

May 28, 2025

6:30 PM

Remote SRPEDD Commission Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81862799177?pwd=6NVNiCYqUAWqMWH7ghlM14KfETuC6Y.1>

AGENDA

1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Welcome
2. Approval of Minutes – April 23, 2025* (*Vote requested*)
3. Reports
 - a. Chair
 - b. Executive Director
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Contracts * (*Vote receive, place on file*)
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance Committee * (*Vote receive, place on file*)
 - Draft FY'26 Budget * (Vote)
 - b. Joint Transportation Planning Group/MPO * (*Vote receive, place on file*)
6. Programs and Project Updates:
 - a. [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\)](#)- Draft Plan *
 - b. Environmental Cmte (inclusive of MEPA Report) * (*Vote receive, place on file*)
 - Renewable Energy Siting Proposed Regulations *
7. Old Business
 - a. [Technical Assistance](#) * (*Vote receive, place on file*)
8. New Business
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: Jun. 25, 2025; July 23, 2025; *No Aug. Mtg.*; Sept. 24, 2025 (Annual Mtg.); Oct. 22, 2025; Dec. 10, 2025; Jan. 25, 2026

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

AGENDA ITEM: Minutes, # 2

SRPEDD Commission Meeting – Draft Minutes

April 23, 2025

Remote Meeting via Zoom

Present:**Commissioners:**

C. Vitale, Dartmouth	J. Carvalho, Dighton	D. Aguiar, Fall River	N. Durfee, Freetown
B. Roche, Mansfield	N. Hills, Marion	J. Robbins, Mattapoisett	M. Clarner, No. Attleboro
T. Torres, Plainville	D. DeMaggio, Roch.	S. Cadime, Seekonk	R. Peirce, Somerset
G. Hovorka, Swansea	B. Fitzgerald, Taunton	J. Whitin, Westport	C. McDermott, Attle. A/L
G. Saddler, FR A/L	A. Eaton, NB. A/L	A. Slavin, NB. A/L	

Guests/Staff:

D. Belknap, SRPEDD	R. Cabral, SRPEDD	J. Jones, SRPEDD	G. King, SRPEDD
K. Porter, SRPEDD	W. Raposa, Somerset	S. Royer, SRPEDD	J. Walker, SRPEDD

Absent:

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

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:41 P.M. by Chairwoman Clarner as an Executive Committee due to previously notified late arrival of a couple of Commissioners with additional meeting obligations that evening.

Upon their arrival, a quorum was subsequently reached and the meeting officially called to order with a quorum by the full Commission.

2. **Approval of Minutes – March 26, 2025:** A motion was made to approve the March 26, 2025, minutes with one abstention.

3. **Reports:**

- a. **Chair:** Chairwoman Clarner encouraged Members that don't often use SRPEDD's services to take advantage of their expertise and enlist their assistance in applying for whatever outside funds may be available going forward.
- b. **Executive Director:** Mr. Walker reported on the House Ways and Means budget, which includes level funding for statewide District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) of \$3 million. He mentioned that DLTA is a critical funding source for not only the RPAS, but each of the Member communities that the RPAs and SRPEDD serve.

He mentioned the State is dealing with a very high number of amendments, which one might expect, given uncertainties with regard to federal funding, and other concerns. Mr. Walker mentioned he will be reaching out later in the week to members of State delegation regarding the critical importance of DLTA and other funding. Mr. Walker mentioned that Rep. Donato is going to be submitting an amendment request to increase statewide funding by a million dollars to \$4 million. Mr. Walker shared that earlier funding for DLTA-A/GAP which has enabled each of the RPAs to surge personnel for the purpose of assisting member communities with state and federal grant applications, is being discontinued, a compelling argument for the referenced increase in regular DLTA funding to \$4 million statewide.

Lastly, Mr. Walker acknowledged Mr. Hovorka, a long-time valued Commissioner, from Swansea. He mentioned he was a representative from Fall River for 19 years, but for the last 15 and appointed member from the town of Swansea, who will be greatly missed. Mr. Walker thanked him for his services and contributions over the past 34 years, and hoped that he and his wife, Barbara, will stay in touch.

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 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.

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 mentioned that 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. The Committee also reviewed the March 2025 month-end General Journal entries. Mr. Walker announced the transition of Austin Horowitz to the Finance Department as the new CFO and Daniel Merline as Assistant Finance Officer.

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

UNANIMOUSLY.

- **FY'26 Q3 Budget Update:** Mr. Walker referred the Board to the FY'26 Q3 Budget Update. He entertained questions from the Members.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the FY'26 Q3 Budget Update as presented.
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. **Joint Transportation Planning Group/MPO:** Ms. Jones stated the JTPG met on March 12th and the SMMPO met on March 18th. The minutes for these meetings start on page 10 on the packets. Discussion at the JTPG and SMMPO meetings highlighted the opening of South Coast Rail and GATRA and SRTA's efforts to provide connections to the new service. Federal funding remains a concern for both regional transit authorities. A presentation on the community technical assistance program was provided at the JTPG that highlighted 16 fulfilled requests for assistance in 2024, which included signal warrants, traffic counts, data collection, and other requests.

The development of the FY2026 – 2030 Transportation Improvement Program, was discussed at both meetings. Three scenarios for funding projects were presented, with consensus reached between them for Scenario 2, which prioritized and placed projects based on evaluation criteria scoring of the projects.

An amendment of the UPWP was endorsed at the SMMPO meeting, which includes the addition of our Regional Age Friendly and Dementia Plan. An administrative adjustment was also approved for the current FY2025-2029 TIP to add details for Community Transit grants that were awarded to GATRA and SRTA.

Ms. Jones mentioned the SMMPO officially adopted a Vision Zero Resolution for the region, which solidifies the body's commitment to improving safety within the region and ties in with our Safe Streets and Roads for All Regional Safety (SS4A) Action Plan efforts. A Notice of Funding Opportunity was released for a follow-on implementation round of SS4A funding. In order to aid our communities in applying for grants, the deadline for completion of SRPEDD's Action Plan was moved up. If any communities are interesting in applying, please reach out to the Transportation department for assistance.

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

6. Programs and Project Updates:

- a. **Taunton Route 140 Corridor Study:** Mr. King, Mr. Cabral and Ms. Jones presented on the Taunton Route 140 Corridor Study, highlighting the project's origins and the involvement of SRPEDD staff. The study aims to provide a comprehensive look at the corridor's circulation, redevelopment, and infill opportunities. The key areas of focus include the downtown, Wild and Scenic Taunton River, Four Corners, and the future of Taunton's TOD District. SRPEDD staff recommended reducing parking requirements, incentivizing development at the human scale, and exploring public-private partnerships. Mr. King mentioned the study provides a menu of options for implementation, including funding sources, timelines, and examples of successful projects in other communities. Mr. King mentioned if any had questions to please reach out to staff via email or phone. The Members thanked the staff and said they did a great job with the corridor study.

- b. **Environmental Subcommittee Report (inclusive of MEPA report):** Ms. Belknap reported that Environmental Committee's priority focus was on wastewater management and water quality impacts in the Buzzards Bay watershed area. Ms. Belknap mentioned that at the last meeting the committee voted to have Commissioners Clarner and Mr. Whittin serve as Co-Chairs for the committee which will meet every other month, with the next meeting scheduled for June 4th at 9 AM. She referenced the committee's interest also in solar siting and reviewing the State's recently proposed regulations. Chairwoman Clarner stated if anyone has any questions or feedback regarding the Committee's ongoing efforts to please let her or Ms. Belknap know. Ms. Belknap entertained questions from the Members.

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

7. Old Business:

- a. **Technical Assistance:** Mr. King referred Commissioners to the monthly update on projects contained in the packet on page 24. Mr. King mentioned that he and fellow staff are available to discuss projects as needed by email or calling the office.

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

8. New Business:

- a. **MA Ocean Advisory Commission (OAC) Rep Appointment/Re-Appointment:** Mr. Walker mentioned the need for appointing or re-appointing a representative to the State's Ocean Advisory Commission, encouraging that Commissioner Robbins who has been serving in that role and has come to the end of her term be considered for re-appointment. Ms. Robbins confirmed her willingness to continue serving on the Ocean Advisory Commission.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Robbins re-appointment to the MA Ocean Advisory Commission as the representative for SRPEDD. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. **Roundtable: Opportunity for Commissioners to provide updates on local topics, projects or matters of regional interest:** Ms. Robbins shared that she recently took a new SCR train from New Bedford to Boston which was a great day but then they encountered challenges due to cancelled service [according to Keolis, evidently due to insufficient staffing] in Brockton on the way back home.

The Members discussed the impact of new technology on traffic studies and the potential for regional traffic models to account for these changes.

The Members discussed the popularity of ADUs and the challenges of implementing them in communities with septic systems and other regulations. Ms. Eaton indicated that the city of New Bedford has a ADU pamphlet that she could have Ms. Royer sent it around to the Commission. Mr. King mentioned that SRPEDD is considering submitting a proposal which if funded would enable staff to provide regional ADU-related technical assistance, including model bylaw and best practices, in addition to help navigating septic and other challenges.

Ms. Durfee announced a Planners Roundtable Meeting on May 14th in Freetown, inviting all planners in the region to attend.

10. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, via Zoom at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/28/2025

Gloria Saddler, Secretary

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 Town of Berkley to assist with the creation of a multi-family zoning district that will satisfy the requirements of Section 3A of Chapter 40A for an amount not to exceed \$20,000.
2. With Horsley Witten to advise on and prepare designs for stormwater retrofit projects in association with the Town of Swansea's Compton's Corner Stormwater Management Planning Project, funded by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, for an amount not to exceed \$45,000.
3. With the Massachusetts Office of Outdoor Recreation to prepare a regional outdoor recreational asset inventory for an amount not to exceed \$41,254.

