



MEETING CALENDAR

For the most recent information on the following public meetings and others that may have been scheduled after TRANSREPORT went to press, go to www.bostonmpo.org or call (617) 973-7100. A photo ID is required to access most meeting sites.

AT THE STATE TRANSPORTATION BUILDING, 10 PARK PLAZA, BOSTON

October 24 (Monday)

MBTA Rider Oversight Committee. Conference Rooms 1, 2, and 3. 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

October 26 (Wednesday)

Access Advisory Committee to the MBTA. Conference Rooms 2 and 3. 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

November 3 (Thursday)

Boston Region MPO. Conference Rooms 2 and 3. 10:00 AM

November 9 (Wednesday)

Regional Transportation Advisory Council Freight Committee. Conference Room 4. 1:00 PM

Regional Transportation Advisory Council. Conference Room 4. 3:00 PM

November 16 (Wednesday)

Access Advisory Committee to the MBTA. Conference Rooms 2 and 3. 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

November 17 (Thursday)

Boston Region MPO. Conference Rooms 2 and 3. 10:00 AM

November 28 (Monday)

MBTA Rider Oversight Committee. Conference Rooms 1, 2, and 3. 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

AT OTHER BOSTON AREA LOCATIONS

October 26 (Wednesday)

Boston Region MPO Election. Cambridge Marriott Hotel, Kendall Square, Two Cambridge Center, 50 Broadway, Cambridge. 8:00 AM to 11:45 AM

Meetings sponsored by the Boston Region MPO are conducted in accessible locations, and materials can be provided in accessible formats and in languages other than English. If you would like accessibility or language accommodation, please contact the MPO at (617) 973-7100 (voice), (617) 973-8855 (fax), or (617) 973-7089 (TTY), or e-mail publicinformation@bostonmpo.org.

MPO Approves Long-Range Plan and Funding for Projects and Studies



The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

(MPO) has approved three planning documents necessary for implementing transportation projects and studies in the region in the coming years.

A major milestone in the MPO's planning work was reached on September 22, when the MPO approved its Long-Range Transportation Plan, *Paths to a Sustainable Region*, which serves as a guide for planning transportation improvements in the region for the next 25 years. This plan is the culmination of a 20-month-long process in which the MPO,

with significant input from the public, crystalized a set of visions and policies to guide its decision making regarding investments in transportation; documented transportation needs in the region; and identified transportation investments that will help meet those needs.

Also in September, the MPO endorsed the federal fiscal years (FFYs) 2012-15 Transportation Improvement Program, which programs funding for highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure improvement projects scheduled to be implemented in the short term.

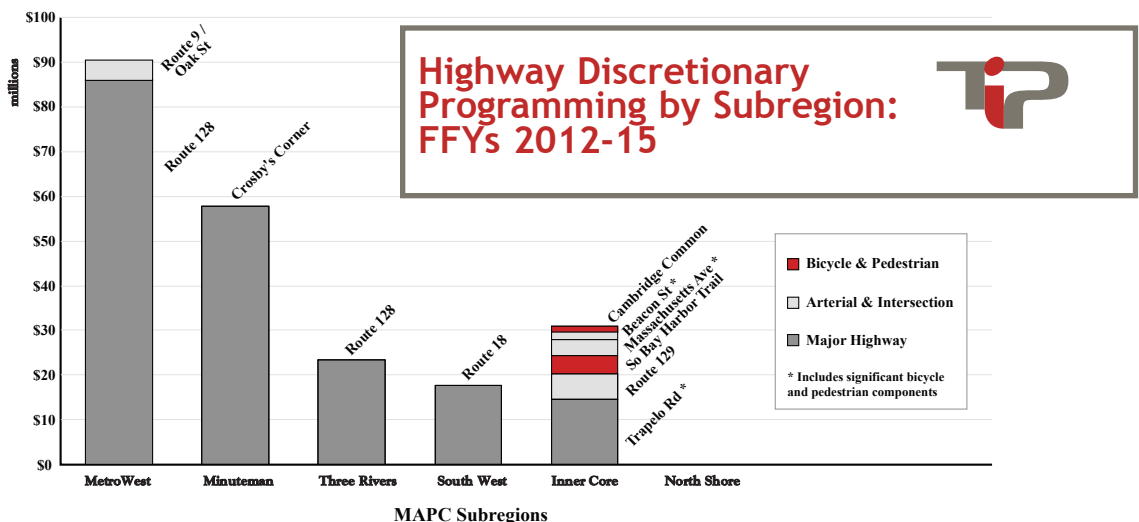
The MPO also took action in August to approve the FFY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program. This document is

the basis for the transportation planning studies that the staff to the MPO will conduct in the coming year.

