

## **MVMPO Minutes**

**October 30, 2024, 12:00pm to 1:00pm**

**Virtual via Zoom**

### **Board Attendees:**

Derek Krevat, MassDOT (Representing Secretary of MassDOT)  
Brian Fallon, MassDOT (Representing MassDOT Highway Administrator)  
Jenifer Dunlap (Representing MVPC Chair)  
Kassandra Gove (Representing MeVa Advisory Board Chair)  
Kathleen Lambert (Representing Mayor of Haverhill)  
Neil Harrington (Representing Subregion One)  
Robert Snow (Representing Subregion Two)  
Matt Coogan (Representing Subregion Three)  
Paul Materazzo (Representing Subregion Four)

### **Other Attendees:**

Patrick Reed, MVPC  
Elizabeth Maldari, MVPC  
Jonah Williams, MVPC  
Tony Collins, MVPC  
Tim Paris, MassDOT  
Jerry Klima  
Brent Bergeron  
Miranda Briseño, MassDOT  
Andrew Shapiro, North Andover  
Rebecca Oldham, Groveland  
John Pettis, Haverhill  
Derek Shooster, MassDOT  
Bonnie Mahoney, MeVa Transit

#### 1. Call to Order

Acting Chair Krevat called the meeting to order at 12:02pm and asked Program Manager Reed to call the roll. Program Manager Reed called the roll, noting quorum was achieved.

#### 2. Opportunity for Public Comment

Acting Chair Krevat offered an opportunity for public comment. There being no comment, Acting Chair Krevat moved to the next item.

### 3. Adoption of Previous Meeting's Minutes

Acting Chair Krevat asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Program Manager Reed requested the chair pause and was recognized. Program Manager Reed requested that board members who had not yet responded to the Memorandum of Understanding Questionnaire consider doing so while the meeting was moving forward. Program Manager Reed directed the attendees to a web address, which was also placed in the chat for easy access. Following this, Acting Chair Krevat requested a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Board Member Dunlap made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Board Member Lambert. The motion passed, with two abstentions—one by Board Member Fallon and one by Board Member Snow.

### 4. ACTION ITEM: Vision Zero Plan Endorsement

Acting Chair Krevat moved to Item #4, approval of the Vision Zero Plan. Regional Mobility Planner Maldari noted that during the previous meeting, the comment period had been extended by an additional 21 days. Regional Mobility Planner Maldari listed the changes made to the plan since the last meeting, including updates to the front matter section, updated graphics, wording in municipal lists, and some additional discussion in the West Newbury section to address the town's comments on the plan.

Regional Mobility Planner Maldari noted that during the extended comment period, staff received two additional comments. Bianca Marshall of MassDOT and Alexis Abbott of MassBike both commended the plan. Board Member Materazzo noted his appreciation for MVPC's work. There being no other comments or questions, Acting Chair Krevat called for a motion to endorse the plan. Board Member Materazzo made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Board Member Snow. The motion passed unanimously. Following endorsement, Acting Chair Krevat stated that he would circulate the plan with MassDOT's traffic safety section.

### 5. ACTION ITEM: MV Moves – Plan Endorsement

Acting Chair Krevat moved to Agenda Item #5, MV Moves Plan Endorsement. Transportation Planner Collins introduced the plan, which was reviewed during the September meeting and released for comment. Mr. Collins noted that staff had made several minor edits to the plan during the comment period, including summary pages for existing conditions, an access limitations page, and some additional edits to maps that included the Clipper City Rail Trail. Transportation Planner Collins stated that staff held two virtual public hearings during the comment period. Dominic Privitiara from Haverhill attended one of the hearings. While he had no formal comments about the plan, he asked several questions about rail trail projects outside in New Hampshire and wanted to know where those stood. Staff worked to connect him with the best contacts at the Rockingham Planning Commission. Mr. Privitiara also had questions about the Canal and River Street projects included in the plan. Finally, Mr. Privitiara

asked questions about MassDOT project 613313. Staff provided contact information for the City of Haverhill and pointed Mr. Privitera to the MassDOT Project Information page for more information.

There being no questions about the plan, Acting Chair Krevat asked for a motion to approve the plan. Board Member Coogan made the motion, which was seconded by Board Member Materazzo. The motion passed unanimously. Acting Chair Krevat commented that there are many great resources being produced for bicycle and pedestrian planning and noted that the plan would be useful.

