



# Pilot Transit Working Group

March 19, 2021

Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

Welcome

March 19, 2021

## AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. MPO Transit-Related Activities Update
3. Transit Provider Items
4. MBTA Regional Rail
5. Boston Region MPO MBTA Park-and-Ride and Bicycle Parking Dashboard
6. General Public Comments
7. Closing and Next Steps

# Introduce yourself in the chat!

- Name
- Affiliation
- Location or transit service area



*Technical difficulties? Call Róisín Foley at 857.702.3704 or email [rfoley@ctps.org](mailto:rfoley@ctps.org).*

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# Today's Meeting

- Welcome
- MPO Transit-Related Updates
- Transit Provider Items
- Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Regional Rail
- Boston Region MPO's MBTA Park-and-Ride and Bicycle Parking Dashboard
- Public Comments
- Closing and Next Steps

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MPO = Metropolitan Planning Organization.





# VIRTUAL MEETING

## Guidelines

1. All participants will join the meeting with muted microphones.
2. Please rename yourself to include your first name, last name and affiliation.
3. Please do not unmute and mute yourself.
4. Participants are encouraged to enter comments and questions in the chat box.
5. You can also select the “raise hand” function to ask your question out loud. Find this by clicking on the “Participants” button at the bottom of the screen, and a window will pop up with a “Raise Hand” button at the bottom. You can also find the “Raise Hand” button by selecting the “Reactions” button. The presenters will then call on participants and unmute their microphone.
6. If you are on the phone, you can use \*9 to raise your hand.
7. If you have any technical difficulties, please contact Róisín Foley via the chat box, [rfoley@ctps.org](mailto:rfoley@ctps.org) or 857-702-3704.

# MPO Transit-Related Activities Update

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# Transportation Improvement Program

- What transportation projects will MPO staff fund over the next five years?
- Includes transit and transit supporting projects
  - MPO Community Connections and Transit Modernization Programs
  - Roadway projects that support transit access and bus mobility
  - MBTA capital programming
  - MWRTA and CATA capital programming
- Includes performance targets for transit safety and transit asset management

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CATA = Cape Ann Transportation Authority. MBTA = Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. MPO = Metropolitan Planning Organization. MWRTA = MetroWest Regional Transit Authority.

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# TIP Discussion Dates and Links

- Upcoming Meetings
  - **March 25:** MPO agrees on a draft MPO funding plan; MBTA, CATA, and MWRTA described proposed capital investments
  - **April 8:** Discuss transit safety performance targets
  - **April 29:** MPO releases draft TIP for public review
  - **May 27:** MPO reviews public comments and endorses final TIP
- For TIP details and schedules, visit [bostonmpo.org/tip](https://bostonmpo.org/tip)
- MPO meeting recordings available on Boston Region MPO YouTube page

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# Unified Planning Work Program

- What studies will MPO staff conduct next year?
- **March 25 and April 8:** Key UPWP Committee meetings
- Universe of Proposed Studies available at [bostonmpo.org/calendar/day/2021-03-25](https://bostonmpo.org/calendar/day/2021-03-25)
- Expected MPO endorsement of UPWP: July or August 2021
- For UPWP overview, visit [bostonmpo.org/upwp](https://bostonmpo.org/upwp)
- For upcoming UPWP details, visit [bostonmpo.org/upwp-dev](https://bostonmpo.org/upwp-dev)



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# TDM Forum Recap

- FFY 2021 UPWP task Regional Travel Demand Management Strategies Coordination
  - Hold two forums in cooperation with MAPC
  - Explore creation of ongoing structure for regional TDM collaboration
  - Recording of first forum: <https://youtu.be/wgy240dBHOA>

## Travel Demand Management in a Post-COVID World



Thursday, February 18, 2021  
2:00 PM–4:00 PM

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# Regional Transit Service Planning Technical Support

- Technical support for issues related to
  - Route planning
  - Ridership
  - Cost effectiveness
  - Other service characteristics
- Eligible applicants include regional transit authorities, transportation management associations, municipalities, and MAPC subregions
- Details at [bostonmpo.org/regional\\_transit](https://bostonmpo.org/regional_transit)

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MAPC = Metropolitan Area Planning Council.



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# Other Transit-Related MPO Activities

- MPO studies related to transit in FFY 2021 UPWP
  - The Future of the Curb: Phase 2
  - Access to Central Business Districts: Phase 2
- View previous studies at [www.bostonmpo.org/recent\\_studies](http://www.bostonmpo.org/recent_studies)

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# Transit Chat Series

- Purpose: Exploring small group discussions to complement larger Transit Working Group meetings
- Format:
  - 1 hour over Zoom
  - Casual conversational format
  - Limited number of participants
- Schedule
  - Five to eight sessions between **April 5** and **May 23**
  - Offered on various weekdays and times
- Follow-up at next Transit Working Group meeting

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# Potential Chat Topics

- Staff-selected topics:
  - Medical and human services transportation
  - Microtransit and Demand response services
- Other possible topics:
  - Regionalization and consolidation of transit service
  - Partnerships for ongoing post-pandemic transit recovery
  - Subregion-focused discussions of needs and issues
  - Changes in transit customers and customer needs
  - Transit and land use
- Suggest other topics in the chat box!



# Transit-Related MPO Activities: Questions and Discussion

To participate in the discussion, please select the “raise hand” function. Find this by clicking on the “Participants” button at the bottom of the screen, and a window will pop up with a “Raise Hand” button at the bottom. If you are on the phone, you can use \*9 to raise your hand.

# Transit Provider Exchange

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# MBTA Regional Rail

# MBTA Regional Rail: Questions and Discussion

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# Boston Region MPO's MBTA Park-and-Ride and Bicycle Parking Dashboard

# Data Collection Purpose

- To evaluate park-and-ride capacity and utilization available for general purpose parking
- To evaluate the accessibility and amenities near every MBTA station
- To monitor the origin of the trips to MBTA park-and-ride lots.



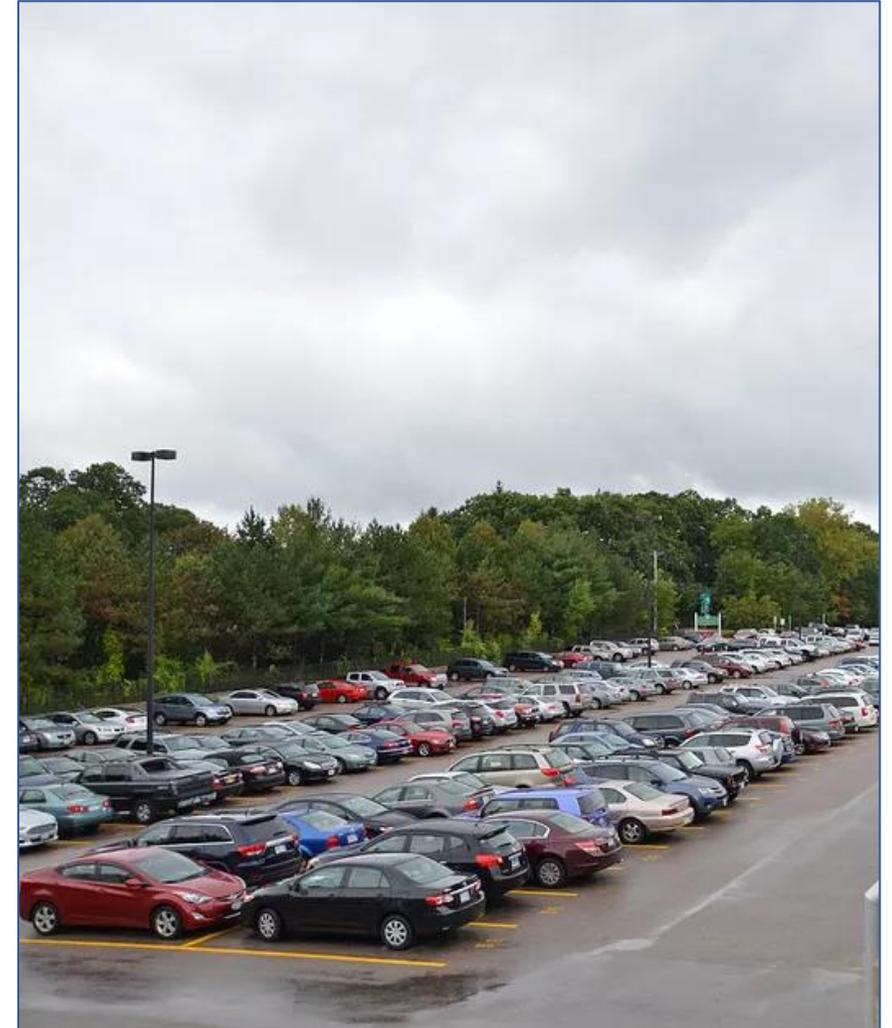
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# Data Collection Methodology

- **Dates:** Tuesday, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Fridays in the spring or fall of 2017–18
- **Time:** After last inbound peak-period vehicle leaves station
- **Locations:** Surveyed lots at/near 152 MBTA stations
- **Frequency:** One sample day per station



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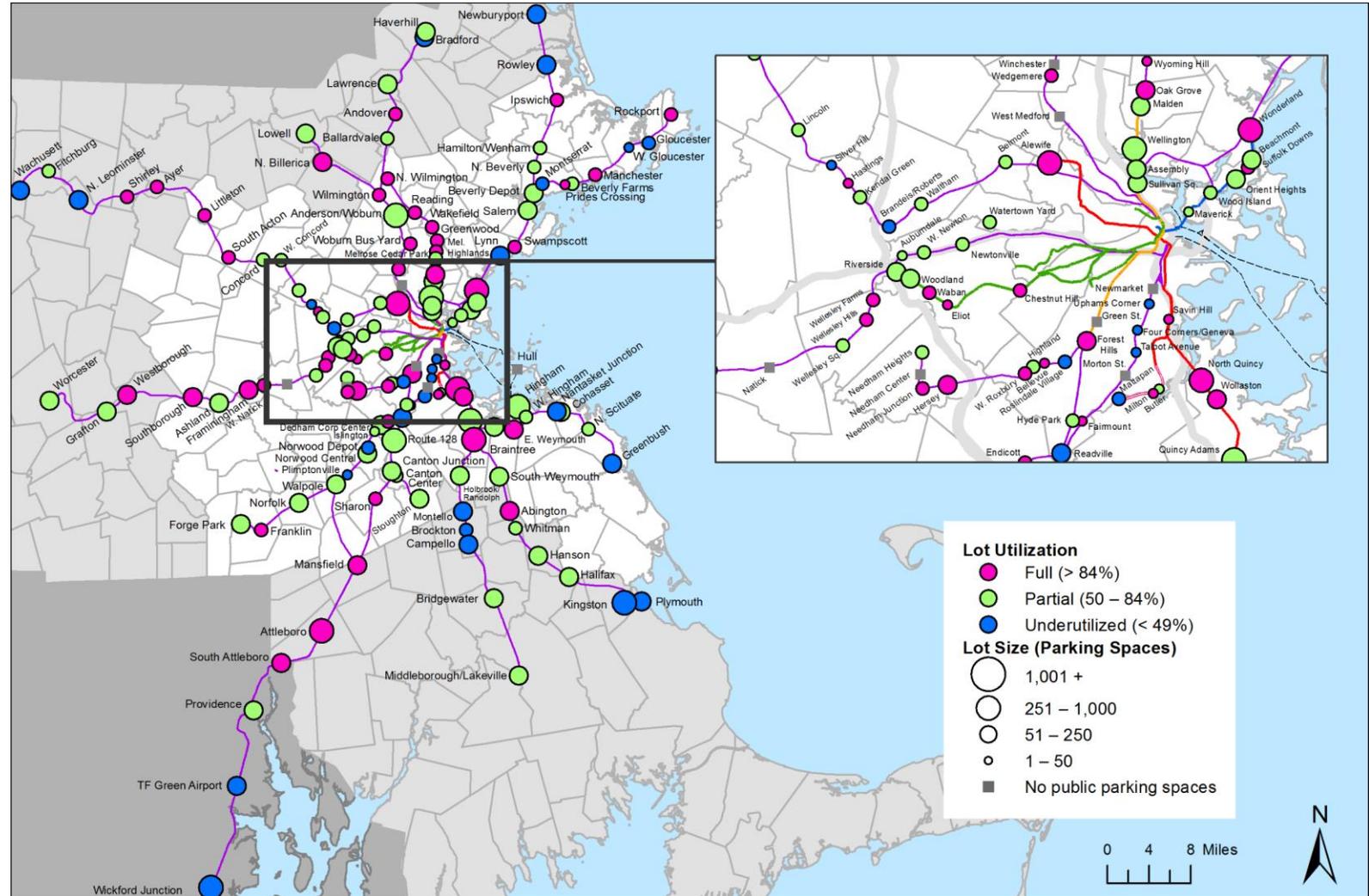
MBTA = Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

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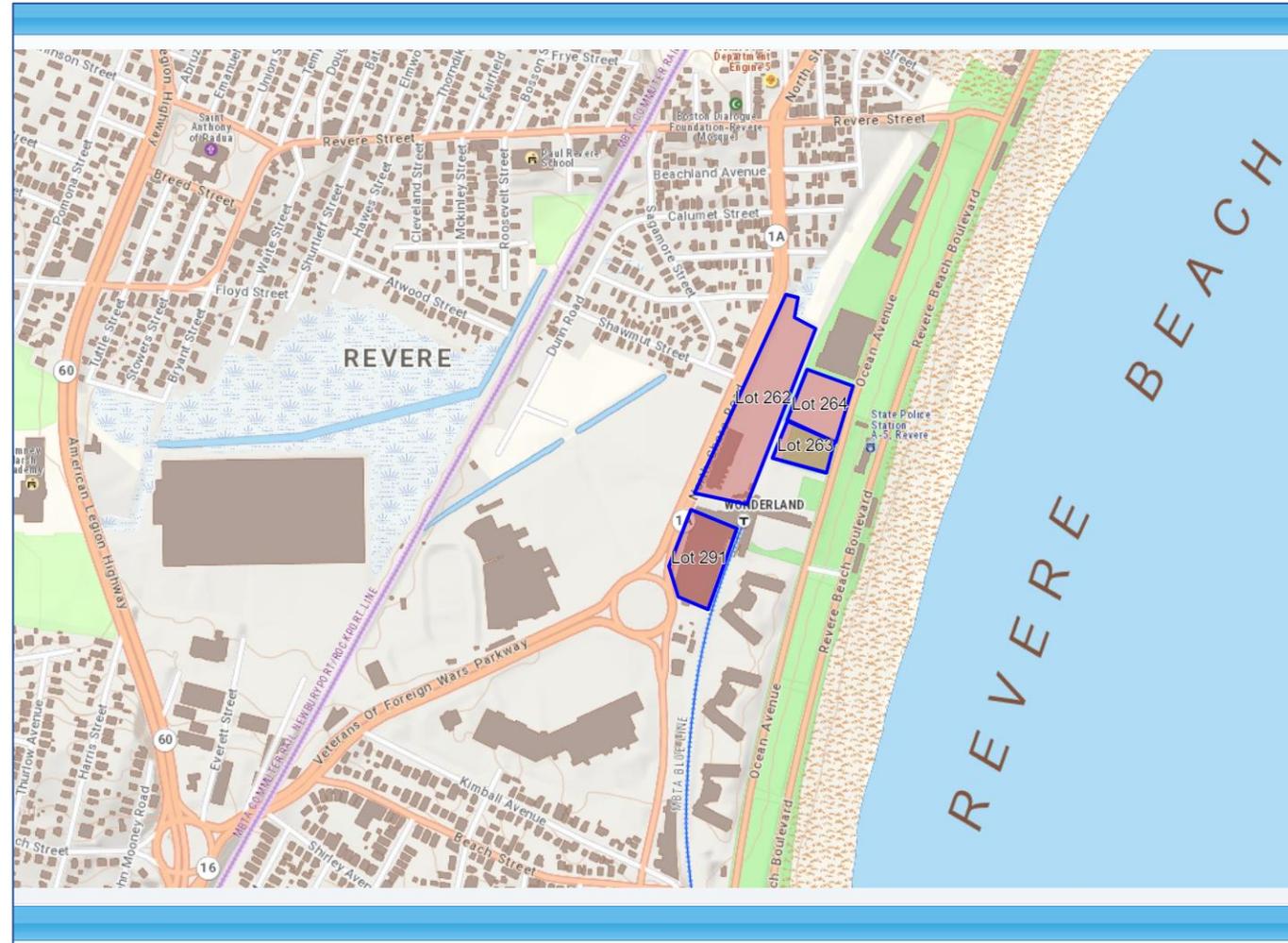
# Park-and-Ride Lot Capacity and Utilization



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# Data Dashboard

- Automobile parking for 152 MBTA stations
- Bicycle parking for every MBTA station
- Station amenities, including bicycle and pedestrian connections
- Parking utilization based on a one-day sample (2017–18 timeframe)
- Data is available for download



MBTA = Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

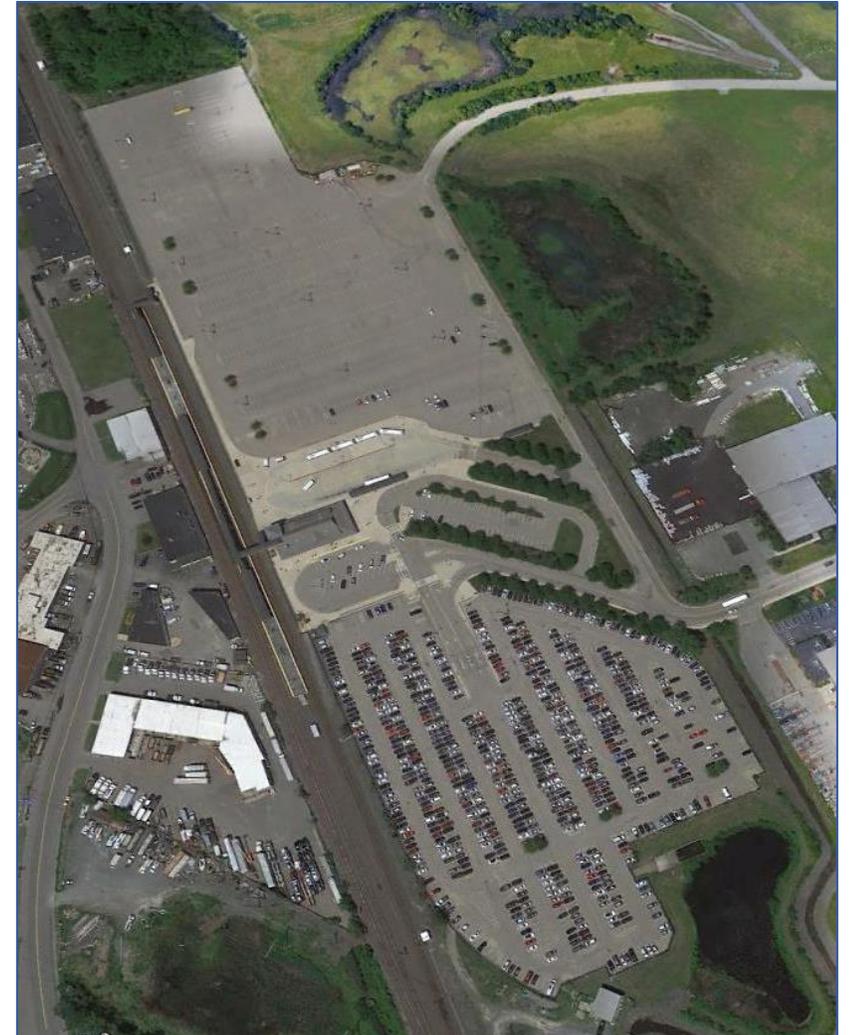
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# Next Steps

- Conduct outreach for the park-and-ride dashboard
- Incorporate origin-destination data
- Add datasets from previous inventories to dashboard



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# Resources

- Dashboard is available at [bostonmpo.org/maploc/www/apps/pnr-dashboard/index.html](https://bostonmpo.org/maploc/www/apps/pnr-dashboard/index.html)
- Park-and-Ride memorandum is available at [bostonmpo.org/cmp](https://bostonmpo.org/cmp)
- Bicycle memorandum coming soon!

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# General Public Comments

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# Meeting Follow-up

- Post-meeting email with links
- Post-event feedback survey
- Recording made available on Boston Region MPO YouTube page
- Details about upcoming transit chat series
- Notices about future meetings



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# MPO Staff Contacts

**Michelle Scott**, Transportation Planner

[mscott@ctps.org](mailto:mscott@ctps.org) 857.702.3692

**Sandy Johnston**, UPWP Manager

[sjohnston@ctps.org](mailto:sjohnston@ctps.org) 857.702.3710

**Kate White**, Transportation Planner and Public Outreach Coordinator

[kwhite@ctps.org](mailto:kwhite@ctps.org) 857.702.3658

**Paul Christner**, Manager - Transit Analysis and Planning

[pchristner@ctps.org](mailto:pchristner@ctps.org) 857.702.3656

**Ryan Hicks**, Senior Transportation Planner

[rhicks@ctps.org](mailto:rhicks@ctps.org) 857.702.3661

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