

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

DRAFT Minutes for the JTPG Meeting

Held on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 2:00 PM

Held via Zoom in Accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law

The following members and alternates were in attendance:

Victoria Alfaro.....Town of Acushnet
Byron Holmes.....Town of Berkley
John Woods.....Town of Carver
Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
Ralph Vitacco.....Town of Dighton
Thomas Ferry.....Town of Dighton
Joshua Crabb.....Town of Fairhaven
Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
Nancy Durfee.....Town of Freetown
Franklin Moniz.....Town of Lakeville
Josh Reinke.....Town of Mansfield
Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
Norman Hills.....Town of Marion
Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
Jared Ferrara.....Town of Norton
William O'Rourke.....Town of Plainville
Taylor Torres.....Town of Plainville
David Cabral.....Town of Seekonk
Amy Messier.....Town of Somerset
William Anderson.....Town of Swansea
Jim Howland.....City of Taunton
Michael Burriss.....Town of Westport
Alan Slavin.....At-Large, New Bedford
Gloria Saddler.....At-Large, Fall River

The following members/alternates were NOT in attendance:

City of Attleboro
Town of Middleborough
Town of North Attleborough

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

Also in Attendance:

Christina Mendoza.....MassDOT
Shaun Handy.....MassDOT
Gail Rodrigues.....
Alex Bulhoes.....
Eva Foster.....
Barbara Lachance.....MassDOT
Mary Ellen DeFrias.....GATRA
Lisa Estrela-Pedro.....SRPEDD
Jackie Jones.....SRPEDD
Andrea Duarte-Campos.....SRPEDD
Maya Couto.....SRPEDD
Dan Brogan.....SRPEDD
Jen Chaves.....SRPEDD
Noah Soutier.....SRPEDD
Jon Gray.....SRPEDD
Sisar Botelho.....SRPEDD
Sean Hilton.....SRPEDD

Handouts:

JTPG Meeting Agenda for May 13, 2026
DRAFT April 8, 2026, JTPG Meeting Minutes
DRAFT FFY 2026-2030 TIP Amendment 5
DRAFT FFY 2026-2030 TIP Adjustment 3
DRAFT FFY 2027-2031 TIP Comment Period Changes
DRAFT FFY 2027-2031 TIP Public Comment Table

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chair Victoria Alfaro called the meeting to order at 2:04 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:

Victoria Alfaro.....Town of Acushnet
Byron Holmes.....Town of Berkley
Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
Thomas Ferry.....Town of Dighton
Joshua Crabb.....Town of Fairhaven
Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
Nancy Durfee.....Town of Freetown
Josh Reinke.....Town of Mansfield
Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoissett
Norman Hills Town of Marion
Adam Hart.....City of New Bedford
William O'Rourke.....Town of Plainville
Jared Ferrara.....Town of Norton
Amy Messier.....Town of Somerset
William Anderson.....Town of Swansea
Gloria Saddler.....At-Large, Fall River
Alan Slavin.....At-Large, New Bedford

2. Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2026 (Materials Attached & roll call vote needed)

Chair Victoria Alfaro called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2026 meeting. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Dan Aguiar. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

Town of Acushnet.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Abstain
Town of Dartmouth.....Yes
Town of Dighton.....Yes
Town of Fairhaven.....Yes
City of Fall River.....Yes
Town of Freetown.....Abstain
Town of Mansfield.....Yes
Town of Mattapoissett.....Yes
Town of Marion.....Yes
City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of Norton.....Yes
Town of Plainville.....Yes

Town of Somerset.....Yes
Town of Swansea.....no answer
At-Large, New Bedford.....Yes
At-Large, Fall River.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED WITH 2 ABSTENTIONS.

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

No comments were offered.

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

Mary Ellen DeFrias with GATRA stated that the Wareham facility is nearly complete. She stated that service will be increased starting in the Taunton-Attleboro area June 1st by adding Sunday service. As they add more drivers, they will be adding it to the rest of the GATRA system. She mentioned that they are servicing 5,000 riders a month on the Gateway link that connects GATRA and SRTA service areas.

No SRTA updates were provided at the meeting.

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

Victoria Alfaro provided an update on Acushnet that they are finishing up their complete streets prioritization plan which will assist in applying for funding for future projects listed in the plan.

Joshua Crabb stated that Fairhaven was able to break ground on the Pheonix rail trail rehabilitation projects that will hopefully be done by mid/late summer.

6. Regional Congestion Management Plan Update and Municipal Survey

Sean Hilton from SRPEDD provided an update on the Regional Congestion Management Plan. He provided the SMMPO goals including the adoption of MassDOT’s metrics for system performance in 2023 which includes travel time reliability for interstate highways, non-interstate state highways, and trucks. Mr. Hilton expressed interest in hearing from JTPG communities for feedback in location that experience congestion issues; he provided the JTPG with a link to a survey for municipal feedback.

Nancy Durfee from Freetown asked Sean to send the survey out in an email with a brief explanation. Sean responded that he would include that in the notes for today's meeting and put the survey link in the chat.

