

Montachusett Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMPO)
Draft Amendment #5 to the
FFY 2023-2027 Montachusett Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Comment Period: July 3, 2023 to July 24, 2023

Reason for Amendment: MassDOT has notified the MPO that the project under consideration has seen a cost increase from \$6,375,205 to \$10,108,853; an increase of \$3,733,648 or approximately 58.6%. Because this represents an increase of more than 10% for a programmed project over \$5,000,000, an Amendment to the FFY 2023 Highway Element for the current FFY 2023-2027 Montachusett TIP is required. This project is also a Target project under Section 1A – Regionally Prioritized Projects. The endorsed TIP is fiscally constrained for FFY 2023 and has available \$2,260,338 in Target funds for FFY 2023. The state has also committed to fund the remaining project cost that exceeds the regional Target through statewide funds under Section 2B State Prioritized Modernization Projects. Through this mix of funding, FFY 2023 will remain fiscally constrained.

- **Proposed Amendment to Adjust the Cost of a Project in Section 1A - Regionally Prioritized Projects and to Add Funding Listings Under Section 2A State Prioritized Modernization Projects**

From FFY 2023:

FFY	Project #	Community	Description	Dist.	Fund Source	Total Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds
2023	607432	Westminster	WESTMINSTER- REHABILITATION & BOX WIDENING ON ROUTE 140, FROM PATRICIA ROAD TO THE PRINCETON T.L.	3	STBG	\$6,375,205	\$5,100,164	\$1,275,041

To FFY 2023:

Section 1A - Regionally Prioritized Projects

FFY	Project #	Community	Description	Dist.	Fund Source	Total Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds
2023	607432	Westminster	WESTMINSTER- REHABILITATION & BOX WIDENING ON ROUTE 140, FROM PATRICIA ROAD TO THE PRINCETON T.L.	3	STBG	\$8,635,543	\$6,908,434	\$1,727,109

Add to Section 2B - State Prioritized Modernization Projects

FFY	Project #	Community	Description	Dist.	Fund Source	Total Funds	Federal Funds	State Funds
2023	607432	Westminster	WESTMINSTER- REHABILITATION & BOX WIDENING ON ROUTE 140, FROM PATRICIA ROAD TO THE PRINCETON T.L.	3	STBG	\$1,173,310	\$938,648	\$234,662
2023	607432	Westminster	WESTMINSTER- REHABILITATION & BOX WIDENING ON ROUTE 140, FROM PATRICIA ROAD TO THE PRINCETON T.L.	3	TAP	\$300,000	\$240,000	\$60,000

Total Project Cost	\$10,108,853	\$8,087,082	\$2,021,771
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Fiscal Constraint Analysis		
	Before Amendment #5	After Amendment #5
FFY 2023 Target Funds	\$13,383,863	\$13,383,863
FFY 2023 Programmed Projects	\$11,123,525	\$13,383,863
Balance	\$2,260,338	\$0.00

The following is from the MPO Endorsed FFY 2023-2027 Montachusett TIP regarding Amendment and Adjustment actions.

AMENDMENT/ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURES

In order to minimize constraints on programming projects, the endorsed TIP will have the provision, as adopted by the MPO, that will allow relatively minor modifications be made to the TIP without formal MPO action. Significant changes will continue to require MPO action through the amendment process.

Minor modifications may include such actions as:

- changes in funding amounts (typically less than 10% of the total cost) or categories within the same fiscal year.

Minor modifications will be accomplished through an agreed-upon administrative action with the approval of the MPO. That action will include approval of the modification by the MPO at a duly constituted meeting and written notification of the MPO members. Under an adjustment, a formal signatory endorsement and a 21-day public review period will not be required.

Significant changes to the TIP include major actions such as:

- moving a project in either direction between the sequential years, ex. Years 1 and 2, Years 2 and 3, etc.
- the addition or deletion of a Federal Aid project.
- if the design, scope or budget of a project is found to have changed significantly as determined by the MJTC and MPO (typically cost changes of more than 10%).
- moving a project from Non-Federal Aid to one of the Federal Aid funding categories.
- moving a project in either direction between non-sequential fiscal years, ex. from Year 1 of the TIP to Year 3.
- advancing a project from the Appendix project list to either Years 1, 2, 3 or 4.
- advancing a project from the out Year 5 to either Years 1, 2 or 3.

Significant changes to the TIP will require formal endorsement of an amendment. This amendment process will include a 21-day public comment period, or an abbreviated comment period of not less than ten (10) days under what the MPO considers to be extraordinary circumstances, as outlined in the federal planning regulations and the Montachusett Public Participation Program (as endorsed May 25, 2016 and amended on March 15, 2017), approval of the amendment and signatory endorsement by MPO members at a subsequent MPO meeting.

The MPO will review each request change and determine whether the adjustment or amendment procedure is required for the proposed action. Additionally, MassDOT’s Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) procedures offer more detailed examples of what would constitute an amendment or adjustment. When such an action is warranted and it is not clear from the indicators above which action that may be, the STIP procedures will be consulted to determine what action is appropriate.

Highway Project STIP Revision Definitions and Procedures

Type of Revision	Definition	Procedure	Notes
Major Project Cost Change	Increase or decrease of \$500,000 or greater for projects programmed under \$5,000,000 and greater than 10% of the total cost for projects programmed over \$5,000,000	Amendment	The “increase” or “decrease” in cost is relative to the Total Federal Participating Cost (TFPC) of a project.