

Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

May 18, 2023



Notice of Nondiscrimination

You are invited to participate in our transportation planning process, regardless of your race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), religion, creed, gender, ancestry, ethnicity, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran's status, or background.

简体中文 (Simplified Chinese)

如果需要使用其它语言了解信息,请联系波士顿大都会规划组织 (Boston Region MPO) 《民权法案》第六章专员,电话 857.702.3700.

繁體中文 (Traditional Chinese)

如果需要使用其他語言瞭解資訊,請聯繫波士顿大都會規劃組織(Boston Region MPO)《民權法案》第六章專員,電話 857.702.3700.

Kreyòl Ayisyen (Haitian Creole)

Si yon moun vle genyen enfòmasyon sa yo nan yon lòt lang, tanpri kontakte Espesyalis Boston Region MPO Title VI la nan nimewo 857.702.3700.

Español (Spanish)

Si necesita esta información en otro idioma, por favor contacte la Boston Region MPO al 857.702.3700.

Português (Portuguese)

Caso estas informações sejam necessárias em outro idioma, por favor, contate o MPO da Região de Boston pelo telefone 857.702.3700.

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

Nếu quý vị cần thông tin này bằng một ngôn ngữ khác, vui lòng liên lạc Boston Region MPO theo số 857.702.3700.

Read the full notice of your rights and protections at www.bostonmpo.org/mpo_non_discrimination.



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. After roll call, Board members may mute and unmute themselves. Always remain muted unless actively speaking.
- 4. To participate in the discussion, please select the "raise hand" function. Find this by clicking either on the "Participants" button at the bottom of the screen, and a window will pop up with a "Raise Hand" button at the bottom, or the "Reactions" button in the toolbar. The Chair will then call on participants.
- 5. If you are on the phone, you can use *9 to raise your hand.
- 6. If you have any technical difficulties, please contact Stella Jordan via the chat box, sjordan@ctps.org or 857.702.3675.



Accessibility Statement

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Zoom products are compliant, with exceptions, with the following standards: Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 Level AA Standards and Revised Section 508 Standards.

If you require any additional accommodations in order to participate fully in this meeting, please contact Stella Jordan, MPO staff, at sjordan@ctps.org or 857.702.3675.

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Chair's Report
- 3. Executive Director's Report
- 4. Public Comments
- 5. Committee Chairs' Reports
- Regional Transportation Advisory Council Report
- 7. Action Item: April 13, 2023, MPO Meeting Minutes
- 8. Action Item: FFYs 2023–27
 TIP Amendment Four
- 9. Action Item: FFYs 2023–27
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- 11. Summary of Needs Assessment Findings
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Introductions



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Chair's Report



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Executive Director's Report



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Staffing Updates

- Manager of Planning and Policy starting June 5
- Open positions
 - New Principal Analyst/Travel Demand Modeler
 - Manager of Multimodal Planning and Design
- Reposting
 - Manager of MPO Activities
 - Program Manager, Long-Range Transportation Plan



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Today's Agenda

- Three action items
 - Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2023–27 Transportation
 Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Four
 - FFYs 2023-27 TIP Amendment Six
 - FFYs 2023-27 TIP Amendment Seven
- Two presentations
 - Summary of the Needs Assessment Findings
 - Sumner Tunnel Project Information



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Public Comments



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Committee Chairs' Reports



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Regional Transportation Advisory Council Report





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Action Item: April 13, 2023, MPO Meeting Minutes

Vote to approve the April 13, 2023, MPO meeting minutes





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Action Item: Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2023–27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Four

Ethan Lapointe, MPO Staff

Presentation, discussion, and vote to endorse the FFYs 2023–27 TIP Amendment Four







FFYs 2023–27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Four

May 18, 2023

Ethan Lapointe
TIP Manager, MPO Activities

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Amendment Four Summary

- For the FFY 2023 Program, Amendment Four proposes
 - Programming of a SMART Grant Award for MWRTA
 - Two cost increases for Highway projects
 - MBTA CIP Updates
 - MBTA Grant Awards



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Amendment Four Comment Summary

