Congestion Management Process Committee Draft Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2012 CTPS Conference Room

The MPO's CMP Committee met for the second time on May 3, 2012 (meeting attendance attached).

Committee Chairman, Lourenço Dantas, Massport, opened the meeting at 1:05 PM with welcoming remarks. Efi Pagitsas recapped the minutes from the previous meeting and highlighted few topics that were discussed at that meeting, including the relationship of congestion to the region's economic activity and the incident management program.

As part of general remarks, David Koses, Newton, reiterated his comment from the previous meeting on neighborhood impacts of the park-and-ride lot fee increase (i.e., commuters parking on residential streets while nearby park-and-ride lots are empty.) Staff suggested that a neighborhood impact study could be conducted for the community. Other committee members suggested that the city of Newton could implement a parking permit program for residential use only of on-street parking, as one approach to tackling the issue.

One of the goals for today's meeting was to identify a mission for the CMP committee. (See handout #1) Member discussion led to drafting the following CMP Committee Mission:

"Support sustainable growth in economic activity, sustain livability in the region, prevent the increase in congestion, and improve mobility, efficiency, and safety for people, goods, and services by encouraging programs that reduce single occupant vehicle use, including transportation systems management and operations, travel demand management, and technology."

Next, Efi presented the simplified CMP Flow chart (See handout #2). Steve Olanoff asked if there were CMP performance measures for livability. Efi explained that livability is covered in the LRTP; it is not measured in the CMP, but the CMP promotes livability indirectly through other factors, like promoting efficiency in transit, supporting the retrofit of roadway design to integrate non-motorized modes and ADA compliance, and striving to reduce vehicle delays for improved air quality and safety of the public. However, if the members feel that the CMP should add to or modify the present CMP measures to include *livability*, this could be a topic of discussion for the committee. Ed Tarallo requested that the visions/policies and performance measures related to the CMP be made available at a future meeting. Other members said it would be beneficial to present the "LRTP chart" that specified the different goals/visions at the previous MPO meeting, and make it available to this committee.

Efi talked about the CMP schedule for the rest of the year, as well as for FY2012-2013. (See handout #3)

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Members suggested that the last task for this year (white paper on economic activity) be postponed until the next fiscal year as it would be preferable that first the MBTA holds a Q and A with the CMP committee on the modeling results for the fare increase and potential congestion impacts.

Ed Tarallo, Woburn, asked about the potential economic impacts from the service cuts. Efi mentioned that current numbers show that we would have 75% more congestion on the roads if we didn't have the present transit system in place. There was concern among members regarding the MBTA service cuts and their impact on congestion. Members discussed the possibility of having someone from the CTPS Transit Service Group and/or the MBTA make a presentation on the potential impacts of the fare increase and service cuts. It was also suggested that the rest of the MPO members be invited to this presentation.

Tom Kadzis, Boston, asked how this presentation ties into the CMP committee mission. L. Dantas explained that there is an educational aspect to this: understanding the modeling tools available to MPO members in support of their decision making.

For the next meeting, it was agreed that a presentation be made by staff and the MBTA, with a focus on how the service cuts are modeled and the latest modeling results.

Items for future agendas

- Presentation by CTPS staff (as noted above)
- Overview of CMP Visions and Policies, and how they relate to the LRTP Visions and Policies.

Meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.

HG/RH/hg/rh