

June 25, 2025

6:30 PM

Remote SRPEDD Commission Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88918900921?pwd=TnK12aCNDQXRQniLZ4JaE6hyg9D6kG.1>

AGENDA

1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Welcome

2. Swearing of the 2025-2026 Commissioners

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3. Approval of Minutes – May 28, 2025* (*Vote requested*)

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4. Confirmation of At-Large Commissioners* (*Vote requested*)

Page 7

5. Election of Officers and Executive Committee* (*Vote requested*)

6. Reports

a. Chair

b. Executive Director

7. Consent Agenda

Page 8

a. Contracts *(*Vote to receive report and place on file*)

8. Committee Reports

Page 9

a. Finance Committee *(*Vote to receive report and place on file*)

Page 10

b. Joint Transportation Planning Group/MPO * (*Vote to receive and place on file*)

Page 23

• 2025 SMMPO Election *

Page 28

○Vote to Nominate Plymouth/Norfolk Candidate – Sarah Hewins, Carver

Page 34

○Vote to Nominate Bristol Candidate – Jennifer Vincent, Berkley &

– Manual Soares, Westport

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○Vote to allow Andrew Romano to fill Andrew Saunders Vacancy

○Vote to allow Michael Frink to fill Diana Bren Vacancy

9. Programs and Project Updates:

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a. Interactive Transit Accessible Parkland (ITAP) map

Page 40

b. Environmental Cmte Report (incl of MEPA report) *(*Vote receive place on file*)

c. Swansea Compton's Corner Stormwater Planning *

b. Commissioner Orientation/Info Session- Wed, 7/9 at 6:30 pm via Zoom

10. Old Business

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a. [Technical Assistance](#) * (*Vote to receive and place on file*)

11. New Business

12. Roundtable: Opportunity for Commissioners to provide updates on local topics, projects or matters of regional interest

13. Adjourn

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

FUTURE MEETINGS: July 23, 2025; *No Aug. Mtg.*; Sept. 24, 2025 (Annual Mtg.);

Oct. 22, 2025; Dec. 10, 2025; Jan. 25, 2026; Feb. 25, 2026

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

*Attached

AGENDA ITEM: Minutes, # 3

SRPEDD Commission Meeting – Draft Minutes

May 28, 2025

Remote Meeting via Zoom

Present:**Commissioners:**

S. Elliott, Attleboro	R. Cote, Berkley	S. Leary, Berkley	T. Bott, Carver
C. Vitale, Dartmouth	K. Estes, Dartmouth	D. Higgins, Dighton	A. Romano, Fairhaven
J. Fidalgo, Fairhaven	N. Durfee, Freetown	N. Hills, Marion	T. Burr, Marion
J. Robbins, Mattap.	D. Luciano, Norton	T. Torres, Plainville	P. Menconi, Raynham
R. Peirce, Somerset	W. Raposa, Somerset	C. Parayno, Swansea	J. Pateakos, Taunton
J. Whitin, Westport	M. Soares, Westport	C. McDermott, Attl. A/L	G. Saddler, F.R A/L
A. Eaton, N.B. A/L	A. Slavin, N.B. A/L		

Guests/Staff:

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

Absent:

J. Kelley, Acushnet	V. Alfaro, Acushnet	G. Ayrassian, Attleboro	K. Robinson, Carver
J. Carvalho, Dighton	J. Ferreira, Fall River	D. Aguiar, Fall River	D. Pettey, Freetown
D. Lodge, Lakeville	L. Carboni, Lakeville	B. Roche, Mansfield	L. Bradley, Middleboro
W. Pike, Middleboro	J. Ponte, New Bedford	M. Borg, No. Attleboro	M. Clarner, No. Attleboro
S. Warchal, Norton	C. Desprez, Plainv.	C. Sullivan, Raynham	L. Ferreira, Rehoboth
M. Shoemaker, Roch.	S. Cadime, Seekonk	J. Hansen, Swansea	B. Fitzgerald, Taunton
J. Moran, Wareham	T. Lobo, Taunton A/L		

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:32 P.M by Vice Chair Whitin. Chairwoman Clarner was not able to attend the meeting.
2. **Approval of Minutes – April 23, 2025:** A motion was made to approve the April 23, 2025, minutes with abstentions.
3. **Reports:**
 - a. **Vice Chair:** No report.
 - b. **Executive Director:** Mr. Walker welcomed new and returning Commissioners, emphasizing the collaborative nature of the group and with a request to keep an eye out for a scheduling poll for upcoming annual new Commissioner Orientation/Info Session to be held next month. He also referenced the draft FY'26 agency budget forwarded for consideration and acceptance by the Finance Committee later on in the meeting, noting a promising financial outlook despite continuing uncertainties—being carefully monitored—at the federal level, thanks to continuing staff dedication and success in securing state and local contracts.
4. **Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Contracts:** Vice Chair Whitin referred Commissioners to the contracts listed in the packet, and Mr. Hills read 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 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.

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 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.

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

- **Draft FY'26 Budget Update:** Mr. Walker referred the Board to the Draft FY'26 Budget Update and explained the budget in detail. He entertained questions from the Members.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Draft FY'26 Budget Update as presented with abstentions.

- **Performance-Based Increases:** Mr. Hills referred the Members to page 8 of Finance report paragraph three and discussed team merit/performance-based increases for personnel at the end of the fiscal year of up to \$65,695 translating to up to a 2.5% merit increase with an emphasis on junior personnel.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the referenced team merit increase for staff of up to \$65,985. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. **Joint Transportation Planning Group/MPO:** Ms. Estrela-Pedro presented the JTPG and SMMPO report with the minutes starting on page 11 of the meeting packet. She highlighted the FFY26-30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and a presentation from the MassDOT team on their Capital Investment Plan. She mentioned that MassDOT will be holding a public meeting on June 5, 2025 at 6 PM to be held jointly with SRPEDD and OCPC. Ms. Estrela-Pedro mentioned that the comment period will be closing on June 12, 2025 and she placed the link in the Zoom chat. She

indicated if anyone has any additional questions or would like more details please contact her.

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

6. Programs and Project Updates:

- a. **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A):** Ms. Jones discussed the draft Regional Safety Action Plan that was released to the public by the SMMPO at their May meeting. She explained that the timeline for the plan had been moved up from August 2025 to June 2025 in order enable participation in follow-on implementation funding round of the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program which closes on June 26, 2025. She further explained that in order to apply for implementation funding, a community's project must be identified as eligible in a completed Safety Action Plan. She presented an overview of the contents of the report and discussed methodology for project selection. She also previewed the plan's Countermeasure Toolbox, which provides communities with information and resources on application of safety improvements.

Ms. Jones reported that SRPEDD was planning to apply under the SS4A program for demonstration project funding in the region. She explained that they would be applying for a pool of funds that 6-10 partner communities could use to apply for quick-build, low-cost improvements identified in the plan. SRPEDD would assist the communities in selecting and implementing projects as well as study the location before and after implementation, a requirement under the program for demonstration projects. SRPEDD would also handle all admin requirements for the project. She encouraged any community interested in partnering on behalf of an eligible project to reach out to her for information and also informed the body that if they were planning to apply for a project through the program, SRPEDD could assist with that as well.

- b. **Environmental Subcommittee Report (inclusive of MEPA report):** Ms. Belknap provided an update on recent receipt of two regional non-point source (604B and 319) grants from MassDEP for water quality planning in the Buzzards Bay Watershed in addition to a separate funding award for development of a regional outdoor recreation inventory. She entertained questions from the Commission.
 - **Renewable Energy Siting Proposed Regulations:** Ms. Belknap presented an overview of the new energy siting regulations, focusing on environmental considerations and site suitability scoring. The proposed regulations aim to streamline the permitting process for clean energy projects, with a single review by the state. She highlighted the importance of public engagement, environmental safeguards, and transparency in the new regulations. Vice Chair Whitin raised concerns about the new regulations, including the potential bypassing of local zoning and the lack of consideration for aquifers. Ms. Belknap acknowledged the concerns and mentioned that the state is aware of the issues and may address them in future updates. Others expressed similar reservations about the statewide approval process and the potential for developers to avoid addressing important issues. Ms. Belknap suggested that SRPEDD send a letter addressing the environmental aspects of the regulations, with a disclaimer that individual communities may have additional concerns. Vice-Chair Whitin proposed sending a letter that addresses the environmental impacts of the new regulations, with a disclaimer that individual communities may have additional concerns.

A motion was made, seconded and approved with abstentions to have SRPEDD draft a letter on Renewable Energy Siting Proposed Regulation with the referenced environmental-focused comments and feedback, with a disclaimer that member communities may have

additional concerns.

7. Old Business:

- a. **Technical Assistance:** Ms. Estrela-Pedro referred Commissioners to the monthly update on projects contained in the packet on page 51. Ms. Estrela-Pedro mentioned that she and fellow staff are available to discuss projects as needed by email or calling the office.

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

8. **New Business:** Mr. Walker mentioned that elections of SRPEDD officers, appointment of At-Large Commissioners and SMMPO elections will be held next month. He also mentioned that the annual new Commissioner Orientation/Info Session was in the process of being scheduled for July (t.b.a.), and that he would shortly be reaching out to inquire of Members' availability, per the bylaws, to serve on an upcoming Nominating/Awards Committee for the purpose of reviewing and presenting the slate of officers for next month's SRPEDD election, and later on in advance of the September 24 Annual Meeting, reviewing nominations and selecting recipients of the 2025 Special Recognition, Commissioner of the Year, and Distinguished Service Awards. Also with respect to the Annual Meeting, Mr. Walker mentioned that Ms. Royer and Ms. Porter are presently looking into venues and open to any recommendations that Commisioners may have.

9. **Roundtable: Opportunity for Commissioners to provide updates on local topics, projects or matters of regional interest:** None.

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,

Gloria Saddler, Secretary

Date: 6/25/2025

AGENDA ITEM: Confirmation of At-Large Commissioners, # 4

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40B, Section 12, “Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, the commission may increase its membership by not more than six in order to provide representation to low income and minority groups.”

The SRPEDD by-laws set the alternates selection procedure for nominations:

“If no nomination caucus has been scheduled within thirty days prior to a commission meeting, any commissioner may nominate a person duly certified as a representative of a qualified community group. Such nomination shall be in writing and submitted to the commission chairperson.”

The following names were put before the Commission to be at large members:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Attleboro Area	Christopher McDermott*	City of Attleboro
Fall River Area	Gloria Saddler*	Bristol Black Collective
New Bedford Area	Alan Slavin*	Damien’s Place Food Pantry
New Bedford Area	Ashley Eaton *	PACE, Inc.
Taunton	Tanya Lobo*	True Diversity, Inc.

**currently serving*

RESOLUTION FOR COMMISSION ACTION

BE it resolved that the Commission of the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District, acting under the alternate procedure for selecting at large commissioners, accepts the nominations presented above at the members of the SRPEDD Commission.

AGENDA ITEM: Election of Officers and Executive Committee, # 5.

