

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

DRAFT Minutes for the JTPG Meeting

Held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 2:00 PM

**Held Hybrid via Zoom and Town of Middleborough Town Hall
in Accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law**

The following members and alternates were in attendance:

Victoria Alfaro-Duran (Chair).....Town of Acushnet (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Byron Holmes.....Town of Berkley (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
John Woods.....Town of Carver (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
Ralph Vitacco.....Town of Dighton
Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
Nancy Durfee.....Town of Freetown
Kevin Dumas.....Town of Mansfield (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Norm Hills.....Town of Marion (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Leann Bradley.....Town of Middleborough (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
Michael Borg.....Town of North Attleborough (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Norm Sturtevant.....Town of Raynham
Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
Joshua Faherty.....Town of Wareham (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
James Hartnett.....Town of Westport
Chris McDermott.....At-Large, City of Attleboro
Gloria Saddler, Vice-Chair.....At-Large, City of Fall River (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Alan Slavin.....At-Large, Wareham/New Bedford Subregion
(Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)

The following members/alternates were NOT in attendance:

Town of Fairhaven
Town of Lakeville
Town of Norton
Town of Plainville
Town of Rehoboth
Town of Rochester
Town of Seekonk

Town of Somerset
Town of Swansea
Town of Wareham

Also in Attendance:

Gail Rodrigues.....Southcoast Bikeway Alliance Member
Barbara Lachance.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Chris Klem.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Shaun Handy.....Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Amy Messier.....Town of Somerset
Emma Yeh.....Pare Corp.
Sid Kashi.....GPI
Philip McMann.....Middleborough PB Intern (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Lisa Estrela-Pedro.....SRPEDD (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Jackie Jones.....SRPEDD (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Andrea Duarte.....SRPEDD (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Dan Brogan.....SRPEDD (Attended at Middleborough Town Hall)
Rebekah Rose.....SRPEDD
Jen Chaves.....SRPEDD

Handouts:

JTPG Meeting Agenda for June 11, 2025
DRAFT May 14, 2025, JTPG Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

1. Pre-meeting Site Visit to John Glass Junior Square TIP Project in Middleborough

2. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chair Victoria Alfaro called the meeting to order at 2:14 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:

Victoria Alfaro.....Town of Acushnet
Byron Holmes.....Town of Berkley
John Woods.....Town of Carver
Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
Nancy Durfee.....Town of Freetown
Kevin Dumas.....Town of Mansfield
Norm Hills.....Town of Marion

Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
 Leann Bradley.....Town of Middleborough
 Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
 James Hartnett.....Town of Westport
 Chris McDermott.....At-Large, City of Attleboro
 Gloria Saddler, Vice-Chair.....At-Large, City of Fall River
 Alan Slavin.....At-Large, Wareham/New Bedford Sub Region

3. Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2025 (roll call vote needed)

Chair Alfaro called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2025, meeting. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Norm Hills. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....Yes
 Town of Berkley.....Yes
 Town of Carver.....Yes
 Town of DartmouthYes
 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 North Attleborough.....Yes
 Town of Raynham.....Yes
 City of Taunton.....Yes
 Town of Wareham.....Abstain
 Town of Westport.....Yes
 At-Large, City of Attleboro.....Yes
 At-Large, City of Fall River.....Yes
 At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED WITH 1 ABSTENTION.

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

There were no comments offered.

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

There were no comments offered by GATRA or SRTA

Dan Brogan, Public Transit Specialist at SRPEDD, provided several regional transit updates. Starting in July, GATRA will launch a new turnkey service running from Fall River to Taunton and up to Brockton, with connections to the Brockton VA Hospital and Bristol Community College campuses. The contract for this service has been awarded to Yankee Line, though a specific start date has not yet been announced. SRTA has begun operating its Micro Connector, which provides direct access from New Bedford and Fall River to the commuter rail stations. Additionally, SRTA has appointed a new Director of Transit Planning, Christina Mendoza, who is expected to engage with partners in the near future.

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

There were no comments offered.