- 21-day public comment period from April 14 to May
 5, 2023
- No comments received



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Today's Requested Action

 MPO staff request that the board votes to endorse Amendment Four





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Action Item: FFYs 2023–27 TIP Amendment Six

Ethan Lapointe, MPO Staff

Presentation, discussion, and vote to release the FFYs 2023–27 TIP Amendment Six for its 21-day public review period







FFYs 2023–27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Six

May 18, 2023

Ethan Lapointe
TIP Manager, MPO Activities

Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Amendment Six Summary

- For the FFY 2023 Program, Amendment Six proposes
 - Grant programming for Salem Ferry Retrofit
 - Funding source adjustments to Lynn Station Improvements Phase II and Forest Hills Improvement Project
 - Cost changes to Lynn, Nahant Northern Strand Extension Project
 - New start year for grade crossing project in Framingham



Changes by Program

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Amendment Six Project Changes— FFY 2023 Transit Program

Project Name	Change Type	Description	New Value
MBTA011496: Salem – Retrofit of an Existing Ferry	New Project	This project programs a USDOT Passenger Ferry Grant program grant to retrofit an existing ferry for the City of Salem.	\$4,000,000

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Amendment Six Project Changes— FFY 2023 Regional Target Highway Program

Project Name	Change Type	Description	Budget
S12705: Lynn Station Improvements Phase II	Funding Source Adjustment	The funding source for these projects has been adjusted based	\$13,600,000
S12706: Forest Hills Improvement Project	Funding Source Adjustment	on state guidance. The overall budget for these projects remains the same.	\$6,400,000

Technical difficulties?

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Technical difficulties?

Call Stella Jordan at 857.702.3675 or email sjordan@ctps.org.

Amendment Six Project Changes— FFY 2023 Statewide Highway Program

Project Name	Change Type	Description	Former Value	New Value	Delta
610919: Lynn– Nahant– Northern Strand Extension	Cost Increase	Explanation forthcoming from MassDOT	\$9,363,750	\$10,939,360	\$1,575,610
S12640: Framingham – High Risk At-Grade Railroad Crossing Countermeasures on Route 126	New Start Year	This project is being accelerated from FFY 2024 into FFY 2023.	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$0

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Today's Requested Action

 MPO staff request that the board votes to release Amendment Six for a 21-day public comment period.





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Action Item: FFYs 2023–27 TIP Amendment Seven

Ethan Lapointe, MPO Staff

Presentation, discussion, vote to waive the public review period, and potential vote to endorse







FFYs 2023–27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Seven

May 18, 2023

Ethan Lapointe
TIP Manager, MPO Activities

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Amendment Seven Summary

- For the FFY 2023 Program, Amendment Seven proposes
 - Ferry Boat Capital allocation for MBTA
 Catamaran Overhaul



Changes by Program

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Technical difficulties?
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Amendment Seven Project Changes— FFY 2023 Statewide Highway Program

Project Name	Change Type	Description	New Value
S12844: MBTA – Catamaran Overhaul Project	New Project	This project uses funding from FFY 2020 Ferry Boat Program funding that is being carried forward into FFY 2023 to support the overhaul of an MBTA catamaran ferry. This change must be executed before the MBTA can apply for additional discretionary funding, and before this formula funding expires this year.	\$753,617

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Today's Requested Action

 MPO staff request that the board votes to endorse Amendment Seven, waving the 21-day public comment period.





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Summary of Needs Assessment Findings

Betsy Harvey, MPO Staff

Presentation and discussion of a summary of findings from the Needs Assessment







Destination 2050 Needs Assessment Summary

May 18, 2023

Betsy Harvey

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What is the Needs Assessment?

- Documents the transportation needs of the Boston region
 - How people travel
 - Condition of transportation facilities
 - Interaction of the transportation system with the built and natural environment
 - -How these could change in the future
- Supports decision-making in the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)



Destination 2050 Needs Assessment

- What's the same?
 - Organized by goal area
 - Existing needs and travel projections
- What's different?
 - Series of StoryMaps
 - Interactive maps and charts
 - Can be updated continuously
 - More accessible to the public
 - Base year = 2019

destination 2050

Collection

Destination 2050 Needs Assessment

Identifying transportation needs for the Boston Region

By the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) staff

Get started

This collection of StoryMaps documents the transportation needs of the Boston metropolitan region. It looks at how people travel, the condition of the transportation facilities they use, the interaction of the region's transportation system with the built and natural environment, and the ways these factors could change in the future.







2 Future Conditions and Travel Demand



3 Safety







Access and Connectivity



6 Resiliency



7 Clean Air and Healthy
Communities



8 Regional Recommendations



9 The Boston Region MPO's Approach to Equity

Transportation Equity

- What's the same?
 - Equity is analyzed through the perspective of the different goal areas
- What's different?
 - No stand-alone chapter with analyses
 - StoryMap that describes the MPO's approach to equity
 - Most maps and charts in other StoryMaps contain an equity component

transparent transportation planning process and make investments that eliminate transportation-related disparities borne by people in disadvantaged communities.



Safety

Emphasis Area	Need	
Fatalities and Serious Injuries	Invest in safety interventions in areas with the most vulnerable road users • Equity populations • Bicyclists and pedestrians Invest in preventative countermeasures on roadways that have been identified as high risk <i>before</i> severe crashes happen	
Crash Clusters	Invest in interventions in locations with the worst crash clusters • Crashes are most frequent • Crashes are most severe	

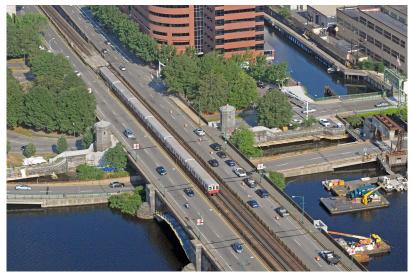
Achieve zero transportationrelated fatalities and serious injuries and improve safety for all users of the transportation system.



Mobility and Reliability

Emphasis Area	Need
Mobility	Improve mobility of buses on high-delay corridors
	Increase mode shift from SOVs to public transit and active transportation
	Improve bicycle mobility by expanding the bicycle network and Bluebikes
	Address congested corridors through strategies such as mode shift, parking demand management, and TOD
Infrastructure Condition	Upgrade and modernize public transit facilities and rolling stock
	Improve state of good repair for transit facilities, especially tracks

Support easy and reliable movement of people and freight.

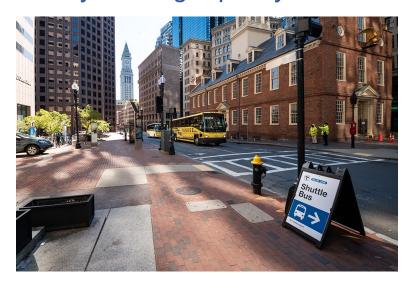


SOV = single-occupancy vehicle. TOD = transit-oriented development.

Access and Connectivity

Emphasis Area	Need
Access to Transportation	Continue expanding access to non-SOV transportation, especially for equity populations
	High-frequency transitBicycle network and bikeshare
Access to Destinations	Address disparities in access to destinations for minority and low-income communities
Connectivity	Better data on quality and presence of pedestrian facilities Close gaps in bicycle network, focusing on roads with a high propensity for bicycling Improve coordination between transit services

Provide transportation options and improve access to key destinations to support economic vitality and high quality of life.

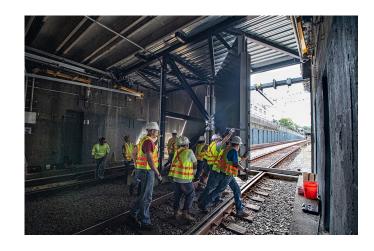


SOV = single-occupancy vehicle.