AGENDA ITEM: Finance Committee Report # 5.a.

The Finance Committee met May 21, 2025, at SRPEDD and remotely via Zoom. The April 16, 2025, Finance meeting minutes were approved, the Treasurer's Report for April 2025 received, and a warrant for expenses signed-off on in the amount of \$109,757.78. The Committee also reviewed the April 2025 month-end General Journal entries.

Cash & Funds: April 1, 2025	\$ 1,002,483.96
Cash Receipts: April 1 – 30, 2025	<u>\$ 433,991.00</u>
Total Cash Accounted for:	\$ 1,436,474.96

Disbursements: April 1 – 30, 2025	\$ 521,199.76
Cash & Funds: April 30, 2025,	<u>\$ 915,275.20</u>
Total Cash Accounted for:	\$ 1,436,474.96

In addition, Mr. Walker presented the Committee with the draft FY'26 budget which, inclusive of recent grant awards that the agency was just notified this past week, balances at a promising conservative \$5,443,616, a slight reduction from last month's Q3 update, owing to FY'25 contracts coming to a fiscal year close. He referenced that staff was continuing to closely monitor both the ongoing state budget process and continuing executive orders at the federal level, with a potential increase of an additional \$1 million statewide in DLTA funding (in the current Senate Ways and Means budget), and announcement of an unanticipated follow-on grant round on the federal side for competitive implementation proposals in the SS4A program. Together with a pair of recently awarded watershed grants from DEP for a total of \$130,000 and an awaited notification from EOEEA of receipt of an exciting LU Planning grant, the financial outlook for the coming fiscal year, he shared, looks good.

Toward that end, he also referenced that the draft included an allowance of up to \$65,695, for a recommended performance-based increase for personnel of up to 2.5%, with a forthcoming calendar year-end round to be reserved for a handful of timely and well-deserved advancements, contingent upon additional anticipated awards and capacity-building, and a further six months of projected positive growth. In all, he reported, FY'26 promises to be yet another busy and productive year. Upon which, following further questions and discussion, the Committee voted unanimously in favor of approving both the draft FY'26 budget, and recommended performance-based increase for personnel of up to 2.5% or \$65,695 overall, for forwarding to the full Commission for acceptance at their upcoming next meeting.



Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District

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

FY'26 Preliminary Draft Budget			PROP: 5/21/25		SUMMARY Pg. 1	
REVENUE			FY 25 Q3 APP 4/2025	FY 26 PROP. 5/2025	CHANGE: 4/2025 to 5/2025	PERCENT CHANGE
1. FEDERAL & STATE GRANTS						
a.		EDA*	70,000	-	-70,000	-100.00%
b.		EPA CPRG	527,774	392,500	-135,274	-25.63%
c.		FHWA-SS4A	312,739	232,695	-80,044	-25.59%
d.		MASSDOT.-3C*	1,864,603	1,975,592	110,989	5.95%
e.		HOMELAND SEC/EOPSS*	137,084	477,398	340,314	248.25%
f.		DLTA (2024)*	331,975	115,791	-216,184	-65.12%
g.		DLTA (2025)	98,495	80,981	-17,514	-17.78%
Sub-total			3,342,670	3,274,957	-67,713	-2.03%
2. ASSESSMENTS			138,312	141,770	3,458	2.50%
3. MUNICIPAL & LOCAL						
1	125098	20251231 Acushnet MP 070124	100,000	29,949	-70,051	-70.05%
		20241231 AgeSpan ARPA DEI 020124	25,000	0	-25,000	-100.00%
2	806500	20250630 APC Earmark 111424	200,000	185,972	-14,028	-7.01%
3	125114	20260630 Berkley Economic Dev Plan 010125	85,000	76,729	-8,271	-9.73%
4	375000	20260930 Brownfields 090922	369,829	216,102	-153,727	-41.57%
5	125115	20260630 Carver Economic Dev Plan 010125	89,000	86,443	-2,557	-2.87%
6	778600	20250630 Community Planning Grant 3x 111523	52,933	42,139	-10,794	-20.39%
7	125103	20251231 Dartmouth HPP 040124	40,000	39,943	-57	-0.14%
8	400060	20250630 DLTA-A allocation 18mo 010224	165,663	61,165	-104,498	-63.08%
9	125091	20251231 Dighton HPP 013124	39,132	32,724	-6,408	-16.37%
10		20260630 EEA MA Integrated LU Planning Grant 051925		148,000	148,000	
	125104	20250630 Fairhaven MVP	24,560	0	-24,560	-100.00%
11	125100	20250630 Fall River MVP	36,766	27,239	-9,527	-25.91%
12	125081	20241231 Fall River OSRP 120623	23,637	8,102	-15,535	-65.72%
13	125111	20260630 Lakeville Rules & Reg Review 010125	48,000	43,185	-4,815	-10.03%
14	125093	20250930 Mansfield Hazard Mitigation Plan 022624	28,387	11,103	-17,284	-60.89%
15	640000	20280630 Mass Gaming Commission	234,000	188,794	-45,206	-19.32%
16	125125	MOOR Asset Inventory		41,254	41,254	
17	125082	20251231 Middleborough MP (HCI) 2x 67500 20231211	94,447	37,108	-57,339	-60.71%
18	125106	20251130 Nature Conservancy Buffer Rest. 070224	43,029	6,422	-36,607	-85.08%
19	125102	20250630 Plymouth Tri-Town	98,863	57,591	-41,272	-41.75%
20	125073	20241031 Plympton 3ATA (MHP) 110123	18,194	15,567	-2,627	-14.44%
21	125090	20250630 Raynham Rt. 138 Overlay District 022424	77,064	37,120	-39,944	-51.83%
22	125044	20241231 Resilient Taunton Circuit Rider (RPA) 120122	67,286	67,286	0	0.00%
23	125084	20241231 Somerset Rt. 103 - Ext. pending	70,646	50,456	-20,190	-28.58%
24	125101	20250630 Swansea MDEP	50,435	16,420	-34,015	-67.44%
25	125077	20241231 Swansea Rt. 6 Corridor Study 021523	71,415	35,309	-36,106	-50.56%
26	125074	20250630 Swansea Storm Water Mgmt (CZM) 2x 50k 102523	92,170	70,734	-21,436	-23.26%
		20251231 Taunton HPP (HCI) 2x 17500 010224	17,500	0	-17,500	-100.00%
27	125105	20251231 Taunton Lights On	46,345	14,024	-32,321	-69.74%
28	125113	20250930 Taunton Riv. Stewardship Council website 100124	2,500	1,565	-935	-37.40%
29	125110	20250630 Trail Mapping 082824	8,000	7,182	-818	-10.23%
30	125112	20250930 Univ of Maine 100124	30,000	21,448	-8,552	-28.51%
31	125118	20250630 WHG Westport Beach Mgmt	68,078	61,794	-6,284	-9.23%
32	125117	20260630 Westport Rt. 6 010125	101,510	83,020	-18,490	-18.21%
Total Municipal Grants			2,519,390	1,821,889	-697,501	-27.69%
ANTICIPATED:						
33		MassDEP Regional Watershed Study 604B		70,000	70,000	
34		MassDEP Watershed Implementation 319		60,000	60,000	
35		Swansea Mixed-Use Zoning and Design Guidelines		50,000	50,000	
Sub-total			0	180,000	180,000	
TOTAL MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS, signed and anticipated*			2,519,390	2,001,889	-517,501	-20.54%
4. MISCELLANEOUS						
		Interest	25,000	25,000		
Sub-total			25,000	25,000		
TOTAL REVENUES			6,025,372	5,443,616	-581,756	-9.66%



Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District
88 Broadway • Taunton, MA 02780 • Phone (508) 824-1367 • Fax (508) 823-1803

FY'26 Preliminary Draft Budget			PROP: 5/21/25	SUMMARY Pg. 2	
EXPENDITURES		FY25 Q3 APP 4/2025	FY26 PROP 5/2025	CHANGE: 1/2025 to 4/2025	PERCENT CHANGE
1	SALARIES	2,853,313	2,918,307	64,994	2.3%
2	FRINGE BENEFITS	486,520	489,462	2,942	0.6%
3	TRAVEL	3,250	3,250	0	0.0%
4	BANK CHARGES	110	110	0	0.0%
5	PRINTING	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
6	SUPPLIES	18,000	18,000	0	0.0%
7	ACCOUNTING & LEGAL	16,716	16,716	0	0.0%
8	COMPUTERS	71,215	71,215	0	0.0%
9	DUES & SUBSCRIP.	17,000	17,000	0	0.0%
10	EQUIP. LEASE	7,165	7,165	0	0.0%
11	INSURANCE	24,300	24,300	0	0.0%
12	MEETINGS & CONF.	24,500	24,500	0	0.0%
13	ADVERTISING	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
14	POSTAGE & TELEPHONE	7,600	7,600	0	0.0%
15	SERVICES (GMS & IT)	17,440	17,440	0	0.0%
16	BUILDING COSTS	59,320	60,220	900	1.5%
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	600,900	219,816	57.7%
21	DIRECT COSTS	367,517	268,273	-99,244	-27.0%
22	LOCAL COST/INVEST.ACCT.	17,111	17,111	0	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		4,381,133	4,570,541	189,408	4.3%
TOTAL REVENUES		6,295,550	5,443,616	-851,934	-13.5%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		4,381,133	4,570,541	189,408	4.3%
EXCESS REV. OVER EXPEND.		1,914,417	873,075	-1,041,342	-54.4%

Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) Meeting**DRAFT Minutes for the JTPG Meeting****Held on Wednesday, April 9, 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	Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
Joe Callahan.....Town of Berkley	William O'Rourke.....Town of Plainville
Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth	T.J. Torres.....Town of Plainville
Thomas Ferry.....Town of Dighton	William Anderson.....Town of Swansea
Joshua Crabb.....Town of Fairhaven	Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River	Ken Buckland.....Town of Wareham
Deborah Petty.....Town of Freetown	James Hartnett.....Town of Westport
Kevin Dumas.....Town of Mansfield	Michael Burris.....Town of Westport
Josh Reinke.....Town of Mansfield	Chris McDermott.....A/L, Attleboro
Norm Hills.....Town of Marion	Ashley Eaton.....A/L, New Bedford
Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett	Alan Slavin.....A/L, Wareham/New Bedford
Leann Bradley.....Town of Middleboro	

The following members/alternates were NOT in attendance:

Town of Carver	Town of Rehoboth
Town of Lakeville	Town of Seekonk
Town of North Attleborough	Town of Somerset
Town of Norton	Town of Wareham
Town of Raynham	

Also in Attendance:

Nancy Durfee.....Town of Rochester
 Ken Buckland.....Town of Wareham
 Robert Price.....Mattapoisett Bike Path Committee (Attended at SRPEDD office)
 Gail Rodrigues.....Southcoast Bikeway Alliance Member
 Barbara Lachance.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Chris Klem.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Shaun Handy.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Emma Yeh.....Pare Corp.
 Steve Findlen.....Howard Stein Hudson
 Eric Axelrod.....Fuss & O'Neill
 Jim Fitzgerald.....Apex
 Phil Viveiros.....Bowman
 Patrick Carr.....A1 Crane
 Lisa Estrela-Pedro.....SRPEDD (Attended at SRPEDD office)
 Jackie Jones.....SRPEDD (Attended at SRPEDD office)
 Andrea Duarte.....SRPEDD (Attended at SRPEDD office)
 Noah Soutier.....SRPEDD (Attended at SRPEDD office)

Sean Hilton.....SRPEDD
Rebekah Rose.....SRPEDD

Handouts:

JTPG Meeting Agenda for April 9, 2025
DRAFT March 12, 2025, JTPG Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chair Victoria Alfaro called the meeting to order at 2:00 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	Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth	William O'Rourke.....Town of Plainville
Thomas Ferry.....Town of Dighton	William Anderson.....Town of Swansea
Deborah Pettey.....Town of Freetown	James Hartnett.....Town of Westport
Kevin Dumas.....Town of Mansfield	Michael Burris.....Town of Westport
Norm Hills.....Town of Marion	Chris McDermott.....A/L, Attleboro
Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoissett	Ashley Eaton.....A/L, New Bedford
Leann Bradley.....Town of Middleboro	Alan Slavin.....A/L, Wareham/New Bedford
Justin Chicca.....City of New Bedford	

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

Chair Alfaro called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2025, meeting. The motion was made by Norm Hills and seconded by Joe Callahan. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....Yes	Town of Middleborough.....Abstain
Town of Berkley.....Yes	City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes	Town of Plainville.....Yes
Town of Dighton.....Yes	Town of Swansea.....Abstain
Town of Fairhaven.....Abstain	Town of Westport.....Yes
Town of Freetown.....Abstain	At-Large, City of Attleboro.....Yes
Town of Mansfield.....Yes	At-Large, City of New Bedford....Yes
Town of MarionYes	At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes
Town of Mattapoissett.....Yes	

THE MOTION PASSED WITH 4 ABSTENTIONS.

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

There were no comments offered.

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

GATRA and SRTA representatives were not present and there were no comments offered.

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

Ashley Eaton asked for an update on the SS4A regional plan. Lisa Estrella-Pedro replied that the SS4A plan will be discussed in a later agenda item.

6. Draft FFY2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Transit Projects List

Jackie Jones presented the upcoming project highlights related to SRTA, GATRA, and other regional transit initiatives as part of the 2026–2030 TIP development. The full draft TIP, which includes detailed project lists, is available online. Highlights for GATRA include work on the East Wareham maintenance facility (awaiting a demolition permit), a solar project on a parcel off Route 6A, roof replacement funding for the Attleboro train station, parking and flooring upgrades at the Taunton terminal, two new charging stations, and replacement diesel buses due to federal funding uncertainty around electric buses. GATRA is also adding 13 replacement vans through mobility assistance funding and a temporary East Taunton MBTA connector, with potential future expansion of Route 8 and micro-transit support. For SRTA, major projects include a new Fall River maintenance facility, improvements to the 9E interstate express route, bus stop upgrades (shelters and signage), charging infrastructure, resurfacing at the New Bedford and Fall River garages, scaffolding for bus maintenance, and new electric buses. SRTA also continues to run a micro connector service offering on-demand transit connections to the New Bedford and Fall River MBTA stations.

7. Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP – (Vote needed to recommend to SMMPO for release to 21-day public comment period)

Ms. Jones presented to the JTPG a Draft of the 2026–2030 TIP. She explained that a roll call vote was needed to recommend the draft to the SMMPO for release to a 21-day public comment period. Ms. Jones emphasized that the previously discussed transit project lists are included in this TIP. The full draft document is now available online and provides detailed information about project selection, funding, and prioritization processes. It includes both regional target projects, over which there is local control, and statewide projects, which are programmed by MassDOT at the state level. Projects are selected based on funding availability, evaluation scores, and project readiness. Scenario 2, previously approved by both the JTPG and SMMPO, has been maintained, with adjustments made using an Advanced Construction (AC) funding tool to handle cost increases—most notably a \$9.6 million increase for one project. Highlights of regional highway projects were presented year by year from 2026 to 2030, with three projects using AC to distribute costs over multiple years. Though some project timelines shifted slightly due to funding constraints, all previously approved projects remain in the TIP. Kevin Dumas asked Ms. Jones to repeat when Mansfield's project at School Street and Route 106 is programmed in the TIP. Chris Klem replied that the project is programmed for 2027. Robert Price asked for clarification on why the Marion pathway project is missing from the current online draft of the TIP. Ms. Jones replied that it was recently noticed that the project listing table was cut off in the draft document, but the full version was shown during the meeting. An updated draft will be uploaded to the website which includes the missing project. All projects were presented to the SMMPO and JTPG. Mr. Price inquired where the Mattapoissett Bike Path project might be placed in the 2026-2030 TIP. Ms. Jones replied that the project is in a unique situation, as it received a MassTrails grant for funding but hasn't yet gone through the initial stages of MassDOT's project development process. To be eligible for programming, a project must complete the project initiation and scoping steps and then receive approval as a project by the Project Review Committee (PRC). The regional planning agency is unable to program or track project status until it has passed through the PRC. Due to the timing of the PRC meeting relative to the approval schedule for this TIP document, this project cannot be included in the current programming cycle. Barbara LaChance commented that MassDOT has begun initiation on the project with the Town of Mattapoissett. T.J. Torress requested clarification on when the Route 1A project in Plainville is programmed. Ms. Jones replied that it is programmed for 2027. Ms. Jones stated that the language within the TIP document has changed slightly, and that adjustments were made to align with updated guidance from the new federal administration. She advised that if changes are noticed throughout the document, they were made intentionally to ensure consistency with current policies and expectations.

Chair Alfaro called for a motion to recommend the Draft FFY2026 to 2030 TIP to the SMMPO to be released

for a 21-day public comment period. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Norm Hills. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....Yes	Town of Middleborough.....Yes
Town of Berkley.....Yes	City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes	Town of Plainville.....Yes
Town of Dighton.....Yes	Town of Swansea.....Yes
Town of Fairhaven.....Yes	City of Taunton.....Yes
Town of Freetown.....Yes	Town of Westport.....Yes
Town of Mansfield.....Yes	At-Large, City of Attleboro.....Yes
Town of MarionYes	At-Large, City of New Bedford....Yes
Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes	At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. JTPG (Re)Appointments for Upcoming year

Ms. Duarte reminded the group that the annual process for appointing or reappointing representatives to the JTPG body for FY26 is approaching. The new term will begin on June 1, 2025 and run through May 31, 2026 , with any new appointees starting at the June meeting. Emails will be sent to current members, town leadership, and council or select board chairs to confirm appointments. She emphasized the importance of selecting someone who can attend the JTPG meetings regularly, as these meetings are where key information is shared, and decisions are made. Appointment forms will be distributed within the next week and are due by May 15.

9. Other Business

Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided an overview of current grant opportunities including:

- The Small Bridge Replacement Grant, offered through the Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration, has a submission deadline of May 12.
- The Mass Clean Energy Center Vehicle-to-Everything demonstration projects—applications for school districts are due by May 30, and applications for residential and commercial projects are due by July 31.
- The Safe Streets and Roads for All program is accepting submissions for the third round of FY25 funding, with applications due by June 26.

Ms. Estrela-Pedro invited Ms. Jones to provide additional information on the Safe Streets and Roads for All program. Ms. Jones informed the group that a key requirement for applying for implementation grants in the current Safe Streets and Roads for All funding round is that the proposed project must be included in a Regional Safety Action Plan. SRPEDDs Regional Safety Action Plan is nearing completion, and the timeline has been accelerated to ensure it's available for communities intending to apply during this round. Ms. Jones suggested that given the short application timeline, if any community is interested in applying, they should reach out as soon as possible to discuss preliminary recommendations and potential funding options. The draft Regional Safety Action Plan will be presented at upcoming JTPG and SMMPO meetings. Presentation slides of these grant opportunities will be sent out after the meeting with all relevant links for easy access.