The Nominating Committee is scheduled to meet on June 23 to finalize and approve the following draft slate for consideration by the full Commission at their meeting on June 25. The draft slate of prospective Officers and proposed Executive Committee for 2025-2026, at present, consists of:

OFFICERS

Chair – Marie Clarner, No. Attleborough
Vice Chair – Jim Whitin, Westport
Treasurer – Norman Hills, Marion
Assistant Treasurer – *Vacant*
Secretary – Gloria Saddler, Fall River
Immediate Past Chair – *Vacant*

VOTING PROCEDURE FOR OFFICERS

- 1. Request any nominations from the floor.*
- 2. If there are none, Chair requests a motion to have the secretary cast one ballot for the slate as presented.*
- 3. After the motion is seconded, Chair calls for the vote.*
- 4. When passed, the Secretary casts one vote for the slate of officers.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The composition of the Executive Committee is set in accordance with M.G.L., Chap. 40B, Section 15 (includes the officers):

Mayor's Appointees (4)

Gary Ayrassian, Attleboro
Dan Aguiar, Fall River
Jamie Ponte, New Bedford
Jay Pateakos, Taunton

Selectmen Appointees (4)

James Kennedy, Acushnet
Thomas Bott, Carver
Sean Cadime, Seekonk
Richard Peirce, Somerset

Planning Board Appointees (4)

Victoria Alfaro, Acushnet/Mattapoisett
LeeAnn Bradley, Middleborough
John Hansen, Swansea
Jennifer Carloni, New Bedford

VOTING PROCEDURE FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE-SAME AS ABOVE

AGENDA ITEM: Contract Approvals, # 7.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 Massachusetts Gaming Commission to create the *Plainridge Park Regional Mobility Network Analysis* in the communities surrounding Plainridge Park Casino for an amount not to exceed \$235,000.
2. With the Town of Middleborough to create and Active Shooter and Hostile Event (ASHE) Response Tool Kit for an amount not to exceed \$53,881.

AGENDA ITEM: Finance Committee Report # 8.a.

The Finance Committee met June 18, 2025, at SRPEDD -88 Broadway. The May 21, 2025, Finance meeting minutes were approved. The Treasurer's Report for May 2025 was received, and a warrant for expenses signed-off on in the amount of \$481,492.05. Lastly, the Committee reviewed and approved the May 2025 Month-End General Journal entries.

Cash & Funds: May 1, 2025	\$ 915,275.20
Cash Receipts: May 1 – 31, 2025	<u>\$ 758,634.08</u>
Total Cash Accounted for:	\$ 1,673,909.28

Disbursements: May 1 – 31, 2025	\$ 442,377.45
Cash & Funds: May 31, 2025	\$ 1,231,531.83
Total Cash Accounted for:	\$ 1,673,909.28

Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) Meeting**DRAFT Minutes for the JTPG Meeting****Held on Wednesday, May 14, 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:**

Michael Tyler.....City of Attleboro
 John Woods.....Town of Carver
 Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
 Thomas Ferry.....Town of Dighton
 Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
 Deborah Pettey.....Town of Freetown
 Franklin Moniz.....Town of Lakeville
 Kevin Dumas.....Town of Mansfield
 Josh Reinke.....Town of Mansfield
 Norm Hills.....Town of Marion
 Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
 Leann Bradley.....Town of Middleborough
 Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
 Michael Yunits.....Town of Norton
 William O'Rourke.....Town of Plainville
 TJ Torres.....Town of Plainville
 David Cabral, Vice-Chair.....Town of Seekonk
 Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
 Michael Burris.....Town of Westport
 Chris McDermott.....At-Large, City of Attleboro
 Gloria Saddler, Vice-Chair.....At-Large, City of Fall River
 Ashley Eaton.....At-Large, City of New Bedford
 Alan Slavin.....At-Large, Wareham/New Bedford Subregion

The following members/alternates were NOT in attendance:

Town of Acushnet	Town of Rehoboth
Town of Berkley	Town of Rochester
Town of Fairhaven	Town of Somerset
Town of North Attleborough	Town of Swansea
Town of Raynham	Town of Wareham

Also in Attendance:

Ralph Vitacco.....Town of Dighton
 Gail Rodrigues.....Southcoast Bikeway Alliance Member
 Sandra Medeiros.....Southcoast Bikeway Alliance Member
 Barbara Lachance.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Chris Klem.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 Anthony Jones.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation

Mary Ellen DeFrias.....GATRA
 Emma Yeh.....Pare Corp.
 Katie Peterson.....Mobility House
 Sid Kashi.....GPI
 Pamela Haznar.....McClure
 Phil Viveiros.....Bowman
 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)
 Rebekah Rose.....SRPEDD
 Dan Brogan.....SRPEDD
 Grant King.....SRPEDD
 Jen Chaves.....SRPEDD
 Jon Gray.....SRPEDD

Handouts:

JTPG Meeting Agenda for May 14, 2025
 DRAFT April 9, 2025, JTPG Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Vice-Chair Gloria Saddler called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. 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:

Michael Tyler.....City of Attleboro
 John Woods.....Town of Carver
 Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
 Thomas Ferry.....Town of Dighton
 Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
 Deborah Pettey.....Town of Freetown
 Franklin Moniz.....Town of Lakeville
 Kevin Dumas.....Town of Mansfield
 Norm Hills.....Town of Marion
 Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
 Leann Bradley.....Town of Middleborough
 Justin Chicca.....City of New Bedford
 Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
 Jared Ferrara.....Town of Norton
 William O'Rourke.....Town of Plainville
 David Cabral, Vice-Chair.....Town of Seekonk
 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
 Gloria Saddler, Vice-Chair.....At-Large, City of Fall River
 Alan Slavin.....At-Large, Wareham/New Bedford Sub Region

2. Approval of Minutes – April 9, 2025 (Materials Attached & roll call vote needed)

Vice-Chair Saddler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2025, meeting. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Norm Hills. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

City of Attleboro.....Abstain	City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes	Town of Norton.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes	Town of Plainville.....Yes
Town of Dighton.....Yes	Town of Seekonk.....Abstain
City of Fall River.....Yes	Town of Westport.....Yes
Town of Freetown.....Yes	At-Large, City of Attleboro.....Yes
Town of Mansfield.....Yes	At-Large, City of New Bedford....Yes
Town of MarionYes	At-Large, City of Fall River.....Yes
Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes	At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes
Town of Middleborough.....Abstain	

THE MOTION PASSED WITH 3 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:** Mary Ellen DeFrias from GATRA shared an update on continued growth of ridership. She reported that GATRA’s pilot expansion of night service has been successful, and as a result, GATRA plans to continue adding service incrementally as staffing allows. She also announced that due to the popularity of the South Coast Rail station in Taunton, the station will be added as a permanent stop on Route 8 starting June 1st, with the station being served on every trip. Lastly, she shared that construction is now underway for GATRA’s new Rehoboth facility. Dan Aguiar expressed interest in understanding how much the multimodal transportation connections—particularly between bus routes and the South Coast Rail—are being used. Specifically, he asked GATRA for data on the number of riders being dropped off at the train stations, like the Taunton station, on a daily basis. Mr. Aguiar was interested in whether people are utilizing the integrated bus-to-rail service that has been designed to enhance regional mobility. Ms. DeFrias replied by stating that there are challenges to tracking such information on fixed-route services. She explained that while it's relatively easy to monitor usage at the Middleborough station via their Dial-a-Ride system, it's more difficult to determine how many passengers are getting off at specific stops on fixed routes like Route 8. She stated that she would check with her team to see which data is currently available.
5. **Community of Practice Discussion - Opportunity for Members to Share Questions, Project Updates, Challenges, Success Stories, Lessons Learned:** Vice-Chair Saddler brought up concerns that have been raised regarding challenges with transportation access to some of the new South Coast Rail commuter stations. These issues reportedly include service breakdowns and understaffing. Vice-Chair Saddler asked if anyone else had heard similar concerns from local residents or constituents. Mr. Aguiar confirmed that he had heard similar concerns and mentioned an upcoming public meeting with the MBTA to address these issues, including service challenges and resident complaints—such as train noise and idling during the evening hours. The meeting will take place at Morton Middle School in Fall River on May 22, and it is open to the public. Vice-Chair Saddler followed up by asking whether the challenges related to South Coast Rail access have been isolated to New Bedford and Fall River, or if Taunton has also experienced similar issues. Ms. DeFrias replied that Taunton benefits from being the central hub where all South Coast Rail trains pass through before splitting into the two branches serving those other cities. As a result, even if some

trains are canceled, Taunton still retains consistent hourly service, whereas New Bedford and Fall River feel the impact more significantly due to reduced frequency. Lisa Estrela-Pedro commented that due to recent service disruptions, South Coast Rail will be extending free weekend service through the end of May. Dan Brogan also commented that staffing shortages on the South Coast Rail are due to Keolis, the company that operates the trains. MBTA General Manager Phil Eng is working with Keolis to resolve the issue, and the shortages on the New Bedford and Fall River branches are expected to be resolved by June.

Leann Bradley of Middleborough shared that she has not received any formal complaints about the South Coast Rail service but, speaking from personal experience as a resident, she mentioned that train noises have noticeably increased since the rail service became operational. Deborah Pettey also stated that Freetown is also experiencing significant train noise issues. She noted that the town has 11 rail crossings, which has contributed to a high frequency of horn use and associated noise complaints from residents living near the tracks.

Ms. Duarte noted reports of confusion among older adults in Fairhaven about how to get discounted transit passes and how to navigate parking and payment at stations in New Bedford. Vice-Chair Saddler also confirmed riders in Fall River expressed concerns and reported unclear signage, difficulties with payment apps, and general anxiety about using the commuter rail. She provided suggestions which included adding clear signage and on-site staff to help first-time users feel more comfortable. Ms. Duarte stated these concerns would be brought to the MBTA public meeting on May 22nd.

- 6. MassCEC Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) Program Presentation:** Katie Peterson presented details about a new Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) Demonstration Project funded by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC). This \$6.3 million initiative aims to deploy 100 bidirectional EV chargers across the state to support residents, commercial fleets, and school bus operators. The technology allows electric vehicles to not only charge but also discharge electricity back to buildings or the grid, turning them into "batteries on wheels." This can provide backup power during outages, reduce electric bills by offsetting peak usage, and enable participants to earn revenue through utility programs like Eversource's Connected Solutions. The Mobility House will manage the technology and ensure that discharging never interferes with daily vehicle use. Applications are open until the end of July 2025, with installations planned for completion by the end of the year, and data collection throughout 2026. Priority will be given to applicants from Western Massachusetts, Gateway Cities, and Environmental Justice communities. Selected participants will receive the chargers for free, along with up to five years of software support. Applicants must provide proof of EV ownership, utility bills, and photos of the installation site. Ms. Peterson encouraged interested individuals or organizations to apply or reach out with questions, even if they are unsure about eligibility.

Vice-Chair Saddler raised several important questions about EV charger installations and public accessibility. First, she asked whether The Mobility House is involved in the free home charger installations offered by dealerships when purchasing a new EV. Ms. Peterson clarified that The Mobility House is *not* part of those programs, which are likely funded by utility "make-ready" programs where utilities cover infrastructure costs up to the install point, with the customer providing the charger itself. Secondly, Vice-Chair Saddler inquired whether municipalities like Fall River could apply to install chargers on city streets. Ms. Peterson responded that the V2X chargers offered through their program are not suitable for public curbside use because they are designed for closed, controlled environments (e.g., fleets or private residences), where discharge can be managed to prevent unintended battery drain. However, she recommended that municipalities explore MassCEC's separate *On-Street Charging Solutions* program for public curbside EV charging. Lastly, when asked about outreach efforts, Ms. Peterson explained that the promotion of this V2X program has been largely grassroots—through forums, press releases, partnerships with Clean Cities

coalitions, and limited social media efforts. She welcomed suggestions for additional outreach strategies, especially to ensure equitable access in less connected or rural communities outside the Boston area.

