

Board Members Present

Derek Krevat – Representing MassDOT Secretary Gina Fiandaca
Brian Fallon – Representing MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathan Gulliver
Jerrard Whitten – MVPC Chairperson
Bonnie Mahoney, Representing Noah Berger – MeVa Merrimack Valley Regional Transit
Kathleen Lambert – Representing Mayor of Haverhill
Neil Harrington, Salisbury - Representing Region 1
Robert Snow, Rowley – Representing Region 2
John Cashell, Georgetown - Representing Region 3
Paul Materazzo, Andover – Representing Region 4

Other Attendees

Tony Collins, MVPC
Jenifer Dunlap, MVPC
Elizabeth Maldari, MVPC
Tim Paris, MassDOT
Patrick Reed, MVPC
Derek Shooster, MassDOT
Jonah Williams, MVPC
Liz Williams, MassDOT
Michael Melencio, MassDOT
Bonnie Mahoney, MeVa

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Mr. Krevat called the meeting to order at 12:00pm. Mr. Reed called the roll and established quorum.

Agenda Item 2 – Opportunity for Public Comment

Mr. Krevat opened the meeting to public comment. There being no comments, Mr. Krevat moved to the next meeting Agenda Item.

Agenda Item 3 – Adoption of Previous Meeting’s Minutes

Mr. Kravat moved on to agenda item number 3, adoption of the meeting minutes from the April MVMPO meeting. Mr. Materazzo motioned to accept the minutes. Mr. Whitten seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 – FFY24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Modification - Safety Work Program Edits

Mr. Krevat introduced agenda item 4, the FFY24 Unified Planning Work Program Modification - Safety Work Program Edits. Ms. Maldari provided an overview of the modifications, identifying the changes to the task name, amendment to table 4, updating the budget, adding a task description, scanning and updating references throughout the document and updating the table of contents. Mr. Krevat clarified that the UPWP had already been approved and will go into effect in October of 2023. Mr. Reed answered a question by Mr. Shooster posed in the chat that the edits had already been reflected in the UPWP which was sent earlier that morning and approved by FHWA. Mr.

Agenda Item 5 – FFY23 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment #3. Mr. Reed explained the need for the amendment as a result of staffing situation, underspending expenditures and lack of carryover from PL funds. Patrick provided an overview of the anticipated remainders of 570,765 of PL expended through June 30 and 357,672 projected expenditures through September 30, leaving around 238,365 remaining for direct expenditures. Mr. Reed shared a table to show the highlighted pots where funds would be reallocated. Mr. Reed presented the proposed funding to be used for Staff trainings, trail counters and office hardware for meetings. Mr. Reed then requested to close the 21-day comment period and approve the proposed FFY23 UPWP Amendment #3. There being no comments, Mr. Krevat asked for a motion to approve the amendment. Ms. Lambert moved to approve the amendment. Mr. Materazzo seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Agenda Item 5 – FFY23-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #4

Ms. Maldari explained that the Community Transit Grant Capital Program provides funding to expand mobility for people with disabilities and older adults across the commonwealth. Ms. Maldari reviewed the intention of the amendment was to purchase wheelchair accessible vans. Mr. Shooster asked if there were any comments received, Ms. Maldari affirmed there were none. Mr. Krevat requested a motion to close the 21-day comment period for proposed FFY 23-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #4. Mr. Krevat requested a motion. Mr. Berger made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Whitten. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Agenda Item 7 – FFY23-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #5- Transit (MeVa Updates)

Mr. Krevat moved to the next agenda item. Mr. Berger explained that MeVa is balancing the skewed calendars between state and federal purchasing. On the State side they moved into FY23. Mr. Berger explained how they are supporting TIP program and mentioned the installation of bike racks on MeVa buses. Mr. Krevat mentioned that it would be beneficial to vote to abbreviate the public comment period to two weeks and requisition whoever makes the motion request that the comment period would be expedited to two weeks. There being no comments, Mr. Krevat requested a motion with a condition to shorten the comment period to two weeks. Mr. Berger moved with the articulation of a two week comment period. Ms. Lambert seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion unanimously.

Agenda Item 8 – FFY23-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #6 - Highway (Lawrence Rail Crossings)

Ms. Maldari explained the amendment, identifying the two-lane principal arterial in the City of Lawrence, defined the volume of vehicles and identified roadway characteristics which create a problematic and dangerous crossing. Mr. Krevat mentioned that the project would be to add the current year TIP so that the MassDOT highway division would be able to post a bid for the reconstruction of the intersection. There being no questions, Mr. Krevat made a motion to have the amendment subscribed to the current year TIP.

Mr. Krevat requested a motion, Mr. Whitten made the motion and Mr. McCarthy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 9 – Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Constrained Project Plan.