#### 6. ACTION ITEM: FFY2025-2029 TIP Amendment #1

Mr. Krevat moved to agenda item #6 and passed over discussion to Program Manager Reed. Program Manager Reed noted that FFY2025-2029 TIP Amendment #1 packaged several TIP actions, as summarized below:

- Newburyport: Bikeshare Pilot – Programs \$180,000 over three years from FFY25-FFY27
- Newbury and Georgetown: Border to Boston Earmarks – Moves currently programmed earmark funds from FFY24 to FFY25
- Haverhill: Basiliere Bridge – Adds \$34,403,828 to the project due to revised cost estimates
- Haverhill: Main Street Intersection Safety Demonstration Project – Adds \$250,102 of discretionary aid per grant award
- Haverhill: Columbia Park at Main Street Safety Demonstration Project – Adds \$743,778 of discretionary aid per grant award
- Lawrence: Safety Action Plan – Adds \$250,000 of discretionary aid per grant award
- Haverhill: Removing the Scars of Urban Renewal Reconnecting Communities Project – Adds \$565,000 of discretionary aid per grant award

Program Manager Reed noted that, due to the holiday, staff recommended the Board opt for conditional approval of the amendment, pending any questions or negative comments raised during the comment period. MassDOT STIP Coordinator Derek Shooster noted that the Basiliere Bridge project was still on track for its December advertisement, but that the note in the presentation and in eSTIP stating 25% design for design status could be confusing as the project is a design-build project. Acting Chair Krevat called for a motion to release TIP Amendment #1 for a 21-day comment period. Board Member Lambert made the motion, which was seconded by Board Member Snow. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 7. ACTION ITEM: FFY2025-2029 TIP Adjustment #1:

Acting Chair Krevat requested Program Manager Reed elaborate on proposed adjustment one for FFY2025-2029. Program Manager Reed explained that the state was undertaking several projects near bus stops or high-volume bus use locations as part of its Vulnerable Road User Systemic Safety project umbrella. Program Manager Reed continued, adding that FFY2024 PROTECT funding had been added to the I-495 Bridge Replacement project spanning Haverhill and Methuen, which required a downward cost adjustment for outyears. Board Member Lambert asked about the bus stop project, noting that MeVa uses the flag stop system. Program Manager Reed and STIP Coordinator Shooster clarified that the

project was for high-volume bus location on state roadways, and the MeVa had been coordinating directly with Doug Johnson of MassDOT to advance the project.

Being an adjustment, Acting Chair Krevat called for a motion to approve the adjustment. Board Member Gove made the motion, which was seconded by Board Member Coogan. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 8. ACTION ITEM: Public Participation Plan – Comment Release

Acting Chair Krevat moved to Item #8, the Public Participation Plan (PPP). Regional Mobility Planner Maldari presented the PPP, re-introducing the goals of the plan, the values of the plan, and explaining how the plan guide's MVMPO's (board and staff) public engagement and outreach efforts. Regional Mobility Planner Maldari discussed the difference between informing the public, listening to the public, problem-solving with the public and developing agreements with the public, noting different formats for each type of engagement. Regional Mobility Planner Maldari then went through a decision tree explaining how MVMPO staff determine when language translation is necessary for documents, showing maps that depict where individuals who speak English less than very well reside and what languages they speak. Program Manager Reed then discussed hearing and noticing requirements, walking the MVMPO Board through a series of decisions trees that depict when hearings are and are not required.

Acting Chair Krevat called for any questions. There being none, Acting Chair Krevat requested the Board make a motion to release the PPP for a 45-day comment period. Board Member Coogan made the motion. Board Member Gove seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 9. MVMPO MOU Update – Questionnaire Findings and Next Steps<sup>1</sup>

Acting Chair Krevat requested staff continue to the next item. Regional Mobility Planner Maldari provided an overview of the MVMPO MOU update's purpose.

Regional Mobility Planner Maldari then presented the purpose of the Phase 1 Questionnaire, which aims to evaluate satisfaction with the MPO's current structure and guide the development of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Regional Mobility Planner Maldari noted that 40% of respondents were completely satisfied, 30% mostly satisfied, and 30% neutral with the current structure of representation. Generally, feedback indicated strong satisfaction with the board's alignment with regional interests (50% completely satisfied, 40% mostly satisfied). The questionnaire highlighted communication gaps. Comments noted inefficiencies between sub-regional representatives and their communities. Respondents highlighted MVMPO staff as responsive and supportive in addressing municipal needs.

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<sup>1</sup> MVMPO used Artificial Intelligence to summarize the MVMPO's MOU discussion for the subject minutes.