- 7. Complete Streets Program Presentation:** Rebekah Rose provided a comprehensive overview of the Complete Streets program, aiming to clarify the process. She explained the three-tiered approach communities must follow to access funding: Tier 1 involves attending training and developing a Complete Streets policy (with a policy score sheet in the program guidance document); Tier 2 focuses on developing a prioritization plan (with up to \$38,000 available for initial development); and Tier 3 is the actual application for project funding, which offers up to \$500,000 every four fiscal years. Communities can split this funding across multiple years and projects. Specific project types that are eligible include intersection redesign, traffic calming, pedestrian and bicycle network improvements, transit infrastructure, and streetscape enhancements. However, funding cannot be used for maintenance-only work, vertical construction (with a few exceptions), or projects on roads that prohibit pedestrian and bicycle access. Examples of recent awards included projects in North Attleboro, Wareham, and Mansfield, focusing on sidewalk improvements, ADA compliance, bike and pedestrian safety features, and traffic calming measures. Ms. Rose encouraged municipalities to share their projects for potential recognition on the SRPEDD website and directed interested communities to the MassDOT Grant Central portal for inspiration and application resources. Vice-Chair Saddler asked if there are any limitations on width when installing bicycle lanes, particularly when there are pedestrian islands or lane restrictions involved. Jackie Jones replied that the minimum width for a bike lane in Complete Streets projects is five feet. However, the exact width can vary depending on the specific context and location, and this means that factors like the layout of the area and local conditions may influence whether a bike lane needs to be wider than the minimum requirement.
- 8. Draft FFY2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) ([Link](#) & Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse):** Ms. Jones informed the group that the draft TIP was presented last month and has since been released for a 21-day public comment period by the SMMPO. During this period, only minor technical comments were received from MassDOT, and no public feedback was provided during the public meeting. Two earmarked projects in FY 2026 have increased in cost. While they are currently programmed with statewide funding, it remains unclear how the additional funds will be covered, though this is expected to be resolved shortly. No major changes have been made to the draft, and a vote was requested to recommend it for endorsement by the SMMPO. Vice-Chair Saddler called for a motion to recommend the Draft FFY2026—2030 TIP to the SMMPO for endorsement. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Norm Hills. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

City of Attleboro.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes
Town of Dighton.....Yes
City of Fall River.....Yes
Town of Freetown.....Yes
Town of Mansfield.....Yes
Town of MarionYes
Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes
Town of Middleborough.....Yes

City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of Norton.....Yes
Town of Plainville.....Yes
Town of Seekonk.....Yes
City of Taunton.....Yes
Town of Westport.....Yes
At-Large, City of New Bedford....Yes
At-Large, City of Fall River.....Yes
At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes

- 9. Draft FFY2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (Roll Call Voted Needed to Recommend to SMMPO for Release to 21-day Public Comment Period):** Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided an overview of the UPWP for federal fiscal year 2026, which outlines SRPEDD’s transportation planning activities from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026. The UPWP, required by federal law, details how approximately \$1.9 million in funding will be spent across various planning tasks, including data collection, public engagement, safety, mobility, and environmental studies. Some upcoming special projects include a corridor study in Fall River, updates to the congestion management plan, food access and parking utilization studies, and flood-prone roadway mapping. The draft UPWP is expected to be released for a 21-day public comment period following the SMMPO meeting on May 20, with anticipated endorsement on June 17.

Vice-Chair Saddler called for a motion to recommend the Draft FFY2026 UPWP to the SMMPO to be released for a 21-day public comment period. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Ashley Eaton. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

City of Attleboro.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes
Town of Dighton.....Yes
City of Fall River.....Yes
Town of Freetown.....Yes
Town of Mansfield.....Yes
Town of MarionYes
Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes

City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of Norton.....Yes
Town of Plainville.....Yes
Town of Seekonk.....Yes
Town of Westport.....Yes
At-Large, City of New Bedford....Yes
At-Large, City of Fall River.....Yes
At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 10. SMMPO SS4A Regional Safety Action Plan Presentation and Discussion:** Ms. Jones presented the region’s draft Regional Safety Action Plan which was completed ahead of schedule to align with the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All grant deadline of June 26. This grant-funded plan aims to help municipalities in the region qualify for federal implementation and demonstration funding. A data-driven analysis identified high-risk and high-injury areas, and the plan includes specific engineering countermeasures and guidance for each community, ensuring municipal-level project eligibility. The RSAP ranks and prioritizes potential safety projects at both the regional and municipal levels to ensure a wide array of opportunities for funding for all 27 communities. The Action Plan identifies locations within each community in the SMMPO region that are eligible to apply for implementation or demonstration project federal SS4A funding to make streets safer. Draft locations and recommendations were shared with communities last week, and a digital tool is in development to aid local planning. Public release of the Plan is expected next week, with SMMPO endorsement anticipated on June 17. Feedback is encouraged to ensure the toolkit is practical and helpful to communities in the region.

- 11. Other Business:** Ms. Estrela-Pedro highlighted the following upcoming trainings and announcements:

- JTPG appointment forms for the June 2025–May 2026 term are due. She requested that if municipalities need extra time they should notify SRPEDD staff.
- Two SMMPO Board seats—typically held by Select Board members—are set to expire. Self-nominations are due by June 16.
- MassDOT is seeking public members for the Massachusetts Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board.

- Members are encouraged to review upcoming Bay State Roads trainings; topics include culvert assessments and pavement management.
- Staff is considering holding an onsite JTPG meeting at a member community to showcase a recent local TIP project—interested communities are invited to volunteer. Members were reminded of potential changes to the next meeting’s location and format. The current hybrid meeting format may change to in-person only.

12. Date and Time for Next Meeting: Date and Time for the next meeting is June 11, 2025, at 2:00 PM with the goal of holding a hybrid session.

13. Adjourn: The Vice-Chair asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Tim Barber and seconded by Michael Tyler. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 PM.

**Draft Minutes of the Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)
Meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 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
Christopher McDermott---Representing Cathleen DeSimone, Mayor of Attleboro
Daniel Aguiar-----Representing Paul Coogan, Mayor of Fall River
Kevin Dumas-----Representing Diana Bren, Town of Mansfield
Marie Clarner-----SRPEDD Commission Chair
John LeBert-----Representing Erik Rousseau, SRTA Administrator
Stacy Forte-----Representing Mary Ellen DeFrias, GATRA Administrator

The following Ex-Officio, non-voting Members were in attendance:

Victoria Alfaro-----Joint Transportation Planning Group Chair

The following were also in attendance:

Dana Hanson-----Office of Congressman Auchincloss
Chris Klem-----Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Shaun Handy-----Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Bonnie Roalsen-----Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Safe Routes to School
Arnav Chatterjee-----Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Alan Slavin-----Town of Wareham
James McGrail-----Town of Middleborough
Pamela Haznar-----McClure
Emma Yeh-----Pare
Lisa Estrela-Pedro-----SRPEDD
Jackie Jones-----SRPEDD
Andrea Duarte-----SRPEDD
Jen Chaves-----SRPEDD
Noah Soutier-----SRPEDD
Dan Brogan-----SRPEDD

Handouts:

SMMPO Agenda May 20, 2025
SMMPO Draft Meeting Minutes April 15, 2025
FFY2025-2029 TIP Proposed Amendment #3
FFY2025-2029 TIP Proposed Adjustment #2

AGENDA:

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chairman Derek Shooster called the SMMPO meeting to order at 1:15 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
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes
City of Attleboro-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes

SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
SRTA-----Yes
GATRA-----Yes

2. Approval of Minutes – April 15, 2025 (Materials Attached and Roll Call Vote Needed):

Chairman Shooster requested a motion to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2025, SMMPO meeting. The motion was made by Christopher McDermott and seconded by Marie Clarner. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Abstain
City of Attleboro-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes

SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
SRTA-----Yes
GATRA-----Yes

THE MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSENTION.

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: Stacy Forte informed the group that GATRA’s Route 8 will be providing bus service to the East Taunton train station on a regular schedule starting on June 2nd ; service to the station is currently being offered on a call ahead basis but will be offered on a schedule in early June. She stated that GATRA’s Wareham facility construction is moving forward and is still set to be completed by the end of the calendar year. John LeBert reminded the group that Shayne Trimbell is no longer at SRTA. He stated that SRTA is continuing to monitor new services that were rolled out, including the South Coast Rail micro connector which has been running for five to six weeks and seems to be largely successful. SRTA will continue to monitor this new service, focusing on its capital program of projects and introducing its hybrid fleet.

5. FFY2025-2029 TIP Amendment #3 (Materials Attached, Roll Call Voted Needed to Endorse): Lisa Estrela-Pedro reminded the group that FFY2025-29 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #3 consists of cost increases to both a Lakeville Route 79 project as well as 2 Mansfield projects, one on School Street and the other on Chauncey Street, was released to public comment at the last SMMPO meeting. To accommodate these cost increases, the Lakeville project is being programmed through advanced construction over 2 years. To accommodate that, it will be programmed in federal fiscal year 2025 on the current TIP and the remainder will be in federal fiscal year 2026. Because the Lakeville project is being moved into 2026, to remain fiscally constrained, one of the projects will need to be removed from that year and that is the Dartmouth corridor improvements along Route 6 project. This Dartmouth project is still included in the 2026 to 2030 TIP in the same year. A public meeting was held on May 1st and there were no comments presented at that meeting or otherwise. Ms. Estrela-Pedro asked the body to take a vote to approve the amendment.

The Chair asked if there were any questions on Proposed FFY25-29 TIP Amendment #3 and seeing none asked for a motion to endorse the Amendment 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

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

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. **FFY2025-2029 TIP Proposed Adjustment #2 (Materials Attached, Roll Call Voted Needed to Endorse):** Ms. Estrela-Pedro informed the group that FFY25-29 TIP Adjustment #2 includes the incorporation of vehicles through the Community Transit Grant Program. It is being treated as an adjustment because it has already been identified as a project in the state TIP. GATRA, SRТА, and the Fairhaven Council on Aging are receiving vehicles through the CRGP grant program which are being programed into the TIP. Chair Shooster noted that there were nine vehicles for GATRA and five for SRТА. Ms. Estrela-Pedro asked the body to take a vote to approve the TIP adjustment. The Chair asked if there were any questions on Proposed FFY25-29 TIP Adjustment #2 and seeing none asked for a motion to endorse it as presented. The motion was made by Marie Clarner and seconded by Christopher McDermott. 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

Town of Mansfield-----Yes
SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
SRТА-----Yes
GATRA-----Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. **Self-Certification of the SMMPO Transportation Planning Process (Roll Call Vote Needed to Certify):** Jackie Jones informed the group that as part of TIP development, every year the SMMPO is asked to self-certify that it is performing activities in compliance with all applicable requirements and laws. Agenda items 7 and 8 correspond to this. Agenda item 7 is for the certification of the SMMPO transportation planning process, to ensure that the SMMPO and staff are including everyone who should be included in the planning process and doing all activities that support TIP development in compliance with federal laws. She stated that the SMMPO will take a vote and then the MassDOT Secretary will sign as the signee for the body. The Chair asked if there were any questions on the item and seeing none asked for a motion to self-certify the SMMPO. 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

