NAME(s): Alexandra Kleyman, AICP

NAME OF PRESENTER(s) (if different than above):

PRESENTER(s’) BRIEF BIO(S) (75 words or less): Ms. Kleyman has 10 years of experience working as a consultant and in the public sector. With a Masters in urban planning and environmental policy, as a consultant, Ms. Kleyman managed complex environmental permitting for projects ranging from complete streets rehabilitation to the construction of new light rail lines. At the Boston Region MPO, Ms. Kleyman started as the UPWP Manager and took over managing the TIP in June 2016.

ORGANIZATION(s): Boston Region MPO

PHONE(s): XXX-XXX-XXXX    EMAIL(s): XXXXX@XXXX.org

TOPIC/SUBTOPIC AREA(s): Planning Requirements/Developing the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

PRESENTATION TITLE: The Boston Region’s Approach to TIP Development

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF PRESENTATION (Please note: most submissions will be considered for 20-minute presentation slots. If selected, it will be included as part of a panel comprised of various proposals.): 20 minutes

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL (This is intended to give a brief overview of your proposal. Please limit your summary to 2-3 sentences.):

All MPOs share some similar challenges and face others that are unique to their region. This presentation will describe some of the main challenges that the Boston Region faces with regards to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the strategies and tactics MPO staff has either employed or is planning to develop to deal with these challenges. Finally, initial outcomes of these strategies will be discussed.
SPECIAL NOTES (Please list any special considerations or notes to the reviewers.):

FULL DESCRIPTION OF PRESENTATION IDEA (Please limit your description to 1,000 words.):

**Purpose**: Insufficient funds for all worthy projects; communication of a complex process to the MPO Board and stakeholders; ensuring TIP funds are used to accomplish the goals established in the Long Range Plan; and, collaboration and alignment with MassDOT – these are just some of the pressing challenges faced by MPO staff in the Boston Region. The MPO currently has a rigorous and data-driven process through which it develops the TIP, at the same time, staff is always looking to implement new strategies and tactics to be able to more effectively address these and other challenges related to the distribution of construction dollars through the TIP.

Specific challenges that will be discussed, as well as strategies the Boston Region MPO is implementing to address them, include –

- Using data in project selection;
- Developing policies to deal with cost increases and schedule delays of programmed projects;
- Measuring the geographic distribution of TIP funding throughout the region and addressing disparities; and,
- Developing new tools and communication approaches to help the MPO Board and stakeholders understand the TIP process.

At the end of this presentation, participants will understand the Boston Region MPO’s process for developing the TIP including outreach, project development, project evaluation, and project selection.

**People**: As described above, the focus of this presentation will be on the Boston Region MPO’s current process for prioritizing projects for funding in the region and addressing the challenges inherent in that process. This process is evolving as MPO staff is continually looking for ways to improve our communication with municipalities; enhance our data collection and organization; and, develop more quantitative approaches to scoring projects and ensuring geographic distribution of TIP funds to the 101 municipalities in the region. Participants in this session will come away with an understanding of the Boston Region’s approach for dealing with similar issues faced by all MPO’s.

**Process**: One of the key approaches that guides MPO staff in their work is robust data collection and analysis. This is used for communication to municipalities and other stakeholders as well as internally to make decisions about the projects to recommend for funding. Participants will have an opportunity to see the MPO’s project evaluation scoring rubric as well as programming spreadsheets that allow MPO staff to develop solutions to address cost increases and schedule delays in currently programmed projects. In addition, the presentation will include graphics on how data about the
geographic distribution of TIP funding throughout the MPO region is communicated to MPO members.