

Draft Memorandum for the Record Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization Unified Planning Work Program Committee Meeting Summary

April 27, 2023, Meeting

1:00 PM–1:30 PM, Zoom Video Conferencing Platform

Derek Krevat, Chair, representing Gina Fiandaca, Secretary of Transportation and Chief Executive Officer of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)

Decisions

The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Committee agreed to the following:

- Accept Discrete Study Scenario C to fund in the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 UPWP

Materials

Materials for this meeting included the following:

1. [Scenario Vote Results](#)

Meeting Agenda and Summary of Discussion

1. Introductions

See page 4 for attendance list.

2. Public Comments

There were none.

3. Action Item: Final Scenario of Discrete Studies for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 UPWP—*Srilekha Murthy, MPO Staff*

S. Murthy provided a brief summary of the previous meeting on April 20, where the UPWP Committee developed three scenarios of potential discrete studies to fund in FFY 2024. Following that meeting, the committee voted on those scenarios. The winning scenario funded the following studies: Strategies for Environmental Outreach and Engagement; Parking in Bike Lanes: Strategies for Safety and Prevention; Lab and Municipal Parking Phase II; and Applying Conveyal to Transportation Improvement

Program (TIP) Project Scoring. S. Murthy then asked the committee to discuss and finalize their choice of scenario.

Discussion

Eric Bourassa (Metropolitan Area Planning Council [MAPC]) expressed his support for the chosen scenario, and asked for context on the description of the Opportunities for the MPO to Support Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) study. S. Murthy stated that this description needed more work to develop a full scope, but the goal was to develop an MPO policy on supporting TOD in light of the recent Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Communities regulations. E. Bourassa responded that MAPC is currently assisting many municipalities with the new zoning requirements, and asked if CTPS will still be offering technical assistance to municipalities with smaller, site-specific projects. Annette Demchur (MPO Staff) stated that there are two technical assistance programs offered yearly, one that is transit oriented, and one focused on multimodal mobility.

Len Diggins (Regional Transportation Advisory Council) expressed support for the study Applying Conveyal to TIP Project Scoring.

Steven Olanoff (Three Rivers interlocal Council/Town of Westwood) shared that TOD topics are being given a lot of attention recently, and studies relating to environmental engagement are not as popular currently, but also need attention and funding. For that reason, it is important for the MPO to support Strategies for Environmental Outreach over the TOD study.

Tom Bent (Inner Core Committee/City of Somerville) expressed support for the chosen scenario.

Vote

The Inner Core Committee (Tom Bent/City of Somerville) made a motion to accept Scenario C as the preferred scenario of discrete studies to fund in the FFY 2024 UPWP. The Three Rivers Interlocal Council (Steven Olanoff/Town of Westwood) seconded that motion. The motion carried.

4. Members Items

There were none.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned for May 25, where staff will present the Draft FFY 2024 UPWP and request the Committee release it for public comment.

6. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by MAPC (Eric Bourassa) and seconded by the Inner Core Committee (Tom Bent/City of Somerville). The motion carried.

Attendance

Members	Representatives and Alternates
Massachusetts Department of Transportation (Office of Transportation Planning)	Derek Krevat
Metropolitan Area Planning Council	Eric Bourassa
Regional Transportation Advisory Council	Lenard Diggins
At-Large City (City of Newton)	David Koses
At-Large Town (Town of Arlington)	
City of Boston (Boston Transportation Department)	
Inner Core Committee (City of Somerville)	Tom Bent
Three Rivers Interlocal Council (Town of Norwood/Neponset Valley Chamber of Commerce)	
Three Rivers Interlocal Council alternate (Town of Westwood)	Steve Olanoff
City of Framingham (Metrowest Regional Collaborative)	

Other Attendees	Affiliation
Sandy Johnston	MBTA
Amira Patterson	MBTA Advisory Board
Miranda Briseño	MassDOT OTP

MPO Staff/Central Transportation Planning Staff

Tegin Teich, Executive Director
Silva Ayvazyan
Annette Demchur
Hiral Gandhi
Ryan Hicks
Stella Jordan
Srilekha Murthy

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