Resiliency

Emphasis Area	Need
Flooding	Adapt infrastructure to minimize flooding impacts, prioritizing equity areas
Extreme Heat	Adapt infrastructure to withstand extreme heat
	Use nature-based solutions to reduce flooding and impacts of heat, focusing in areas with populations sensitive to heat
Regional Coordination	Increase engagement between the MPO and municipalities on climate resilience

Provide transportation that supports sustainable environments and enables people to respond and adapt to climate change and other changing conditions



Clean Air and Healthy Communities

Emphasis Area	Need
SOV Emissions	Reduce SOV travel, such as through mode shift, travel demand management, and roadway pricing Electrify the transportation network,
	such as by expanding EV charging stations and electrifying the public transit and freight networks
Health Impacts	Prioritize air quality improvements in equity communities and in areas that bear a disproportionate burden of air quality impacts

Provide transportation free of greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants and that supports good health.



EV = electric vehicle. SOV = single-occupancy vehicle.

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What's Next?

- All StoryMaps will be released online all at once
- Needs Assessment will be completed shortly after the LRTP is voted out for public comment







Questions?

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Sumner Tunnel Project

John Romano and Mike Drew, Massachusetts Department of Transportation Staff

Presentation and discussion of the Sumner Tunnel project





Sumner Tunnel Project



Contractor:

JF White, Framingham, MA

Project Type:

Design-Build

Project Cost:

\$136M + Ancillary Expenses

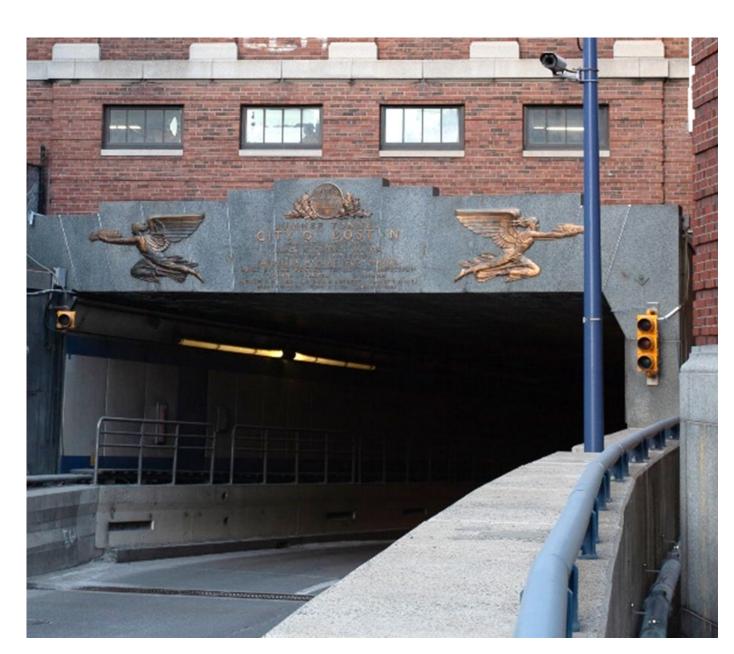
Bid Date:

6/26/2021

Completion of Major Construction: 9/1/2024

Projected Contract Completion Date:

