Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Diane Hayes----- Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Christopher McDermott—City of Attleboro
Alan Slavin-----Town of Wareham
Pamela Haznar-----McClure
Emma Yeh-----Pare
Lisa Estrela-Pedro-----SRPEDD
Jackie Jones-----SRPEDD
Andrea Duarte-----SRPEDD
Jen Chaves-----SRPEDD
Rebekah Rose-----SRPEDD
Noah Soutier-----SRPEDD

Handouts:

SMMPO Agenda March 18, 2025
SMMPO Draft Meeting Minutes February 18, 2025
FFY2025-2029 TIP Proposed Amendment #2
FFY2025-2029 TIP Proposed Administrative Adjustment #1
FFY2025 UPWP Proposed Amendment #1
SMMPO Vision Zero Statement
Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP Statewide Projects List
Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP Scenario 1
Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP Scenario 1 Summary
Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP Scenario 2
Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP Scenario 2 Summary
Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP Scenario 3

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call-

Chairman Derek Shooster called the SMMPO meeting to order at 1:03 pm. Ms. Andrea Duarte asked all MPO members and designees to please unmute themselves so she could call the roll for attendance. She then called the complete roll of MPO members, with the following being present at the time of the roll call:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes	City of Taunton-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes	SRTA-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes	GATRA-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes	

2. Approval of Minutes – February 18, 2025 (Materials Attached and Roll Call Vote Needed)

Chairman Shooster requested a motion to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2025, SMMPO meeting. The motion was made by Marie Clarner and seconded by Jamie Ponte. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes	City of Taunton-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Abstain	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Abstain	SRTA-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes	GATRA-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes	

THE MOTION PASSED WITH TWO ABSENTIONS.

3. Public Comments

Chairman Shooster invited members of the public to make comments. There were no comments presented.

4. Regional Transit Authorities Report – RTA Updates

Mary Ellen DeFrias informed the group that GATRA is realigning some of its internal routes to ensure it can connect transit service with the South Coast Rail stations that will start providing service on Monday, starting with the Middleborough station. She stated that due to federal funding uncertainties, the electric bus program will be put on hold and GATRA is switching over to the purchase of diesel buses in order to prioritize maintaining current service levels. Ms. DeFrias stated that she does not foresee any further service expansion at this time other than potential Sunday service expansion if the union contract is successful. Chairman Shooster asked if the draft project list for GATRA on the Draft 2026-2030 TIP is up to date and reflects preserving the diesel-powered buses vs electrification, to which she responded that GATRA may still have one electric bus in the out years that it hasn't pulled yet but everything that has been ordered including the diesel buses is on the TIP.

Shayne Trimbell informed the group that SRTA's micro-transit connector service will likely start a week after South Coast Rail service begins; SRTA was not able to get it launched for the unexpectedly advanced South Coast Rail service launch date but is working hard with its vendor to launch the connector service as quickly as possible. He stated that SRTA's existing routes already serve the New Bedford downtown station and Fall River station.

5. Proposed Amendment #2 FFY2025-2029 TIP: GATRA FFY25 Project Cost modifications due to readiness (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse)

Lisa Estrela-Pedro reminded the group that at the last meeting, the SMMPO released FFY2025-2029 TIP Proposed Amendment #2 to public comment. It was for moving out two GATRA projects and downsizing three projects to accommodate a bus replacement and GATRA's Wareham East maintenance facility, which was pushed out one year to federal fiscal year 2026. A public meeting was held on March 6 and there were no comments received there or otherwise. Ms. Estrela-Pedro asked the body for a vote to endorse the proposed amendment.

The Chair asked if there were any questions on the Amendment and seeing none asked for a motion to endorse Proposed FFY2025-2029 TIP Amendment #2 as presented. The motion was made by Marie Clarner and seconded by Dan Aguiar. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----	Yes	City of Taunton-----	Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----	Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----	Yes
City of Attleboro-----	Yes	SRTA-----	Yes
City of Fall River-----	Yes	GATRA-----	Yes
City of New Bedford-----	Yes		

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. FFY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Proposed Amendment #1 for Addition of Age and Dementia Friendly Plan Development Tasks (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse)

