



Maura Healey, Governor
Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor
Phillip Eng, Interim Secretary of Transportation



MINUTES
Meeting of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Board
of Directors
March 18, 2026 AT 12:00 P.M.

10 Park Plaza, 2nd 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 Phil Eng, Director Eric Batista, Director Joseph Beggan, Director Ilyas Bhatti, Director Richard Dimino, Director Tim King, Director Tom Koch (left meeting at 1:51 p.m.), Director Dean Mazzarella

OTHERS
PARTICIPATING:

Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver, Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie, Aeronautics Administrator Denise Garcia, Rail & Transit Administrator Meredith Slesinger, Manager of Capital Planning Michelle Scott, Chief of Public Safety and Security Michael McCabe, Erika Mazza, Amy Getchell

OTHERS PRESENT:

Undersecretary Samantha Silverberg, General Counsel Carrie Wicker, Deputy General Counsel Owen Kane

Chair Eng called to order the meeting of the MassDOT Board at 12:04 p.m. Owen Kane called the roll of the members participating, being a quorum of the MassDOT Board of Directors:

Director Batista	Present
Director Beggan	Present
Director Bhatti	Present
Director Dimino	Present
Director King	Present
Director Koch	Present
Director Mazarella	Present
Chair Eng	Present

Safety Briefing

The Safety Briefing was presented via video.

Employee Recognition

The Chair stated that three employees would be recognized by the Board for exemplary service. He introduced Cassandra Gascon, who presented the first honoree, Ingrid Freire.

Chair Eng then invited Bob Frey to present the next honoree, Ethan Britland.

Finally, the Chair asked Colleen Ogilvie to present Sara Guarino, an honoree from the RMV.

Approval of Minutes

The Chair then asked for a Motion to Approve the Minutes from the February 25, 2026 Meeting of the MassDOT Board.

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

VOTED:

To approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on February 25, 2025.

Director Batista	Yes
Director Beggan	Yes
Director Bhatti	Yes
Director Dimino	Yes
Director King	Yes
Director Koch	Yes
Director Mazzarella	Yes
Chair Eng	Yes

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

STANDING REPORTS

The Secretary presented his report to the Board.

Secretary Eng began by speaking about the tremendous investment in transportation proposed by the Healey-Driscoll Administration. The Secretary testified in support of the Governor's Budget before the Ways and Means Committee on March 10. He noted that the House has released its proposed Budget, which complements the Governor's Budget. We are now waiting for the Senate Budget.

The Secretary then discussed the steps the Department is taking in modernizing rail throughout the Commonwealth. Rail & Transit is working closely with the MBTA to achieve the Governor's goals related to housing and economic development by prioritizing investments in frequency, reliability and decarbonization.

He also provided an update on South Coast Rail after one year in

operation. Through December 2025, South Coast Rail carried more than 591,700 riders, an increase of 37%.

The Secretary also discussed the Draw One Bridge Project, an MBTA capital development project. The \$1 billion project is expected to be the cornerstone of our modernization efforts.

He then introduced Rail & Transit Administrator Meredith Slesinger who announced the 9 awardees of the Microtransit and Last Mile Grants.

Secretary Eng provided an update on the Sagamore Bridge Project. On March 12, the Department filed the final Environmental Impact Report. We expect to issue a Request for Qualifications in June.

The Secretary also provided an update on the Service Plaza. The Department intends to relaunch the procurement and indicated that we intend to re-constitute the P3 Commission to assist the Department with the procurement. In the meantime, we have added a QR code to our website for visitors to the current Service Plazas to provide real-time comments about the cleanliness of each plaza.

Director Mazzarella asked the Secretary about the Service Plaza

procurement. He wanted to know what was on the other side of the QR code. The Secretary stated that the link allows the public to tell us what they believe to be important. In response to a further request from Director Mazzarella, the Secretary agreed to make sure the link is available at every Service Plaza.

Director Bhatti asked if we had decided upon a type of procurement. The Secretary indicated that it was likely that MassDOT would pursue a DBOMF but are open to consider other methods as well.

Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver provided his report to the Board. Administrator Gulliver updated the Board on recent events in construction, including visits to District 5 and the Construction Management Certification graduation.

The Administrator also led a discussion on the 2026 Construction outlook. He discussed the recent completion of the Montgomery Russell bridge over the Westfield River, a project more than 3 years in the making.

