

Acting Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler's Report to the Board

May 24, 2021



COVID-19 Updates

- May 29: start date of new phase of re-openings announced by Governor Charlie Baker on Monday, May 17, 2021.
- June 15: State of Emergency will be lifted per Governor Baker.
- Registry of Motor Vehicles will be continuing some initiatives started during the pandemic to provide essential in-person services in accordance with health and safety guidelines and will adjust other transactions. Announcement will be made soon.
- Masks will continue to be mandatory on public and private transportation after May 29 according to federal and Commonwealth announcements. Mask mandate continues on MBTA and Regional Transit Authority property and vehicles, at Logan Airport, at municipal airports and at service plazas on the highways.

Memorial Day Holiday

- Travelers encouraged to plan ahead and travel safely during the Memorial Day weekend.
 - Increases volumes expected
 - Most construction suspended
 - Consider taking public transit
- May 31 Commonwealth offices are closed, including RMV Service Centers

For more information on real time traffic conditions:

- Dial 511 before heading out onto the roadways.
- Visit www.mass511.com
- Follow MassDOT on Twitter @MassDOT
- Download MassDOT's GoTime mobile app



Baker-Polito Administration: Safety Bill



- Primary Seatbelt
- Haley's Law:
- Traffic Camera Enforcement Local Option
- Bicycle Safe Passing:
- Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Changes
- Crash Data Reporting:
- Side Guards and Additional Mirrors:
- Low-Speed Mobility Device Advisory Working Group



- Be Alert
- Slow Down

Meredith Slesinger named Rail and Transit Administrator

- Joined MassDOT as Deputy Rail & Transit Administrator in August 2020
- Previously worked for Amtrak, Northeast Corridor Commission, and the American Public Transportation Association (APTA)



- James "Jim" Eng –
 - Deputy Administrator for Rail
- Thomas "Tom" Schiavone –
 - Deputy Administrator for Transit

MassDOT Employee Mentorship Program

Structure of the 2021 Mentorship Program:

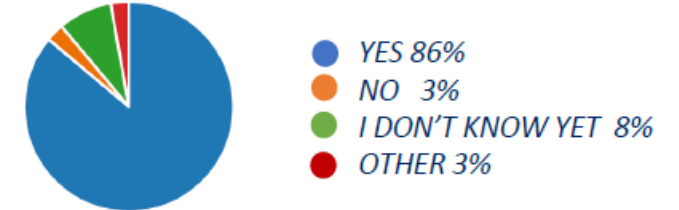
- Program runs from Jun 24- Dec 18, 2021
- 1:1 Relationship (Mentor/Mentee)
- Meet either in person or virtually for two hours a

"The mentorship program has both helped me and those who I interact with daily. I cherish the ability to come up with new ideas, receiving coaching, all while finding ways to be developed professionally. I would recommend this program to anyone who is ambitious and career driven. I love to be able to provide our customers with the best experience they deserve. In order to do this I need to be able to constantly sharpen my skills and develop accordingly. The program has given me the confidence needed to become both a better professional, and a better person!"

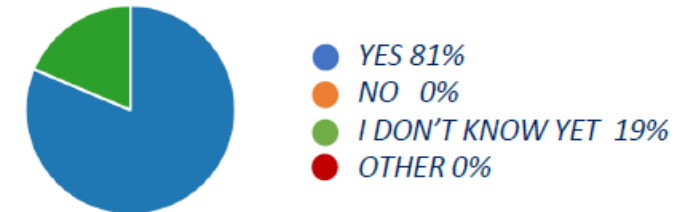
Ashley R. Santana
Customer Service Rep. 1
Haymarket Contact Center



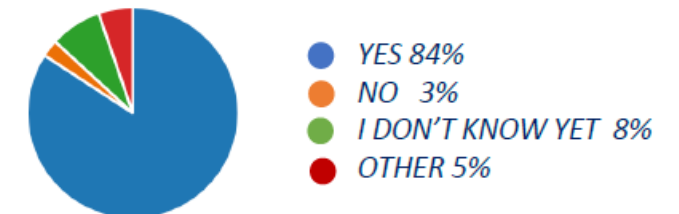
PROTÉGÉ: I feel that my Mentor and I are a good match:



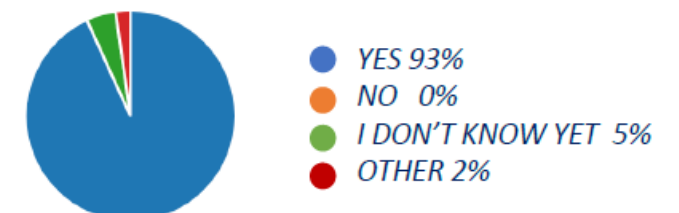
MENTOR: I feel that my Protégé and I are a good match:



PROTÉGÉ: I would recommend the Mentorship Program:



MENTORS: I would recommend the Mentorship Program:



- Annual conference provides a forum for innovative transportation systems, management ideas, and initiatives. The conference is an important opportunity for transportation practitioners to share knowledge, sponsor peer-to-peer learning, and collaborate on issues of mutual interest.



Jamey Tesler
Acting Secretary and CEO
of the Massachusetts Department
of Transportation



Gregory Slater
Secretary of the Maryland
Department of Transportation



Dr. Shawn Wilson
Secretary of the Louisiana
Department of Transportation
and Development



May 25 – 27, 2021



Jonathan Gulliver
Highway Administrator
Massachusetts Department
of Transportation



Patricia Leavenworth
Deputy Highway Administrator/
Chief Engineer P.E.
Massachusetts Department
of Transportation Highway Division



Colleen Ogilvie
Registrar
Massachusetts Registry of
Motor Vehicles



Pete Sutton
Bicycle and Pedestrian
Program Coordinator
Massachusetts Department
of Transportation

Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) Updates

- Plans and tasks for May 29 Commonwealth COVID-19 restriction changes- RMV is evaluating its existing business processes as a result of the new guidance. Any changes to services will be posted online at [Mass.Gov/RMV](https://www.mass.gov/RMV).
- Distracted driving citations/warnings have been increasing:
 - January 2021 - 2,151
 - February 2021 - 2,405
 - March 2021 - 3,515
 - April 2021 - 10,276

Bridge in New Marlborough Reopens

Newly reconstructed
Umpachene Falls Road Bridge
located over the Konkapot River
in New Marlborough

- Closed to traffic on April 20, 2012
- Cost = \$1,559,049.



Capital Investment Plan (CIP)

- This week, six virtual public meetings begin to be held on the MassDOT and the MBTA CIP. Each meeting will focus on a region of the state, although public comments may be offered at any of the meetings on projects in any municipality.
 - Goal: to hear from public about their transportation priorities.
 - Project information, map of project areas, online comment tool located at [Mass.gov/CIP](https://www.mass.gov/CIP).
 - Public comment being taken through June 7, 2021.
 - Email public comments: MassCIP@state.ma.us.

New federal sources to support the CIP

- Disbursement of \$150.8 million in Federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) funding is still under consideration and a portion or all may be incorporated in the final CIP
- With the receipt of CRRSAA funds and the pending receipt of ARPA funds, the MBTA been restored all FTA preventative maintenance funds (\$281 million) to the MBTA capital program
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, was signed into law on March 11, 2021, and includes \$30.5 billion in federal funding to support the national's public transportation systems and additional funding to support state and local investments

Industrial Rail Access Program Open

IRAP is a competitive state-funded public/private partnership program that provides investment in industry-based rail infrastructure improvement projects.

- Applicants must match public funds with private funds
 - At least 40 percent of a project's total cost
- Applications due: (4 weeks after release) Thursday June 17
- Grants award based on consistency with program goals
 - Safety, system preservation, mobility, economic development, environmental improvements and GHG reduction
- <https://www.mass.gov/industrial-rail-access-program>

Battery Electric Bus (BEB) Studies for RTAs

On May 11, MassDOT Rail & Transit (MassDOT RTD) released a Task Order RFP to model BEB battery ranges for RTAs and identify the number of conventional bus vehicle blocks that can be replaced with current BEB technology at a one-to-one ratio.



This work is expected to be completed in 2021. Later this year, RTD will issue a full procurement for the completion of multiple studies that will ascertain the required investments in RTA facilities that may be necessary to accommodate fleet electrification.

Aeronautics Team to Work with NASA

- Partnership will consider how emerging green technology, cargo-carrying drones, and passenger-carrying air taxi services can best be included in NASA's civic transportation plans
- NASA Space Act Agreement allows MassDOT access to NASA R&D resources - expected to attract interest from other industry, academia, and government participants
- ***Team: Boston Consulting Group (BCG), Beta Technologies, MassAutonomy, Massport, the MIT International Center for Air Transportation (ICAT), the Northeastern University Kostas Research Institute (KRI), Regent Craft, Shoreline Aviation of Marshfield Airport, UMass Amherst Center for Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere (CASA), and US Air Realty.***



	Safety New forms of air transport must achieve levels of safety performance consistent with conventional aviation operations
	Sustainability UAM must improve environmental outcomes and embrace innovation to achieve more sustainable behaviors
	Low noise Noise disturbances should be measured and mitigated by a community-first approach
	Local workforce development UAM is expected to increase jobs on the ground and in the air
	Equity of access There should be equitable access to mobility for disadvantaged communities
	Multimodal connectivity UAM should connect to existing, high-quality transport options, offering seamless travel
	Purpose-driven data sharing Data sharing should help providers quickly respond to passenger need and market demand