Ms. Estrela-Pedro reminded the group that FFY2025 UPWP Proposed Amendment #1 was presented to the body at last month's meeting and was released to a 21-day public comment period. This amendment is to include the Age Friendly Regional Plan in the current UPWP and begin data collection efforts. SMMPO staff plans on continuing efforts and producing a final plan in Federal Fiscal Year 2026, in response to needs of the region's growing older adult population identified in the recent Regional Transportation Plan. Funds are being shifted from the SMMPO's 3C Process and Transit Planning and Support Process tasks to its Active Transportation task to fund work on the Plan. She stated that those two tasks are currently being under spent and SMMPO staff will still be able to do the work that is outlined in the UPWP with the funding that will be left after this change takes effect. Ms. Estrela-Pedro asked the body to take a vote to endorse the amendment. The Chair entertained questions. Ms. Clarner asked if these were funds that the SMMPO has in hand or funds that the SMMPO expects to draw from and expressed concern about recent federal funds cut from other programs. Chairman Shooster responded that this is funding from an existing contract to SRPEDD for transportation planning work and that the funds have already been obligated.

The Chair asked if there were any more questions on UPWP Amendment #1 and seeing none asked for a motion to endorse Amendment #1 as presented. The motion was made by Marie Clarner and seconded by Dan Aguiar. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----	Yes	City of Taunton-----	Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----	Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----	Yes
City of Attleboro-----	Yes	SRTA-----	Yes
City of Fall River-----	Yes	GATRA-----	Yes
City of New Bedford-----	Yes		

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Proposed Administrative Adjustment #1 FFY2025-2029 TIP – Community Transit Grants & SRTA (Materials Attached & Forthcoming, Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse)

Ms. Estrela-Pedro explained the components of 2025-2029 TIP Proposed Administrative Adjustment #1, which has two parts. The first part is for Community Transit Grants that were awarded. Specific details for previously awarded grants were added, including two projects under GATRA, one for Med Wheels and the other for the Boston Hospital Bus, which will run three days a week. The second part is for cost changes to SRTA projects. There was a cost increase for hardware and software updates and a decrease in costs for fare collection upgrades, with funds shifting to cover the hardware/software increase. It includes additional cost increases for maintenance support equipment and the replacement of a hybrid bus.

The Chair asked if there were any more questions on FFY2025-2029 TIP Proposed Administrative Adjustment #1 and seeing none asked for a motion to endorse the Adjustment as presented. The motion was made by Marie Clarner and seconded by Dan Aguiar. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes

City of Taunton-----Yes
SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
SRTA-----Yes
GATRA-----Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Draft 2026-2030 TIP MassDOT Statewide Highway Projects List

Ms. Estrela-Pedro stated that draft FFY 2026-2030 TIP discussions at this month's meeting would focus on highway projects and that transit project lists would be available at next month's meeting. She briefly explained the changes that are happening between the two TIPs on specific state projects. Federal Fiscal Year 2026 has two bridge replacement projects in Dighton, Raynham, and Taunton. Both projects exceed the earmark allocation, requiring additional funding sources to remain fiscally constrained. New projects include the Taunton Bridge Preservation Plain Street and Freetown South Main Street over the Assonet River. Federal Fiscal Year 2027 has two projects shifted from 2026 including the Fall River Bridge replacement (Jefferson Street over Sucker Brook) and Freetown Bridge replacement (Chase Road over Route 140). FFY2027 also has a new project for Raynham, Taunton, and Norton resurfacing on I-495. Federal Fiscal Year 2028 has two projects from 2027 shifted to 2028: Somerset intersection improvements at Route 6 and Lee's River Ave and Fall River's Mary Fonseca Elementary Safe Routes to School project. Federal Fiscal Year 2030 has two projects that were pushed from 2029: New Bedford-Freetown pavement preservation on Route 140 and Middleboro intersection improvements on Route 28 at Merchant's Way and Williams Place. 2030 also has a new project for Fairhaven-New Bedford Interstate pavement preservation on I-195. Questions were entertained and there were none provided.

9. Draft 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Regional Target Highway Project Programming Considerations Preferred List (Materials Attached & Roll Call Vote Needed to Select Draft Scenario for Commencement of TIP Development)

Ms. Estrela-Pedro presented the preliminary regional target-funded TIP projects lists for 2026-2030, focusing on three funding scenarios. She stated that staff are looking for a preferred scenario list from the SMMPO and that this is a preliminary list staff are using to begin developing the 2026-2030 TIP, noting changes are still possible if project costs increase. Scenario 1, based on initial TIP readiness day recommendations, resulted in project deferrals, including Westport's Intersection Improvements at Route 177 and Roberts Road/Tickle Road project being pushed from 2026 to 2027 and Attleboro's Corridor Improvements on Route 123, from Lathrop Road to Thatcher Street project being pushed beyond 2030 due

to fiscal constraints. Scenario 1 would not program any new projects in 2030. Scenario 2 prioritizes projects based on the SMMPO’s evaluation criteria, shifting projects like Norton’s Intersection Improvements at West Main Street (Route 123) North Worcester Street and South Worcester Street from 2026 to 2027, New Bedford’s Intersection Improvements at Mount Pleasant Street and Nash Road from 2027 to 2028, and Mattapoisett’s Corridor Improvements and Related Work on Main Street, Water Street, Beacon Street And Marion Road from 2028 to 2029 to maintain fiscal balance. Scenario 2 programs one new project in 2030, Taunton’s Intersection Improvements at Winthrop Street (Route 44) and Highland Street. Scenario 3 aims to maximize regional target funding, keeping more projects in earlier years while allowing for cost increases. Scenario 3 programs a different new project in 2030, Raynham’s Intersection Improvements at North Main Street (Route 104), Pleasant Street, South Main Street (Route 104) and Orchard Street. Each scenario involved strategic adjustments to remain fiscally constrained while accommodating project priorities. The committee reviewed project placements and funding balances, with discussions on advancing projects if they progress more quickly than anticipated.

Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided an opportunity for questions, to which Dana Hanson of Congressman Auchincloss’ office asked about the Congressman's two Community Project Funding (CPF) projects—the Dighton Bridge replacement and Raynham Taunton bridge reconstruction— which are missing from the regional target projects list. She stated that these projects, part of the draft FY 2026-30 TIP, have a September 30, 2026 deadline for Community Project Funding, and emphasized that funding gaps need to be addressed to ensure these projects are included. Ms. Hanson expressed concern about meeting the obligation date to prevent losing the federal funds, noting that this is a priority for their office. Chair Shooster responded that SMMPO staff and the MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning are already tracking these projects; he stated that Derek Krevat is coordinating directly on these two projects and encouraged Ms. Hanson to follow up with him. Ms. Estrela-Pedro acknowledged the issue of reflecting the updated funding balance in the revised TIP and assured that the matter is being monitored.

Ms. Estrela-Pedro stated that the Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) voted to recommend prioritization scenario #2 to the SMMPO for consideration to allow SMMPO staff to begin developing the FFY2026-2030 TIP. She emphasized that the list could still change based on cost increases, such as for the Lakeville project. She summarized the JTPG’s comments about TIP scenarios presented. Westport requested to stay in FFY2026, but concerns were raised about the project’s readiness. The recommendation was to push it out to FFY 2027 to avoid complications if the project was not ready for 2026. The group discussed whether there would be enough regional target funding in FFY 2026 to accommodate the earmarked projects raised by Ms. Hanson. Ms. Estrela-Pedro noted that these projects could be considered for programming once projects in FFY26 had reached 100% design. Concerns were voiced about potential cost increases for projects already programmed for 2026, which could affect funding decisions.

The Chair asked if there were any more questions to which there were none and asked the body for a motion and second for a preferred TIP scenario. A motion was made by Cathleen DeSimone to select Scenario 2 and seconded by Jamie Ponte. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes	City of Taunton-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes	SRTA-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes	GATRA-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes	

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Vision Zero Resolution (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Adopt)

Jackie Jones stated that as the SS4A Safety Action Plan nears completion, the SMMPO staff believes it is appropriate timing to propose a Vision Zero resolution for the SMMPO. She noted that this resolution is required as part of the grant and program associated with the plan. It also serves to demonstrate a commitment to reducing fatal and serious injuries in the region. The SMMPO and the JTPG have consistently prioritized safety in TIP projects and other efforts. Ms. Jones noted that the proposed resolution reaffirms this commitment and will contribute to the region's statewide safety performance measures, which are supported and adopted annually by the body. Ms. Jones read the resolution aloud as the text was visible on screen. She provided opportunity for questions, to which questions were asked about clarifying serious injury data related to pedestrian crashes and locations that the Vision Zero resolution would be posted, e.g. MPO website and other regional planning documents.

The Chair asked if there were any more questions to which there were none and asked the body for a motion and second for a favorable action to adopt the Vision Zero resolution as presented. The motion was made by Cathleen DeSimone and seconded by Jay Pateakos. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes

City of Taunton-----Yes
SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
SRTA-----Yes
GATRA-----Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. Other Business

Ms. Estrela-Pedro reminded the group that the Open Meeting Law hybrid/remote provision extension has passed the State House and is currently in the Senate. If it does not pass, the SMMPO would need to hold a hybrid meeting with a quorum of seven members present in person at the SRPEDD office.