Ms. Estrela-Pedro highlighted the following upcoming trainings and announcements:

- April 16, Massachusetts Safe Routes to School is hosting a spring webinar.
- May 8 in Newton, the UMass Center is presenting "Saved by a Traffic Engineer: Advancing Multimodal Safety through Research and Practical Use of the MUTCD and other Design Guidance."
- MassDOT's Road Inventory 2024 is now available on GeoDOT.

- Walk Massachusetts has released the 2024 report on fatal pedestrian crashes in the state.
- For TIP project development, the next Project Review Committee (PRC) meeting is scheduled for May 21, with a pre-PRC meeting on May 7. To be considered, projects must be submitted by April 16 to allow time for district review. The next opportunity for submissions will be August 20, ahead of the September PRC meeting.

Gail Rodrigues informed the group that the South Coast Bikeway Summit will take place on Tuesday, May 13 at 6:00 PM at the UMass Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology, located at 836 South Rodney French Boulevard in New Bedford. The event is open to all and will feature keynote speaker Trish Carter. The summit aims to bring together cyclists and community members to discuss biking initiatives and share inspiration.

10. Date and Time for Next Meeting

Date and Time for the next meeting is May 14, 2025, at 2:00 PM as a hybrid meeting, in which attendees can join at the SRPEDD office in Taunton or via Zoom.

11. Adjourn

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Tim Barber and seconded by Tom Ferry. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 PM.

**Draft Minutes of the Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization
(SMMPO) Meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM - Held remotely via Zoom.**

The following members were in attendance:

Steve Woelfel-----Representing Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Acting MassDOT Secretary, **Chair**
Shaun Handy-----Representing Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway Div. Administrator
Christopher McDermott---Representing Cathleen DeSimone, Mayor of Attleboro
Daniel Aguiar-----Representing Paul Coogan, Mayor of Fall River
Jamie Ponte-----Representing Jon Mitchell, Mayor of New Bedford
Kevin Dumas-----Representing Diana Bren, Town of Mansfield
Andrew Saunders-----Town of Fairhaven
Sarah Hewins-----Town of Carver
Marie Clarner-----SRPEDD Commission Chair
Shayne Trimbell-----Representing Erik Rousseau, SRTA Administrator
Mary Ellen DeFrias-----GATRA Administrator

The following were also in attendance:

Dana Hanson-----Office of Congressman Auchincloss
Caterina Pereira----- Office of Congressman Auchincloss
Chris Klem----- Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Diane Hayes----- Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Alan Slavin-----Town of Wareham
Pamela Haznar-----McClure
Emma Yeh-----Pare
Lisa Estrela-Pedro-----SRPEDD
Jackie Jones-----SRPEDD
Andrea Duarte-----SRPEDD
Jen Chaves-----SRPEDD
Noah Soutier-----SRPEDD

Handouts:

SMMPO Agenda April 15, 2025
SMMPO Draft Meeting Minutes March 18, 2025
FFY2025-2029 TIP Proposed Amendment #3

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call-

Chairman Steven Woelfel called the SMMPO meeting to order at 1:00 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	Town of Carver-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes	SRTA-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes	GATRA-----Yes
Town of Fairhaven-----Yes	

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

Chairman Woelfel requested a motion to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2025, SMMPO meeting. The motion was made by Andrew Saunders and seconded by Dan Aguiar. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes
Town of Fairhaven-----Yes

Town of Carver-----Yes
SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
SRTA-----Yes
GATRA-----Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Public Comments

Chairman Woelfel 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 continues to experience positive upward trends in service across the area. Notably, there has been significant growth in demand for the Dial-a-Ride service. She expressed satisfaction with the increased usage, acknowledging that while the demand had long been anticipated, limited capacity was a challenge. However, the implementation of new software has greatly improved operational efficiency, allowing GATRA to accommodate all rider requests more effectively. Additionally, progress is being made on the new facility in Wareham; the construction team is on-site and actively working, with the goal of completing the facility and moving in by this summer. She stated that GATRA is currently in the middle of its budget season.

Shayne Trimbell stated that there are currently no major developments for SRTA, and things have been relatively quiet. The micro-transit connector service to South Coast Rail has been operational for about a week and a half. While initial ridership has been somewhat slow, this was anticipated, and usage is expected to grow as awareness of the service increases. He stated that the team is actively monitoring the rollout. Mr. Trimbell announced that this would be his final SMMPO meeting, as he will be leaving SRTA, with his last day scheduled for Friday. He expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work with colleagues across the region to advance transportation in Southeastern Massachusetts. While he did not disclose his next role, he hinted that he would remain in the area and likely reappear in a new capacity in the near future. The Chair thanked Mr. Trimbell for his service and contributions, both during his time at SRTA and in prior roles, offering congratulations and expressing that his presence will be missed—though not entirely gone.

5. MassDOT 2026-2030 Capital Investment Plan Presentation

Michelle Scott of MassDOT provided a presentation on the development of MassDOT's Capital Investment Plan (CIP) for FY2026–2030, highlighting opportunities for public engagement and its connection to the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and regional MPO TIPs. She highlighted that the CIP is a fiscally constrained, five-year rolling plan that outlines capital investments across Massachusetts' transportation systems, including highways, bridges, transit, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, rail, airports, and RMV assets. It is organized on a cash-flow basis, reflecting actual spending over time. Key funding sources include federal aid, state bonds, toll revenues, and the Fair Share surtax.

Ms. Scott stated that the CIP and STIP are closely linked, though not identical. While many highway and transit projects appear in both, some state-funded programs (e.g., Chapter 90, RMV, and Aeronautics) are exclusive to the CIP. The CIP follows the state fiscal year (July–June), while the STIP aligns with the federal fiscal year (October–September). She emphasized the collaborative nature of CIP development with MPOs and transit agencies and reviewed the current development timeline. The draft plan is expected to be released for public comment following a MassDOT board vote on May 21, with the comment period open from May 22 to June 11. Virtual public meetings will be held statewide, with a final board vote anticipated on June 18.

The FY26–30 CIP is projected at approximately \$18.4 billion. Top funding areas include the bridge program, major rail and highway reconstructions (e.g., Cape Cod bridges), Chapter 90 municipal aid, and safety improvements. The plan reflects priorities from the Beyond Mobility long-range plan, focusing on safety, reliability, resiliency, clean transportation, and connectivity. She highlighted local investments in the Southeastern Massachusetts region, including I-195/Route 18 interchange work in New Bedford, continued improvements in Fall River’s Route 79 Davol Street corridor and Taunton’s Route 24 interchange, electric bus purchases for SRTA, climate resilience projects in Wareham, and support for regional transit and aviation infrastructure. She stated that the public is encouraged to learn more and participate via the MassDOT CIP website: mass.gov/capital-investment-plan-cip.

6. Proposed FFY2025-2029 TIP Amendment #3 – Cost increases for three projects in FFY2025 [Lakeville – Reconstruction of Rhode Island Road (Route 79), Mansfield – Multimodal accommodations on School Street, and Mansfield – Chauncy Street (Route 106) from State Road (Route 140) to Copeland Drive] and Removal of Dartmouth Project from FFY2026 [Improvements on Route 6 From Faunce Corner Road to Hathaway Road] to remain fiscally constrained (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Release to 21-day Public Comment Period)

Ms. Estrela-Pedro informed the group that proposed Amendment #3 to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025–2029 TIP includes several project cost increases. The first involves the Lakeville Route 79 project, which requires additional funding due to the need for hazardous material disposal, expanded water main relocation, and unit cost escalation. Since the increase cannot be fully absorbed in FFY 2025, the project will utilize advance construction programming and span into FFY 2026, with an added \$700,000 programmed in 2026. The second project—Mansfield’s multimodal accommodations on School Street—is also facing cost increases due to drainage work and hazardous material disposal. A third project, funded through statewide—not regional—funds, will see its utility relocation costs more than triple following the 75% design submission. This increase will be covered by Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding. Ms. Estrela-Pedro stated that to maintain fiscal constraint in FFY 2026, the Dartmouth Corridor improvements project (Route 6 from Faunce Corner Road to Hathaway Road) will be removed from the 2025–2029 TIP. However, it remains programmed in FFY2026 in the draft 2026–2030 TIP and is expected to stay there. She requested a vote from the body to release Amendment #3 to a 21-day public comment period.

The Chair asked if there were any questions on Proposed FFY25-29 TIP Amendment #3 and seeing none asked for a motion to release Amendment #3 to a minimum 21-day public comment period. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Andrew Saunders. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes	Town of Fairhaven-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes	Town of Carver-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----No resp/Left mtg
City of Fall River-----Yes	SRTA-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes	GATRA-----Yes
Town of Mansfield-----Yes	

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Draft FFY2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) ([Link](#) & Roll Call Vote Needed to Release to 21-day Public Comment Period)

Jackie Jones stated that the SMMPO was being asked to vote to release the draft FFY 2026–2030 TIP for a minimum 21-day public comment period today. The draft document, which spans over 230 pages, is

available on the SMMPO website and was also linked in the meeting agenda. It includes not only project listings but various planning components, policy language, and technical appendices, and members were encouraged to review it thoroughly. Transit projects highlighted for GATRA include construction of the East Wareham maintenance facility, a solar project on Route 6A, Attleboro station roof replacement, various facility upgrades, electric bus charging stations, and new vehicle purchases. SRTA projects include a new Fall River facility, bus stop and shelter upgrades, charging infrastructure, garage resurfacing in New Bedford and Fall River, ITS upgrades, and the ongoing micro-transit connector. Before reviewing the highway project lists, Ms. Jones provided a brief clarification on “regional target” versus “statewide” projects, stating that the SMMPO has control over regional target funds and projects while statewide projects are chosen by the state. She explained the use of “advance construction” (AC), a programming tool that spreads project costs across multiple years. The Lakeville Route 79 project was cited as an example of AC, with its funding split between 2025 and 2026.

