



Draft Memorandum for the Record Regional Transportation Advisory Council Meeting

May 18, 2022, Meeting Minutes

2:30 PM–2:45 PM, Zoom Virtual Conferencing Platform

Lenard Diggins, Chair, representing the Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions

Lenard Diggins called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. Members and guests attending the meeting introduced themselves. For the attendance list, see page 3.

2. 3C Documents Committee's TIP Comment Letter— *Andy Reker, City of Cambridge*

Andy Reker, City of Cambridge, introduced the 3C Documents Committee's TIP Comment Letter and requested the Advisory Council vote to send the letter to the MPO board.

Discussion

David Montgomery, Town of Needham, suggested replacing “anticipate” with “anticipates” in the overall assessment section of the letter on the third line.

D. Montgomery asked why “complete” in “complete streets” was in quotations in the first paragraph, second to last line. A. Reker answered that “complete streets” is jargon and has an amorphous definition, so the letter should have quotations around the language to reflect its ambiguity. John McQueen, WalkBoston, suggested that using quotations for both words in “complete streets” would be appropriate because that is how the program is described in funding programs.

Lastly, D. Montgomery suggested the Advisory Council consider whether to use RTAC or Advisory Council to identify itself in the letter. L. Diggins agreed to switching RTAC to Advisory Council in the letter because it improves the clarity of the letter.

L. Diggins suggested changing the last sentence in the overall assessment section to reflect that this is the first time a cost-benefit analysis is being done through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Further, he wanted to reflect that the Advisory Council is happy that the MPO started and will continue to do a cost-benefit analysis. L. Diggins further

suggested the sign-off include members of the 3C Committee and not just the chair's signature.

A. Reker suggested emphasizing the need for additional technical assistance looking forward into future years and stating that current funding does not reflect the need that the Advisory Council thinks is out there. A. Reker recommended changing the last paragraph to include that the MPO "provide additional technical assistance, resources, and staff" to support technical assistance efforts.

J. McQueen suggested the MPO should be staffing up for technical assistance now because it will give underserved municipalities a chance to better compete for available resources in the future.

Vote

A motion to send the 3C Documents Committee's TIP Comment Letter to the MPO board for final approval was made by the Town of Needham (David Montgomery) and seconded by WalkBoston (John McQueen).

3. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by WalkBoston (John McQueen) and seconded by the City of Cambridge (Andy Reker). The motion carried.

Attendees

Member Municipalities	Representatives and Alternates
Brookline	Dan Martin
Cambridge	Andy Reker
Needham	David Montgomery
Weymouth	Owen MacDonald

Citizen Advocacy Groups	Attendees
American Council of Engineering Companies	Fred Moseley
Association for Public Transportation	Barry M. Steinberg
National Rural Transit Assistance Program	Scott Zadakis
WalkBoston	John McQueen

Agencies	Attendees
Division of Capital Asset Management	Schuyler Larrabee

Other Attendees	Affiliation
Fayssal Hussein	Hussein Design Group

MPO Staff/Central Transportation Planning Staff
Jonathan Church
Logan Casey

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