Town of Mansfield-----Yes
SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
SRТА-----Yes
GATRA-----Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. **310 CMR 60.05: Global Warming Solutions Act Requirements for Transportation (Roll Call Vote Needed to Adopt):** Ms. Jones stated that this item certifies that the SMMPO is in compliance with all applicable air quality and Global Warming Solutions Act requirements for transportation planning as a region in its federal required documents. The Chair asked if there were any questions on the item and seeing none asked for a motion to approve the Global Warming Solutions Act Requirements domain of self-certification. The motion was made by Marie Clarner and seconded by Christopher McDermott. 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

Town of Mansfield-----Yes
SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
SRТА-----Yes
GATRA-----Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. **Draft FFY2026-2030 TIP ([Link](#) & Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse:** Ms. Jones stated that at the last meeting, this body voted to release the draft FFY2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to a 21-day public comment period. A public meeting was held on May 1st at which no comments were received. A short list of recommended edits was provided from MassDOT and have been incorporated, mostly regarding updating language. The document was missing a table in the appendices and information in the table and appendices that was not available prior to release to comment period. Ms. Jones stated that otherwise, the document is the same as was presented at the last meeting and asked the body to vote on endorsing the TIP as presented. The Chair congratulated the SMMPO and staff on TIP development and expressed excitement about the various projects and planning work programmed within it for the region. The Chair asked if there were any questions on the FFY2026-2030 TIP and seeing none asked for a motion to endorse it. 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

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

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. **Draft FFY2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) ([Link](#) & Roll Call Vote Needed to Release to 21-day Public Comment Period):** Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided an overview of the UPWP for federal fiscal year 2026, which outlines SRPEDD's transportation planning activities from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026. The UPWP, required by federal law, details how approximately \$1.9 million in funding will be spent across various planning tasks, including data collection, public engagement, safety, mobility, data collection, community technical assistance, and environmental studies. Some upcoming special projects include a corridor study in Fall River, updates to the congestion management plan, food access and parking utilization studies, the Age Friendly Mobility Southeast Massachusetts Plan, year one of an economic impact analysis of SRTA's fare free program, and flood-prone roadway mapping and database development. She asked the body to vote on releasing the draft FFY2026 UPWP to a 21-day public comment period. She stated that the document is available on the SRPEDD website. A public meeting will be held and the body will vote on endorsing the document at the June 17th SMMPO meeting. She entertained questions and encouraged members to e-mail her with any questions or comments. The Chair asked if there were any questions on the draft FY2026 UPWP and seeing none asked for a motion to release it to a 21-day public comment period. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Marie Clarner. 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

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

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. **SMMPO SS4A Regional Safety Action Plan Presentation and Discussion ([Link](#) & Roll Call Vote Needed to Release to 21-day Public Comment Period):** Ms. Jones presented the region's draft

Regional Safety Action Plan which was completed ahead of schedule to align with the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All grant deadline of June 26. This grant-funded plan aims to help municipalities in the region qualify for federal implementation and demonstration funding. A data-driven analysis identified high-risk and high-injury areas, and the plan includes specific engineering countermeasures and guidance for each community, ensuring municipal-level project eligibility. The RSAP ranks and prioritizes potential safety projects at both the regional and municipal levels to ensure a wide array of opportunities for funding for all 27 communities. The Action Plan identifies locations within each community in the SMMPO region that are eligible to apply for implementation or demonstration project federal SS4A funding to make streets safer. Draft locations and recommendations were shared with communities last week, and a digital tool is in development to aid local planning.

Ms. Jones requested that the body release the draft to a 21-day public comment period. SMMPO staff has been and will continue to coordinate with municipalities to ensure that they know about the contents of the plan and that they can use it to apply for this round of SS4A funding if they wish. She stated that public feedback will be collected to ensure that issues in local communities have been described appropriately. The final plan will be brought before the SMMPO for a vote on endorsement at the June 17th meeting, with the goal to have it finalized by the SS4A implementation and demonstration project grant NOFO deadline of June 26th. Ms. Jones stated that staff sent the lists and maps of the municipally-identified locations out to communities in advance in case they were interested in applying for an implementation or demonstration grant and would have that information to begin applications. She emphasized the unusually short window for this federal grant cycle. Ms. Clarner asked which officials in towns had received the emails with the municipally identified locations and information to which Ms. Jones responded the officials who are on the JTPG mailing list. Dana Hanson of Congressman Auchincloss' office asked for the Plan to be resent to her so that she could help promote it across the region.

The Chair asked if there were any questions on the SMMPO's draft Regional Safety Action Plan and seeing none asked for a motion to release it to a 21-day public comment period. The motion was made by Marie Clarner and seconded by Christopher McDermott. 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

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

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. Other Business: Ms. Estrela-Pedro announced that two SMMPO board seats, Westport and Carver, are set to expire at the end of July and open for election. Self-nomination forms are due by June 16. MassDOT is seeking members of the public for the Massachusetts Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board. South Coast Rail will hold a community meeting in Fall River this Thursday at 5:30 PM. The Capital Investment Plan meeting for Southeastern Massachusetts will take place on Thursday, June 5th from 6 to 7:30 PM.

13. Date and Time for Next Meeting: The Chair announced that the next SMMPO meeting will be on June 17, 2025 at 1:00 pm, held virtually.

14. Adjourn: The Chair asked for a motion and second to adjourn. Marie Clarner made the motion and Christopher McDermott seconded. The Chair asked that all in favor say aye. All ayes were heard. The Chair thanked everyone, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:44 PM.

AGENDA ITEM: Election/Re-election of *Two* MPO Members, per Bylaws, to Fill
Seats of MPO Members whose Terms are Expiring, # 8.b., cont.'

WHAT IS THE MPO?

Metropolitan Planning Organizations 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 programing 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.

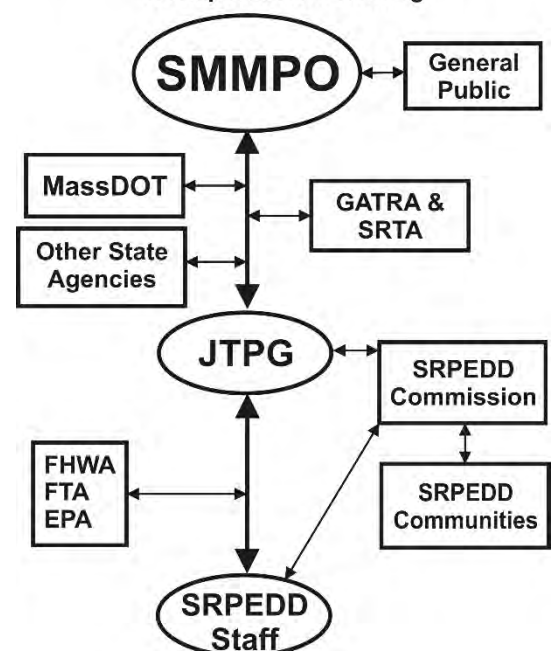
The SMMPO board is responsible for determining how to spend federal funds for roadway and bridge improvement projects as well as for transit services. The SMMPO is comprised of the Secretary and CEO of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT); the Administrator of the MassDOT Highway 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

The SMMPO Participation Process for Transportation Planning



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/smpo/.

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

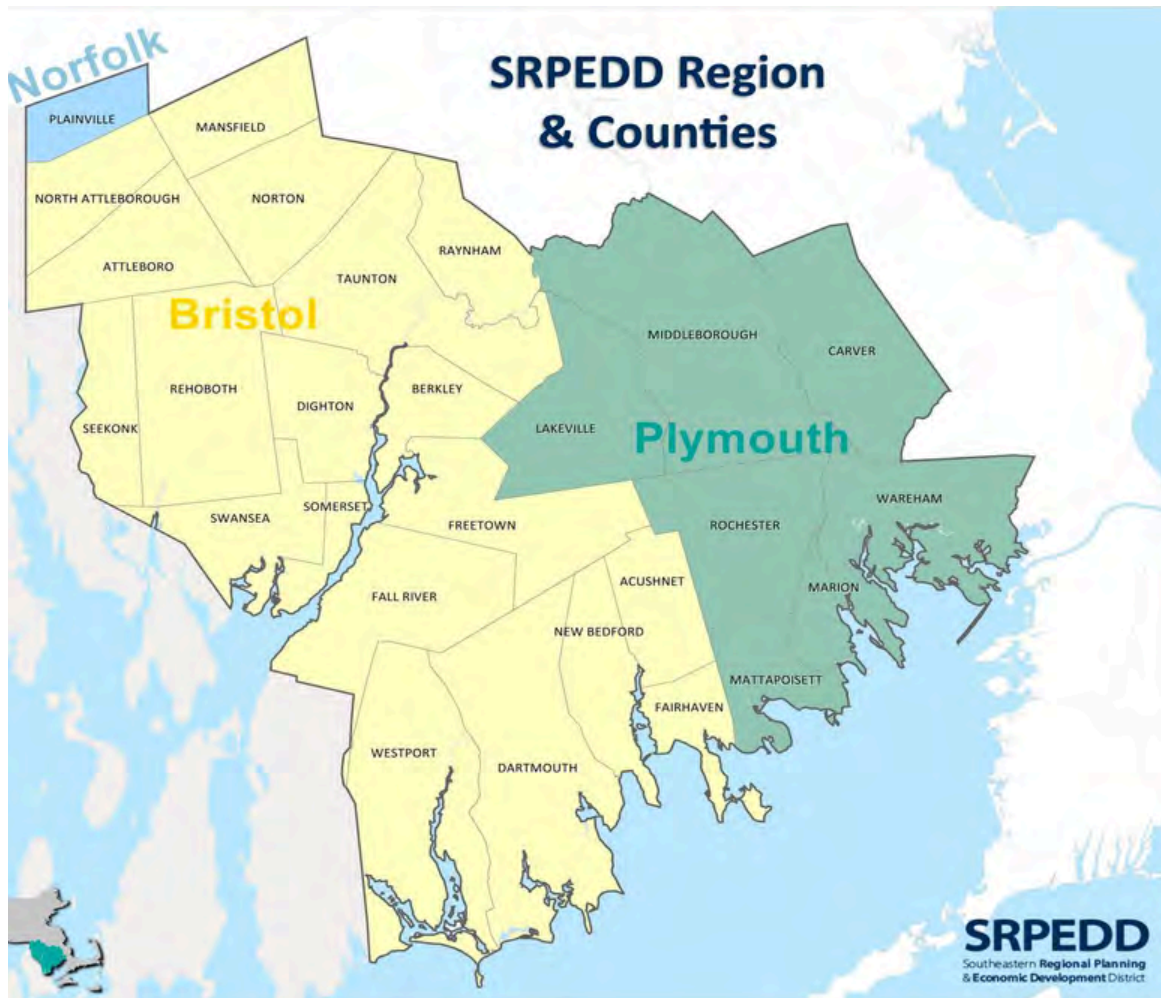
Ex-officio, non-voting members:

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



BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

**2 Year Term
August 1, 2025 - July 31, 2027**



**One Seat Available for Plymouth/Norfolk
Candidates - Sarah Hewins, Carver**

**One Seat Available for Bristol
Candidates - Jennifer Vincent, Berkley
Manual Soares, Westport**

Resume of

Sarah G. Hewins
52 Forest Street
Carver, MA 02330
H | 508.866.2342
C | 508.944.2390
E | sgh@sarahhewins.com
W | www.sarahhewins.com

Executive Summary

Extensive history of negotiating successful public / private / local partnerships to preserve land. Long-term cooperative relationships with state agencies, elected state officials, and private organizations for environmental and planning initiatives. Long-term cooperative relationships with local agricultural community. Extensive experience with town meeting form of government, writing, and passing warrant articles. Detailed knowledge of state law and regulations governing the environment and planning. Knowledge of and history of successful grant writing. Extensive experience writing—with other team members—town plans: master plan, open space and recreation plan, and hazard mitigation plan. Extensive knowledge of Community Preservation Act and experience writing successful CPA grants. Extensive experience in wetland science, wetland delineation, and local hydrology. Extensive experience with relevant computer technology, including Arcview, Acrobat, MS Office, Zoom, etc. Experienced and capable writer and public speaker. In-depth knowledge and experience designing and conducting scientific public surveys. Experienced office staff supervisor.