12. Date and Time for Next Meeting

The Chair announced that the next SMMPO meeting will be on April 15, 2025 at 1:00 pm, tentatively planning to have at least a quorum present at the Taunton SRPEDD office.

13. Adjourn

The Chair asked for a motion and second to adjourn. Cathleen DeSimone made the motion and Jamie Ponte seconded. The Chair asked that all in favor say aye. All ayes were heard. The Chair thanked everyone, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:48 PM.

MEPA ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR – PROJECTS IN REGION

Project	Type	Community	Comments Due	Site Visit Details (Indicate if Remote Meeting)
Proposed County Street Substation	EENF under review	Taunton	4/25/25	Past
Coggeshall Street Phase 3 Sewer Separation Project	EENF under review	New Bedford	4/25/25	Past
Myricks Street/Rhode Island Road (Route 79) Improvements	ENF under review	Lakeville, Taunton	past	Past
14 Aucoot Ave	ENF under review	Marion	Past	Past
Plainville Water Treatment Plant	DEIR under review	Plainville	past	

AGENDA ITEM: Technical Assistance Report, # 7.a.

Community	Project Name	Status	Department	Project Leads	Funding
Acushnet	Master Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Grant King, Lizeth Gonzalez	CPG, DLTA, MA
Acushnet	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental, Comprehensive	Sara Singh, Joe Monet	CPA
Acushnet	Water Resource Management Plan	Ongoing	Environmental	Sara Singh	EEA
Berkley	Economic Development Plan	New	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Chris Welch	One Stop, DLTA
Carver	Economic Development Plan	New	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Chris Welch	One Stop, DLTA
Carver	Housing Production Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Taylor Perez	DLTA
Carver	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Danica Belknap, Michelle Tinger	local
Dartmouth	Housing Production Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	DLTA, Town
Dighton	Housing Production Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	CCC, DLTA
Fairhaven	MVP 2.0	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	local
Fairhaven	Open Space and Recreation Plan	New	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	DLTA
Fairhaven	Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update	New	Environmental, Comprehensive	Joe Monet, Sara Singh	FEMA
Fall River	Regional Water Supply Analysis	Ongoing	Environmental	Lauren Lunetta	EOEEA MVP
Fall River	Mother's Brook Sewer Upgrades (D&E, Permitting) Project Administration	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA
Fall River	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Lauren Lunetta	local
Freetown	Master Plan	Final Draft	Comprehensive	Grant King, Chris Welch	EOHLC, DLTA
Freetown	Municipal Digital Equity Plan	Final Draft	Comprehensive	Maria Jones, Kaitlin Whalen	MBI

Lakeville	Planning Board Rules and Regulations	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	One Stop
Mansfield	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Danica Belknap, Lauren Lunetta	DLTA
Mansfield	Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	FEMA
Marion	Open Space and Recreation Plan Revisions	Completed	Environmental	Michelle Tinger/Danica Belknap	MA / DLTA
Mattapoisett	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger/Cece Lagomarsino	DLTA / Local
Middleborough	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Complete	Environmental	Lauren Carpenter	local
Middleborough	Master Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Grant King	One Stop, DLTA
Middleborough	Historic/General Use District Bylaw Amendments	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Grant King, Robert Cabral	MassDOT, SCR
New Bedford	Solar Ordinance	Final Draft	Comprehensive, Environmental	Grant King, Michelle Tinger	DLTA
New Bedford	North Terminal Extension Phase II and Pier Fendering Project	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Jeff Walker, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	EDA
New Bedford	Marine Commerce Terminal	Pending	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA
New Bedford	Quest Center, Armory District	Pending	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA
North Attleborough	Green Communities Tech Assist.	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	DOER
Norton	Section 3A Technical Assistance Phase 2	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	MHP, Barr Foundation, DLTA
Norton	Green Communities Designation Grant Assistance	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	DOER
Norton	Route 123 Speed Study	Ongoing	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	MassDOT
Norton	Housing Production Plan (Tier 3, Phase 1)	Pending	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA
Plympton	Section 3A Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	MHP, Barr Foundation
Raynham	Section 3A Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez, Robert Cabral	MHP, Barr Foundation