Regional Planner Maldari guided the Board toward a discussion about attendance. The Board reviewed several options, including automatic removal after missing 2–3 meetings without an alternate, discretionary removal by the chair on a case-by-case basis and replacing "removal" language with softer terms emphasizing the need for alternate designation.

Regional Mobility Planner Maldari proposed establishing clear attendance expectations in the MOU to eliminate ambiguity. Acting Chair Krevat recommended a warning system to notify members of potential consequences of absences and proposed involving the board in removal decisions. Board Member Lambert supported a "cut-and-dry" policy with upfront clarity in the MOU to ensure members understand attendance obligations. Region One Alternate Klima opposed automatic removal, especially for high-ranking officials like mayors, as these individuals cannot be removed (per the current MOU's representative structure). Board Member Snow suggested focusing on appointing alternates instead of removing members, emphasizing the importance of personal responsibility for ensuring alternates attend meetings.

Program Manager Reed proposed a clear policy to balance consistency with flexibility:

- *Attendance Expectation:* Members must attend at least 75% of meetings in a fiscal year.
- *Alternate Designation:* Members should designate an alternate when unable to attend.
- *Follow-up Process:* If members fail to attend or send an alternate for more than three meetings, MVPC staff will work with the designated representative to identify an appropriate alternate.
- *Avoid Automatic Removal/Be Proactive:* Shift the focus from removal to proactive alternate appointment to preserve inclusivity and avoid contentious board decisions.

The group generally agreed with this approach, favoring clarity in the MOU while accommodating exceptional circumstances.

Regional Mobility Planner Maldari outlined the transition to Phase 2, focusing on refining municipal and topical representation and developing selection processes for new board members. Program Manager Reed highlighted that Phase 2 will incorporate structured options reflecting stakeholder feedback, fostering inclusive and balanced representation.

#### 10. Status of Ongoing and FFYs 2024-2028 TIP Projects

Acting Chair Krevat called to continue to the next item, asking MeVa to provide an update on any projects. MeVa Chief Compliance Officer Mahoney that the move to the McGovern Facility is complete, and that the remaining work was limited, including transitioning the community room into an actual community room. MeVa Chief Compliance Officer Mahoney noted that MeVa had received two new Honda Pilots into paratransit service (eight were purchased) and that the use of the Pilots has helped free up the vans to do more ADA-type rides. MeVa Chief Compliance Officer Mahoney noted that the pilots are colored like their buses. MeVa Chief Compliance Officer Mahoney continued, stating that their next big project will be their fuel tank, which is included on the FFY25 project list. One goal of the

field tank project is to free up space in the yard for MeVa's 70 buses and 30 paratransit vehicles. This project will go to bid in January. MeVa Chief Compliance Officer Mahoney stated that two of fourteen new buses remain to be delivered, and that the Board's flex helped with the procurement of these buses. Finally, MeVa Chief Compliance Officer Mahoney mentioned that MeVa would be celebrating its 50-year anniversary at the McGovern center from 12-4.

MassDOT Program Planner Tim Paris provided an update on Roadway and Bridge Projects, as summarized in the table attached to these minutes. During the overview, Program Manager Reed asked for clarification regarding the cost of project 611957, Andover's Reconstruction of Route 133, noting that it appeared only one year of programmed cost was included in the general project table. MassDOT and MVPC staff agreed to look at the cost following the meeting.

#### 11. Other Business

Acting Chair Krevat called for any other business. Program Manager Reed noted the scheduling change for the next meeting due to the winter holidays. Transportation Planner Collins mentioned that TIP office hours would begin on December 2, and that MVMPO staff were hoping to meet with representatives from each of our fifteen communities to discuss potential capital projects for the TIP pipeline.

#### 12. Adjourn

Acting Chair Krevat solicited a motion to adjourn. Board Member Snow made the motion, which was seconded by Board Member Gove. The motion was approved by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at 1:31pm.

