

# Draft Memorandum for the Record

## Community Advisory Council Meeting

### November 3, 2025, Meeting Minutes

2:00 PM–3:30 PM, Zoom

Caitlin Allen-Connelly, Chair, representing TransitMatters

## Meeting Agenda

### 1. Introductions

Members attending the meeting introduced themselves. (See attendance list beginning page 3.)

### 2. Chair's Report—*Caitlin Allen-Connelly, TransitMatters*

Caitlin Allen-Connelly, TransitMatters, provided takeaways from the October MPO board meetings, which include development updates to project funding and delivery, the Vision Zero Action Plan, and community engagement.

### 3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

### 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2025, meeting was made by A Better City (Scott Mullen) and seconded by 495/MetroWest Partnership (Jason Palitsch). The minutes were approved.

### 5. Advisory Council Member Information Sharing

Members from 495/MetroWest Partnership, MassBike, Watertown Transportation Management Association (TMA), and the Town of Natick shared projects or initiatives with the Advisory Council.

### *Discussion*

J. Palitsch shared an overview of the 495/MetroWest Partnership and areas of work such as economic and workforce development, transportation, housing, and water. The organization's transportation advocacy work is focused on roadways, commuter rail, and regional transit authority services. Galen Mook (MassBike) and J. Palitsch discussed the organization's goals to incentivize mode shift for workforce transportation. Amir Wilson (A Better City) and J. Palitsch discussed travel patterns within the 495/MetroWest service area.

G. Mook shared an overview of MassBike’s advocacy efforts, including its current efforts related to micromobility and Vision Zero. Maha Aslam (LivableStreets Alliance) and G. Mook discussed that the micromobility commission’s recommendations related to speed and pricing are dependent on the context and jurisdiction.

Sophia Galimore, Watertown TMA, shared an overview of the Watertown TMA including its efforts to improve mobility with the City of Watertown and grant opportunities related to transportation demand management. Becky Kin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology/TransitMatters, and S. Galimore discussed strategies to promote alternative transportation options in Watertown.

Morgan Griffiths, Town of Natick, shared an overview of the development of the Town of Natick’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan. G. Mook discussed the Cochituate Rail Trail as a regional connector for recreational and transportation uses.

## **6. Bluebikes and MBTA Connections—*Tanner Bonner, MPO staff***

Tanner Bonner, MPO staff, presented an overview of the [Bluebikes and MBTA Connections](#) study. The study explored how Bluebikes and MBTA networks are interconnected and their potential interactions for users of the systems.

T. Bonner discussed strategies to improve Bluebikes and MBTA connections, including Bluebikes station siting and transit integration opportunities.

### ***Discussion***

M. Aslam and T. Bonner discussed the engagement strategies for the study including engaging with municipalities and TMAs around local experiences. T. Bonner stated the study was a limited scope exploratory data analysis study.

Wig Zamore, Somerville resident, and T. Bonner discussed available data on travel patterns and air pollution exposure to people who bike.

M. Griffiths and T. Bonner discussed payment integration to connect Bluebikes and MBTA and micromobility opportunities.

Elias Fen, TransitMatters, and T. Bonner discussed how the research can inform more efficient routes and connections. They discussed how travel patterns are influenced by available stations and the transit network.

Amir Wilson, A Better City, and T. Bonner discussed the impact of expanded micromobility options to serve local needs. A. Wilson noted the idea to create community profiles based on how residents in different municipalities may interact and use Bluebikes.

## 7. Members' Items

Pete Wilson, Transportation for Massachusetts (T4MA), shared that T4MA will be holding a live panel discussion on autonomous vehicles on November 17.

## 8. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by 495/MetroWest Partnership (Jason Palitsch) and seconded by A Better City (Scott Mullen). The motion carried.

## Attendees

Member Municipalities	Representatives and Alternates
Chelsea	Sara Han
Natick	Morgan Griffiths

  

Community-Based Organizations	Attendees
495/MetroWest Partnership	Jason Palitsch, Tom Driscoll
A Better City	Scott Mullen, Amir Wilson
Abundant Housing MA	Jesse Kanson-Benanav
Bike to the Sea	Jonah Chiarenza
Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corp. (CSNDC)	Jacynda Epenshade
Conservation Law Foundation (CLF)	Paulina Muratore
LivableStreets Alliance	Maha Aslam
MassBike	Galen Mook, Alexis Hosea-Abbott
Mystic River Watershed Association	Karl Alexander
Mystic Valley Elder Services	Meg von Lossnitzer, Sheila Buckland
Prevention Research Center (PRC) on Nutrition and Physical Activity, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health	Angie Cradock
Transportation for Massachusetts (T4MA)	Pete Wilson
TransitMatters	Caitlin Allen-Connelly, Will Palmer
Watertown Transportation Management Association (TMA)	Sophia Galimore

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**Other Attendees**

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**Affiliation**

Hosu Chang	Conservation Law Foundation
Sam Downes	Town of Brookline
Elias Fen	TransitMatters
Becky Lin	MIT DUSP/TransitMatters
Jonathan Mishara	Conservation Law Foundation
Robert Warren	
Wig Zamore	

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**MPO Staff**

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Tanner Bonner
David Hong
Jia Huang
Meghan O'Connor
Gina Perille
Ibbu Quraishi
Sean Rourke
Sam Taylor
Tegin Teich

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