Regional	PDA/PPA Update for MBTA Communities	Final Draft	Comprehensive	Grant King	MBTA, DLTA
Regional	Assawompset Ponds Water Quality Assessment, Snake River Culvert Evaluation and Nemasket River restoration	Ongoing	Environmental	Danica Belknap, Karen Pettinelli	DER, TNC
Regional	Assawompset Ponds Long Pond PRB Feasibility Study	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	DER
Regional	Taunton River Stewardship Council Website Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Porter	TRSC
Regional	DLTA and DLTA-A	Ongoing	Comprehensive, Environmental, Transportation	Jeff Walker, Grant King, Danica Belknap, Lisa Estrela-Pedro	DLTA-A
Regional	MassTech Municipal Digital Equity Planning	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Maria Jones, Amber Davis	MassTech/M BI
Regional	Rural Community Section 3A Compliance Efforts	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Taylor Perez	EOHLC
Regional	Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) Asset Mapping and Digital Equity Planning Enrollment	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Maria Jones, Amber Davis	MassTech/M BI
Regional	Assawompset Ponds Groundwater Hydrologic & Hydraulic Study	Ongoing	Environmental	Danica Belknap, Michelle Tinger	DER
Regional	Assawompset Ponds Sedimentation, Invasive Removal, and Snipatuit Evaluation	Ongoing	Environmental	Danica Belknap, Michelle Tinger	ARPA
Regional	Rural Policy Advisory Council	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli, Danica Belknap	
Regional	Arts and Culture Community Development Initiative	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	DLTA
Regional	Justice, Equity, and Community Development (JECD) Initiative	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA
Regional	South Coast Administrators Committee	Ongoing	Administrative	Jeff Walker	SRPEDD

Regional	Mass. Assn. of Regional Planning Commissions (MARPA)	Ongoing	Administrative	Jeff Walker	RPAs
Regional	Brownfield Community Wide Assessment Grant	Ongoing	Environmental	Danica Belknap, Lizeth Gonzalez	EPA
Regional	SRPEDD Regional Resilience Plan (SRRP)	Implementation	Comprehensive, Environmental, Transportation	Danica Belknap, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	DLTA
Regional	Rural COA Partnership	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Amber Davis	AgeSpan, EOEa
Regional - MassDOT	Age Friendly Plan	NEW	Transportation	Andrea Duarte, Amber Davis	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Regional Evacuation Route Study	Ongoing	Transportation	Kevin Ham, Sean Hilton	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Southcoast Bikeway Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Transportation	Jon Gray	MassDOT, DLTA
Regional - MassDOT	Pavement Management - Fed. Aid Road Network Data Collection & Analysis	Ongoing	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Taunton River Trail Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Transportation	Jon Gray	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG)	Ongoing	Transportation	Lisa Estrela-Pedro, Andrea Duarte, Jackie Jones	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)	Ongoing	Transportation	Lisa Estrela-Pedro, Andrea Duarte	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	SMMPO Public Participation Plan Update	Ongoing	Transportation	Andrea Duarte	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Healthy Food Access Plan	Ongoing	Transportation	Noah Soutier, Jon Gray	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Parking Lot Utilization Plan	Ongoing	Transportation	Jon Gray	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	FFY26-30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development	Ongoing	Transportation	Jackie Jones, Lisa Estrela-Pedro	MassDOT

Regional - MassDOT	FFY25-29 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Management	Ongoing	Transportation	Jackie Jones, Lisa Estrela-Pedro	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Transit Coordination	Ongoing	Transportation	Dan Brogan	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Traffic Counting and Turning Movement Counts	Ongoing	Transportation	Joseph Osborne	MassDOT
Regional - Green Communities	Regional Energy Planning Assistance (REPA): Annual Reports and Competitive and Designation Grant Applications	Ongoing	Environmental	All Enviro Staff; Danica DOER Contract Management	EOEEA
Regional - MassDOT	South East Regional Coordinating Council on Transportation (SERCCOT)	Ongoing	Transportation	Dan Brogan	MassDOT
Regional - Providence-Warwick MSA	Climate Pollution Reduction Grant	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	EPA
Regional - SNEP Network	SNEP Network Provider	Ongoing	Environmental	Danica Belknap	USM/EPA
Regional - SRAC	Homeland Security Program and Project Management	Ongoing	Comprehensive, Homeland Security	Kevin Ham, Grant King	MAPC
Regional - SRAC	Homeland Security Program and Project Management	Ongoing	Comprehensive, Homeland Security	Kevin Ham, Grant King	MAPC, EOPSS
Regional - SS4A Grant & MassDOT	Safety Action Plan Development	Ongoing	Transportation	Austin Horowitz, Jackie Jones, Andrea Duarte - Public Outreach	SS4A Grant/Mass DOT
Regional & Dighton, Middleborough	Open Space Residential Design Regional Study	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger, Karen Pettinelli	EOEEA
Regional	Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District Land Alternatives and Reuse Study	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	DLTA
Regional	Regional ADU Bylaw Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Taylor Perez, Grant King	DLTA