MVMPO - Projects with changes

Proj#	Description	Project Type	Project State	Ad Date	TIP Year	TIP Cost	TFPCC	Total Contract Cost	Project Manager	Comments
613225	LAWRENCE-BRIDGE PRESERVATION, L-04-035 (2XD & 2X6) I-495 & ACCESS RAMPS OVER THE MERRIMACK RIVER	Bridge Preservation	Approved	1/2/2027	2027	\$ 11,016,000.00	\$10,200,000.00	\$9,800,000.00	Poz Diaz, Genesis	Tip cost added
613092	HAVERTHILL- 3 CULVERT REPLACEMENTS ON AMESBURY ROAD (ROUTE 110) OVER TRIBUTARY OF EAST MEADOW RIVER	Culvert Replacement	Approved	5/8/2027	2027	\$ 4,490,411.00	\$4,157,787.50	\$3,836,250.00	Yoo, Joseph	Tip cost added
612074	LAWRENCE- BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, L-04-012, SHORT STREET OVER SPICKET RIVER	Bridge Replacement	Approved	6/6/2026	2026	\$4,128,156.00	\$3,969,380.80	\$3,695,630.40	Limaye, Janhavi	Cost update
612193	ANDOVER-BRIDGE PRESERVATION, A-09-022, I-93 OVER MERRIMACK RIVER	Bridge Preservation	25% design	3/21/2026	2026	\$ 38,147,200.00	\$120,471,366.54	\$116,854,970.23	Belov, Aleksey	Cost was \$35m
612158	METHUEN- BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, M-17-026, ROUTE 213 EB/WB OVER THE METHUEN RAIL TRAIL	Bridge Replacement	Approved	1/16/2027	2027	\$ 4,783,040.00	\$4,428,740.80	\$4,123,310.40	Gira,Aidee	was 2025 , minor cost change
612143	ANDOVER- BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, A-09-015, TEWKSBURY STREET OVER CSX RAILROAD	Bridge Replacement	25% design	6/20/2026	2026	\$ 17,409,753.00	\$18,861,129.95	\$17,917,009.95	Chestna, Kristine	was 2025, +\$2M
605304	HAVERTHILL- BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, H-12-007 & H-12-025, BRIDGE STREET (SR 125) OVER THE MERRIMACK RIVER AND THE BRADFORD RAIL TRAIL	Bridge Replacement	25% design	12/28/2024	2025, 2026, 2027, 2028	\$150,838,839.00	\$184,077,117.45	\$175,287,659.30	Kernan, Eamon	+\$20M
608029	NEWBURYPORT- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT ROUTE 1 & MERRIMACK STREET	Hwy Reconstr - No Added Capacity	25% design	2/6/2027	2027	\$2,592,000.00	\$2,400,000.00		Adam Kiel	Minor cost change
608788	HAVERTHILL- ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION ON NORTH AVENUE, FROM MAIN STREET (ROUTE 125) TO PLAISTOW NH	Hwy Reconstr - No Added Capacity	75% Design	2/6/2027	2027	\$26,803,444.00	\$21,608,219.47	\$20,819,703.00	Upson, Stephanie	-\$3M
612045	ANDOVER- TEWKSBURY- INTERSTATE MAINTENANCE AND RELATED WORKS ON I-93	Resurfacing Interstate	Approved	3/7/2026	2026	\$ 17,839,078.00	\$ 17,152,960.00	\$15,488,000.00	Nova, Eric	TIP cost -\$1.5M
612002	LAWRENCE- COMMUNITY DAY ARLINGTON IMPROVEMENTS (SRTS)	Roadway - Reconstr - Sidewalks and Curbing	Approved	3/21/2026	2026	\$4,523,545.00	\$4,349,932.50	\$3,429,637.50	Freeman, Jonathan	was 2025 and \$1.5M
611957	ANDOVER- RECONSTRUCTION ON ROUTE 133 (LOWELL STREET) FROM SHAWSHOEN ROAD TO ROUTE 28 (NORTH MAIN STREET)	Hwy Reconstr - No Added Capacity	25% Design	12/9/2028	2029	\$1,081,100.00	\$15,242,930.00	\$12,915,418.75	Mischel, Gregory	Tip was 2028 and \$15M
608095	NORTH ANDOVER- CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 114, BETWEEN WAVERLY ROAD & WILLOW/MILL STREET	Hwy Reconstr - Minor Widening	100% Design	4/19/2025	2025, 2026, 2027, 2028	\$43,500,479.00	\$56,544,376.04	\$50,878,148.44	Cash, Lawrence	Was \$39M
608930	LAWRENCE- LAWRENCE MANCHESTER RAIL CORRIDOR (LMRC) RAIL TRAIL	Bikeway/Bike Path Construction	Advertised	9/7/2024	2024, 2025, 2026	\$27,738,600.00	\$30,125,361.00	\$28,647,268.40	Cash, Lawrence	
610924	LAWRENCE- ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION ON AMESBURY STREET	Hwy Reconstr - No Added Capacity	Advertised	9/14/2024	2024	\$8,096,582.00	\$8,873,284.50	\$8,437,636.50	Wilk, Daniel	