



**Meeting  
Notes**

Attendees: Attached

Date/Time: October 7, 2008 10 AM - 12 PM

Project No.: 10640.00

Place: CMRPC

Re: Worcester Regional Mobility Study -  
Technical Committee Meeting 4

Notes taken by: VHB

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AGENDA

- Existing Conditions
- Traffic Data Collection
- Study Framework Update
- Study Advisory Group
- Next Steps

EXISTING CONDITIONS

D. Cooke (VHB) opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda and noted that the focus of this meeting was to begin the Existing Conditions review, provide an update on the Study Framework, and establish the agenda for the Advisory Group meeting. The meeting will conclude with a discussion of the Advisory Group meeting and the first Public Informational Meeting.

Notes from the September 16th TC Meeting were distributed to the group. Comments should be emailed to D. Cooke or J. Wanat (VHB). The notes will be posted to the study website in advance of the next TC meeting. The slides from TC Meetings 1, 2, and 3 have been posted to the website also, under "Study Documents". The website address has changed to [www.vhb.com/worcesterregionalmobility](http://www.vhb.com/worcesterregionalmobility).

CMRPC staff distributed and reviewed a map depicting congested corridors with a volume-to-capacity ratio over 1.0, based on the current condition in the CMRPC Regional Travel Demand Model. The majority of the congested corridors fall within the study area bounds. There were a few segments not shown as congested that will be reviewed, including Cambridge Street, Park Avenue, Belmont Street (Route 9).

J. Wanat provided an example of the Synchro traffic operations model that is being developed for the study area intersections followed by a safety discussion on the following key points:

- With regards to ramp spacing on I-290, there were a total of 7 ramps that are not adequately spaced, based on AASHTO, they are:

- I-290 WB:
  - Route 9/Belmont Street on-ramp / Central Street Downtown off-ramp (Exit 17)
  - Central Street Downtown on-ramp / Route 122 Grafton Street off-ramp (Exit 14)
- I-290 EB:
  - Route 122A on-ramp / Route 122 off-ramp (Exit 14)
  - Route 122 EB on-ramp / Route 122 WB on-ramp
  - Route 122 WB on-ramp / Shrewsbury Street off-ramp (Exit 15)
  - Shrewsbury Street off-ramp (Exit 15) / Central Street off-ramp (Exit 16)
  - Central Street on-ramp / Route 9 off-ramp (Exit 17)
- There were 24 intersections in the study area that were listed on the MHD Top 200 Intersection Crash List for 2004 to 2006; the top location was Route 9/Quinsigamond Avenue (however this intersection was recently improved which is not reflected in the data); VHB will conduct a 3-year crash inventory for each study area intersection to show crash types, severity, time-of-day, and crash rates compared to other intersections in the district.
- Concentrations of high vehicle crash locations occurred at Route 70 (Lincoln Street), and Route 9 (Lake Quinsigamond area, Lincoln Square, Elm Park, Park Ave). High crash intersections occurred at Tatnuck Square and Webster Square.
- High pedestrian collisions occurred in the vicinity of Chandler Street (Route 122) and Main Street; there were no high bicycle crash locations in the study area on the top 200 report.

J. Wanat provided an update of the traffic data inventory and reviewed the locations where new traffic counts would be conducted. New counts will be taken through November 1<sup>st</sup> while traffic patterns are typical (before holidays, when schools are in session).

#### STUDY FRAMEWORK UPDATE

D. Cooke provided an update on the study framework. Advisory Group invitations have been completed by VHB/CMRPC. The study area map and goals/objectives have been revised based on feedback from the last TC meeting and are now considered final drafts, pending Advisory Group review. All information has been posted to the study website.

#### STUDY ADVISORY GROUP

D. Cooke reviewed the final Advisory Group member list. CMRPC has made contact with a representative from the FTA for the Advisory Group, and will likely add them to the list. The Advisory Group meeting agenda was discussed and revised by the TC. The TC requested an advance copy of the slides and handouts for the Advisory Group meeting.

#### NEXT STEPS

The first Advisory Group meeting is set for October 14<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. VHB will send advance copies of the slides and handouts to the TC. The next TC Meeting will be on either October 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> at CMRPC from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. VHB will send out an email to the group requesting a preference. The first Public Informational Meeting was tentatively set for November 12<sup>th</sup>, location and time to be determined (the date changed to November 19<sup>th</sup> after the meeting). The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

