



COMMITTEE REPORTS

July 14 – September 15, 2010

Regional Transportation Advisory Council Committees

Freight - Walter Bonin & Frank DeMasi

The next Freight Committee meeting is scheduled for 1 PM on September 15 in Conference Room 4 of the State Transportation Building. Anne Lynch of the Massachusetts Motor Transportation Association will update the Committee on trucking issues in the region.

The MPO recently approved the “2010 Freight Study – A Profile of Truck Impacts.” The Advisory Council recommended this study during the development of the federal fiscal year 2010 Unified Planning Work Program.

Nominating – Malek Al-Khatib

The Nominating Committee of the Regional Transportation Advisory Council held a conference call on August 26 to discuss the election process and the nominations received and accepted for the offices of Chair and Vice Chair.

Laura Wiener of Arlington was nominated for the office of Chair. Schuyler Larrabee of the Boston Society of Architects, Steve Olanoff of Westwood, and Monica Tibbits of the 128 Business Council were nominated for the office of Vice Chair. All of the nominees accepted their nomination. The Committee decided to follow the past practice of making a recommendation to the Advisory Council. The Committee decided to recommend Laura Wiener for Chair and Schuyler Larrabee for Vice Chair. Committee members agreed that the recommended candidates have each done a good job in their current roles, set a good direction for the Advisory Council, and that the current officers have gained experience that will help them continue to be effective in leadership roles next year.

The Committee members expressed appreciation for the work Steve Olanoff does for the Advisory Council. They recognized that, as he has been in the past, he would be a good future officer for the Advisory Council and support his continued involvement with the Council and its Committees. Committee members expressed appreciation that Monica Tibbits is interested in assuming a larger role in the Advisory Council, but felt that more experience with the Advisory Council and its Committees would make her a stronger candidate in the future.

The Nominating Committees' recommendation does not preclude any of the nominees from running in the upcoming election. Additionally, nominations are accepted from the floor on the day of the election.

Programs – Richard Canale

The Programs Committee met on July 14 to discuss programs for the upcoming federal fiscal year. Committee members expressed interest in the following ideas for upcoming programs:

- A presentation on the design proposed by several advocacy groups for the Longfellow Bridge. This would be followed by a field trip to the bridge.
- A presentation on the Boston Region MPO's Pedestrian Transportation Plan.
- A briefing on the Massachusetts Statewide Airport Systems Plan.
 - Committee members said this presentation should focus on freight transportation and the connections between the airports and surface transportation modes.
- A forum on the connections between public health and transportation.
 - Committee members expressed an interesting in holding more forums similar to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Forum held in March. The other forum topics discussed were livability and the connection between land use and transportation.
- A briefing and discussion on the reauthorization of the federal surface transportation bill.
- Discussions about the next Long-Range Transportation Plan.
 - Committee members want the Plan to be a topic of discussion several times next year. Members said that the Advisory Council should have input to the Plan early in the development process.
- A briefing on trucking issues from Massachusetts Motor Transportation Association.
- An update on the Fitchburg Line improvements.

The following committees did not meet and have not scheduled future meetings:

Executive – Laura Wiener

Membership – Schuyler Larrabee

Plan – TBD

TIP – Laura Wiener

UPWP – Steve Olanoff

Transportation Planning and Programming Committee Subcommittees

There are no Transportation Planning and Programming Committee subcommittee meetings scheduled at this time.