Employment

Co-owner / Vice President / Treasurer of small computer consultancy business, Semantics Consulting, Inc., Carver, MA, 33 years
Appointed Conservation Agent, Town of Carver, MA, 15 years (former)

Elected Offices

Elected Select Board, Town of Carver, five terms, 17 years (current)
Elected Planning Board, Town of Carver, two terms, 10 years (former)

Education

Ph. D., Sociology of Community, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
M. A., Sociology, Princeton Univ., Princeton, NJ
B. A., English Language and Literature, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA

Leadership Positions

1. Vice Chair, Carver Select Board, Carver, MA: 2021.
2. Chair, Carver Select Board, Carver, MA: 2020.
3. Board of Directors, South Shore Community Action Council, Inc., Plymouth, MA (“a private not-for-profit organization, providing a range of critical services to low-income individuals and families,” serving over 60 communities on the South Shore of Massachusetts): 2016 to present.
4. Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization Board: 2023 to present.
5. Chair, Avenues of Honor Committee, 2023 to present.

6. Founder and Chair, Carver Trail and Conservation Stewards, 2020 to present.

7. Chair and Carver Delegate, Plymouth / Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee, Regional (the Towns of Bourne, Carver, Kingston, Middleborough, Plymouth, Plympton, and Wareham, MA): 2004-2014.
8. Co-Founder and Executive Director, Young Peoples' Alliance of Carver, Inc. (YPAC), a 501 (c) (3) non-profit after-school program for middle school children - goal of substance abuse prevention, Carver, MA: Co-founded 2012, Board of Directors July 2012 to February 2016; Executive Director March 2016-June 2016.
9. Passed the Community Preservation Act at Annual Town Meeting in the Town of Carver with the then chair of our Conservation Commission: 2006.
10. Elected Planning Board, member: 1998-2008.
11. Commissioner, Carver Planning Board Delegate, Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD): 2001-2006.
12. Chair, Municipal Playground Committee, Carver, MA: 1998-2019.
13. Member then Chair, Carver Conservation Commission, Carver, MA: 1996-1999.
14. Board of Directors, Environmental Co-Chair, League of Women Voters (LWV) of Mississippi: 1989-1990.
15. Board of Directors, Membership Co-Chair, LWV of the Jackson Area, Jackson, Mississippi: 1989-1990.
16. Represented the LWV of Mississippi at the Conference on the State of the Rural Economy in Mississippi: 1989-1990.
17. LWV representative for Citizens for Resource Recycling, a coalition of politically active environmental organizations, Jackson, Mississippi: 1989.
18. Presentations to the LWV of the Vicksburg Area (October 1989) and of the Jackson Area (November 1989) on environmental bills, issues, and alternatives facing citizens in Vicksburg, Jackson, and Mississippi-at-large: Vicksburg and Jackson, Mississippi.
19. Spokesperson for the LWV of Mississippi at a televised news conference of the National Toxics Campaign, Jackson, Mississippi: August 1989.

Community/Civic/Professional Memberships:

1. Member, Open Space & Recreation Plan Update / Steering Committee, Carver, MA: June 2021 to present, 2010-2013, and 2001 to 2004.
2. Member, Hazard Mitigation Core Team, June 2021 to present.
3. Member, Zoning Bylaw Study Committee, Carver, MA: October 2020 to present.
4. Founded Carver Trail and Conservation Stewards: Summer 2020 to present.
5. Member, Municipal Vulnerability Plan Core Team: May 2019 to present.
6. Volunteer Reader, Tuesday Toddler Story Hour, Carver Public Library, Carver, MA: 1996 to present.
7. Member, Master Plan Update Committee, Carver, MA: 2016-2017, 2008-2009, and 2000-2001.
8. Member-at-large, Community Preservation Committee (town's first CPA committee), Carver, MA: 2006-2009.
9. Member, Community Preservation Act (CPA) Study Committee, Carver, MA: January 2006 to April 2006.
10. Member, Advisory Committee, Habitat for Humanity, Greater Plymouth Area, MA: 2002.
11. Member, Purchase Street Recreation Area Construction Oversight Committee, Carver, MA: 1998 to 2000.
12. Member, Zoning Bylaw and Land Use Committee, Carver, MA: January 1997 to May 1998.
13. Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, Former Member (Staff), MA
14. Buzzards Bay Watershed Municipal Conservation Professionals, Former Member, MA

Accomplishments:

1. Helped negotiate the purchase of a valuable parcel of land abutting our Council on Aging and to Sampson's Pond for conservation purposes: 2021. This parcel was in imminent danger of being developed as a single-

family house lot. The pond's and the COA's proximity to this property make it an ideal location both for seniors' conservation activities and for local Scouts' conservation education programs.

2. Successfully applied for and received the official name "Grumpys Brook" from the U. S. Board on Geographic Names for a perennial stream on the Cole Property Conservation Land in North Carver in memory and in honor of Robert (Bob) "Grumpy" Conway, a local conservationist, wildlife photographer, and veteran who discovered its source. This brook is one of the headwaters of the Winnetuxut River that is also one of the headwaters of the Taunton River: 2018-December 2020.
3. Spearheaded the Grumpys Brook Commemorative Sign and Bench Dedication Ceremony at "Grumpys Brook": December 2020.
4. From 2019 to the spring Annual Town Meeting (ATM) of 2021, I worked closely and successfully with a representative of the Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game and residents of Carver's Wenham Shores neighborhood to secure and to protect the Wenham Shores Recreational Area and Picnic Isle (in Wenham Pond) for all our residents to treasure and enjoy in perpetuity. We are in the process now of securing a conservation restriction from Fish & Game on these two parcels.
5. At Carver's Annual Town Meeting of 2021, I wrote and helped to pass a warrant article to transfer the care and custody from the Select Board to the Conservation Commission of four parcels of beach property, one neighborhood playground, and 255+/- acres of land that was originally intended / bought as / gifted as conservation land so that land could be protected as Article 97 land. This article passed successfully.
6. At Carver's 2021 ATM, I also wrote an article for a resident who wanted to donate his six parcels of land in Carver's Great South Meadow Cedar Swamp to the Conservation Commission. This passed as well.
7. At Carver's 2021 ATM, I also wrote an article that will prevent any further landfills, dumps, fly ash, or fly ash facilities from locating in the Town of Carver in the future. This article was approved by the AG's office.
8. In 2020, I founded the Carver Trail and Conservation Stewards, a town committee and local conservation organization created during COVID to encourage passive outdoor recreational activities on town-owned conservation land and to engage the public on a permanent basis in trail creation, maintenance, and stewardship throughout the town of Carver.
9. Serve on the Municipal Vulnerability Plan Core Team in Carver that recently received a grant from the state. We are working on a Climate Change Water Resource Vulnerability and Adaptation Strategy, prioritizing and upgrading our firefighting and agricultural water supplies in the event of future drought—Carver's number one-identified climate change point of vulnerability.
10. In 2013, I negotiated the successful sale of 33 acres of land abutting our Savery Avenue Conservation Land (the first divided highway in America), using CPA funding, thus preventing a poorly-sited 40B from construction and preserving an area in town that contains part of a rare geological feature known as an esker.
11. In 2009, I received the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Government Service Award for working with the Agricultural Community to promote healthy conservation practices.
12. As Conservation Agent for 15 years for the Town of Carver, I worked with my commissioners to identify and to preserve roughly 600 acres of land for conservation, rare species, habitat, and groundwater protection in perpetuity. Some of this land was purchased through financial negotiations with landowners.
13. As Agent, I also worked with landowners to help them donate parcels of land to the town on which the landowners no longer wanted to pay taxes, particularly many parcels important to rare habitat and groundwater protection in the Great South Meadow Cedar Swamp (an over 600-acre area in South Central Carver that is home to an abundance of rare Atlantic White Cedar).
14. As Conservation Agent, in order to qualify the Town of Carver for a Self-Help Grant, I co-authored, edited, and organized the Land Management Plan for the Cole Property, referred to as one of the most thorough land management plans she had ever seen by Jen Soper, formerly of the state's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services. The Town was successfully awarded this \$500,000 grant to help purchase the Cole Property. This land is a 221+/- acre property in North Carver that

had been destined to become 250 40B rental units. While I am a strong advocate for affordable housing, this property was not the place for these units: the property borders the Winnetuxut River, contains another spring-fed perennial river (Grumpys Brook), contains rare and endangered species, was in the ownership and forestry management of one family for 400+ years, and contains the abundant clean groundwater needed to address the needs of residents and businesses in the North Carver area whose wells had been contaminated by landfills.

15. As Conservation Agent, I was the sole author of Carver's Water Conservation Plan, a crucial and necessary plan to qualify the town for a DEP Public Drinking Water Supply Protection Program grant of \$500,000 used towards the purchase of the Cole Property Conservation Land. The Town was also successfully awarded this grant.
16. As Conservation Agent, I also worked with many farmers in town, helping them navigate regulations and helping them implement best management practices, so their projects were done in an environmentally-sound way, and helping them keep their family farms in the family and out of development. I helped one farmer walk through the complex permitting process of being the first cranberry farmer in the state to propose a large-scale solar installation on his cranberry bog rather than being forced to sell out his nursery business and have it turn into tax-negative single-family house lots.
17. As Conservation Agent, I chaired the regional seven-town Plymouth/Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee. We identified three areas of vulnerability to our regional groundwater: water supply quality, quantity, & conservation. We developed a fact sheet on earth removal and proposed a model earth removal bylaw template. We also developed and presented three public forums: one each on well water versus municipal water; unsustainable development; and nitrogen and other inhibitors of water quality.
18. While we did have assistance from the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program staff, as Conservation Agent, I was the town's sole staff writer/editor for our Open Space and Recreation Plan (OS&RP) in 2004 and in 2010. My assistant and I also quantified and tabulated all the data in the OS&RP's survey that was circulated by regular mail to a scientific representative sample of residents. I then converted this tabulated data into easy-to-read visual charts for the public.
19. As a member of the Zoning Bylaw and Land Use Committee in the Town of Carver from 1997 to 1998, I helped write the first zoning bylaws that the town had had for many years.
20. When first elected to the Planning Board in 1998, my top priority was to lead the effort to write the Town's first Master Plan update in 20 years. We completed that first update of the Plan in 2001.
21. As a Planning Board member, I successfully introduced the idea of Conservation Subdivisions to the Board and we were able to pass a Conservation Subdivision Bylaw at town meeting.
22. As a Planning Board member, I also introduced the requirement that all special permit grants shall have a required percentage of affordable housing units in each development and that each of these affordable units shall have the same exterior presentation as their market value neighbors.
23. As a Planning Board member, I also introduced the Board to several Sustainable Development techniques that now seem commonplace: calculating all new drainage basins according to the data found in the Cornell Atlas of Precipitation Extremes to accommodate more rainfall now than in the past; siting utilities underground in all new developments; allowing apartments above storefronts; encouraging wetland plantings in new drainage areas; and writing and implementing a new floodplain bylaw.
24. As a citizen, I worked for six years to mobilize and familiarize the community with the Community Preservation Act—which finally passed in Carver in 2006.

Other skills:

1. Knowledge of Chapter 61A and of many of the seasonal and business issues and dilemmas facing the farming community in Southeastern Massachusetts in particular.
2. Knowledge of municipal finances, zoning, permitting, wetlands protection, and planning processes and bylaws.
3. Excellent oral and written skills.
4. Knowledge of MS Adobe Acrobat, ArcMap/ArcGIS, Excel, MS Word, PowerPoint, and Zoom.

References Upon Request

Jennifer L. Vincent

617.999.9462 · jlvincent555@gmail.com · www.linkedin.com/in/jlvincent5

Summary	Strategic, mission-driven leader with a proven track record in career services, workforce development, and operations. Skilled in implementing large-scale programs, building cross-sector partnerships, and leading inclusive teams to empower individuals and improve outcomes. Known for turning complex challenges into equity-centered, data-informed solutions.
Skills	<div>Leadership/Employee Development</div> <div>Project Management</div> <div>Strategic Planning</div> <div>Process Improvement</div> <div>Data Analysis/Management</div> <div>Cross-functional Team Leadership</div>
Professional Experience	<p><u><i>University of Massachusetts Dartmouth</i></u> (February 2023 – present) Director, Career Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased student engagement by more than 200% in events and individual appointments through the strategic implementation of streamlined operational processes and targeted marketing initiatives. Designed and implemented scalable office systems and workflows that improved staff efficiency, reduced response times, and laid a strong foundation for future growth and innovation. <p><u><i>Bristol Community College</i></u> (April 2019 – February 2023) Registrar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborated with Admissions, Financial Aid, and Academic Affairs to streamline student service processes and implement mission-aligned strategies; leveraged data analysis to inform decision-making and evaluate project effectiveness. Managed and expanded the departmental budget, strategically investing in new technologies and platforms to advance student equity and improve service delivery. <p><u><i>Smith & Vincent Grant Writing Services</i></u> (July 2016 – July 2018) Founder and Partner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Built a diverse client portfolio across nonprofit, education, and government sectors by delivering customized grant proposals and consulting services tailored to each organization's mission and goals. Expanded and provided a wide range of services beyond grant writing to include organizational development, strategic planning and professional development. <p><u><i>Bristol Community College</i></u> (August 2016 – present) Adjunct Faculty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created and implemented curriculum using universal and instructional design methodologies. <p><u><i>Bristol Community College</i></u> (March 2014 – July 2016) Director, Workforce and Sustainable Initiatives, Project Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborated with colleagues across three campuses to create, design and implement workforce training initiatives. Managed multiple grant-funded budgets to design and implement workforce programs across sectors including healthcare, finance, energy, and hospitality; conducted client needs assessments and collaborated with content specialists to deliver training aligned with organizational KPIs. <p><u><i>Fall River Public Schools</i></u> (September 2011 - March 2014) Title I Program Coordinator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managed student recruitment, retention, data collection and tracking, curriculum and professional development for staff.

	<u>Taunton Public Schools</u> Lead Teacher, Substitute Teacher, MCAS Tutor and Coach (August 2010 - January 2011, April 2006 - December 2008, September 2001 - June 2003)
Education	<u>University of Massachusetts Boston</u> (expected spring 2026) Doctor of Philosophy – PhD, Educational Leadership with a focus on Social and Racial Justice <u>Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA</u> (GPA 3.9) Advanced Post Baccalaureate, Spring 2009, Master’s in Teaching History 2012 <u>University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, North Dartmouth, MA</u> (GPA 3.0) Bachelor’s Degree History, June 2002 <u>Workforce Development Certifications</u> Mastering Public Speaking/Project Management Fundamentals/Fundamentals of Supervision and Management/Lean Six Sigma, Basic and Intermediate Business Process Improvement/Lean Six Sigma, Green Belt/Grant Writing
Community Service	<u>Board of Selectmen</u> Berkley Massachusetts (May 2024 – present) <u>Berkley Celebrations Committee</u> (August 2023 – present) Chair <u>School Committee</u> K-8 Berkley, Massachusetts (May 2017 – May 2022) Secretary, Member <u>School Committee</u> 9-12 Somerset Berkley Regional High School (May 2020 – May 2022) <u>Rotary Club of Fall River</u> (March 2010 – present) President, Vice President, Secretary, Board of Directors, Foundation and Learning and Development Committee Chair <u>Rotary Club of Fall River Charitable Trust</u> (July 2023 – present) Treasurer <u>Rotary Leadership Institute</u> (March 2011 – April 2019) Student/Facilitator <u>Bank Five</u> (March 2015 – present) Corporator <u>John J. Van Gyzen Marine Corps League</u> (June 2014 - present) Member, Past Junior Vice Commandant <u>American Legion</u> (May 2024 – present) Junior Vice Commander <u>Elks Lodge</u> (March 2025 – present)
Military Service	<u>United States Marine Corps Reserve</u> Corporal E-4 – Administration (November 1997 - January 2002) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed training presentations for leadership facilitators. Marine Corps Public Affairs (PWST – Peace time/War time Support Team) – Established a strong Marine Corps presence and built relationships with local families and community organizations to address issues during Operation Enduring Freedom.
Awards	<u>Professional and Community Service</u> 2022 League for Innovation in Community College Teaching and Leadership 2020 Bristol Community College Silver Shield Award 2017 Bristol Community College Service Learning Faculty of the Year Award 2017 Southcoast Five Emerging Leader Award 2016 Foundation Committee Chair Award 2014 Avenues of Service Citation 2014 John S. Brayton Community Service Award 2014 and 2021 Paul Harris Fellow 2001 Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Andrew Romano, REALTOR®

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(774) 473-4049

Andrewromanorealtor@gmail.com

Professional Achievements

- Voted “Best Real Estate Agent” by SouthCoast Today 2021, 2022, 2023 + 2024
- RASEM 2023 Community Service Champion
- RPAC Golden “R” Major Investor
- Top Producer, BOLD Real Estate 2023, Sales + Listings

Certifications and Designations

- Graduate, REALTOR® Institute (GRI)
- Seller Representative Specialist (SRS)
- Accredited Buyer’s Representative (ABR)
- At Home With Diversity (AHWD)
- 2024 Massachusetts Association of REALTORS® Leadership Academy

Professional Experience

- Multi-Million Dollar Top Producer
- Mentor for the National Association of REALTORS® Spire Mentorship Program
- RASEM Board of Directors
- RASEM Professional Development Committee
- RASEM Education EXPO Task Force
- MAR Young Professionals Network
- Volunteer and Mentor for Agent Rising Pre-licensing candidates
- Drone photography offered to all clients

Volunteer Experience

- President of the North Fairhaven Improvement Association
- Member of the Fairhaven Rotary Club
- Member of the Fairhaven Select Board
- Former Member of the Fairhaven Zoning Board of Appeals
- Liaison- Fairhaven Cable Advisory, Broadband, Belonging, Sustainability, SRTA
- Fairhaven Town Meeting Member
- Community Nurse Engagement Committee
- Notary Public

Professional References

Patricia A McArdle, Esq

Broker/ Owner; BOLD Real Estate Inc (508) 345-8440

Patricia Couto, Esq.

Associate Attorney; SKM Title & Closing (617) 970-4848

MEPA ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR – PROJECTS IN REGION

Project	Type	Community	Comments Due	Site Visit Details (Indicate if Remote Meeting)
Mt. Hope Street Housing Development “Achin Acres”	FEIR Rollover	North Attleborough	7/11/25	
Greenbrier Apartments	ENF	Seekonk	7/1/2025	
Coggeshall Street Phase 3 Sewer Separation Project	FEIR rollover	New Bedford	6/23/25	
The Oasis at Middleborough	DEIR certified	Middleborough	N/A	
Plainville Water Treatment Plant	FEIR under review	Plainville	Past	
Hidden Trails	Single EIR under review	Wareham	Past	

SRPEDD Environmental Committee

Remote Meeting – June 4, 2025, 9:00 AM

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88391323949?pwd=9XR1lhKGsz0zCg0MqdvqGY2b4F9YkA.1>

Meeting Minutes

Attendees (all virtual participants)

Committee members present: Marie Clarner, Norm Hills, Rick Trapilo, Janice Robbins, Jim Whitin, Sherry Quirk

SRPEDD staff: Jeff Walker, Danica Belknap, Michelle Tinger

1. Call to order at 9:00am
2. Acceptance of minutes: April 9, 2025
 - a. The following amendments to the notes were discussed: (1) extra parenthesis in roll call next to Michelle's name should be removed and (2) add page numbers.
 - b. Motion made by Norm Hills to accept the April 9, 2025, meeting minutes with the above mentioned edits. Second Jim. Rick and Jim abstained (not at meeting). **Motion passed unanimously.**
3. Next meeting date: set for August 6, 2025
4. Chair's Report
 - a. Chair Clarner reported on concerns heard from peers around the region about changing environmental issues and funding, plus changes in local interest regarding projects due to changing federal and regional priorities. One example is the withdrawal of Marion from the Green Communities program, giving up free grant money. There is an opportunity for regional and state groups (such as MACC) to fill funding gaps for communities, especially for small projects.
5. Program & project updates
 - a. MassDEP grant awards: SRPEDD staff shared an update on recent grant awards for a Buzzards Bay Watershed Planning & Regional Non-Point Source (NPS) Coordinator project. The Committee discussed the communities and watersheds covered under this new grant program, which will support community and municipal outreach, identification of pollutant sources and planning to address pollutants across the Buzzards Bay Watershed. Members also brought up related water quality projects regarding the Westport River, funded through the SNEP Network, and how these projects will interact with each other. Members agreed there is a lack of consensus on the sources of nitrogen pollution in the region, which this grant will help to address with additional data collection and identification of pollutant sources. Initial steps for the project will be to identify already existing water quality monitoring programs to help inform this work, and identify gaps and data. Other related work for future consideration is how communities can coordinate regionally on water issues, including nitrogen pollution as well as drinking water supplies. Looking into how to share water resources across municipal boundaries equitably is an important issue for future consideration and potential action.
6. Old Business: None.
7. New business:
 - a. Energy Siting Regulations debrief/next steps: SRPEDD staff provided an update on the comments SRPEDD submitted to the State regarding their draft energy siting regulations. Next steps were discussed with regards to tracking the release and reviewing updated

regulations in the fall. How the State will respond to the comments received and any additional input opportunities are uncertain.

