



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



## MINUTES

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

June 18, 2024 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  
IN-PERSON:**

*Chair Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Director Joseph Beggan, Director Ilyas Bhatti, Director Richard Dimino, Director Lisa Iezzoni, Director Tim King, Director Tom Koch, Director Dean Mazarella (arrived at 12:03), Director Thomas McGee*

**BOARD MEMBERS  
PARTICIPATING  
REMOTELY:**

*Director Vanessa Otero*

**OTHERS  
PARTICIPATING:**

*Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver, Aeronautics Administrator Jeff DeCarlo, MBTA Deputy Chief of Staff Darrin McAuliffe, Chief Financial Officer David Pottier, RMV Chief of Staff Nancy Cox, Highway Engineer Amy Getchell, RMV Chief Counsel Kim McDonald, Program Coordinator Valerie Payne, Undersecretary Hayes Morrison, Liz Williams, Chief Labor Negotiator Olinda Marshall, Director of Major Projects Mike O'Dowd, Manager of Capital Planning Michelle Scott*

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

*General Counsel Douglas M. McGarrah, Deputy  
General Counsel Owen Kane*

Chair Tibbits-Nutt called to order the meeting of the MassDOT Board at 12:00 p.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 Beggan</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Bhatti</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Dimino</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Iezzoni</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Koch</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director McGee</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Director Otero</b>	<b>Present</b>

**Public Comment**

The following individuals provided public comment:

Seth Gadbois – Conservation Law Foundation – discussed Beyond Mobility and provided the Board with a letter of recommendations to MassDOT’s Long Range Plan: Beyond Mobility signed by 22 advocates. Letter is attached to these minutes.

Jarred Johnson – Transit Matters – discussed Beyond Mobility and encouraged the Department and the Board to prioritize Mode shift

opportunities as it develops the long-range plan.

Bob Turpasky – 350 Mass – discussed Beyond Mobility and suggested that there are too many people on the roads.

Chris Willenborg – Massachusetts Airport Management Association  
- spoke in favor of continued funding for the Aeronautics Division initiatives.

Tom Ryan – A Better City – discussed the Draft CIP and stressed that context is important in releasing the draft CIP for public comment; the public needs to know what the CIP does. He also suggested that funding for the Allston project should be included in the CIP.

Harry Mattison – Allston resident – would like to see a schedule/work plan for the Allston Focus Groups and asked for an update on the much-discussed layover yard.

### **Safety Briefing**

MBTA Deputy Chief of Staff Darrin McAuliffe presented the Safety Briefing.

### **Employee Recognition**

The Chair began the meeting by recognizing three MassDOT employees

for their remarkable work. RMV Chief of Staff Nancy Cox presented a Commendation from the Board to Program Coordinator Valerie Payne, General Counsel Doug McGarran presented a Commendation to RMV Chief Counsel Kimberly McDonald and Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver presented an award to Amy Getchell, an Engineer with the Highway Division.

**Minutes**

Chair Tibbits-Nutt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2024, 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 May 15, 2024.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</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>Abstain</b>
<b>Director Koch</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director McGee</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Otero</b>	<b>Yes</b>

## **MassDOT Standing Reports**

Secretary Tibbits-Nutt presented her report for Item #4, announcing that three entities had been selected to participate in the National Electric Vehicle Investment Program. The three companies, Applegreen Electric, Global Partners and Weston and Sampson will work with the Department to identify locations, install and maintain electric vehicle charging stations throughout the Commonwealth.

The Secretary also congratulated Regional Transit Authorities on recent grant awards.

On June 6, 2024, the Secretary participated in the Safe Routes to School awards celebration at the State House, at which Kim Brown of Scituate was named Crossing Guard of the Year.

RMV Chief of Staff Nancy Cox presented Item #5, the RMV report.

Ms. Cox discussed the upcoming low plate lottery which will run from June 17 to August 16, 2024. There are 298 low plate numbers available in this year's lottery.

Ms. Cox announced that more than 98% of all school buses had been inspected. On average, more than 100 buses are inspected each week, with

an overall passing rate of 94%.

Director Iezzoni asked if there are working wheelchair lifts on school buses. Ms. Cox did not know if that was part of the inspection but promised to get back to the Director with an answer.

In response to a question from Director King, Ms. Cox indicated that the RMV was adequately staffed with bus inspectors.

Administrator Jonathan Gulliver presented the Highway Division report, Item #6. The Administrator provided a recap of the May 18<sup>th</sup> Touch-A-Truck celebration held at various locations across the Commonwealth.

He also discussed the upcoming closure of the Sumner Tunnel and the projected construction schedule. The tunnel is expected to be closed to traffic from July 5 to August 5.

The Administrator also provided a statewide 4<sup>th</sup> of July Traffic forecast.

In response to a question from Director King, Mr. Gulliver indicated that the traffic forecast will be broadcast to news outlets and made available to the public in advance of the Holiday.

Director Bhatti noted that communication related to holiday traffic has been excellent and commended the Administrator and Highway staff. The

Secretary reminded the Board that Mass 511 is also a good resource for trip planning.

The Aeronautics Division Report, Item #7 was presented by Administrator DeCarlo.

Mr. DeCarlo discussed the statewide vegetation management program and the role Aeronautics plays in creating and maintaining safe airspace at General Aviation Airports.

