

Merrimack Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MVMPO)

Subject: TIP Amendment #1 – Addition of Two Highway Projects to the TIP

Context: The Border to Boston Trail is a planned shared-use path trail, approximately 70-miles total, anticipated to connect various communities and employment centers along the Route 1/1-95 Corridor between Boston and New Hampshire. The planned trail is a component of the larger East Coast Greenway Corridor, which is a partially constructed multi-state pathway intended to facilitate safe, off-road active transportation between Florida and Maine.

Discussion: The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), more commonly referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation (BIL), included earmark funds to advance design and engineering of the Border to Boston Trail in FY23. The earmarks provide funding to design two separate segments of the planned trail, which will be added to the TIP as two separate projects. Design will be managed by MassDOT.

Because earmarks are treated like discretionary funding streams, the addition of these two projects has no impact on regional target funding. \$312,500 will support design and engineering of the planned boardwalk segment at the Parker River in Newbury. An additional \$312,500 will support a separate segment of the trail’s design and engineering costs in Boxford.

The TIP revisions report below summarizes the proposed amendment.



TIP Revisions Report Merrimack Valley

STIP: 2023 - 2027 (A)

Type	Value Changed	Date of Change	Former Value	New Value	Variance	Comments
Federal Fiscal Year 2023						
Section 1B / Earmark or Discretionary Grant Funded Projects						
Earmark Discretionary						
S12754 Newbury: NEWBURY - BORDER TO BOSTON TRAIL DESIGN OF BOARDWALK SECTION AT THE PARKER RIVER						
Amendment	2023: Merrimack Valley-DGN-Earmark Discretionary-HPP	2/10/2023	\$0	\$312,500	\$312,500	
S12755 Boxford: BOXFORD - BORDER TO BOSTON TRAIL DESIGN						
Amendment	2023: Merrimack Valley-DGN-Earmark Discretionary-HPP	2/10/2023	\$0	\$312,500	\$312,500	

Subject: TIP Amendment #2 – Addition of Two Transit Projects (Operating) to the TIP

Context: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Program provides apportioned funding to states, which pass these funds to subrecipient regional and local transit providers or community organizations. The intent of the Section 5310 program is to enhance mobility and

accessibility for seniors and persons with disabilities, particularly in locations where transit is not available or does not fully accommodate the needs of seniors and/or the disabled.

Massachusetts uses its state-managed Community Transit Grant program as a competitive grant vehicle to distribute apportioned funds to subrecipients. The program can fund both capital and operating expenses; however, capital grants require a standard 20 percent match while operating awards require a 50 percent match.

Discussion: Two local organizations/agencies were awarded funding within the Merrimack Valley Region. MassDOT awarded \$9,000 of federal aid operating assistance to the Groveland Council on Aging and \$25,000 of federal aid operating assistance to Northern Essex Elder Transport, which operates a regional volunteer driver program for 14 Council on Aging organizations in the Merrimack Valley. MassDOT is providing the 50 percent match for both projects. The TIP revisions report below summarizes the proposed amendments (federal awards) and adjustments (state matches).



TIP Revisions Report
Merrimack Valley

STIP: 2023 - 2027 (A)

Type	Value Changed	Date of Change	Former Value	New Value	Variance	Comments
Federal Fiscal Year 2023						
Mobility Assistance Program						
T00227 Groveland: Groveland COA - Funding for operating of Groveland Council on Aging vehicle (5310)						
Amendment	2023: MVRTA-OT-Mobility Assistance Program-5310	1/11/2023	\$0	\$9,000	\$9,000	
Adjustment	2023: MVRTA-OT-Mobility Assistance Program-ONF	1/11/2023	\$0	\$9,000	\$9,000	
T00229 : Northern Essex Elder Transport - Operating Administrative Costs (5310)						
Amendment	2023: MVRTA-OT-Mobility Assistance Program-5310	1/11/2023	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	
Adjustment	2023: MVRTA-OT-Mobility Assistance Program-ONF	1/11/2023	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	