All three documents can be found on the MPO's website, www.bostonmpo.org.

MPO Election Update

The annual election for MPO membership will take place on October 26 at the Fall Council Meeting of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council. Elected members will be seated on the MPO board in November. (See calendar for details.)



The members of the Boston Region MPO: Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Office of Planning and Programming, cities of Boston, Braintree, Newton, and Somerville, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Advisory Board, MassDOT Highway Division, Massachusetts Port Authority, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Regional Transportation Advisory Council, towns of Bedford, Framingham, and Hopkinton

Boston Region MPO Activities

BOSTON REGION MPO ACTION ITEMS

In the late summer, the Transportation Planning and Programming Committee focused much of its work on carrying out a public process for finalizing its certification documents (as described on page 1). The MPO endorsed these documents in August and September. Also during this time, it directed the MPO staff to begin work on several studies.

Through the MBTA 2012 Review of Fare Structure, Tariffs, and Service study, the MPO staff will be assisting the MBTA in a review of its fare structure and fare levels, and will be evaluating alternative fare structures and tariff scenarios. The Regional HOV Lane System Planning Study will assess where on the highway system it is feasible to implement HOV treatments. The Boston Ramp Study will support a MassDOT study on the potential for building new ramps on the Massachusetts Turnpike in Boston. Lastly, the Interstate 495 and Route 9 Interchange Improvement Study will support a MassDOT study focused on addressing traffic problems at the interchanges of Interstate 495 and Route 9, and at Interstate 495 and the Turnpike.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Josh Lehman, MassDOT's bicycle-pedestrian coordinator, gave a presentation on the Bay State Greenway to the Advisory Council at the September meeting. The Bay State Greenway is a growing network of on-road and off-road paths that will eventually span more than 740 miles through seven corridors statewide.

MassDOT's highest-priority extensions are called the Bay State Greenway Priority 100. In the Boston region, these extensions include the Wayside Trail (Waltham to Berlin); the Neponset River Greenway, Phase 2 (Boston to Milton); the Border to Boston (Newbury to

Georgetown, and Topsfield to Danvers); the Northern Strand Community Trail (Everett to Lynn); the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Phases 2A, 2B, and 2C (Westford to Concord); the Reformatory Branch Trail (Bedford); and the Somerville Community Path.

The Advisory Council also held its annual election of officers in September. Steve Olanoff, of Westwood, was elected chair, and Monica Tibbits, of the 128 Business Council, as vice chair.

At their October 12 meeting, the Advisory Council welcomed Pamela Stephenson, Division Administrator of the Massachusetts Office of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), to discuss FHWA's policies and objectives for the region.

ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE MBTA (AACT) UPDATE

In August, AACT members attended the first meeting of the Commission for the Reform of Community, Social Service, and Paratransit Transportation Services, which was formed as a result of Executive Order 530. Also, at their monthly meeting, they were presented with information regarding proposed revisions to THE RIDE's Eligibility Certification Process.

At the September meeting, Deputy Chief Joe O'Connor, of the MBTA Police Department, gave an update on the MBTA StopWatch and Bus Stop Enforcement programs.

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Richard A. Davey,
MPO Chairman

David J. Mohler, Chair
Marc Draisen, Vice Chair
Transportation Planning and
Programming Committee

EDITORS

Maureen Kelly
Mary Ellen Sullivan

CONTRIBUTORS

Michael Callahan
David Fargen
Janie Guion
Sean Pfalzer

GRAPHICS AND PHOTOS

CTPS Graphics Group

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Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
State Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150
Boston, MA 02116

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