Ms. Jones stated that the regional target list for 2026 includes the Lakeville project, the Dartmouth Route 6 corridor improvements, and the Wareham Swift Beach intersection at Route 6, with roughly \$3.46 million remaining. In 2027, projects include reconstruction in Plainville, intersection work in Westport, Mansfield’s Phase 2 on Chauncey Street, and Norton intersection improvements. Statewide projects that year include the New Bedford bike/pedestrian ramp, a Freetown Safe Routes to School project, and culvert work in Wareham. In 2028, due to a \$9 million cost increase in Middleboro’s Wareham Street reconstruction, AC was again used to maintain project schedules. The Mattapoisett corridor project is now split across 2028–2030, while Middleboro’s is split across 2028 and 2029. New Bedford intersection projects remain in 2028. 2028 also includes statewide projects such as Fall River’s Safe Routes to School at Fonseca Elementary and the Taunton River Trail. In 2029, regional projects include the second year of the Mattapoisett and Middleboro projects, as well as Attleboro’s Route 123 improvements. A pedestrian safety project at Route 28 and Merchants Way in Middleboro is programmed under statewide funds. For 2030, the final year of Mattapoisett’s project is included along with multiple Dartmouth and New Bedford corridor improvements and a new intersection improvement project in Taunton. The draft TIP also features updated language for consistency with state and federal guidance. She invited members to ask questions, and Derek Shooster commended her, Lisa, and the SMMPO staff for their extensive efforts in producing the document. No questions or concerns were raised at this time.

The Chair asked if there were any questions on the Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP and seeing none asked for a motion to release it to a 21-day public comment period. The motion was made by Mary Ellen DeFrias and seconded by Kevin Dumas. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes	Town of Fairhaven-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes	Town of Carver-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----No resp/Left mtg
City of Fall River-----Yes	SRTA-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes	GATRA-----Yes
Town of Mansfield-----Yes	

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Other Business

No comments were provided at this time.

9. Date and Time for Next Meeting

The Chair announced that the next SMMPO meeting will be on May 20, 2025 at 1:00 pm, held virtually.

10. Adjourn

The Chair asked for a motion and second to adjourn. Andrew Saunders made the motion and Sarah Hewins seconded. The Chair asked that all in favor say aye. All ayes were heard. The Chair thanked everyone, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

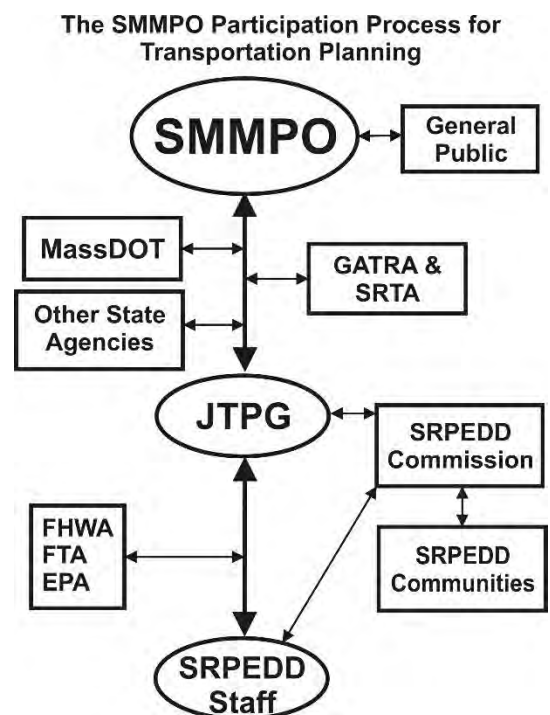
WHAT IS THE MPO?

Metropolitan **P**lanning **O**rganizations are established in urbanized areas across the nation to implement federally mandated transportation planning. The [Southeastern Massachusetts MPO \(SMMPO\)](#) was established in 1976 for southeastern Massachusetts and is responsible for programming federally mandated transportation planning and improvements. At that time, the Governor's office authorized and established thirteen (13) MPOs in Massachusetts that follow the boundaries of each of the 13 regional planning agencies. Nationally, there are 385 MPOs throughout the United States. The Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) Transportation personnel acts as staff to the SMMPO.

The SMMPO board is responsible for determining how to spend federal funds for roadway and bridge improvement projects as well as for transit services. The SMMPO is comprised of the Secretary and CEO of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT); the Administrator of the MassDOT Highway Division; the Chair of SRPEDD; the Administrator of the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA); the Administrator of the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA); the Mayors of the Cities of Attleboro, Fall River, New Bedford, and Taunton, or their designees; and four Town Representatives (Chosen from the Select Board members or comparable elected executive branch of town government) representing 4 towns in the SRPEDD region. The Secretary of Transportation, Monica Tibbits-Nutt, is the Chair of all of the 13 MPOs in the Commonwealth while Marie Clarner (Chair of the SRPEDD Commission) is the Vice-Chair of the SMMPO.

The planning process that enables the initiation and implementation of transportation improvements for southeastern Massachusetts can be complicated and sometimes difficult to navigate. To begin, there are three key groups essential to the planning process for transportation improvements in our region; the **SMMPO**, the **Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG)**, and the **SRPEDD Commission**. The graphic to the right details the structure and roles of the SMMPO in relation to the other committee and agencies involved in this planning process.

The SRPEDD Transportation Planning Staff provides technical support and coordination services for the SMMPO. This includes organizational support, public outreach, the preparation of required federal certification documents, transportation studies and reports, regional transportation modeling, and transit planning. The SRPEDD Transportation



Planning Staff also works with the JTPG, the forum for public involvement and the advisory board to the SMMPO, to prepare key documents for presentation and review by the SMMPO board for endorsement. These documents include:

- **The Regional Transportation Plan** – This document is an assessment of existing and future needs of transportation and is updated every 4 years as required by federal and state transportation agencies,
- **The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** – The annual document that programs five consecutive years of federal and state funds for specific transportation projects (highways, roads, bridges, transit facilities, bike paths, etc.)
- **The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** – the annual work program that outlines a scope of work and potential studies for the SRPEDD staff.

The importance of having local elected officials represented on the SMMPO ensures that transportation funding is distributed in a fair and equitable manner and throughout the entire region. It also provides an opportunity for municipalities to assist in prioritizing transportation needs for the region and develop policies with the development of the Regional Transportation Plan.

The SMMPO typically meets, on average, nine times per year at 1:00 PM on the third Tuesday of the month at the SRPEDD office in Taunton or virtually, but always keeping in accordance with the **Massachusetts, Open Meeting Law**. Additional meetings are possible if transportation issues need to be resolved. Meetings currently scheduled for the SMMPO include:

- **Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 1:00 PM**
- **Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at 1:00 PM**
- **Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM**

To learn about recent SMMPO meetings, agendas, and items voted on, visit srpedd.org/transportation/smmpos.

The following are the SRPEDD Commission by-laws pertaining to the SMMPO process and the election of the local board of selectmen to the SMMPO representative board.

Excerpt from the 2018 SRPEDD AGENCY POLICIES, Section III. BY–LAWS (*with amended language*)

PREAMBLE: These by-laws, adopted under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40B, Sections 9 to 19, define the Rules and Procedures for the activities of the Southeastern Regional

Planning and Economic Development Commission as the governing body of the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District.

DEFINITION: The word "Commission" where appearing in these by-laws shall be construed to mean the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission. The word "District" wherever appearing in these by-laws shall mean a public body politic and corporate development known as the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District.

10. SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SMMPO):

- A. The Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization consists of thirteen (13) members representing the following:
1. Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of Massachusetts Department of Transportation;
 2. Highway Administrator of the MassDOT Highway Division;
 3. Chairman of Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District Commission;
 4. Administrator of the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA);
 5. Administrator of the Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA);
 6. Mayors of Attleboro, Fall River, New Bedford, and Taunton; and
 7. Members of four (4) Boards of Selectmen in the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (*or comparable executive branch of government*) to be elected by the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District Commission. (*In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, at least one, but not more than two of the four SMMPO town representatives shall be from towns within Plymouth County and/or Norfolk County.*)
- B. In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) relating to the comprehensive, continuing, and cooperative transportation planning process, the SRPEDD Commission is authorized to elect the four (4) representatives of Boards of Selectmen utilizing the procedure described below:
1. Term of Office: Two (2) representatives will be elected each year for two-year terms. Elections will be held annually in the month of May or June.
 2. Solicitation of Nominees: Annually, the SRPEDD Commission will send notices to the Board of Selectmen and SRPEDD Commissioners of each of its member towns. The purpose and role of the SMMPO and a description of the election process will accompany the notice. Each member of every local Board of Selectmen from member communities will be offered an opportunity to nominate themselves as a candidate for election to the SMMPO. Nominations will be returned to

SRPEDD offices within four (4) weeks of the date they are distributed. Nomination forms are typically distributed by the second (2nd) week of the month of May.

3. Election of Selectmen Representatives: Nominations will be referred to the SRPEDD Commission for a vote at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission in the month of June. All names and towns of the interested selectmen will be printed on a paper ballot. Nominees will be invited to attend and speak at the meeting of the SRPEDD Commission when the vote is taken.
4. Designees: Board of Selectmen members elected to the SMMPO may send a designee to a meeting in their place. The designee may vote only with written and signed authorization from the elected SMMPO member.
5. Vacancies: Should a selectmen's position fall vacant between annual elections, the represented town for that vacancy may nominate, and the SRPEDD Commission may elect, a duly eligible candidate from that town's Board of Selectmen to temporarily fill the vacancy until the following election. In the event that no member of the municipality's Board of Selectmen is able to fill the vacancy, then any member town may nominate, and the SRPEDD Commission may elect, a candidate to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. (Amended May 23, 2018)

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SMMPO)
FY2025 SMMPO MEMBERS

Monica Tibbits-Nutt, MassDOT Secretary & CEO, Chair
Marie Clarner, SRPEDD Commission Chair, Vice-Chair
Cathleen DeSimone, Mayor of Attleboro
Paul Coogan, Mayor of Fall River
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor of New Bedford
Shaunna O'Connell, Mayor of Taunton
Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway Administrator
Sarah Hewins, Carver (Term Expires 7/31/2025)
Craig Dutra, Westport (Term Expires 7/31/2025)
Diana Bren, Mansfield (Term Expires 7/31/2026)
Andrew Saunders, Fairhaven (Term Expires 7/31/2026)
Erik Rousseau, SRTA
Mary Ellen DeFrias, GATRA

Ex-officio, non-voting members:

Joi Singh, FHWA Division Administrator
Peter Butler, FTA Regional Administrator
Victoria Alfaro, Joint Transportation Planning Group Chair



SAFE STREETS FOR ALL

Southeastern Massachusetts

Task Force Meeting

May 13, 2025

Overview

- Review of Draft Plan
- Countermeasures Summary
 - Sample Countermeasure Guidance Overview
- Candidate Project Selection
- Project Prioritization
- SS4A Project Dashboard
- Next Steps

Review of Draft Plan



Chapter 1: Introduction

- Vision Zero, Background, and Resolution
- Leadership Commitment and Goal Setting
- Safe Systems Approach

Chapter 2: Engagement and Collaboration

- Community Engagement
- Task Force

Chapter 3: Safety Analysis

- Collision History, Risk Factors, and Trends

Chapter 4: Countermeasures

- Engineering
- Non-Engineering
- Safety Efforts and Programs

Chapter 5: Strategy and Project Selections

- Regional Level
- Municipal Level
- Systemic

Chapter 6: Policy and Process Change

Chapter 7: Impact Analysis

Chapter 8: Moving Forward

- Funding Considerations
- Measuring Progress



VISION ZERO RESOLUTION

What is SMMPO?

The Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO) is the body responsible for providing for the Continuing, Cooperative, and Comprehensive (3C) planning process for 27 communities in the Southeastern Massachusetts Region.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation (US DOT), traffic crashes are a leading cause of death and a public health crisis, responsible for over 40,000 fatalities on United States roadways each year.

Further, according to the Governors Highway Safety Association's 2022 Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities by State report, **pedestrian deaths increased by 77% while other traffic fatalities increased by 25% from 2010 to 2021 nationwide.** Locally, the SMMPO region experienced 87,586 vehicle crashes between 2019 and 2023; 1,023 of these involved pedestrians, of which 3.7% were fatalities and 79.4% resulted in injuries.

Vision Zero is driven by the principle that **there is no acceptable number of traffic fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways.** The SMMPO recognizes that traffic deaths and serious injuries on our roadways are not inevitable, and this Vision Zero Resolution sets forth a goal of reducing fatal and serious injury crashes by 35% by the year 2040 and increasing safe mobility for all road users, working towards the ultimate long-term goal of zero fatal and serious injury crashes. The SMMPO further recognizes that underrepresented populations, including communities with higher populations of minority, low-income, limited English proficient, and 65+ year old individuals, have historically experienced disproportionate fatalities, injuries and risk due to traffic hazards.

The SMMPO will join other leading cities, counties, regions, and states, around the nation and around the world, in a commitment to **eliminate traffic deaths and severe injuries**, work which has demonstrated success when coupled with adequate funding, staff resources, and top-down support for its implementation. The communities of Southeastern Massachusetts are united around the common goal to increase roadway safety and to eliminate injury and death on our streets at a foundational level.

Together, we can ensure safe travel for the region's most vulnerable road users.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SMMPO:

1. The SMMPO adopts the Vision Zero strategy as a comprehensive and holistic approach to eliminating traffic fatalities and severe injuries.
2. The SMMPO will support the development and implementation of a Regional Safety Action Plan to achieve the elimination of roadway fatalities and serious injuries, based upon a baseline analysis of existing fatalities and serious injuries, identification of a High Injury Network, Safety Needs Assessment, Equity Impact Analysis, and Strategies and Project Prioritization.
3. The SMMPO will engage and support the 27 communities in the Southeastern Massachusetts MPO Region in the development and implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan.
4. The SMMPO directs staff to provide an annual summary on the implementation of the Regional Safety Action Plan, inclusive of data showing the number of traffic fatalities, severe injuries, and other collisions, to actively track the Region's performance.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Engineering Countermeasure Toolbox

- Countermeasures are generally organized into three categories:
 - Pedestrian Treatments
 - Intersection Treatments
 - Corridor Treatments
- Each of the treatments are discussed in more detail, including general benefits, typical applications, and design considerations.

Pedestrian Treatments

- High Visibility Crosswalks
 - Pedestrian Crossing
 - High Visibility Crosswalk Markings
 - Pedestrian Lighting
 - Sidewalk and Wheelchair Ramps
 - Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon
 - Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon
 - Curb Extensions
- Pedestrian Signal Modifications
 - Leading Pedestrian Interval
 - Pedestrian Signal Equipment

Pedestrian Crossing

Benefits

- Improves the visibility of people walking and biking in crosswalks
- Enhances drivers' sight distance
- Encourages foot traffic and can make local establishments inviting

Typical Applications

- Areas of high traffic for people biking and walking, such as bus stations, shopping centers, schools, and shared use paths
- Corridors with commercial activity

Design Considerations

- Lighting should not be placed to block entrances or inhibit pedestrian flow
- Size and type of light fixture may vary depending on the surrounding context and available space



Implementation Timeline: 1-2 years

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon

Benefits

- Provides a visible warning to drivers at eye level
- Increases driver yielding behavior at crossings
- Allows drivers to proceed after yielding

Typical Applications

- Mid-block crossings with high pedestrian or bicycle demand and high traffic volumes
- Crossing treatment for shared use paths

Design Considerations

- Push button placement should be easily accessible to people walking, in wheelchairs, and bicycling
- Can be added in median island for multi-lane crossings



Implementation Timeline: 3-4 years

Intersection Treatments

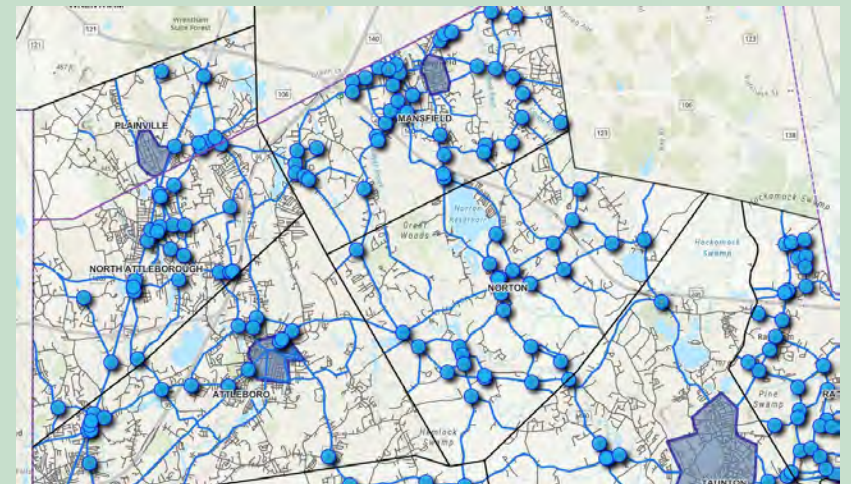
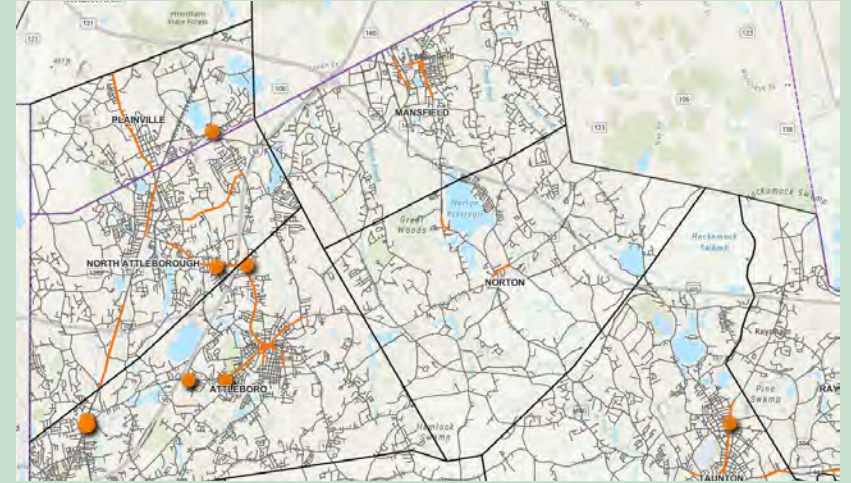
- Intersection Lighting
- Signal Head Visibility
- Signal Equipment and Timing Upgrades
- Curb Modifications
- Traffic Control Modifications
 - No Turn on Red Restriction
 - All-Way Stop Control
 - Traffic Signal Control
 - Convert Signal Equipment to Mast Arms
 - Convert to Roundabout
- General Intersection Maintenance Improvements