- b. Request for letter of support: SRPEDD staff discussed a draft letter of support for a project proposed by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute for Regional Coastal Monitoring Supporting Southeastern Massachusetts Resilience Planning. The relationship between this project and the State's ocean management plan and recent draft Resilience Coasts Plan were discussed. In general, the Committee is supportive of additional data collection that will show how water levels are changing in the region, which can be an important resource for local planning, and supports providing a letter of support for the project.
- 8. Roundtable: opportunity to share local updates, concerns and regional topics of interest
 - a. Dams were discussed as a management challenge in the region, particular the lack of information regarding the condition of privately owned dams and the threat they may pose to the community. Members discussed the State's [grading](#) system for dams and how to find this data in MassMapper.
- 9. Adjourn



Compton's Corner Stormwater Planning Workshop

SRPEDD
Town of Swansea
Horsley Witten

Acknowledgements and Partners



Project Introduction

Coastal Habitat and Water Quality
Grant from MA Office of Coastal Zone
Management (2-year project)

- Stormwater quality sampling
- Drainage area delineation
- Site evaluation & stormwater project design

SNEP (Southeast New England Program)
Network Stormwater Planning Training

- Stormwater treatment project types
- Site selection & design



Project Overview

1. Why Compton's Corner
 - Runs into Mt. Hope Bay, a waterbody of concern for the area
 - Estuary habitat for many species
 - Large drainage point
 - Neighborhood opportunities for improvements
 - Partners: Town of Swansea, SRPEDD, CZM, SNEP Network, and Save the Bay



Project Overview

2. Water Quality Assessment

- Worked with SMAST Team, Sara Horvet and associates to train on stormwater testing – helped with actual testing event too
- Partnered with the Public Health Lab of New Bedford to perform the bacterial testing
- Understand what contaminants are coming from which storm drain
- 3 tests; 6 months; very specific rain events at only low tide; Testing for Phosphorus, Salinity, Suspended Solids, Nitrogen, pH, temperature, and Bacteria



Project Overview

3. Site Concept Designs (prepared by Horsley Witten)
 - Utilized information for choosing sites best available for Green Infrastructure interventions
 - Identified potential sites for the community to prioritize for further design & implementation
4. Community Input
 - Public meetings
 - Surveys
 - Conversations with neighbors



Site Considerations

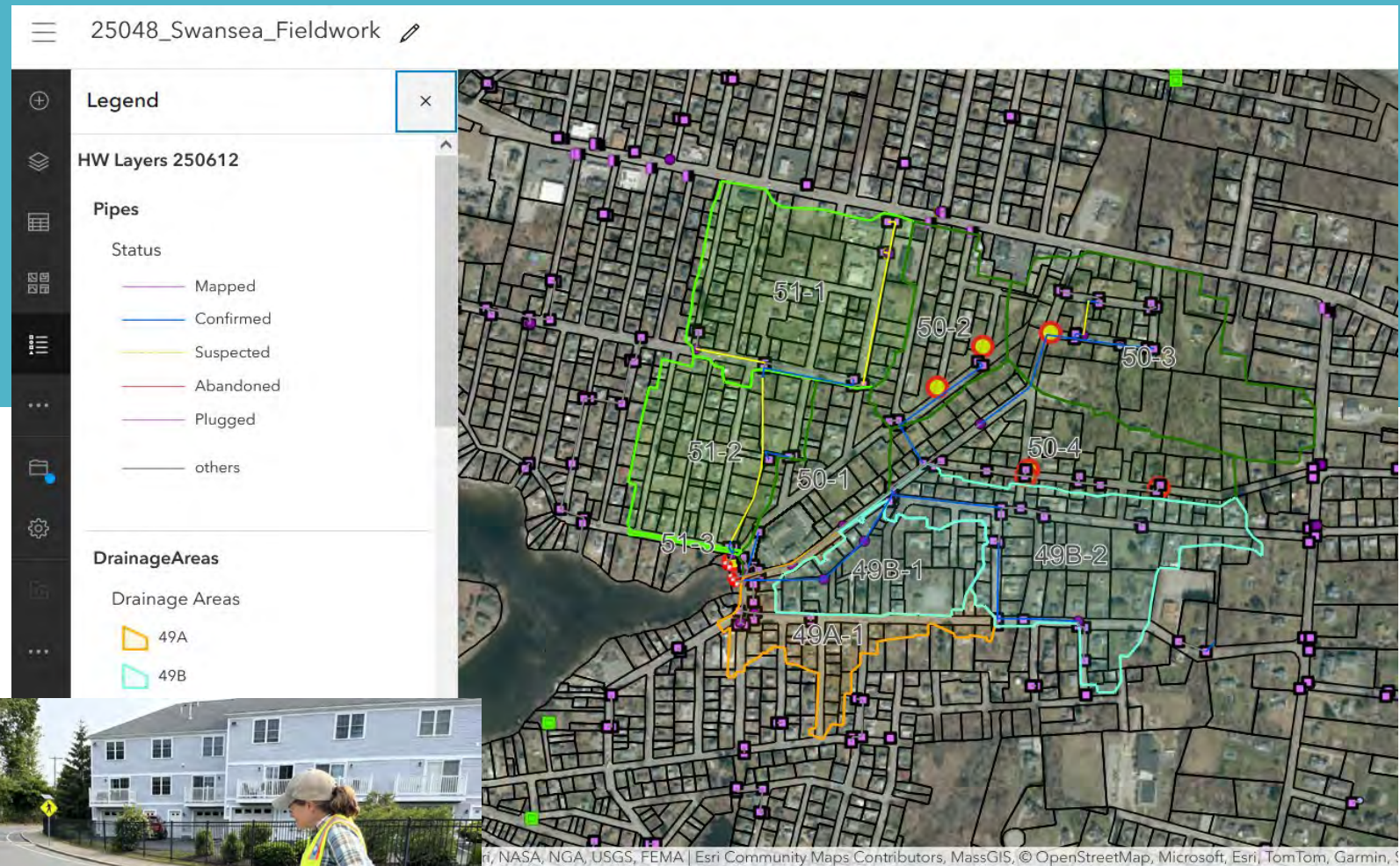
- Existing infrastructure
- Community benefits
- Reducing contaminants into Mt. Hope Bay
- Ecosystem health
- Feasibility
- Compatibility of green infrastructure intervention at each site
- Community co-benefits



2. Retrofit Inventory



20250625 SRPEDD Commission Mtg



Drainage areas:

- Outfall 51 – 17.3 ac
- Outfall 50 – 50.2 ac
- Outfall 49B – 24.4 ac
- Outfall 49A – 6.7 ac



Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)

Mimic Nature



Structural Practices

- Infiltration
- Filters
- Wet Practices
- Rainwater Harvesting

Non-structural Practices

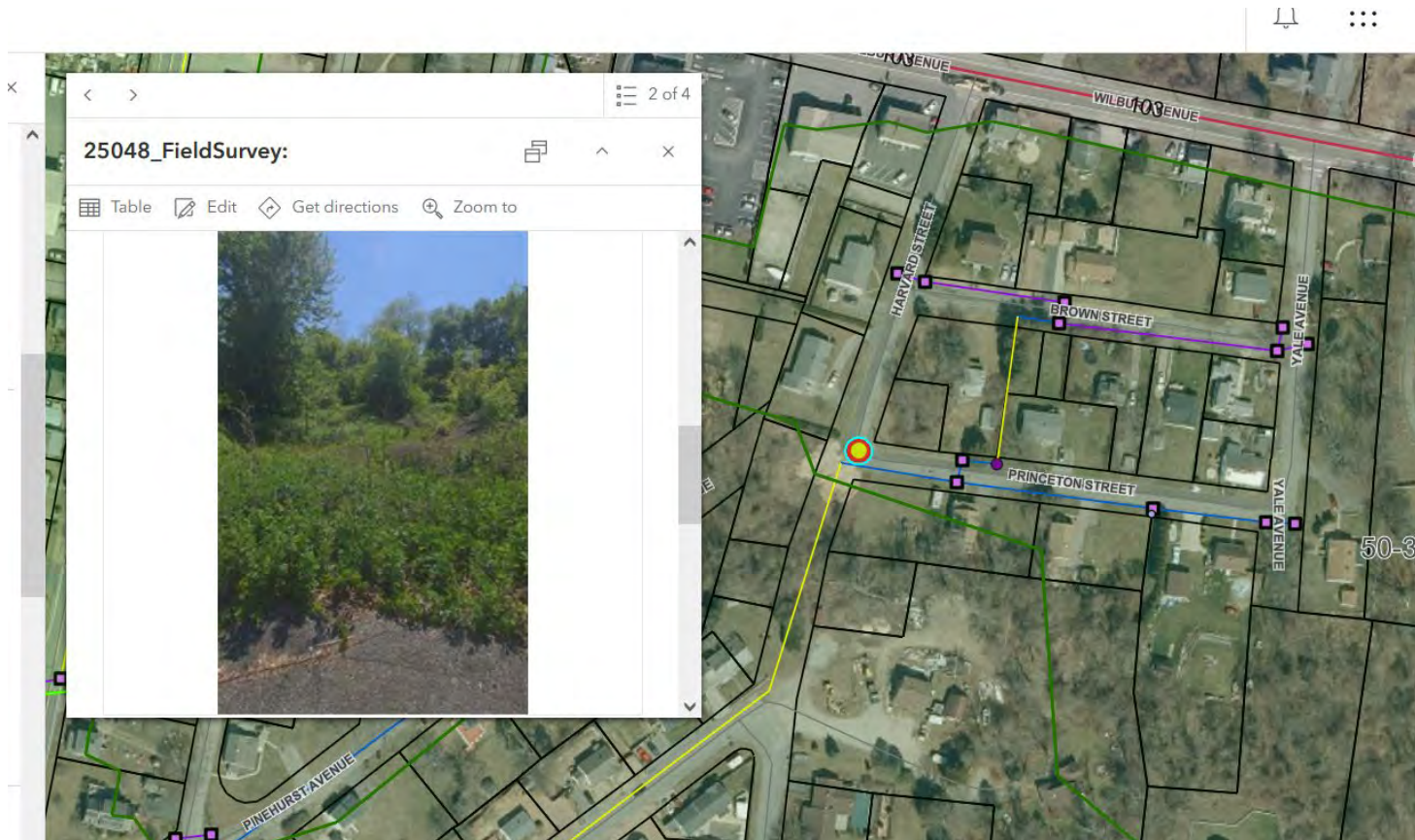
- Pavement Removal
- Revegetation
- Source Control
- Public Education

Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)

Mimics Nature



Retrofit Opportunities



- Identified 10 opportunities
- 10% Concepts for 4
 - R1 – Bioretention at Compton’s Corners
 - R2 – Constructed Wetland
 - R3 – Massasoit Ave Tree Trenches
 - R4 – COA Parking Lot