Regional	Taunton River Stewardship Plan Update	New	Environmental	Sara Singh	TRSC
Regional	Regional Outdoor Recreation Inventory	Pending	Environmental	Cece Lagomarsino	MOOR
Regional	Resilient Taunton Watershed Network (RTWN) facilitation	Ongoing	Environmental	Sara Singh	
Rehoboth	Green Communities Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews, Lauren Lunetta	DOER
Rochester	Master Plan	Final Draft	Environmental	Michelle Tinger	EOHLC, DLTA, local
Seekonk	Housing Production Plan (Tier 2, Phase 1)	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA
Somerset	Slade's Ferry Zoning and Design Guidelines and Implementation	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Grant King, Lizeth Gonzalez, Rob Cabral, Maria Jones	Local, DLTA
Somerset	Route 103 Neighborhood Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral	EOHLC
Somerset	Riverwalk and Overlook Concept Design	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral	TRSC
Somerset, Swansea	Wastewater District Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA
Swansea	Route 103 Corridor Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral	EOHLC
Swansea	Master Plan, Open Space and Recreation Plan, and Housing Production Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive, Environmental	Robert Cabral, Taylor Perez, Danica Belknap	DLTA, Urban Agenda, local, MA
Swansea	Municipal Digital Equity Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Maria Jones, Kaitlin Whalen	MBI
Swansea	Compton's Corner Stormwater Management Planning	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	CZM
Taunton	ASHE Training Exercise	Ongoing	Homeland Security	Kevin Ham	DLTA, local
Taunton	Lights On Festival Direct Economic Impacts	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	local
Taunton	Section 3A Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	EOHLC, local
Taunton	MSIP V- Business Park	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA

Taunton	Hart Street at Poole Street and Bristol Plymouth High School northern entrance	New	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	MassDOT
Westport	Route 6 Neighborhood Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Robert Cabral	One Stop
Westport	Open Space and Recreation Plan	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	DLTA
Westport	MVP 2.0 Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Environmental	Danica Belknap	Local, MVP
Westport	Housing Production Plan (Tier 1, Phase 1)	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA, local
Westport and Wood Hole Group	Beach Management Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Kevin Ham	Woods Hole Group



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114 • (617) 626-1200

April 7, 2025

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District
88 Broadway
Taunton, MA 02780

Dear Commissioners —

On behalf of Massachusetts Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper, I am writing regarding the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District's (SRPEDD) representative on the Commonwealth's Ocean Advisory Commission (OAC). Pursuant to the Oceans Act of 2008, the OAC provides guidance, assistance, and recommendations to the Secretary in the development and implementation of the Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan.

First released in 2009, the Ocean Management Plan serves as a blueprint for the protection and sustainable use of state ocean waters, protecting critical marine habitat and important water-dependent uses and establishing a management framework and siting standards for new ocean-based development. As directed by the Secretary, my Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) is the designated lead on the Ocean Management Plan, overseeing and managing its development, implementation, and periodic review. For more information on the ocean plan, please see: www.mass.gov/cea/oceanplan.

The 18-member OAC includes State Legislators, agency heads, and representatives of commercial fishing, environmental non-profit organizations, renewable energy, and the six coastal Regional Planning Agencies, including the SRPEDD. The current SRPEDD representative, Janice Robbins, is a valuable member of the OAC, bringing the interests and input of the SRPEDD and its stakeholders to the OAC's work and deliberations. As her appointment has ended, we are inquiring as to whether the SRPEDD would like to recommend her re-appointment, or to nominate others for consideration for the seat. If making a new nomination, we request up to three candidates who are representative of the different backgrounds and perspectives of the stakeholders they will represent. Nominations should include a resume or brief description outlining the candidate's qualifications for the position. OAC representatives are appointed by the Governor and accordingly need to complete a background check by the Governor's Boards and Commissions Office.

We are requesting your reply by April 22. Please do not hesitate to contact me at Alison.Brizius@mass.gov if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to our continued work with the SRPEDD on the implementation and ongoing evolution of the Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan.

Sincerely,
Alison Brizius