

MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (MJTC) MEETING

MINUTES OF November 14, 2018

Meeting Held at

MRPC OFFICES

464 ABBOTT AVENUE, LEOMINSTER, MA 01453

J. Wyman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

I. Introduction

Members

Jon Wyman, Westminster; Roland Hamel, Royalston; Paula Bertram, Lunenburg; Richard Maki, Sterling; Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District 3; Derek Krevat, MassDOT OTP;

Non-Members

Steven Tyler, Howard Stein Hudson

Staff

George Snow, Sheri Bean, Brian Doherty,

II. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. Approval of October 10, 2018 Minutes

It was the consensus of the MJTC to approve the October, 2018 MJTC minutes as printed.

IV. Montachusett Regional Transportation Plan

- *Continuation of Review of 2016 Goals and Objectives (Goals 4 to 7)*

G. Snow reviewed staff discussion on the 2020 RTP Goals, Objectives and Strategies section. This review was a continuation of the exercise in October in which the JTC reviewed Goals 1 to 3 and received comments from the group.

Goals 4 to 7 were reviewed and staff edits were presented and discussed. Comments related to expansion, additions and inclusion of various items related to Objectives and Strategies. A number of comments on various Goals, Objectives and Strategies were received and will be referred to when staff puts together its final draft of this section.

V. Transportation Evaluation Criteria (TEC)

- *Continuation and Review of Potential Revisions (Categories 4 to 6)*

B. Doherty led the discussion on the continuation of Octobers review of Categories 1 to 3 of the TEC. He mentioned the purpose was to re-familiarize the group with the TEC and see if there is any feedback on staff discussions on potential revisions to the current version which was last updated in 2013. Staff changes to categories 4 to 6 were reviewed and discussed with the JTC. Comments from the group included simplification of some questions, additional aspects to include in the criteria, and reference resources from similar evaluation tools. Comments from the JTC were noted and will be incorporated in the final draft of the proposed TEC changes.

VI. Boston Urbanized Area Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

– Review of Revised MOU for MPO Endorsement

S. Bean referred to handouts on the MOU and a map for reference. The revised MOU will be presented for endorsement to the MPO this month.

D. Krevat discussed the need for the revised MOU. All MPO, State Departments of Transportation and RTA's within the Boston Urbanized Area are parties within the MOU and are required to coordinate planning responsibilities and efforts. Discussion followed on expanded urbanized area.

VII. Contract Status Reports

a. Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

There was no update on FTA.

b. Regional Transit Authority (RTA)

B. Doherty discussed MART bus schedule changes which will be in effect on Monday, December 3. Some routes in Leominster, Fitchburg and Gardner will be eliminating their last loops, which will mean they will be ending about an hour earlier than their current 7 – 7:30 PM finish. He mentioned the Athol routes will see more noticeable changes. The reason for the changes is low ridership and funding cuts.

B. Doherty mentioned a public meeting on held October 24th in which MART received comments related to the service cuts in Athol. Comments from the meeting resulted in incorporating “on demand” service to the Pexco Factory in Athol and to the Orange Innovation Center to the route changes. The new schedule will be reviewed with Athol town officials at the November 20th meeting of the Athol Board of Selectmen.

c. MassDOT 3C

B. Doherty updated the group on a number of topics.

- The November MPO meeting has been moved from November 21st at 1pm to Wednesday November 28th at 2pm in MRPC offices due to the Thanksgiving holiday.
- An amendment to the Bridge Section of the 2019 – 2023 TIP will be discussed at the November MPO meeting. Since it does not include a project in the Target Section, the amendment would not affect fiscal constraint of the TIP. The MPO will vote to send the amendment out for a 21-day public comment period which would begin on November 29th and end on December 19th.
- Notices have gone out to Towns and their Boards of Selectmen in the region regarding the selection process for the MPO Subregion Representatives and Alternates. Interested BOS Members will have until December 14th to let us know of their willingness to volunteer for the term which will begin in September of 2019 and run for three years. Selection meetings will be scheduled in the new year.
- RTP workshops and meetings will begin within the next month or two. Any community willing to host a workshop is encouraged to contact staff.

VIII. Administrative Matters

- Next MJTC Meeting Location

The next meeting of the MJTC will be on December 12, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. here at the MRPC Offices.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

DOCUMENTS/EXHIBITS AVAILABLE AT MEETING:

11 14 18 Agenda
10 10 18 MJTC Minutes
RTP Goals and Objectives
Definition for Goals, Objectives and Strategies
RTP Goals and Objectives Categories 4 to 7 proposed changes
TEC ver 3 BLANK
TEC Categories 3 to 6 proposed changes
Boston Urbanized Area MOU
Boston Urbanized Area Map
Proposed Amendment #1 to the 2019 – 2023 TIP