Corridor Treatments

- Access Management
- Roadway Conspicuity
- Speed Management
 - Speed Feedback Sign
 - Set Appropriate Speed Limits
 - Median Islands/Vertical Deflection
- Road Reconfiguration (Road Diet)
- Bicycle Facility Improvements
- Improve Sight Lines
- Roadway Departure Mitigation
 - Enhance Signage
 - Install Guardrail
 - Install Rumble Strips
 - SafetyEdge and Paved Shoulders
 - High Friction Surface Treatment

Candidate Project Selection

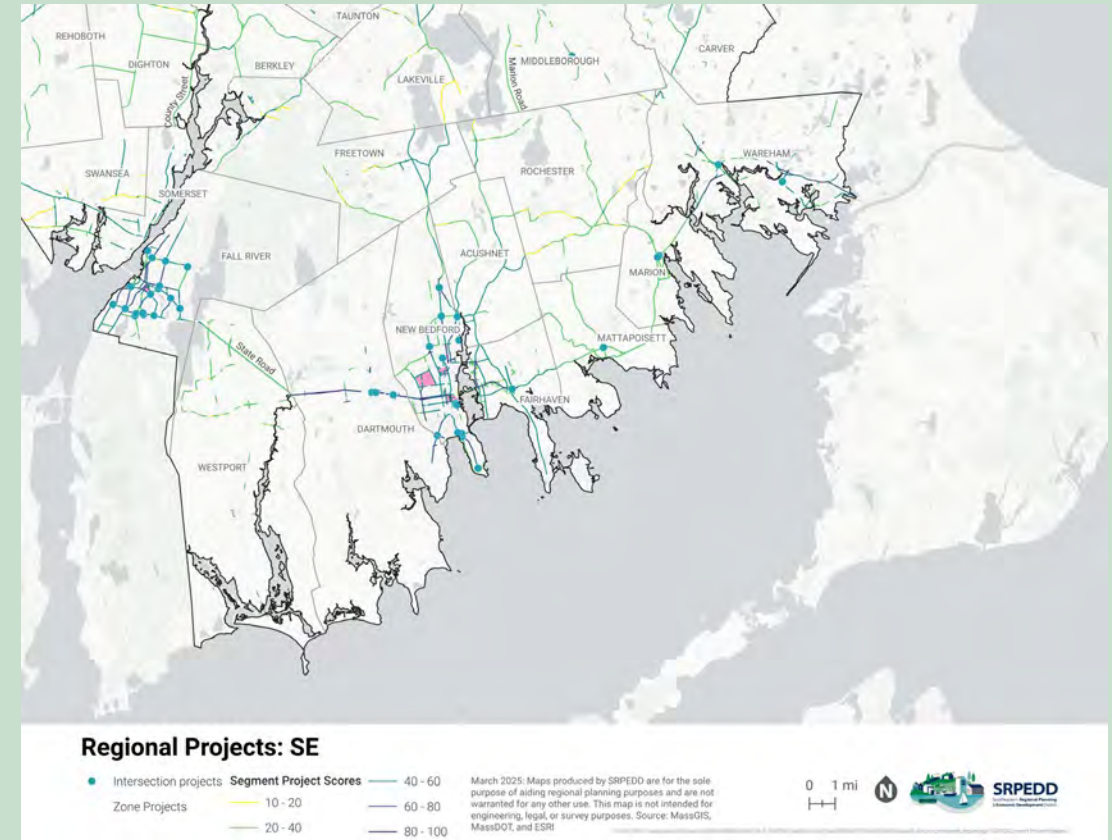
- Regional Projects
- Municipal Projects
- Selection Methodology
 - Critical or High Corridor in HRN
 - HIN threshold by mode
- Countermeasures selected for each project based on:
 - Roadway Data
 - Roadway Context
 - Previously Documented Recommendations



Project Prioritization

- High Risk Network – 50 pts
 - All Modes, Ped, Bike, MV, MC
 - Critical – 10 pts, each mode
 - High – 5 pts each mode
- High Injury Network – 30 pts
 - All Modes, Ped, Bike
 - Max 10 pts each mode
- EJ/Equity – 10 pts
- Crash Cluster 2019-2021 – 10 pts

Project Scores out of 100 pts



Next Steps

- Finalize Regional Safety Action Plan Draft
- Release to the public through the Task Force, JTPG & SMMPO
- Coordination with Municipalities
- Incorporate feedback and present to the SMMPO for endorsement June 17, 2025
- Finalize before NOFO deadline on June 2025

Note on Open Grant Round:

Preliminary eligible location lists and offers of application assistance have been sent to communities.

Thank you!

Questions?

MEPA ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR – PROJECTS IN REGION

Project	Type	Community	Comments Due	Site Visit Details (Indicate if Remote Meeting)
Plainville Water Treatment Plant	FEIR	Plainville	6/6/25	
Hidden Trails	EIR	Wareham	6/6/25	
City Pier Marina Redevelopment Project (fka FALL RIVER CITY PIER - MARINA DEVELOPMENT)	NPC	Fall River	5/27/25	
Mt. Hope Street Housing Development “Achin Acres”	EENF	North Attleborough	Past	Past
Coggeshall Street Phase 3 Sewer Separation Project	EENF under review	New Bedford	Past	Past
The Oasis at Middleborough	DEIR under review	Middleborough	Past	



ENERGY SITING - 2024 CLIMATE ACT

- High-Level Summary
- Deadlines
- Draft Letter for Submission



High-Level Summary: Standard Conditions and Procedural Reform – 2024 Climate Act Implementation

*** Overview**
The **2024 Climate Act** mandates that the Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) modernize and streamline the permitting process for clean energy projects. The goal is to accelerate project approval, ensure transparency, and increase community involvement while consolidating permits across agencies.

*** Key Reforms Proposed by EFSB**

- 1. Single, consolidated permit** replaces multiple local, state, and regional approvals.
 - New rules apply to **all clean energy project types** (i.e. wind, solar, transmission).
 - If EFSB fails to act within 12-15 months, the project may receive constructive approval (automatic approval with conditions).
- 2. Standard Conditions Framework**
 - **Level 1 – Universal Conditions:** Apply to all projects (i.e. compliance, timelines, engagement).
 - **Level 2 – Constructive Approval Conditions:** Apply if EFSB deadlines are missed.
 - **Level 3 – Specialized Conditions:** Tailored to project type (solar, wind, transmission).

Facility Type/Description	Capacity/Size
<u>Generation</u> – Solar; Wind; Anaerobic Digester	≥ 25 MW (Large)
	< 25 MW (Small)
<u>Energy Storage System</u>	≥ 100 MWh (Large)
	< 100 MWh (Small)
<u>Transmission Infrastructure</u> (and ancillary facilities) - Large - ≥ 69 kV <u>and</u> ≥ 1 mile (new corridor) - ≥ 115 kV <u>and</u> ≥ 10 miles (existing corridor) (except reconductoring at same voltage) - New transmission infrastructure (inc'l substations/structures) requiring zoning exemptions - Facilities needed to connect offshore wind to grid	
<u>Transmission Infrastructure</u> (and ancillary facilities) - Small - < 1 mile (new corridor) - < 10 miles (existing corridor) - Distribution-level projects meeting a size threshold TBD by DOER - Reconductoring/rebuild at same voltage - Substations/upgrades <u>not</u> requiring zoning exemptions	



Procedural Regulations Straw Proposal

New Regulations Sections (Proposed):



- **980 CMR 13.00** – Consolidated Permits
- **980 CMR 14.00** – De Novo Hearings (for stalled or disputed local reviews)
- **980 CMR 15.00** – Environmental & Site Standards
- **980 CMR 16.00** – Community Outreach & Engagement

Key Improvements



- Hybrid public hearings; searchable application filings
- Clear intervention process (no attorney required)
- Defined rules for site cleanup, decommissioning, and zoning exemptions
- Public-facing **Clean Energy Dashboard** for project tracking

New Application Process: “EFSB 2.0”



- EFSB will launch a **Common Standard Application** for developers.
- **Two options** being considered:
 - **Aggregation model** (preferred): Combines existing permit forms from all agencies.
 - **Purpose-built model**: Creates an entirely new unified form from scratch.

Application Requirements (Large & Small Projects):



- Project description, maps, environmental/community impacts
- Cumulative impact analysis, alternatives considered
- Proof of early public outreach and engagement



Public Engagement Reforms

Pre-Filing Requirements:



- Outreach starts **up 23 months in advance** for large projects.
- Two engagement phases: Early feedback & agencies), then full public meetings.
- Community members must be involved **before** application submission.

Support for Underserved Groups

Intervenor Support Grant Program:



- Provides up to **\$150,000** per group to participate in EFSB/DPU proceedings.
- Supports **environmental justice communities, municipalities, tribes**, and more.
- Helps fund legal/technical assistance, community experts, and outreach.

