

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

DRAFT Minutes for the JTPG Meeting

Held on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 2:00 PM

Held via Zoom in Accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law

The following members and alternates were in attendance:

Byron Holmes.....Town of Berkley
John Woods..... Town of Carver
Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
Ralph Vitacco.....Town of Dighton
Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
Franklin Moniz..... Town of Lakeville
Norman Hills.....Town of Marion
Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
TJ Torres.....Town of Plainville
Norm Sturtevant.....Town of Raynham
David Cabral.....Town of Seekonk
Amy Messier.....Town of Somerset
Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
Joshua Faherty.....Town of Wareham
Chris Vitale.....Town of Westport
Alan Slavin.....At-Large, New Bedford (Wareham)
Ashley Eaton.....At-Large, New Bedford
Gloria Saddler.....At-Large, Fall River

The following members/alternates were NOT in attendance:

Town of Acushnet
City of Attleboro
Town of Fairhaven
Town of Freetown
Town of Mansfield
Town of Middleborough
City of New Bedford
Town of North Attleborough
Town of Norton

Town of Rehoboth
Town of Rochester
Town of Swansea
At-Large, Taunton
At-Large Attleboro

Also in Attendance:

Jim Howland.....City of Taunton OECD
Daniel McCormack.....Beta Group
Jamie Pisano.....VHB
Amy Archer.....PARE Corporation
Emma Yeh.....PARE Corporation
Bonne DeSousa..... South Coast Bikeway Alliance
Susan Mann..... South Coast Bikeway Alliance
Robert Price.....South Coast Bikeway Alliance
Sandy Medeiros South Coast Bikeway Alliance
Brian Wallace.....JC Engineering
Diane Hayes.....MassDOT
Christina Mendoza.....MassDOT
Shaun Handy.....MassDOT
Phil Viveiros.....Bowman
Louise Cobb.....Member of the public
Sean Hilton.....SRPEDD
Lisa Estrela-Pedro.....SRPEDD
Jackie Jones.....SRPEDD
Andrea Duarte-Campos.....SRPEDD
Maya Couto.....SRPEDD
Jon Gray.....SRPEDD
Sisar Botelho.....SRPEDD
Dan Brogan.....SRPEDD
Jen Chaves.....SRPEDD
Noah Soutier.....SRPEDD

Handouts:

JTPG Meeting Agenda for January 14, 2026
DRAFT December 10, 2025, JTPG Meeting Minutes
FFY26-30 TIP Proposed Amendment 3

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

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

- Byron Holmes.....Town of Berkley
- John Woods..... Town of Carver
- Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
- Ralph Vitacco.....Town of Dighton
- Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
- Franklin Moniz..... Town of Lakeville
- Norman Hills.....Town of Marion
- Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
- TJ Torres.....Town of Plainville
- Norm Sturtevant.....Town of Raynham
- David Cabral.....Town of Seekonk
- Amy Messier.....Town of Somerset
- Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
- Chris Vitale.....Town of Westport
- Alan Slavin.....At-Large, City of New Bedford
- Ashley Eaton.....At-Large, City of New Bedford
- Gloria Saddler.....At-Large, Fall River

2. Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2025 (Materials Attached & roll call vote needed)

Chair Sadler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025 meeting. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Alan Slavin. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

- Town of Berkley.....Yes
- Town of Carver.....Yes
- Town of Dartmouth.....Yes
- Town of Dighton.....Yes
- City of Fall River.....Yes
- Town of Lakeville.....Yes
- Town of MarionYes
- Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes
- Town of Plainville.....Yes

Town of Raynham.....Yes
 Town of Seekonk.....Yes
 Town of Somerset.....Yes
 City of Taunton.....Abstain
 Town of Westport.....Yes
 At-Large, City of New Bedford..... Yes
 At-Large, City of New Bedford.....Abstain
 At-Large, Fall River.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED WITH 2 ABSTENTIONS.

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

Ms. DeSousa from Mattapoisett and Sandy Medeiros of the Southcoast Bikeway Alliance expressed excitement about the shared use path construction projects in Mattapoisett and Wareham. She hoped that TIP presentations would include more information about where to find information regarding safety concerns in Mattapoisett. Further, she stated that there is concern of how Mattapoisett will connect to neighboring town Marion which is on the upcoming TIP. She noted that they want to make appropriate preparations between Mattapoisett and Marion. She discussed a group in Wareham that would like to continue the promotion of shared use path projects in Wareham.

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

RTA representatives were not present at the meeting.

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

No comments were offered.