In response to questioning from Director Mazzarella, the Administrator discussed the Hopkinton project. He indicated that the problem with the project was caused by a staging issue, the piles were placed too close to the

road, which caused sinkholes to form. The issue has been resolved and the project is complete.

Director King expressed his appreciation to the Highway staff on helping the citizens of Massachusetts through the recent storms.

Director Dimino commended the Administrator on his staff getting capital projects out the door. He encouraged Mr. Gulliver to provide more training for staff and asked for updates on the training and development issues. The Administrator thanked him and committed to providing regular updates to the Board.

Directors Bhatti, Batista, Koch and Dimino all expressed thanks to the Administrator and Highway staff for their Herculean efforts during the recent storms.

There was extensive discussion.

Registrar Ogilvie presented the report for the RMV.

She reported on Motorcycle Awareness Period, from March 23 – 30, 2026. She also led a discussion on the Single Sign On program. Starting May 18, 2026, customers will be prompted to create a MyMassGov account to

conduct RMV online transactions on myRMV such as renewing a driver's license. This replaces the current myRMV login method, instead of different usernames and passwords for each state agency service, customers can access many Massachusetts state services with a single login. It's easier to manage and secure.

Due to time constraints, the reports of Aeronautics and Rail & Transit were presented in writing.

Presentations and Actions

Manager of Capital Planning Michelle Scott then presented an update on FY27-31 Capital Investment Plan ("CIP") Development. Ms. Scott provided an overview of the CIP and discussed its organization. She reviewed how the plan fits into the Beyond Mobility Framework and reviewed funding sources. Regarding CTF Expansion, Ms. Scott discussed how the Fair Share revenues will be used to support a wide variety of transportation and provided example investments. She reviewed the CIP development timeline and upcoming Board presentations.

Director Beggan indicated that this item had been discussed at the recent Capital Programs Committee meeting. He thanked Ms. Scott for the thoroughness of the presentation and materials, and looked forward to hearing more about the CIP as we pursue the process.

Rail & Transit Administrator Slesinger presented an update on Compass Rail.

Compass Rail is intended to enhance mobility, expand transportation choices, and support economic development and climate goals through transportation investments. The West-East and North-South services comprise Compass Rail, which is made up of a mix of state, Amtrak, and CSX ROW ownership which utilizes Amtrak statutory rights to access freight corridors.

Ridership has grown by 99% since 2018 on the Berkshire Flyer.

In response to questions from Director Mazzarella, the Administrator indicated that the current travel time between Springfield and New York City is approximately 2 ½ hours.

Director Bhatti asked about the prospect of expanding capacity at

South Station. Secretary Eng stated that we have been working with our partners, including the MBTA and Amtrak, as well as with the US Postal Service and are looking at several options.

Mike McCabe, Erika Mazza and Amy Getchell then provided an update on the FIFA World Cup 26 preparations.

Mr. McCabe began the presentation by discussing the unprecedented security concerns related to the World Cup matches. He described the inter-agency coordination that is ongoing.

Mr. McCabe also discussed the Incident Command that will be used throughout the World Cup.

Ms. Mazza then discussed the security operation exercises that began on February 27 with a walk through at South Station. She also discussed the security plans that will be followed during the "Friendly Match" on March 26.

Amy Getchell discussed MassDOT's planning thus far. MassDOT is developing a traffic management plan for Route 1 in Foxborough, and is looking at various options for utilizing our Park and Ride lots to relieve some of the congestion.

Director King was interested in the impact this event will have on our union employees. He asked if any of the unions have been involved in the decision-making thus far. Ms. Mazza indicated that information has been shared with the unions and we will continue to work with them through the event. Secretary Eng added that as the Department continues to plan, more detailed conversations are taking place with the unions. Track work, etc. has been re-scheduled from during the matches.

Director Mazzarella stressed the need for communication, both within the Department and with the traveling public. The Secretary stated that the Department is hopeful that staff who are able to work remotely will do so during the matches.

That was the final item on the agenda. The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

VOTED: to adjourn at 2:24 p.m.

Director Batista

Yes

Director Beggan

Yes

Director Bhatti	Yes
Director Dimino	Yes
Director King	Yes
Director Mazarella	Yes
Chair Eng	Yes