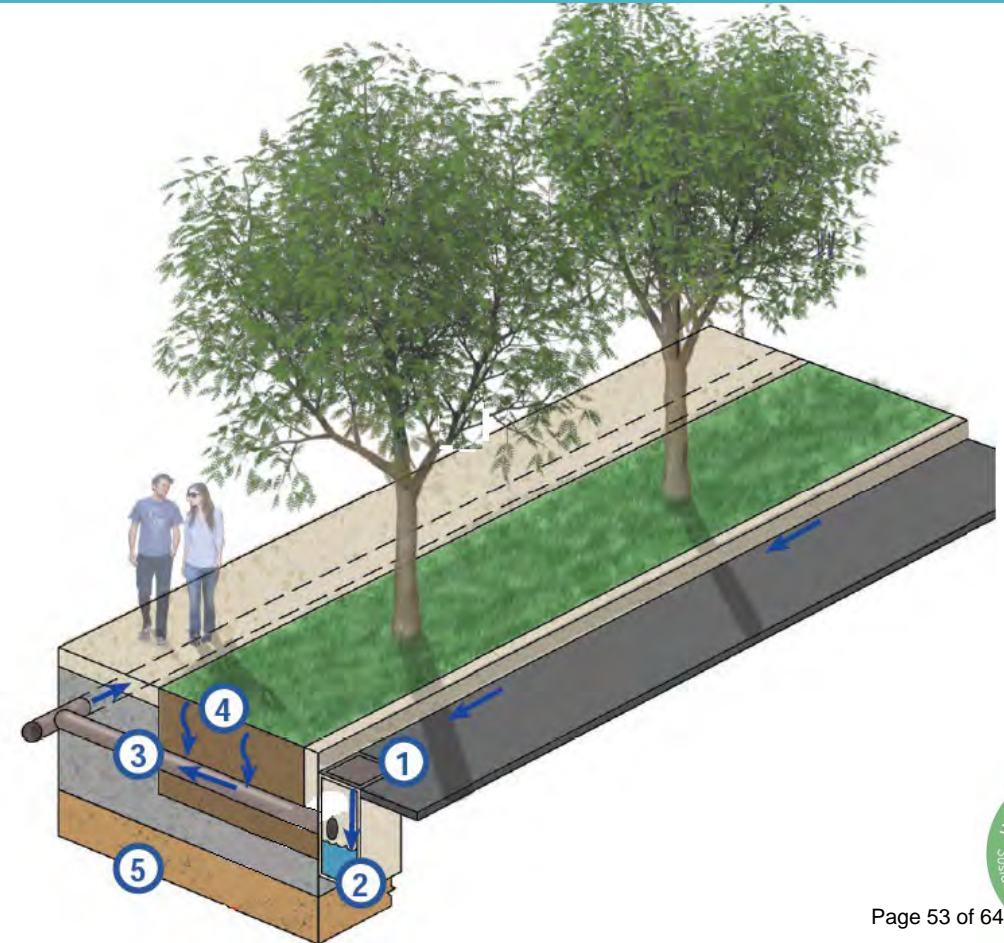
R-1 Compton's Corner Bioretention (Outfall 51)



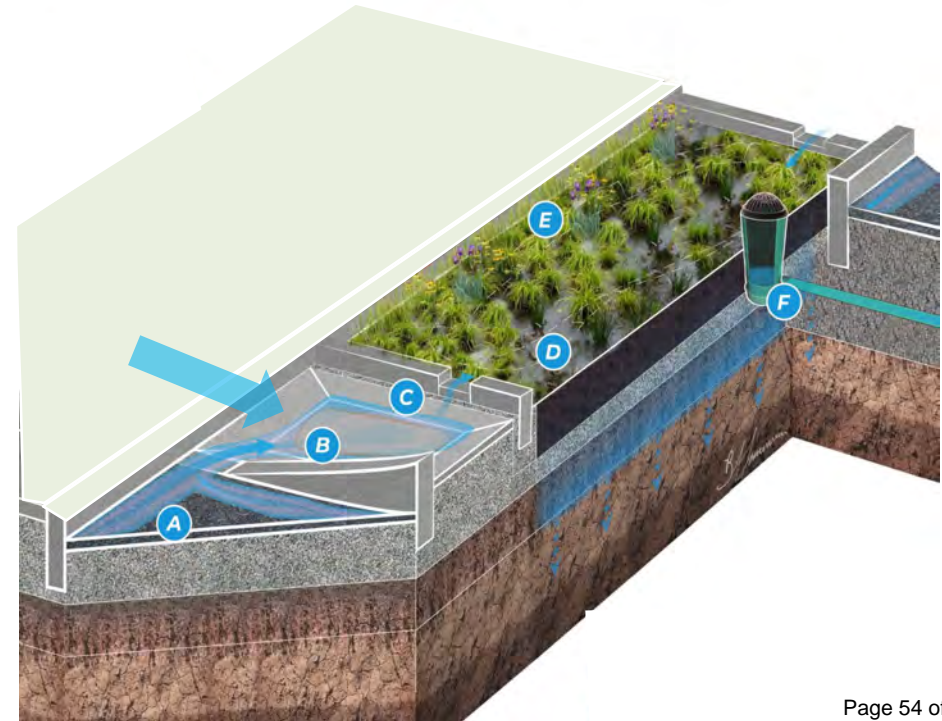
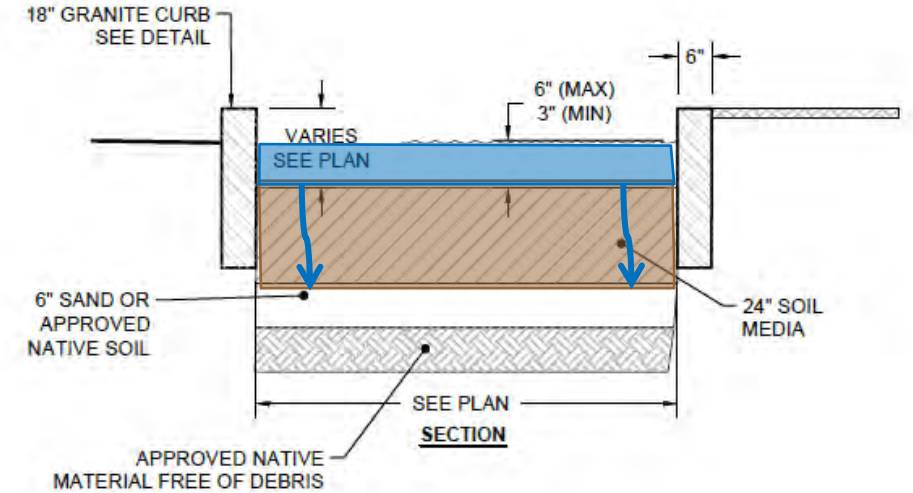
R-2 Harvard St Wet Swale/Wetland (Outfall 50)



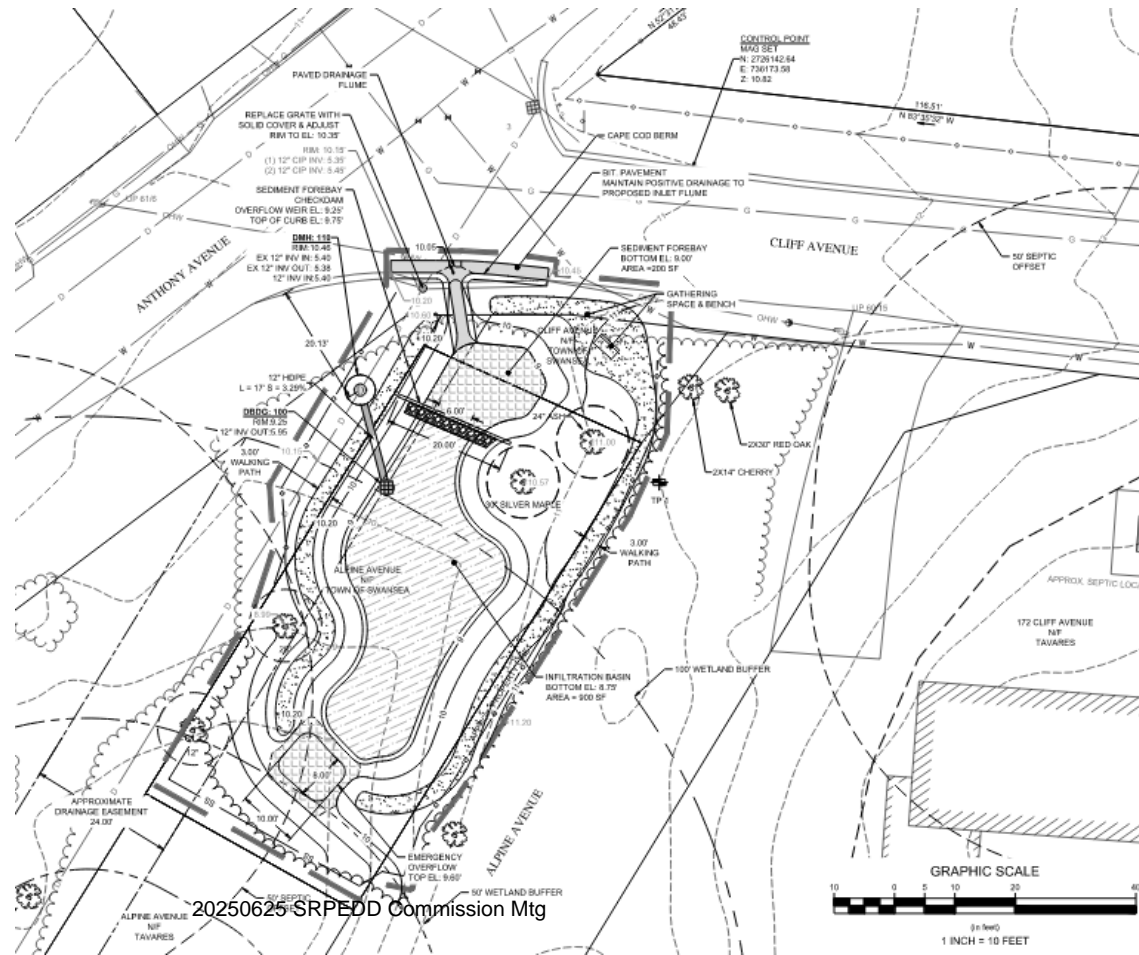
R-3 Massasoit/Metacomet Tree Trenches (Outfall 50)



R-4 Council on Aging Hard-edged Bioretentions (Outfall 49A)



Anthony Ave 90% Design (Outfall 49B)



Design Components

- Infiltration basin
- Sediment forebay
- Connection to existing pipe outfall
- Treating 1" (WQV) from contributing impervious surfaces

Perspective Rendering (pre & post conditions)



20250625 SRPEDD Commission Mtg



Page 56 of 64

Questions /
Comments?

Contact Us

Audrey Matthews

amatthews@srpedd.org

Danica Belknap

dbelknap@srpedd.org

AGENDA ITEM: Technical Assistance Report, # 10.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	Section 3A Bylaw	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Chris Welch	One Stop, DLTA
Berkley	Economic Development Plan	Ongoing	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	Open Space and Recreation Plan	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	DLTA
Fairhaven	Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update	Ongoing	Environmental, Comprehensive	Joe Monet, Sara Singh	FEMA
Fairhaven	MVP 2.0	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	local
Fall River	Eastern Avenue Project Segmentation Prioritization Analysis	Completed	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	MassDOT
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
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
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	ASHE Response Tool Kit	New	Homeland Security	Kevin Ham	Local
Middleborough	Historic/General Use District Bylaw Amendments	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Grant King, Robert Cabral	MassDOT, SCR
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
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	SRPEDD Regional Resilience Plan (SRRP)	Implementation	Comprehensive, Environmental, Transportation	Danica Belknap, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	DLTA

Regional	Regional Outdoor Recreation Inventory	Ongoing	Environmental	Cece Lagomarsino	MOOR
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	Buzzards Bay Water Quality Planning & Regional NPS Coordinator Program	Pending	Environmental	Michelle Tinger	MassDEP
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)	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 on Transportation (SERCCOT)	Ongoing	Transportation	Dan Brogan	MassDOT
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	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
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