The Administrator also discussed the Logan Aviation and Maritime STEM Expo which attracted over 1200 middle and high school students from throughout the Boston area.

In response to a question from the Secretary, the Administrator acknowledged that they were exploring ways to expand the program to other locations throughout the Commonwealth.

Item 8, the Rail and Transit Division Report was presented in writing and is available in the Board materials.

## **Presentations and Actions**

For Items#9 and #10, the Chair asked Chief Labor Negotiator Olinda Marshall to present two proposed collective bargaining agreements, with

Units A and D of the National Association of Government Employees.

Ms. Marshall presented the agreements separately, although the agreements were similar in form and substance.

Both agreements cover a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024. While the agreements still require final approval from the Union members, it is believed that this is fair deal for both the employees and the Department.

Chair Tibbits-Nutt asked for a motion to approve the agreement with Unit A of NAGE as presented.

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

**VOTED: To authorize the Secretary of Transportation, or their designee, to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE), collective bargaining representative for Unit A, for the term from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, and to execute any necessary or ancillary documents in the name and on behalf of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to effectuate this agreement.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</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 Koch</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director McGee</b>	<b>Yes</b>



**Director Otero**

**Yes**

Chair Tibbits-Nutt then asked for a motion to approve the agreement with Unit D of NAGE as presented.

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

**VOTED: To authorize the Secretary of Transportation, or their designee, to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE), collective bargaining representative for Unit D, for the term from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, and to execute any necessary or ancillary documents in the name and on behalf of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to effectuate this agreement.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</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 Iezsoni</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Koch</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director McGee</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Otero</b>	<b>Yes</b>

MassDOT CFO, David Pottier presented Item #10, a request to approve the FY25 Operating Budget.

Mr. Pottier explained that there are three proposed budgets, The

Governor’s Budget, as well as House and Senate versions. As there doesn’t appear to be an agreement on a final budget before the end of the fiscal year, the Department is seeking authorization from the Board to move forward with the most conservative budget proposal.

Extensive discussion ensued.

Chair Tibbits-Nutt then asked for a motion to approve the budget as presented.

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

**VOTED: To approve the FY25 Operating Budget as presented and authorize the Chief Financial Officer to forward it to the Executive Office for Administration and Finance in compliance with our Enabling Legislation.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</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 Iezsoni</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Koch</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director McGee</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Otero</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Director of Major Projects, Mike O'Dowd presented Item #12, a request for authorization to proceed with a Design Build Highway project, entitled Chelmsford/Lowell Bridge Bundle.

Mr. O'Dowd described the proposed project which primarily consists of the design and construction of two full bridge replacements. The project includes sections of full depth HMA pavement, pavement milling, and variable depth HMA overlay and/or leveling course as required for development of proposed cross slopes. Also included are construction of ADA compliant sidewalks, pedestrian ramps, guardrail, associated guardrail end treatments, fences, granite curb, side slopes and paving markings.

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

**VOTED: To authorize the Secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, or their designee, to award and execute MassDOT Contract No.12156 titled Bridge Bundle, Replacement of Bridges C-08-036 Westford Street and C-08-039 (Gorham Street) over I-495 Design-Build Project, with S&R Corporation and Transystems, in a form approved by the General Counsel, in the amount of \$41,780,000.00.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</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 Koch</b>	<b>Yes</b>

<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director McGee</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Otero</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Michelle Scott, Manager of Capital Planning, presented Item #13, an update on the FY25-29 Capital Investment Plan (CIP).

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

Ms. Scott discussed the development progress of the CIP and asked that the Board to release the draft CIP for public comment.

Extensive discussion ensued.

Director Dimino indicated that the Finance & Audit Committee would like a presentation on Highway's Capital Needs, similar to the presentation given to the MBTA Board.

Director Dimino also asked if the CIP will be amended when the Finance Plan for the Allston project is adopted. Ms, Scott will provide the Committee with a response.

Discussion ensued.

Director Koch pointed out the fact that the Chapter 90 allotment has not changed in many years and noted that this must change at some point.

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

**VOTED: That the MassDOT Board of Directors release the draft 2025-2029 Capital Investment Plan for public comment.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</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 Koch</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director McGee</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Otero</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Item #14, an update on Beyond Mobility, was presented by Liz Williams.

Ms. Williams reported that more than 300 comments had been received thus far. Over 100 Action Items were developed for MassDOT and the MBTA to take to address the Beyond Mobility vision statements.

Extensive discussion ensued.

Undersecretary Hayes Morrison presented Item #15, an update on the Transportation Funding Task Force.

Ms. Hayes presented a brief history of the Task Force and its origin in Governor Healy's Executive Order #626. The Task Force is chaired jointly by the Secretaries of Administration and Finance and Transportation.

The Undersecretary shared the proposed meeting schedule for the Task Force leading to the report to the Governor, due on or before December 31, 2024.

Jonathan Gulliver presented the final item on the agenda, Item #15, an update on the Allston Multimodal Project.

Administrator Gulliver provided a project overview, as well as the expected timeline for the project. He also provided an update on the Reconnecting Communities Grant awarded for the project and discussed the

newly constituted Task Force Working Groups who will be focusing on specific aspects of the project.

Chair Tibbits-Nutt asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

**VOTED: To adjourn at 2:46 p.m.**

<b>Chair Tibbits-Nutt</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 Iezsoni</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director King</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Mazarella</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Director Otero</b>	<b>Yes</b>