Mr. Collins recalled the process for project eligibility on the TIP, noting the long-term nature of TIP projects. Mr. Collins reviewed the goals which were discussed at previous meetings and mentioned that the project scoring will be updated in the future to better align with the goals. Mr. Collins then presented the developmental steps, noting the office hours with municipal partners, project mapping, cost estimations, goal analysis, network analysis, and fiscal constraint determination. Mr. Collins presented considerations including: openness to input and comments, the development of a new scoring system, long range - project status and list can be changed, and noted that the projects are only highway regional projects. Mr. Collins shared a chart with TIP projects broken out by TIP cycles. Mr. Collins noted that geographic and social equities were considered in the development of the project list. Mr. Collins also mentioned that the list was available on the MVPC website.

Mr. Krevat asked if the projects would be fiscally constrained and if they would be included in the long-range plan. Mr. Collins confirmed yes to both questions. Mr. Collins shared a digital map which users could click through to see TIP projects mapped in the region and digital cards which will show crash, REJ+ layers in addition to the projects. Mr. Collins also noted that the tool would be available on MVPC's website.

Mr. Krevat encouraged meeting members to visit the map and to read the plan. There being no other questions, Mr. Krevat moved onto item 10.

[Agenda Item 10. Massachusetts Vehicle Census Dashboard \(MassDOT\)](#)

Ms. Williams introduced the Massachusetts Vehicle Census, the first in the nation to conduct analysis which is not yet available anywhere else. Ms. Williams mentioned that the data is collected from Odometer reading can identify number of vehicles in a town, number of electric vehicles, number of miles traveled compared with type of vehicle. Ms. Williams mentioned the special MPO page which can be used at a municipal level. Ms. Williams then turned it over to Michael who presented the dashboard. Michael shared the breakdown of the type of data that the dashboard collects and demonstrated different highlights and modes of the tool. Michael showed how data could be broken down by year, MPO, Advanced Vehicle Type, Registered Vehicle Use and Vehicle Type. The registration page shows the number of active vehicle registrations and an aggregated view of the total number of vehicle miles traveled by full year.

Ms. Lambert asked if the data would only be updated every January, Ms. Williams mentioned that they were confident in the excise tax data, but would be working to pull data at more regular periods. Mr. Materazzo asked if MassDOT had any rules of thumb about buy-ins from community members and EV stations. Ms. Williams did not know of any thresholds. Mr. Materazzo mentioned the use for Municipalities to encourage certain infrastructure based on the data.

Mr. Reed commended the MassDOT team and asked about tracking non-state or non-regional miles. Ms. Williams mentioned that certain questions are looking at drivers for VMT. Ms. Williams clarified that official VMT records that are reported are by road miles while the vehicle census VMT is at the vehicle level meaning they could be garaged in Massachusetts, but driven in NH, for example.

Mr. Berger also commended Ms. Williams team and asked for discrepancy between looking at person trips and not just vehicle trips. Mr. Berger also mentioned a desire for better bus representation. Michael clarified that the Vehicle Use bucket looked at how vehicles were registered while vehicle type is different as is Advanced Vehicle Use. Ms. Williams noted the difficulty with bus type identification, but mentioned this dashboard is a first pass and they will continue to add to it. Ms. Williams also mentioned that they are developing a household travel

survey and will re-up with a location-based service provider. Ms. Williams expressed the team is working to look at how people travel and not just vehicles.

Mr. Collins inquired about if electric vehicles have more miles traveled. Ms. Williams affirmed that it appeared that electric vehicles were driven further than non EV.

Mr. Klima inquired about lumping hybrid and ev together and wondered if the registration would differentiate between the two. Ms. Williams responded that they looked at fuel classification would differentiate between hybrid and fully EV. Ms. Williams noted that these classifications are not consistent across nation, but are consistent with previous registration.

Agenda Item 11 – Status of Ongoing Transit Projects

Mr. Berger announced that MeVa would be on schedule with projects. Mr. Berger then mentioned ridership numbers were above pre-pandemic levels and celebrated that this increase is unheard of in the industry. Mr. Berger also noted the retention of drivers and growth of 18% despite national driver shortage.

Mr. Berger gave a few other updates regarding bus schedules and numbers as well as the intention to move the transit hub from Buckley to McGovern.

Ms. Lambert inquired about the beach bus ridership, Mr. Berger confirmed that the beach bus was effective and used.

Mr. Paris identified project 613313 had a new project manager, project 612890 in Groveland, improvements at the Bagnall Elementary School the ad date was changed to February 26, project 612158 also had a new ad date to September 30th, 2025. Project 611957 from Shawsheen Road to Route 28 had a new project manager. Project 60741 had a new ad date of September 30th, 2024.

610924, Lawrence reconstruction has a new ad date to August, 2024. 610628 has a new submittal of the final design. 610923 has a new ad date of April, 24. 609509 also has a new ad date of April, 24.

Agenda Item 12. Other Business

Mr. Krevat called for other business. There was no other business. Mr. Krevat announced that the next meeting would be held August 23rd and mentioned the need for a quorum.

Mr. Krevat called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:07pm. Mr. Materazzo made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Whitten. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned.