

APPENDIX C

Public Outreach and Comments

OVERVIEW OF CONTENTS

In the course of the developing the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Boston Region MPO staff regularly engages with municipalities and the general public to provide information about the milestones, deadlines, and decision points in the development process. (Please see Chapter 2 for details.) Staff publicly shares materials and information used by the MPO board for decision-making via the TIP development web page: www.bostonmpo.org/tip-dev. This process affords the public ongoing opportunities to give input to the MPO board prior to the release the draft TIP for the official public review period. This appendix documents the input received during the development of the FFYs 2019-23 TIP and comments received during the public review period.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING TIP DEVELOPMENT

MPO staff initiated outreach activities for the FFYs 2019–23 TIP in September 2017 and maintained communication with municipal, state agency, and

public stakeholders throughout the TIP development process. The primary in-person/direct-engagement events at which staff received input were the subregional committee meetings held by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC); the TIP How-To conference call “workshops” with municipal TIP contacts, MAPC subregional coordinators, and MassDOT district project engineers; and the monthly Office Hours with MPO Staff (dedicated times when members of the public may have one-on-one conversations with the MPO staff). These events offered individuals the opportunity to directly engage with staff to ask questions, voice concerns, provide suggestions, and propose projects.

The MPO board held a series of discussions at its regular meetings as the TIP development work advanced through stages (project solicitation, project evaluation, and programming of funds). Staff informed the public at each stage via its standard communications channels (email, Twitter, and website). As a result, the MPO received oral and written comments while developing the draft TIP. The comments directed to the MPO board are summarized below in Table C-1.

TABLE C-1
PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING TIP DEVELOPMENT (PRE-DRAFT REVIEW)

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Currently unprogrammed projects			
Intersection Improvements at Route 20 and Landham Road (Sudbury)	Request	<p>Municipal: Sudbury Board of Selectman; Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues, Town Manager; Stephen Garvin, Planning Board Chair; Beth Suedmeyer, Sudbury Environmental Planner; Scott Nix, Sudbury Chief of Police</p> <p>Organization: MAGIC</p> <p>Sudbury residents: Ann Bischoff, Renata Aylward, Christine Barrett, Lisa Silverman, Margaret Landry, Bill Schineller, Pat Brown, Laura Fisher, Linda Daley, Frances Peters, Regina Letteri, Tricia Conboy, Jennifer O'Keefe, Ellen Gitelman, Margaret Chunias, Colette Reagan, Chris MacKinnon, Janie Dretler</p> <p>Marlborough resident: Barbara Nahoumi</p>	<p>Requests inclusion of the Intersection Improvements at Route 20 and Landham Road in the FFY's 2019-23 TIP. The intersection is the greatest transportation safety concern for the Town of Sudbury; there have been 170 reported accidents there in the past ten years, including one fatality, and near-collisions daily. The project will improve safety and traffic flow through widening the roadway, introducing turning lanes, and signalization. The project is at 100% design and is anticipated to be ready to advertise in 2019.</p>

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Exchange Street Downtown Improvement Project (Malden)	Request	<p>Legislative: Representative Steve Ultrino</p> <p>Municipal: Mayor Gary Christenson; Councillor Ryan O'Malley; Deborah Drake, Malden Redevelopment Authority</p> <p>Organization: ICC</p>	Requests inclusion of the Exchange Street Downtown Improvement Project in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. Exchange Street is a top location of pedestrian-involved crashes. New developments, the opening of the Everett casino, and the reopening of Pleasant Street will increase pedestrian volumes. The proposed improvements are needed to provide safer bicycle and pedestrian access through the area and to the Malden Center MBTA station.
Interchange Improvements at I-95/I- 93/University Avenue and I-95 Widening (Canton)	Request	<p>Municipal: Michael Jaillet, Westwood Town Administrator; Charles Aspinwall, Canton Town Administrator</p>	Requests that the MPO and the Commonwealth advance the Interchange Improvements at I-95/I-93/University Avenue and I-95 Widening. The current project area has constrained economic development in Westwood, Norwood, Canton, and other towns in the region. Notes that lost tax revenue has been a significant burden to Westwood.
Rehabilitation and Related Work on Route 126 (Bellingham)	Request	<p>Municipal: Don DiMartino, Director, Bellingham Department of Public Works</p> <p>Organization: SWAP</p>	Requests inclusion of the Rehabilitation and Related Work on Route 126 in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. In addition to needed pavement rehabilitation and drainage improvements, the project will improve pedestrian and bicycle connections to Bellingham Middle and High School and Bellingham Center. The corridor serves residential and commercial development, in addition to several churches and the aforementioned schools.
Construction of I-495/Route 1A Ramps (Wrentham)	Request	<p>Municipal: Kevin A. Sweet, Wrentham Town Administrator</p> <p>Organization: SWAP</p>	Requests inclusion of the Construction of I-495/Route 1A Ramps in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The interchange operates well beyond its intended capacity, and perennial congestion has hindered economic development in an area where prime commercial properties exist. The existing ramp intersections and the Wrentham Outlets entrance and exit pose ongoing traffic safety concerns.

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Resurfacing and Related Work on Central and South Main Streets (Ipswich)	Request	Municipal: Frank Ventimiglia, Operations Manager, Ipswich Department of Public Works	Requests inclusion of the Resurfacing and Related Work on Central and South Main Streets in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. Ipswich and Coneco Engineers are updating the 25% design to current standards and anticipate a resubmittal by the end of February 2018. The project is a priority for the Town of Ipswich.
Rehabilitation of Central Street (Peabody)	Request	Municipal: William Paulitz, Peabody City Engineer	Requests inclusion of the Rehabilitation of Central Street in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The project has the full support of Mayor Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr. and the Peabody City Council.
Rehabilitation of Bridge Street (Beverly)	Request	Municipal: Mayor Michael Cahill	Requests inclusion of the Rehabilitation of Bridge Street in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. Bridge Street connects downtown Beverly to the Beverly Depot Commuter Rail Station and communities to the west. Regional housing needs and transit-orient developments planned along the Bass River waterfront underscore the importance of the proposed improvements.
Pedestrian Improvements along Bussey Street (Dedham)	Request	Municipal: Dedham Board of Selectmen	Requests inclusion of the Pedestrian Improvements along Bussey Street in the FFY 2023 element of the TIP. Bussey Street is a major corridor in East Dedham, heavily used by pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. The intersection of Bussey Street at Colburn Street is crossed by many children who walk to school. The proposed project will boost economic development and improve safety, accessibility, and connectivity to nearby amenities.
Intersection Signalization at Route 28 and Hopkins Street (Reading)	Request	Organization: NSPC	Requests inclusion of the Intersection Signalization at Route 28 and Hopkins Street in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The project will improve traffic operations, vehicular and pedestrian safety, and pedestrian mobility.

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Corridor Improvements and Related Work on Justice Cushing Highway (Route 3A) (Cohasset)	Request	Organization: SSC	Requests inclusion of the Corridor Improvements and Related Work on Justice Cushing Highway (Route 3A) in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The project will improve safety and provide bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. Route 3A is an important regional corridor which warrants more options for safe walking and biking.
Improvements along Commonwealth Avenue, from Alcorn Street to Warren/Kelton Streets (Phases 3 and 4) (Boston)	Request	Organization: ICC	Requests inclusion of the Improvements along Commonwealth Avenue in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The proposed improvements, including improved sidewalks and a separated bike lane, will improve safety and comfort for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists in a rapidly developing area.
Intersection Improvements at Route 3A/Summer Street Rotary (Hingham)	Request	Organization: SSC	Requests inclusion of the Intersection Improvements at Route 3A/Summer Street Rotary in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The corridor is heavily impacted by seasonal travel and has safety issues. The project will improve roadway operations, traffic control operations, bicycle and pedestrian safety, and ADA accessibility. The Town of Hingham will run a pilot program through the summer of 2018 which will temporarily change the lane configuration along the corridor prior to submitting the 25% design. Notes the project received a high evaluation score.
McGrath Boulevard Project (Somerville)	Request	Organization: ICC	Requests inclusion of the McGrath Boulevard Project in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The project will enhance access for multiple travel modes, improve connections along the corridor, and potentially facilitate development in the area.
Reconstruction and Signal Improvements on Walnut Street (Newton)	Request	Organization: ICC	Requests inclusion of the Reconstruction and Signal Improvements on Walnut Street in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The project will improve traffic flow and bicycle and pedestrian safety.

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Rehabilitation and Related Work on Route 16, from Route 109 to Beaver Street (Milford)	Request	Organization: SWAP	Requests inclusion of the Rehabilitation and Related Work on Route 16 in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The project will enhance improvements already programmed for 2019 (607428) by reconstructing sidewalks, delineating preferred bicycle routes, and improving roadway safety.
Intersection Improvements, Squantum Street at Adams Street (Milton)	Request	Organization: ICC	Noting that the project has not been identified on the TIP, requests inclusion of the Intersection Improvements at Squantum Street and Adams Street in any of the upcoming TIP years should a funding gap be identified. The project will install a signal at a busy and dangerous unsignalized intersection. The Town of Milton submitted a PIF in 2016 and is currently appropriating design funds. The estimated preliminary construction cost is slightly under \$1 million.
Revere Street Roadway Improvements (Winthrop)	Request	Organization: ICC	Requests inclusion of the Revere Street Roadway Improvements in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. Revere Street handles the majority of traffic flowing into and out of Revere and is the major route by which most students from Winthrop travel to school.
Intersection Improvements on Route 2A at Willow Road and Bruce Street (Littleton)	Request	Organization: MAGIC	Requests inclusion of the Intersection Improvements on Route 2A at Willow Road and Bruce Street in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The project area is a high traffic, high speed intersection which has seen an increase in accidents and traffic over the past five years. The proposed improvements will improve traffic flow and safety, and facilitate commerce.
Reconstruction of Sea Street (Quincy)	Request	Organization: ICC	Requests inclusion of the Reconstruction of Sea Street in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. The project will improve bus operations, truck access, bicyclist and pedestrian safety, air quality, and pedestrian access and MBTA access to and from Quincy Center businesses and the Germantown Community Center.

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Currently programmed projects			
Reconstruction of Rutherford Avenue, from City Square to Sullivan Square (Boston)	Request	Organization: Rutherford Corridor Improvement Coalition	<p>Requests that the Reconstruction of Rutherford Avenue (FFYs 2020-22) be deferred one year to allow for a more comprehensive examination of possible alternatives. The City of Boston's preferred design proposes to rebuild underpasses on Rutherford Avenue at Austin Street and Sullivan Square. In its most recent design process, the City of Boston did not provide the community with a surface design for its consideration. A viable surface design for Austin Street has been prepared by Professor Peter Furth of Northeastern University, which allows for better traffic movement than the underpass design and provides safer conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians. This design is potentially less costly and has not been analyzed and compared to the underpass design.</p> <p>The Rutherford Corridor Improvement Coalition has collected almost 560 signatures from area residents and businesspersons who seek a solution to the Rutherford corridor that provides the greatest community benefit.</p>
Reconstruction of Rutherford Avenue, from City Square to Sullivan Square (Boston)	Support	Charlestown residents: Ryan Gavin, Jonathan Weiss	Supports continued inclusion of the Reconstruction of Rutherford Avenue in FFYs 2020-22 of the TIP. The new design provides most of the improvements provided by the surface option, including the buffered green space and linear park, and is supported by the majority of Charlestown residents. The corridor needs immediate improvements and the project should not be delayed.
Reconstruction of Ferry Street (Everett)	Request	Municipal: Jay Monty, Everett Transportation Planner	Requests that the Reconstruction of Ferry Street remain in the FFY 2019 TIP element. The project has been flagged by MassDOT as a candidate for moving into a later TIP element due to schedule concerns regarding right-of-way issues. Many of the construction easements can be obtained through right of entry, and the City and its consultant believe the project will be ready for advertisement in 2019.

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Bridge Replacement, Route 111 over I-495 (Boxborough)	Request	Municipal: Adam Duchesneau, Boxborough Town Planner	Requests that when the Route 111 over I-495 bridge replacement begins (currently programmed in FFYs 2020-21), a new sidewalk be included on at least one side, if not both, of the new bridge. The Town of Boxborough is improving town-wide pedestrian access. Approximately 3,000 feet of sidewalk have been completed along Route 111, and a new grant will add another 2,500 feet; the Town's goal is having sidewalk along the entire length of Route 111.
Reconstruction on Route 1A (Main Street) (Walpole)	Request	Legislative: William Buckley, Office of Rep. John H. Rogers; Michael Gallant, Office of Sen. Paul R. Feeney) Municipal: Jim Johnson, Walpole Town Administrator	Requests continued inclusion of the Reconstruction of Route 1A in the FFY 2020 TIP element, rather than moving it to FFY 2021. The safety issues in the corridor are highly important to the region, and the Town of Walpole anticipates submitting the 100% design in April 2018. The right-of-way issues will still exist if the project is delayed, and the Town of Walpole believes it will address these issues in a timely manner.
Reconstruction of Main Street (Route 30) (Natick)	Request	Municipal: Jamie Errickson, Director of Natick Community & Economic Development	Requests continued inclusion of the Reconstruction of Route 27 in the FFY 2019 TIP element, rather than moving it to FFY 2020. Right-of-way issues will be incorporated into the 75% design, which the Town of Natick plans to submit in July 2018. The Town will vote on the necessary easements in at the spring 2019 Town Meeting and has allocated the needed funds for the full design.
Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard (Boston)	Request	Organization: Ken Kruckemeyer, LivableStreets Alliance	Requests modification of the project design for the Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard (FFY 2019). The separated bicycle facilities included in the current design are difficult to maintain, especially with regard to snow removal. In addition, the facilities are next to the roadway, rather than behind the trees lining the corridor. Mr. Kruckemeyer provided alternative designs, stating they are affordable and more appropriate for the neighborhood.

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard (Boston)	Oppose	Organization: Madeligne Tena, Mandela Residents Cooperative Association; Friends of Melnea Cass Boulevard	Opposes the project design for the Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard (FFY 2019), including the removal of sixty trees and the absence of bus rapid transit lanes. The Boston Transportation Department's public process has been insufficient; important abutters have not been consulted, and the BTB has not communicated with the Friends of Melnea Cass Boulevard since April 2017. Further analysis of the project, including environmental and public health impacts, is needed.
Reconstruction on Route 126 (Pond Street) (Ashland)	Support	Municipal: Sheila Page, Ashland Town Planner; Yolanda Greaves, Ashland Board of Selectmen; Holliston Board of Selectmen; David R. Williams, Sherborn Town Administrator Organizations: MWRC, 495/MetroWest Partnership, SVN, Ashland Business Association, 126 Self Storage, The Residence at Valley Farm	Supports continued inclusion of the Reconstruction on Route 126 in the FFY 2020 TIP element. The project area is a vital economic corridor to Ashland, Holliston, Sherborn, and Framingham. Approximately 20,000 vehicles travel the road each day, and residents in the region rely on the roadway for daily errands, professional services, and commuting. The current design discourages bicycle and pedestrian travel. The project is essential to the region's economic development, and the proposed improvements will enhance quality of life for all roadway users.
Intersection and Signal Improvements at Kelley's Corner, Route 111, and Route 27 (Acton)	Support	Municipal: Acton Board of Selectmen; Roland Bartl, Acton Town Planner Organization: MAGIC	Supports continued inclusion of the Intersection Improvements at Kelley's Corner in the FFY 2022 TIP element. The project has become more complex and the projected cost has increased significantly, yet the modified 25% design provides safety and capacity advantages over the preliminary plans. Capacity on the Route 111 and Route 27 intersection will improve in both the AM and PM peak hours, and the modified design is more effective in addressing significant safety and capacity problems at the adjacent intersections of Massachusetts Avenue with Charter Road and Community Lane.

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Intersection and Signal Improvements at Kelley's Corner, Route 111, and Route 27 (Acton)	Oppose	Acton resident: Terra Friedrichs	Opposes inclusion of the Intersection Improvements at Kelley's Corner in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP. States the project is unnecessary, and the funds could be better spent in communities with higher priority projects. Adds that the project supports a large development and should be funded privately.
Intersection Improvements at Three Locations (Beverly)	Support	Municipal: Mayor Michael Cahill Organization: Beverly Crossing	Supports continued inclusion of the Intersection Improvements at Three Locations in the FFY 2021 TIP element, if not sooner. Improved bicycle and pedestrian safety is important to the City; a new middle school will open in August 2018 and will be served by two of the three intersections. WorldTech Engineering believes the project will be ready for advertisement in June 2019.
Reconstruction on Route 129 (Lynnfield Street) (Lynn)	Support	Municipal: Mayor Thomas M. McGee	Supports continued inclusion of the Reconstruction of Route 129 in the FFY 2020 TIP element. The project is important to the community, and the City is advancing the project design in anticipation of advertisement in 2020.
Projects in the MetroWest Region	Support	Organization: MWRC	Supports continued inclusion of the following projects in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP: Cochituate Rail Trail, Phase 2 (Natick and Framingham) Reconstruction of Main Street (Route 30) (Southborough) Reconstruction of Route 27 (North Main Street) (Natick) Reconstruction of Union Avenue (Framingham) Reconstruction of Route 126 (Pond Street) (Ashland)

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Projects in the SWAP Region	Support	Organization: SWAP	Supports continued inclusion of the following projects in the FFYs 2019-23 TIP: Resurfacing and Intersection Improvements on Route 16 (Main Street) (Milford) Signal and Intersection Improvements on Route 135 (Hopkinton)
Rehabilitation of Mount Auburn Street (Route 16) (Watertown)	Support	Organization: ICC	Supports continued inclusion of the Rehabilitation of Mount Auburn Street in the FFY 2022 TIP element.
Minuteman Bikeway Extension, from Loomis Street to the Concord Town Line (Bedford)	Support	Organization: MAGIC	Supports continued inclusion of the Minuteman Bikeway Extension in the FFY 2022 element of the TIP.
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (Phase 2D)	Support	Municipal: Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues, Town Manager Organization: MAGIC	Supports continued inclusion of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (Phase 2D) in the FFY 2022 TIP element. The project will improve pedestrian facilities, provide bicycle accommodations, and offer healthy transportation options to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Town of Sudbury has substantially completed the 25% design for MassDOT's review.
Wakefield / Lynnfield Rail Trail (Wakefield and Lynnfield)	Support	Organization: Friends of the Lynnfield Rail Trail	Supports continued inclusion of the Wakefield/Lynnfield Rail Trail in FFY 2021 TIP element. In 2017, the Town of Lynnfield voted in favor of the Rail Trail warrant article, authorizing the Selectmen to take a lease with the MBTA and construct a path on the rail bed. The Friends of the Lynnfield Rail Trail are seeking Final Design funds from sources outside of the Town budget; if necessary, the balance of what is not raised will be sought via a town meeting vote.

PROJECT(S) /ISSUE(S)	SUPPORT OPPOSE REQUEST	COMMENTER(S)	COMMENT (SUMMARIZED)
Other comments			
MPO Assistance with Project Design	Request	Organization: NSPC	Requests that the MPO assess how it may help communities find the resources to start the design of priority local projects. Notes that communities put a significant amount of time and money into reaching 25% design, and would benefit greatly from any help and resources the MPO can provide.
Underground Utilities	Request	Sudbury resident: Bill Schineller	Requests that transportation projects include burying existing overhead utilities within the project area. States that the majority of long duration power outages are largely due to overhead lines.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

[TEXT WILL BE REVISED FOR INCLUSION IN THE FINAL DOCUMENT, POST COMMENT PERIOD]

The MPO board voted to release a draft FFYs 2019-23 TIP document for public review at its April 12, 2018, meeting. This vote initiated an official 30-day public review period, which began on April 18, 2018, and closed on May 17, 2018. The comments received during this public review period and responses from the MPO to the commenters are summarized in Table C-2.

[TABLE C-2: PUBLIC COMMENTS (on Public Review Draft)]

[TO BE INCLUDED IN FINAL DOCUMENT, POST COMMENT PERIOD]