7. Draft FFY 2027-2031 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Presentation (Roll Call Vote Needed to Recommend to the SMMPO for Endorsement)

Jackie Jones from SRPEDD provided an overview of the comments received during the comment period for the Draft FFY 2027-2031 TIP. She explained that most of the comments received were regarding Dartmouth projects. She further explained that comments were put into the TIP and forwarded to appropriate project managers for response.

She also discussed proposed changes that would be made to the document based on feedback from MassDOT and comments received during the public comment period. She explained that some of the proposed changes include fixing links, updating a person's job title, improvements for accessibility including adjusting reading order, and some minor wording changes in the Performance Measures section. She discussed a request from MassDOT Highway to move MassDOT Project ID 613386 from 2031 to 2027 due to the overall condition of the roadway being very poor and needing resurfacing sooner than anticipated. They are also proposing moving two non-interstate pavement projects (MassDOT Project IDs 611991 and 612077) to 2031 due to the condition of the pavement along this roadway being better than anticipated.

Ms. Jones noted that regional projects were not affected by the shift in funding years.

Chair Victoria Alfaro called for a motion to recommend the Draft FFY 2027-2031 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the SMMPO for endorsement. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Alan Slavin. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

- Town of Acushnet.....Yes
- Town of Carver.....Yes
- Town of Dartmouth.....Yes
- Town of Dighton.....Yes
- Town of Fairhaven.....Yes
- City of Fall River.....Yes
- Town of Freetown.....Yes
- Town of Lakeville.....no answer
- Town of Mansfield.....Yes
- Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes
- Town of Marion.....no answer
- City of New Bedford.....Yes

Town of Norton.....Yes
 Town of Plainville.....Yes
 Town of Somerset.....Yes
 Town of Seekonk.....Yes
 Town of Swansea.....Yes
 City of Taunton.....no answer
 Town of Westport.....Yes
 At-Large, New Bedford.....Yes
 At-Large, Fall River.....Yes

THE MOTION PASSED.

8. Draft FFY2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Lisa Estrela-Pedro from SRPEDD provided an update on the development of the FFY2027 UPWP. She discussed how the UPWP is informed and provided an overview of each section of the UPWP including Management & Support of the Planning process, Regional Data Collection, Modeling and Analysis Activities, Transportation Plan Activities and Studies. Ms. Estrela-Pedro showed how the ~\$1.8 million budget is split between categories of work in the department.

9. FFY2026-2030 TIP Adjustment #3 (Approved by the SMMPO - For Informational Purposes – Materials Attached)

Ms. Jones provided an overview of Adjustment #3 as voted on by the SMMPO at the April SMMPO meeting and reminded the group that adjustments go into effect when voted on and do not require a public comment period.

a. 606352 - Wareham - Culvert and Dam Replacement on Cranberry Highway at Route 28 and Route 6, Mill Pond Dam over Agawam River - Program \$10,770,811 of Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Target Funds towards to ensure unallocated regional target funds go towards regional projects and adjust the statewide portion to \$6,438,378.

10. FFY2026-2030 TIP Amendment #5 (For Informational Purposes – Out for Public Comment, Materials Attached)

Ms. Jones presented Amendment # 5 as follows:

a. 607871 - Dartmouth Corridor Improvements on Route 6, From Faunce Corner Road to Hathaway Road - Remove project from the TIP (will be included in FFY2027-2031 TIP).

b. 613636 - Dighton Bridge Replacement, D-08-002 (3L9), Pleasant Street over Muddy Cove - Program \$2,714,714 of Statewide-CON-Bridge on System funding towards the project in FY2026.

c. T00200 SRTA Preventative Maintenance – Increase amount of Section 5307 funding from \$800,000 to \$1,200,000. Increase amount of State Capital Assistance (SCA) funding from \$200,000 to \$300,000.

d. T00204 SRTA Non-Fixed Route ADA Paratransit - Increase amount of Section 5307 funding from \$160,000 to \$400,000. Increase amount of State Capital Assistance (SCA) funding from \$40,000 to \$400,000.

11. Other Business

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

- **JTPG Appointment Forms**
 - Deadline: May 15th, 2026
- **Safe Streets for All Grant – FY26 NOFO is Open**
 - Deadline: May 26, 2026
- **MassDOT Capital Investment Plan Meeting**
 - June 8th at 4 PM
- **MBTA Long Range Plan (Focus 2050) Public Sector Partners Forums**
 - In-Person: Thursday, May 14th, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM – State Transportation Building, 10 Park Plaza Boston, MA.
 - Virtual: Wednesday, June 3rd, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM – Zoom
- **Drive Electric Massachusetts Symposium**
 - June 10, 2026, AC Hotel Worcester

12. Date and Time for Next Meeting

The date and time for the next meeting is June 17, 2026, at 2:00 PM as a hybrid meeting, in which attendees can join via Zoom or in-person at the SRPEDD office.

13. Adjourn

Chair Victoria Alfaro asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by John Woods. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 2:41 PM.