



TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Glenn Eaton, Executive Director
RE: Draft Amendment #5 to the Highway Element of
the FFY 2023-2027 Montachusett
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
DATE: June 29, 2023

Based upon the Montachusett Metropolitan Planning Organization Public Participation Program (PPP) developed by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) that attempts to establish a proactive public involvement process as required under the Metropolitan Planning Regulations, this memo serves as notice of a 21 day public review and comment period for Draft Highway Amendment #5 to the MPO Endorsed FFY 2023-2027 Montachusett Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the availability of the draft document developed by the Montachusett MPO. The public involvement process with the time established for review of the TIP and its Amendments will satisfy the Program of Projects (POP) requirements for transit projects. The public review and comment period will commence on Monday July 3, 2023 and close at the end of business on Monday July 24, 2023.

The Amendment reflects a change in the total cost for one (1) project from the FFY 2023 Highway Element. Project #607432 Westminster- Rehabilitation & Box Widening on Route 140, from Patricia Road to the Princeton Town Line. The cost has increased from \$6,375,205 to a new total cost of \$10,108,853. This project utilizes regional Target Funds. To remain fiscally constrained in FFY 2023, this project will make use of \$2,260,338 in available target funds and additional funds under statewide funding programs for the balance. With these changes, the FFY 2023-2027 TIP will remain fiscally constrained. At an online meeting held on June 28, 2023, the Montachusett MPO reviewed the proposed Amendment and voted that it be released for public review and comment.

A summary of the proposed amendment is available for review. Copies can be obtained online at the MRPC website, www.mrpc.org, or copies can be mailed upon request by contacting the MRPC at (978) 345-7376.

We ask that any interested party review draft Amendment #5 and make any comments that they deem appropriate. Written or verbal comments will be accepted up till the close of business on Monday July 24, 2023 and should be addressed: TIP Amendment Comments, MRPC, 464 Abbott Avenue, Leominster, MA 01453. Comments can also be sent via email to: mrpc@mrpc.org. Please specify TIP Amendment Comments in the subject line. In addition, comments may be made during the online Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee (MJTC) meeting to be held on Wednesday July 12, 2023 at 2:30 PM. Comments received will be reviewed and incorporated into a final TIP Amendment #5.

If no significant objections are made during the public review period, the final document will be forwarded for endorsement to the MPO at an online meeting to be held at 1:00 PM on Wednesday July 26, 2023.

Please refer to the MRPC website Calendar for information on how to join the virtual MJTC and MPO meetings through GoToMeeting.com.

If there are questions on the Draft Amendment #5, the review and comment period or how to participate in the online meetings, please contact the MRPC.