Environmental Safeguards

Site Suitability Scorecard:



- Projects must score their sites on factors such as:
 - **Carbon storage, biodiversity, climate resilience, agricultural production potential, climate resilience, development potential (general projects), development potential (utility infrastructure), social and environmental burdens, and social and environmental benefits**
- **Sensitive areas (i.e. wetlands, forests)** are off-limits or require mitigation fees.
- Projects may be modified, denied, or fined based on-site sensitivity.

Higher suitability scores would indicate more suitable locations for energy infrastructure development.



Environmental Safeguards (continued)

Mitigation Fees



- If someone builds in a more sensitive place they might have to pay a fee. That money would go to a specific trust fund to:
 - Help local communities
 - Fix any harm to the environment
 - Support clean energy planning
 - Plant trees to protect nature or build storm-ready parks

Community Benefits Plan (CBP)



Clean energy developers must show how their projects **benefit local communities**, especially those historically overburdened by pollution.

Technology & Transparency



Launch of a **public-facing dashboard** (February 2025 pilot; full version by 2026). Future tools will allow:

- Online permit filing
- Real-time project updates
- Public comment integration



DEADLINES



Strat Proposals/Stakeholder Sessions – Spring 2025



The preferred deadline for written comments on the Cumulative Impact Analysis and Site Suitability proposals has been extended to May 27, 2025.



Public Hearings on Proposed Regulations – Fall 2025



Regulation and Guidance Promulgation – 2025 to early 2026



New Regulations – March 1, 2026



New Applications – July 1, 2026



SRPEDD Summary: Comments on Site Suitability & Cumulative Impact Analysis (CIA) - 2024 Climate Act Implementation

1. Coastal Vulnerability & Sea Level Rise

- Highlight shoreline retreat, salt marsh migration, and CZM data.
- Account for saltwater intrusion into aquifers along the South Coast.
- Strengthen weighting in Site Suitability and CIA frameworks, especially for EJ communities.

2. Wetland and Cranberry Bog Protections

- Include active and restorable cranberry bogs in scoring criteria.
- Expand “ineligible areas” to include critical wetland complexes.
- Encourage wetland restoration as a CIA mitigation measure.

3. Public Water Supply Safeguards

- Include Zone II/III wellhead protection and surface water supply zones.
- Apply these areas as exclusion zones and CIA public health criteria.

4. Agricultural Soils and Working Lands

- Increase scoring for Prime Farmland and active agricultural use.
- Consider farmland conversion pressure in CIA scoring.

5. Cumulative Land Use Pressures

- Integrate regional development forecasts (e.g., MassBuilds, SRPEDD data).
- Require consistency with local master plans, OSRPs, and watershed plans.

6. Ecological Connectivity and Rare Species

- Fully integrate BioMap and CAPS into scoring frameworks.
- Treat landscape fragmentation as a CIA impact category.

7. Equity for Rural EJ Communities

- Add municipal capacity and rural vulnerability as CIA equity indicators.
- Simplify engagement requirements and improve access to Intervenor Support Grants.
- Expand criteria for UBA (Unfairly Burdened Areas) to better capture rural EJ needs.

8. Transparency and Tool Access

- Publish sample CIA and suitability scores for public and municipal use.
- Ensure open access to GIS tools and provide training to municipalities.

9. Grid Constraints and Infrastructure Readiness

- Use hosting capacity maps in development potential scoring.
- CIA should document infrastructure needs, upgrade costs, and responsible parties.



NEXT STEPS



SRPEDD will submit comment letter on the Cumulative Impact Analysis and Site Suitability proposals Thursday May 29, 2025.



Public Hearings on Proposed Regulations – Fall 2025

CONTACT



Questions, comments or concerns can be directed to:

Michelle Tinger, Assistant Director of Environmental Planning
mtinger@srpedd.org, 508-824-1367 ext. 223



Criteria and Scoring



Criteria	Reason	Potential Suitability Scoring Methods	Potential Data Source
Carbon Sequestration and Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon storage is critical to achieving net zero emissions in 2050 Required by 2024 Climate Act 	0-10, scaled to maximum and minimum total ecosystem carbon storage, plus 30 or 50-year sequestration potential.	National Forest Carbon Monitoring System
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting habitat for the plants, animals, and other living organisms is essential for conserving the state's biological diversity. Required by 2024 Climate Act 	<p>0 : Areas in BioMap Core Habitat</p> <p>1.0 to 5.0: Areas covered by other BioMap elements (e.g. Critical Natural Landscape, Regional, or Local components), with scores based on number of elements and/or index of ecological integrity.</p> <p>6.0-10.0: Areas outside of BioMap, scored based on index of ecological integrity.</p>	<p>MassWildlife BioMap: Core Habitat, Critical Natural Landscapes, and other components</p> <p>UMass Conservation Assessment and Prioritization System, Index of Ecological Integrity</p>

Criteria	Reason	Potential Suitability Scoring Methods	Potential Data Source
Agricultural production potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Productive farmland is an essential, limited, and diminishing resource for Massachusetts' local food economy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.5: areas designated as Prime Farmland (based on soil attributes) 1.5: areas designated Farmland of Statewide Importance (based on soil attributes) 2.5: areas designated as Farmland of Unique Importance 10.0: areas outside farmland/soils designations 	MassGIS NRCS SSURGO-certified soils data for Massachusetts: Prime Farmland Soils
Climate resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring the resilience of energy infrastructure as our climate changes Required by 2024 Climate Act 	Climate Resilience Design Standards Tool climate exposure scores <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riverine exposure score TBD Sea level rise exposure score TBD 	Climate Resilience Design Standards Tool
Development potential (generation projects)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measuring the development potential of generation projects using grid alignment could help reduce interconnection challenges or unnecessary grid upgrades. Required by 2024 Climate Act 	Score based on distance from grid infrastructure or inclusion in a CIP Area or ESMP investment area. Project >5 miles from current or planned substation score 0.	Capital Investment Project (CIP) or Electric Sector Modernization Plan (ESMP) investment area

Criteria	Reason	Potential Suitability Scoring Methods	Potential Data Source
Development potential (utility infrastructure)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would help align new grid capacity with areas of expected load growth • Required by 2024 Climate Act 	Receive points based on the amount of load projected for that area in the future.	ESMP load projections or EEA's planned building electrification load projection analysis
Social and environmental burdens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to consider any burdens a community faces when hosting infrastructure, and community's existing burdens • Required by 2024 Climate Act 	Score = Facility Impact × Existing Burden × Population Vulnerability	OEJE Environmental Burdens Mapping Tool Various data sources under review from MassDEP, MA DPH, MassGIS, USEPA, and other resources
Social and environmental benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to also consider any benefits a clean energy infrastructure project provides a community • Required by 2024 Climate Act 	Projects could add up to 2.5 points to their score for each of the following project components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located on a brownfield • Located on previously disturbed lands • Expected habitat benefits (as confirmed by MassWildlife) • Improves outdoor air quality in specific geographic area by displacing emitting source • Creates expanded recreational opportunities • Creates local jobs 	Under review

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	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Chris Welch	One Stop, DLTA
Berkley	Section 3A Bylaw	New	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Chris Welch	One Stop, DLTA
Carver	Economic Development Plan	Ongoing	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

Fall River	Eastern Avenue Project Segmentation Prioritization Analysis	New	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	MassDOT
Freetown	Master Plan	Complete	Comprehensive	Grant King, Chris Welch	EOHLC, DLTA
Freetown	Municipal Digital Equity Plan	Complete	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	Complete	Environmental	Michelle Tinger/Danica Belknap	MA / DLTA
Mattapoissett	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger/Cece Lagomarsino	DLTA / 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
Middleborough	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Complete	Environmental	Lauren Carpenter	local
New Bedford	Marine Commerce Terminal	Pending	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA
New Bedford	North Terminal Extension Phase II and Pier Fendering Project	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Jeff Walker, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	EDA
New Bedford	Solar Ordinance	Complete	Comprehensive, Environmental	Grant King, Michelle Tinger	DLTA
North Attleborough	Green Communities Tech Assist.	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	DOER
Norton	Housing Production Plan (Tier 3, Phase 1)	Pending	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA
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

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	Regional Outdoor Recreation Inventory	New	Environmental	Cece Lagomarsino	MOOR
Regional	Buzzards Bay Water Quality Planning (604b grant confirmed, 319 grant pending)	Pending	Environmental	Michelle Tinger	MassDEP
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/MBI
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/MBI
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	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	Resilient Taunton Watershed Network (RTWN) facilitation	Ongoing	Environmental	Sara Singh	
Regional	Taunton River Stewardship Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Sara Singh	TRSC
Regional	SRPEDD Regional Resilience Plan (SRRP)	Implementation	Comprehensive, Environmental, Transportation	Danica Belknap, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	DLTA
Regional	PDA/PPA Update for MBTA Communities	Complete	Comprehensive	Grant King	MBTA, DLTA
Regional	Rural COA Partnership	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Amber Davis	AgeSpan, EOEa
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	Food Access & Security in Transportation 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) Mangement	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	Ongoing	Transportation	Dan Brogan	MassDOT

	on Transportation (SERCCOT)				
Regional - MassDOT	Age Friendly Mobility Plan	Ongoing	Transportation	Andrea Duarte, Amber Davis	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	SS4A Grant/MassDOT
Regional & Dighton, Middleborough	Open Space Residential Design Regional Study	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger, Karen Pettinelli	EOEEA
Rehoboth	Green Communities Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews, Lauren Lunetta	DOER
Rochester	Master Plan	Complete	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 Pymouth High School northern entrance	Ongoing	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