



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



MINUTES

Meeting of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Board of Directors

March 19 AT 10:00 A.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
IN-PERSON:**

Chair Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Director Joseph Beggan, Director Ilyas Bhatti, Director Richard Dimino, Director Lisa Iezzoni,, Director Thomas Koch (left meeting at 11:48 a.m.), Director Dean Mazarella

**BOARD MEMBERS
PARTICIPATING
REMOTELY:**

Director Tim King (entered meeting at 10:05, left meeting at 11:25)

**OTHERS
PARTICIPATING:**

Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver, Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie, Administrator of Rail & Transit Meredith Slesinger, Acting Aeronautics Administrator Denise Garcia, Undersecretary Hayes Morrison, Deputy Chief Engineer Jack Moran, Director of Major Projects Michael O'Dowd, Deputy Chief Safety Officer Michael Cairo, Manager of Capital Planning Michelle Scott

OTHERS PRESENT:

Interim General Counsel Susan D. Cobb, 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:

Chair Tibbits-Nutt	Present
Director Beggan	Present
Director Bhatti	Present
Director Dimino	Present
Director Koch	Present
Director Mazzarella	Present
Director McGee	Present
Director Iezzoni	Present

Safety Briefing

Deputy Chief Safety Officer Michael Cairo presented the Safety Briefing. Mr. Cairo warned of the dangers of drinking and driving and reminded the Board and meeting attendees that “buzzed driving is drunk driving.”

Moment of Silence

The Chair offered remarks about the recently departed Cape Cod Commission Director Tom Cahir and asked for a moment of silence in his honor.

Employee Recognition

The Chair continued the meeting by recognizing two MassDOT

employees. Registrar Colleen Ogilvie presented RMV employee Laurie Jarvis with a commendation from the Board and Acting Aeronautics Administrator Denise Garcia presented Manager of Aviation Operations Sean Benners with a commendation from the Board.

On behalf of the Board and the Department, the Chair thanked each employee for their dedication and service to the people of the Commonwealth.

Minutes

Chair Tibbits-Nutt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 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 February 26, 2025.

Chair Tibbits-Nutt	yes
Director Beggan	yes
Director Bhatti	yes
Director Dimino	yes
Director King	yes
Director Koch	yes
Director Mazzarella	yes
Director McGee	yes
Director Iezzoni	yes

STANDING REPORTS

Chair Tibbits-Nutt then presented her report to the Board. The Chair discussed recent visits to the MWRTA, Conway (with Gov. Healey), Franklin and Somerville.

The Secretary also announced that March 18 is Transit Driver Appreciation Day.

Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver provided his report to the Board. Administrator Gulliver discussed the upcoming construction schedule of the I-90/I-95 Project.

Mr. Gulliver also provided an update on the North Washington Street Bridge (aka the Bill Russell Bridge). It is expected that full beneficial use of the bridge will be reached in April or May and the project should be completed by late Summer.

The Administrator also announced that April 21-25 is National Work Zone Awareness Week.

Registrar Colleen Ogilvie then presented the report of the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The Registrar provided updates on recent changes to the Commercial Drivers License regulations, the Medical Records Certification

Integration and REAL ID Requirements.

The Registrar also introduced two new license plates available in Massachusetts, one commemorating the life and works of Dr. Seuss and a second benefitting Zoo New England.

Meredith Slesinger, Administrator of the Rail & Transit Division, then provided her report to the Board. Ms. Slesinger discussed the Community Transit Grant Program and recent awards made by the Division as well as recent Rail Federal Grants.

The Administrator also led a discussion about Compass Rail and its ridership growth.

Denise Garcia, Acting Aeronautics Administrator discussed staff's participation in the recent NASAO Legislative Conference in Washington, the Division's outreach efforts to groups like Girls, Inc. and Empower Yourself and the reformed, automated process of aircraft registration.

Presentations and Actions

Director of Major Projects, Mike O'Dowd presented Item #9, a request that the MassDOT Board of Directors authorize the Secretary, or their designee, to award and execute MassDOT Contract No. 129075 titled

Worcester: Bridge Reconstruction of W-44-083, Harrison Street of I-290 & W-44-093, Laurel Street over I-290, with John Rocchio Corporation , in the amount of \$19,898,470.00.

Mr. O'Dowd indicated that the project will address immediate needs to replace the deteriorated Bridge infrastructure and pavement, and improve deficient pedestrian and bicycle accommodations while improving safety, as well as reducing ongoing maintenance costs for the City of Worcester.

