



Maura Healey, Governor  
Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor  
Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Secretary & CEO



## MINUTES

### Meeting of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Board of Directors

**May 21 AT 12:00 P.M.**

**10 Park Plaza, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room, Suite 2890  
Boston, MA 02116**

***Public participation and comment was available via written  
communication, voice message and in-person public comment.***

***This meeting was broadcast live online.***

**MASSDOT BOARD  
MEMBERS  
PARTICIPATING:**

*Chair Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Director Eric Batista,  
Director Joseph Beggan, Director Ilyas Bhatti,  
Director Richard Dimino, Director Lisa Iezzoni,  
Director Tim King, Director Dean Mazzarella,  
Director Thomas McGee (arrived at 12:06)*

**OTHERS  
PARTICIPATING:**

*Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie,  
Administrator of Rail & Transit Meredith  
Slesinger, Acting Aeronautics Administrator  
Denise Garcia, Undersecretary Hayes Morrison,  
Deputy Chief Safety Officer Ryan Frigo, Manager  
of Capital Planning Michelle Scott, Deputy Chief  
Engineer Jack Moran, RMV Chief Operating  
Officer Niren Sirohi, Chief Financial Officer David  
Pottier*

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

*General Counsel Carrie Wicker, Deputy General  
Counsel Owen Kane*

Chair Tibbits-Nutt called to order the meeting of the MassDOT Board

at 10:02 a.m. Owen Kane called the roll of the members participating,  
being a quorum of the MassDOT Board of Directors:

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Batista</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Beggan</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Bhatti</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Dimino</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Iezzoni</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Mazzeella</b>	<b>Present</b>

### **Safety Briefing**

Deputy Chief Safety Officer Ryan Frigo presented the Safety Briefing. Mr. Frigo reminded the Board that May is Motorcycle Awareness Month. Those on motorcycles should remember to ride safely and those in automobiles should remember to look twice for motorcycles that might be in their blind spots.

### **Employee Recognition**

The Chair continued the meeting by recognizing two MassDOT employees. Registrar Colleen Ogilvie recognized RMV employees Sara Lavoie and Susan Butler for going above and beyond the call of duty at the RMV. Lavoie and Butler led the efforts at the RMV on registering as many

Massachusetts drivers as possible before the May 7 REAL ID deadline.

### **Public Comment**

Steven Buckley, of Chatham spoke about the Cape Bridges project and expressed concern about the lack of adequate communication with the residents of the area. Mr. Buckley also sent an email to the Board which is attached to these minutes.

### **Minutes**

Chair Tibbits-Nutt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2025 MassDOT Board Meeting.

**On motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call:**

**VOTED: To approve the minutes of the MassDOT Board Meeting held on April 15, 2025.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Batista</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Beggan</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Bhatti</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Dimino</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Iezzoni</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Mazzeella</b>	<b>yes</b>

### **STANDING REPORTS**

The Chair then presented the Secretary's Report.

The secretary provided an update on the ongoing Budget negotiations. Director Iezzoni wanted to stress that it is not just cuts to DOT that are hurting us, there have also been cuts at the federal level to many of our partners that will surely have an adverse effect on the work we do.

The Secretary also discussed the upcoming weekend shutdown of I-90 in Newton and advised everyone to avoid the area if possible.

Aeronautics Administrator Denise Garcia provided her Division Report. Ms. Garcia discussed the statewide airport pavement maintenance project currently underway. The \$8.4M investment includes work at all public-use airports (excluding Massport) and bids were opened on April 3, 2025.

The Administrator also discussed how the Division supports the US Coast Guard with drone flights. Director Beggan asked if the Department had an MOU with the Coast Guard and was told that we have one for Safety Programs.

Rail & Transit Administrator Meredith Slesinger presented her report. She announced the summer schedule for the Berkshire Flyer, which begins on June 20. The Administrator also announced several Community Transit Grant

awards. Director Iezzoni expressed pleasure at the number of accessible vehicles that were being purchased by the RTAs through this grant program.

Registrar Ogilvie then presented the RMV report. Massachusetts has been able to achieve 59% compliance with the REAL ID program. Between April 12 and May 12, the RMV issued nearly 79,000 REAL IDs.

The reports from the Highway Division was presented in writing.

## **Presentations and Actions**

Manager of Capital Planning, Michelle Scott then presented Item #9, an update on the FY 2026–2030 Capital Investment Plan (“CIP”) and request to release the draft CIP for public comment.

The CIP is a rolling five-year plan that funds the planning, construction, and capital maintenance of the transportation system.

The CIP is fiscally constrained and reflects planned spending/cash flows and includes investments in roads and bridges, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, state-funded transit items, state rail network, public use airports, MassDOT-wide enterprise services and the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Ms. Scott discussed the various CIP funding sources, including Federal Funding, State Funding, MassDOT Sources (i.e. tolls), and other sources such as municipal and local funding.

Discussion ensued.

**On motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call:**

**VOTED: To release the draft FY2026– 2030 Capital Investment Plan for public review and comment.**

<b>Chair Tibbits–Nutt</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Batista</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Beggan</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Bhatti</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Dimino</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Iezzoni</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>yes</b>

Deputy Chief Engineer Jack Moran then presented Item #10, a request for a recommendation to the full Board for the approval of MassDOT Construction Contract No. 129599 – Pavement Preservation & Related Work, for Highway Construction, with PJ Keating Company, for the amount of \$15,942,343.00.

The award of Contract No. 129599 titled Pavement Preservation & Related Work on I-195 will address immediate needs to replace the deteriorated pavement, as well as reducing ongoing maintenance costs for District 5 Staff in this area of Interstate 195.

The work to be done consists primarily of milling and resurfacing the existing Interstate (I-195) mainline and on- and off-ramps within the project limits for approximately 7 miles. Additional work includes replacement of existing damaged or substandard guardrail; adjustment of existing drainage structures and installation of new hook lock castings; cleaning of existing drainage structures, pipes, and outfalls; routine bridge maintenance activities including bridge deck repairs and bridge joint replacement; as well as other incidental work as necessary.

Discussion ensued.

**On motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call:**

**VOTED: To recommend to the MassDOT Board to authorize the Secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, or her designee, to award and execute MassDOT Construction Contract No. 129599 – Pavement Preservation & Related Work, for Highway Construction, with PJ Keating Company, for the amount of \$15,942,343.00.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Batista</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Beggan</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Bhatti</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Dimino</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Iezzoni</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>yes</b>

RMV COO Niren Sirohi presented Item #11 the Vulnerable Road Users Update. Mr. Sirohi presented the timeline and milestones on the road to compliance with the law.

The Department has collaborated with various law enforcement agencies on the collection and analysis of the crash data involving vulnerable road users.

Director Iezzoni stated that the definitions need a lot of work, they still fail to adequately identify each mode of transportation. Director King agreed, noting that the statute defined an e-bike as a bicycle. E-bikes can go 20-30 miles per hour, it's rare to see a bike going that fast.

Director Dimino suggested that the Department should look at best practices in other jurisdictions. Mr. Sirohi agreed to consult with neighboring states.



Extensive discussion ensued.

CFO David Pottier presented the final item on the agenda, Item #12, an update on the FY26 Budget Proposal.

Mr. Pottier discussed a few notable items from the House Ways and Means Committee budget recommendation, including budget cuts to snow and ice funding by \$40M vs. House 1. Mr. Pottier noted that the Ways and Means version relies on \$50M in deficiency spending authority to address shortfalls.

Also, FY26 H.1 Budget includes \$55M for operations and \$110M for RTAs from Fair Share funding, while the Ways and Means version reflects \$155 million for operations and \$110M for RTAs from Fair Share funding.

Discussion ensued.

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn.

**On a motion duly made and seconded, it was by roll call,**

**VOTED: To adjourn at 1:56 p.m.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Batista</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Beggan</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Bhatti</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Dimino</b>	<b>yes</b>

<b>Director lezzoni</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Director Mazzaella</b>	<b>yes</b>

**Kane, Owen (DOT)**

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**Subject:** FW: #CanalBridges; Failure to Notify the Public on

**Importance:** High

**From:** Stephen Buckley <[sbuckley714@gmail.com](mailto:sbuckley714@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 21, 2025 10:58 AM

**To:** MassDOT Public Comments <[publiccomment@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:publiccomment@dot.state.ma.us)>

**Subject:** #CanalBridges; Failure to Notify the Public on

**CAUTION:** This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Members of the MassDOT Board of Directors,

This purpose of this message is to inform you about a legal shortcoming concerning public participation in the planning process for replacing the Cape Cod Canal bridges.

As a former environmental engineer at five federal agencies during my 25 years in Washington, D.C., I am very familiar with the legal requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). After returning to Cape Cod, I have been attending the last ten years of meetings concerning replacement of the current bridges.

On the project's webpage about "Public Outreach", there is an extensive of "informational" meetings, along with a link for interested citizens to sign up for email updates. However, there is no mention of the legally-required "Notice of Intent" (to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement) and its "scoping process" (e.g., public meetings):

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/outreach-cape-cod-bridges-program>

I recommend that, to avoid a legal suit that might delay the project, the Board request MassDOT's Office of Megaproject Delivery to explain why the public was not properly notified about the Notice of Intent (via email) as it had for all other meetings.

sincerely,

Stephen Buckley  
Chatham, Mass.  
(508) 348-9090