

**Cape Cod Bridges
Advisory Group Meeting
June 9, 2026, 3 PM
Mass Maritime Academy
20 Tower Lane, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532**

Meeting Summary

The tenth meeting of the Cape Cod Bridges Program Advisory Group took place on June 9, 2026, at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. At this meeting, the Project Team provided a brief presentation regarding environmental updates, public involvement, procurement updates, and other general project updates followed by a discussion. Attendees included the Program Team, elected and appointed officials from local, state, and federal levels and their representatives, community organization leaders, and members of the public.

Please note the information contained herein serves as meeting notes and not an exact transcript.

Meeting Notes

1. Project Team Presentation
 - Project updates were given by Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT).
2. Discussion and Comments
 - Peter Meier (Town of Bourne Select Board): Can we receive updated detour information before the 23rd, or can the information be provided at the meeting on the 16th?
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): There was a Conservation Commission meeting a few weeks ago. A plan for moving traffic through the area was presented, reflecting comments that were received. Additional weight was given to emergency access. The proposal was estimated to cost tens of millions of dollars. This is not within the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission, and we are working with the police and the Select Board. There are no formal plans yet, but we will publish them when available.
 - Anne Marie Siroonian (Town of Bourne Select Board): We would like to engage in a more formal way at the local level. What are expectations and shared

responsibilities we should take on given the speed of the design-build method?
What will happen in this regard during construction?

- i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): There are plans to extend the bike path and a commitment related to Keith Field. The relationship with the Town of Bourne is one of the project's strengths, and we are happy to have further conversations with you on that topic.
- Steve Tupper (Cape Cod Commission): What topics will be discussed at the Design Public Hearing?
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): There will be an array of topics that will be discussed.
- Steve Tupper (Cape Cod Commission): Regarding procurement, is there any way that MassDOT can publish the number of letters of interest submitted?
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): Any public information will be shared throughout the process, so the public can be informed. However, there are aspects that are procurement-sensitive, and we want to ensure a fully competitive process. We will provide as much information as possible to the Advisory Group.
- Steve Tupper (Cape Cod Commission): How can local issues in nearby municipalities be supported?
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): This is why we come to Cape Cod so frequently. We want to design a better process by learning about local concerns from residents and stakeholders.
- Question (Town of Bourne Pedestrian Bicycle Pathway Advisory Committee): Is there any consideration of developing a new rail line as part of this project?
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): Elected officials have proposed that the Commonwealth consider rail service to Cape Cod. Secretary Eng has indicated that he will consider this. The rail line is not expected to be part of the Cape Cod Bridges. Adding that component would impact design, right-of-way and environmental processes already underway. We will share concerns with leadership, including concerns about project timing.
- Steve Buckley (Member of the public): Is the Design Public Hearing on the public website?
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): Yes, it will be posted on the event and outreach pages of the website.
- Steve Buckley (Member of the public): At what point would meetings like this be subject to Open Meeting Law?

- i. Luisa Paiewonsky: We will look into this topic.
- John York (Member of the public): Is the July Design Public Hearing focused on Sagamore, Bourne, or the overall Cape Cod Bridges Program.
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): The Design Public Hearing is primarily focused on the Sagamore Bridge since more design is advanced. However, we will also provide updates on the Bourne Bridge and funding during that meeting.
- John York (Member of the public): Regarding detours near the Sagamore Bridge, there are concerns about MassDOT's activity and use of the canal path during construction. Is there a way to plan for Bourne with temporary closures and better coordination of detours and access points?
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): This has been a valuable learning experience for MassDOT, regarding the Canal Path and Keith Field. I have never worked on a project without the back-and-forth communication with residents. We were pleased to reach an acceptable solution, given constraints and access needs. We are open to continued two-way communication and do not anticipate a lengthy process for establishing detour routes.
- Steve Buckley (Member of the public): Concern about historic preservation- if a private party wanted to preserve the bridge and convert it into a pedestrian/bike bridge, could that be considered or possible?
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): The Sagamore Bridge needs to be removed to allow for the new construction, particularly the westbound expansion. Due to construction methodology and the marine environment, maintaining the existing structure would continue to require significant maintenance costs.
- John York (Member of the public): Concerns about unclear communication regarding upcoming events online and dissatisfaction with public outreach.
 - i. Luisa Paiewonsky (MassDOT): Thank you for raising this concern and MassDOT is responsible for the website and continues to work to improve content and ensure effective communication.

Attendees

Program Team

1. Luisa Paiewonsky, MassDOT

2. Anne Canaday, MassDOT
3. Jacquelyn Goddard, MassDOT
4. Dave Anderson, HNTB
5. James Barnack, HNTB
6. Erica Blonde, HNTB
7. Patrick Marvin, HNTB
8. Mark Kolonoski, HNTB
9. Gavin Defina, HNTB
10. Craig Cashman, MassDOT

Advisory Group and Members of the Public

1. Peter Meier, Town of Bourne
2. Marlene McCollum, Town of Bourne
3. Steve Buckley, Community Member
4. John York, Community Member
5. Steven Tupper, Cape Cod Commission
6. Anne Marie Siroonian, Town of Bourne
7. Craig Martin, United States Army Corps. of Engineers
8. Dennis Fidalgo, Mass Maritime
9. Rebecca Fernandes, Barnstable County Sheriff's Office
10. Allen Philips, MEMA
11. Michael Jackman, Representing U.S. Rep. Bill Keating
12. Janice Rottenberg, Representing U.S. Sen. Warren
13. Andrew Gottlieb, Association to Preserve Cape Cod