The following scope involves the superstructure replacement of Bridge Nos. W-44-083 (212) and W-44-093 (213), carrying Harrison Street and Laurel Street, respectively, over I-290 in the City of Worcester.

The Harrison Street Bridge, No. W-44-083 (212), is a two-span structure with an overall length of approximately 141 feet and an overall width of 50 feet. The structure has a curb-to-curb width of 40 feet and carries two lanes, one in each direction and a 5-foot sidewalk on each side. The existing superstructure, built in 1958, consists of two simply supported spans each with seven steel rolled beams with cover plates supporting an 8-inch reinforced concrete deck with a 2.5-inch concrete wearing surface. The bridge substructure consists of a pair of reinforced concrete cantilevered abutments,

a three-column concrete pier and four concrete cantilevered u-wing walls.

Original plans indicate that all substructure elements are supported directly on ledge.

The Laurel Street Bridge, No. W-44-093 (213), is a two-span structure with an overall length of approximately 138 feet and an overall width of 45 feet. The structure has a curb-to-curb width of 28 feet and carries two lanes, one in each direction and an 8.5-foot sidewalk on each side. The existing superstructure, built in 1958, consists of two simply supported spans each with six steel rolled beams with cover plates supporting an 8-inch reinforced concrete deck with a 2.5-inch concrete wearing surface. The bridge substructure consists of one reinforced concrete cantilevered abutment and one un-reinforced concrete gravity abutment, a three-column concrete pier, a pair of concrete cantilevered u-wingwalls and a pair of concrete gravity u-wingwalls. Original plans indicate that all substructure elements are supported directly on ledge.

Overall, both bridge superstructures will be completely replaced with two-span continuous plate girder superstructure supported on rehabilitated existing abutments and multi-column pier.

Director Beggan indicated that this item had been thoroughly discussed at the Capital Programs Committee meeting and that the Committee unanimously voted to recommend its approval.

Further Discussion ensued.

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

VOTED: to authorize the Secretary, or her designee, to award and execute MassDOT Contract No. 129075 titled Bridge Replacement & Related Work W-44-083 Harrison St. over I-290 & W-44-093 Laurel Street over I-290, with JOHN ROCCHIO CORPORATION, in a form approved by the General Counsel, in the amount of \$19,898,470.00.

Chair Tibbits-Nutt	yes
Director Beggan	yes
Director Bhatti	yes
Director Dimino	yes
Director King	yes
Director Koch	yes
Director Mazarella	yes
Director McGee	yes
Director Iezzoni	yes

Deputy Chief Engineer Jack Moran then presented Item #10, the semi-annual update on the MassDOT Highway Capital Plan.

Mr. Moran led a discussion on the Capital Plan Delivery Measures, including Completeness, Timeliness and Accuracy.

As to the Completeness metric, Mr. Moran described the various components to the Department's Advertising Plan. The Department closely monitors the time from advertising to Notice to Proceed.

Finally, Mr. Moran discussed the accuracy of the Engineer's Estimate for each proposed projects.

There was extensive discussion.

Manager of Capital Planning, Michelle Scott then presented Item #11, the kickoff of the Development Process for the FY 2026-2030 Capital Investment Plan ("CIP").

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.

Beyond Mobility, MassDOT's statewide long-range transportation plan, serves as a blueprint for guiding transportation decision making. MassDOT's FY26-30 CIP will make connections between *Beyond Mobility* and capital investments by identifying how current CIP programs support Beyond Mobility priority areas and address action items, continuing existing or advancing new investments that address priority areas and action items.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration has announced a plan to invest \$8 billion in transportation over the next 10 years. The CIP will advance recommendations from the Transportation Funding Task Force. MassDOT will follow related policy developments and work to reflect enacted legislation and finalized spending plans in the CIP.

Discussion ensued.

Jack Moran returned to present the final item on the agenda, a report on the 2024 Triennial Inspection of the Metropolitan Highway System.

The Triennial Report satisfies a requirement of the MHS Trust Agreement for regular inspection of the system.

Staff are reviewing triennial recommendations for prioritization of MHS maintenance program. Recommendations will also be considered in upcoming 26-2030 Capital Investment Plan.

The Office of Transportation Planning will be issuing a Request For Proposals to develop a Resiliency Framework for the Metropolitan Highway System.

Discussion ensued.

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 12:09 p.m.

Chair Tibbits-Nutt	yes
Director Beggan	yes
Director Bhatti	yes
Director Dimino	yes
Director Koch	yes
Director Mazarella	yes
Director McGee	yes
Director Iezzoni	yes