7. JTPG Annual Elections for Chair and Vice-Chairs

Chair Alfaro discussed the annual elections for Chair and Vice Chairs. Vice Chair positions will need to be filled for the Bristol GATRA area, the Bristol SRTA area, and the Plymouth area. Chair Alfaro expressed interest in continuing to serve as Chair. For the Bristol SRTA area, Gloria Sandler confirmed her interest in remaining Vice Chair. For the Plymouth area, Alan Slavin confirmed his interest in remaining Vice Chair. Lisa Estrela-Pedro recommended Kevin Dumas from Mansfield for the Bristol GATRA area Vice Chair position, and Mr. Dumas accepted the nomination. A motion was needed to formally nominate and appoint all candidates.

Chair Alfaro called for a motion to formally appoint all candidates. The motion to appoint Ms. Saddler was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Norm Hills. The motion to appoint Ms. Alfaro, Mr. Slavin, and Mr. Dumas was made by Leann Bradley and seconded by Janice Robbins. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....Yes
Town of Berkley.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes
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 North Attleborough.....Yes
Town of Raynham.....Yes
City of Taunton.....Yes
Town of Wareham.....Yes
Town of Westport.....Yes

At-Large, City of Attleboro.....Yes
At-Large, City of Fall River.....Yes
At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes

THE MOTIONS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Draft FFY2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (Roll Call Voted Needed to Recommend to SMMPO for Endorsement)

Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided an update on the draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which was presented at the previous meeting. The content largely remains unchanged, with the addition of a new request to conduct a Mansfield Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan, with Phase One scheduled for Federal Fiscal Year 2026. Comments were received from MassDOT, including both content-related and grammar-related feedback, which are currently being addressed. A public meeting was held on June 4, 2025, and no comments were received during that session. The committee was asked to vote to recommend the Draft UPWP to the SMMPO for endorsement.

Chair Alfaro called for a motion to recommend the Draft FFY2026 UPWP to the SMMPO for endorsement. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Gloria Saddler. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....Yes
Town of Berkley.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes
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 North Attleborough.....Yes
Town of Raynham.....Yes
City of Taunton.....Yes
Town of Wareham.....Yes
Town of Westport.....Yes
At-Large, City of Attleboro.....Yes
At-Large, City of Fall River.....Yes
At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. SMMPO SS4A Regional Safety Action Plan (Roll Call Voted Needed to Recommend to SMMPO for Endorsement)

Ms. Jones provided an update on the Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Safety Action Plan. A draft document was released last month for public review. While few public comments were received, the study has undergone a thorough internal and consultant review. A public meeting was held on June 4, 2025, concurrent with the TIP meeting, and no public comments were received. Ms. Jones explained that although there were a number of formatting changes and some additions, the core content remained the same. Updates primarily involved restructuring for clarity, adding a demographics section, and including additional explanation to help readers better understand the recommendations. These changes were made to improve readability and usability. It was noted that the timeline for completion was accelerated from August to June to support communities interested in applying for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grants, which require a completed study as part of the application process. The committee was asked to vote to recommend the Regional Safety Action Plan to the SMMPO for endorsement.

Chair Alfaro called for a motion to recommend the Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Safety Action Plan to the SMMPO for endorsement. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Norm Hills. Ms. Duarte then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....Yes
Town of Berkley.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes
Town of DartmouthYes
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 North Attleborough.....Yes
Town of Raynham.....Yes
City of Taunton.....Yes
Town of Wareham.....Yes
Town of Westport.....Yes
At-Large, City of Attleboro.....Yes
At-Large, City of Fall River.....Yes
At-Large, Town of Wareham.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Other Business

Ms. Estrela-Pedro shared that SRPEDD is preparing to apply for a second round of Safe Streets and Roads for All funding with the goal of supporting demonstration projects for six to ten communities. If awarded, SRPEDD would coordinate with participating communities to initiate and implement these projects through the construction phase. The committee was asked to support the grant application through a letter of support to be signed by Chair Victoria on behalf of the group. Members were invited to voice any objections; none were raised. The letter will proceed with the Chair's endorsement.

11. Date and Time for Next Meeting

Date and Time for the next meeting is August 13, 2025, at 2:00 PM, The format will be hybrid and attendees are encouraged to attend in person.

12. Adjourn

Chair Alfaro asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Norm Hills. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 PM.