6. Presentations on TIP Projects

Jackie Jones from SRPEDD explained that during the annual TIP development process, an opportunity is given to TIP project proponents to give a presentation on what their project is proposing, with the goal of providing information to decision makers.

a. Attleboro: 613095 Corridor Improvements on South Avenue (Route 123), from Lathrop Road to Thatcher Street (currently programmed in FY2029)

Mr. Daniel McCormack with Beta Group presented MassDOT 613095 (TIP) South Avenue Corridor Improvements in Attleboro. He provided an overview of existing conditions in the location and a design update. He stated the purpose of the project is to provide ADA/AAB pedestrian accommodations, improve bicyclist accommodations, and provide a median to separate eastbound and westbound lanes.

There will be painted bike lanes of 5 feet with a 2-foot buffer. He noted that there will be upgraded utilities like sewers, water, and lighting.

Ms. Saddler asked if there will be backup lighting since the lighting proposed is solar. Mr. McCormack responded that Attleboro wants a hybrid system.

Mr. Jon Gray asked if the speed limit will remain the same. Mr. McCormack said the main priority is to decrease speed along the corridor and that the target speed is 30 miles an hour. Mr. Gray asked if there was consideration of a shared use path. Mr. McCormack responded that they did consider a shared use path, but that emergency code for the city requires at least 20-foot-wide road. Mr. McCormack added that they will be discussing the design further with the city.

b. Mansfield: 614027 TOD Parkway Construction, from Route 106 to County Street (Not currently programmed)

Mr. Pisano, VHB presented the Mansfield TOD Parkway Construction Project. He presented the project history and timeline, relevant stakeholders, layout of the parkway, and proposed cross section. He stated that the goals are to remove commuter traffic in the neighborhood, improve access to the train station, provide access to potential development, and provide access to potential passive recreation. Further, he discussed existing considerations including many stakeholders, railroad requirements, stormwater management, temporary and permanent parking. He stated that there is a potential parking garage planned that attaches to the project area, but it is not in the scope of this project. He mentioned that the younger generation in Mansfield expressed the need for affordable housing.

c. Mattapoisett: 614043 Shared Use Path Construction, from Depot Street to North Street (Phase 2A)

Ms. Archer with PARE Corporation presented a Shared Use Path Construction project in Mansfield. She explained that it is a rail to trail conversion process and that the trail crosses multiple roadways, including Route 6, so they are looking at what they need to do to cross those safely. She stated that the project will be just over a mile, starts at Depot St, and continues along the abandoned railroad corridor to North St.

Mr. Gray asked about a proposed pedestrian hybrid beacon along Route 6 and if that will change depending on the number of lanes. He mentioned that since the nearest traffic signal is 250ft to the East, if there is to be a HAWK with no road diet, there may be some conflict. He inquired about when the Route 6 project would take place. Mr. Gray noted that GATRA does have a Wareham to New Bedford connection bus stop at North St on Route 6. He expressed that it would make sense to relocate the bus stop to the shared use path for better connectivity.

Ms. DeSousa from Mattapoisett seconded Gray's comment on the road diet and expressed that she and others from Fairhaven, Marion, Wareham, Mattapoisett are all interested in road diet for safety reasons and would love to hear more about it.

d. Wareham: 607825 Shared Use Path Construction Adjacent to Narrows Road and Minot Avenue

Mr. Wallace with JC Engineering presented a shared use path project that is running along Narrows Rd and Minot Avenue. He presented project limits and funding sources and explained that it is planned as 8-10 ft wide shared use path for bicycle and pedestrian access along the existing roadways. He continued the goal of the project to improve safety and accessibility for bicyclists along the corridor. Mr. Wallace shared potential challenges associated with environmental permitting and project status.

Mr. Slavin commented that the last time the project was on the TIP, the programmed cost was \$5 million. Ms. Jones clarified that the last programmed cost was around \$7.3 million.

Ms. DeSousa shared that she met with people in Wareham and emphasized that people there expressed that the project is an important connector to Downtown Wareham and Onset, important economic centers.

Ms. Jones noted a missed question from the Attleboro project presentation from Sandy at Southcoast Bikeway and mentioned it may have been addressed under what Mr. Jon Gray had asked about speed and bicyclist protection.

7. Opportunity for JTPG to share other TIP Projects

No updates were provided at this meeting but Ms. Jones announced that this opportunity will also be provided at the next meeting to assist with project decision making.

8. FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment #3 (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Recommend to SMMPO for Endorsement)

Ms. Jones from SRPEDD presented FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment #3 as follows:

- a. **606527 New Bedford – Bridge Replacement, N-06-020, I-195 (EB&WB), Ramp C&F over ST 18, County Street, State Street, MassCoastal Railroad, Purchase Street, Weld Street, Includes improvements to N-06-021, N-06-022, F-01-088 – Cost Decrease** Ms. Jones discussed a cost decrease of \$73 million due to less funds needed to complete the project than originally anticipated. Frees up funds for other projects.
- b. **S13384 Taunton – Danforth Street Bridge Reconstruction Project – Federal Earmark for Design – add into FY2026** Ms. Jones stated that the project was added to FY2026 to utilize available funds.
- c. **Transit – GATRA – 011969 Wareham - Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority – East Maintenance Facility – Increase in RTACAP funds in FY2026** Ms. Jones stated that this would be funding to add to East maintenance facility. She mentioned that it was included in Amendment #2 to remove a source of match funding and that this amendment increases in RTACAP funds for FY2026 for \$4.6 million.

- d. **610802 Somerset – Stormwater Improvements along Route 103 – Addition of project in FY2026 (Statewide)** Ms. Jones stated that this would add the project in FY2026 due to available funds and readiness.
- e. **613359 Freetown – Freetown Elementary School (SRTS) move from FY2027 to FY2029** Ms. Jones stated that the project is moving from FY2027 to FY2029 due to readiness.
- f. **606089 Freetown – Bridge Replacement, F-09-010, N. Main Street over ST 24 move from FY2027 to FY2028 and Cost Increase** Ms. Jones stated that the project is moving from FY2027 to FY2028 due to readiness and cost increase.
- g. **611980 Somerset – Intersection Improvements at Route 6 and Lees River Ave – move from FY2028 to FY2029** Ms. Jones stated that the project moved from FY2028 to FY2029 due to an influx of comments at public hearings and they want to allow for more time for public engagement.

Ms. Jones asked that the JTPG vote to recommend SMMPO for endorsement.

Ms. Saddler called for a motion to recommend the FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment #3 to the SMMPO for endorsement. The motion was made by Norm Hills and seconded by Ashley Eaton. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

- Town of Berkley.....Yes
- Town of Carver.....Yes
- Town of Dartmouth.....Yes
- Town of Dighton.....Yes
- City of Fall River.....Left early
- Town of Lakeville.....Left early
- Town of MarionYes
- Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes
- Town of Plainville.....No response
- Town of Raynham.....Yes
- Town of Seekonk.....Yes
- Town of Somerset.....Yes
- City of Taunton.....Yes
- Town of Wareham.....Yes
- Town of Westport.....Yes
- At-Large, City of New Bedford.....Yes
- At-Large, Fall River.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridor Proposed Considerations (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse)

Ms. Estrela-Pedro with SRPEDD provided an overview of Critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridor Proposed Considerations and asked the group to recommend that the SMMPO endorse the proposal.

Ms. Saddler called for a motion to recommend the critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridor Proposed Considerations to the SMMPO for endorsement. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Norm Hills. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

- Town of Berkley.....Yes
- Town of Carver.....Yes
- Town of Dartmouth.....Yes
- Town of Dighton.....Yes
- City of Fall River.....Left early
- Town of Lakeville.....Left early
- Town of MarionYes
- Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes
- Town of Plainville.....No response
- Town of Raynham.....Yes
- Town of Seekonk.....Yes
- Town of Somerset.....Yes
- City of Taunton.....Yes
- Town of Wareham.....Yes
- Town of Westport.....Yes
- At-Large, City of New Bedford.....Yes
- At-Large, Fall River.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Other Business

Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided updates and reminders for the group including:

- **NOFO for FY26 BUILD program (formerly RASIE)**
 - Applications are due by 5pm on February 24, 2026
- **AARP Community Challenge Grants**

- Annual “quick action” grant program funds local projects that help make communities more livable for people of all ages
- Due: March 4, 2026
- **Cyber Resilient Massachusetts Grant Program**
 - Applications accepted on rolling basis
- **MassDOT Grant Central Updates & New Grant Programs Launch**
 - Webinar Recording: [MassDOT - Grant Central - MA Federal Funds Partnership December 2025](#)
- **Safe Routes to School Winter Webinar**
 - January 28, 2026 at 12PM
- **Municipal Transition Plan Development & Tracking for Accessibility Training**
 - March 3, 2026 – Virtual
- **Creating Accessible Pedestrian Communities Training**
 - March 11, 2026 – Virtual
- **MA Safe Routes to School E-bike Webinar**
 - March 4, 2026 at 12PM

11. Date and Time for Next Meeting

The date and time for the next meeting is February 11, 2026, at 2:00 PM as a virtual meeting, in which attendees can join via Zoom.

12. Adjourn

Vice-Chair Saddler asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by John Woods and seconded by Alan Slavin. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 PM.