December, 2024



Project Scope



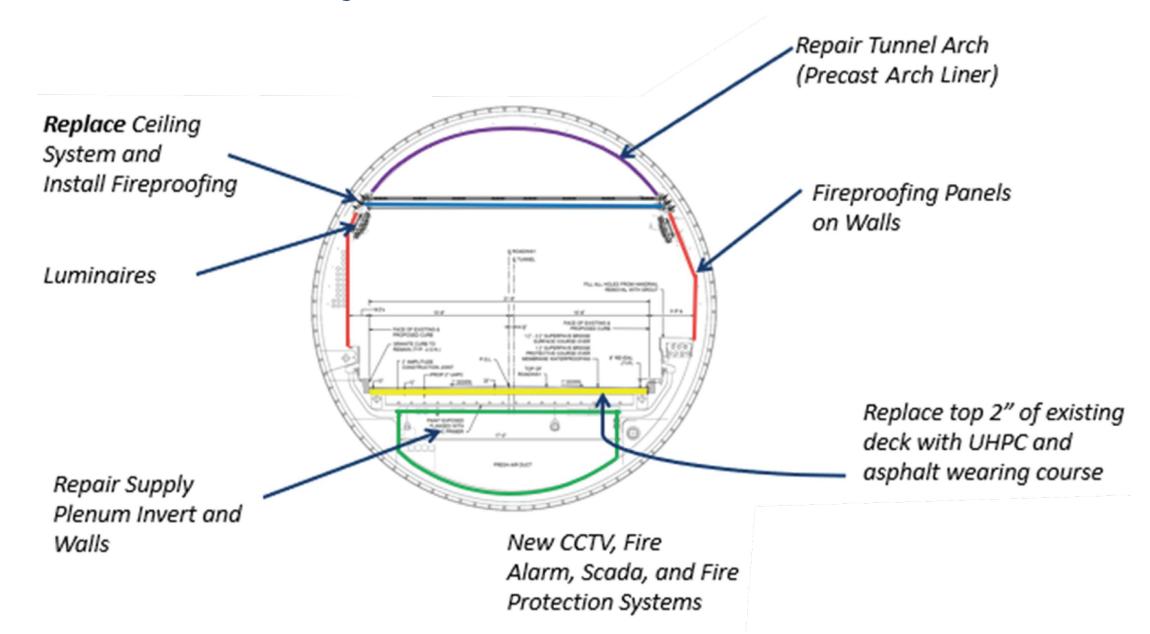
- Remove and replace the tunnel ceiling and repair overhead arch
- Demolish and replace the tunnel deck and roadway surface
- Repair tunnel walls and install painted fireproof panels
- Install new LED lights inside tunnel
- Upgrade CCTV and fire alarm systems
- Install new utility conduits and cables under the bridge deck
- Environmental resiliency new vent buildings and pumps will reduce air pollution and improve storm preparedness





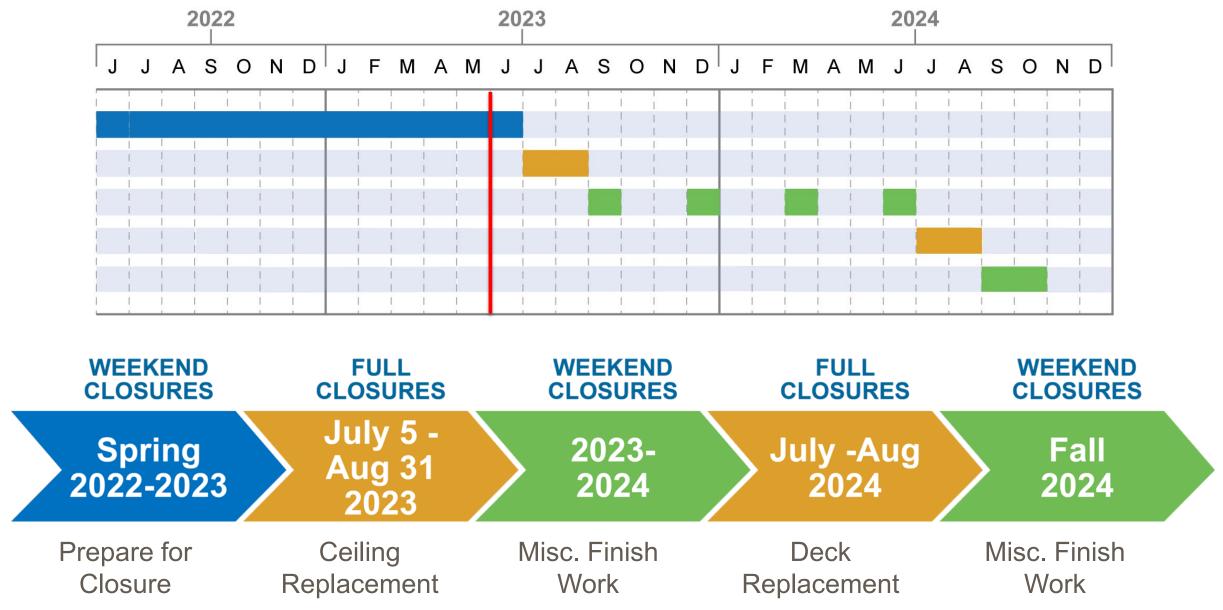
Sumner Tunnel Project





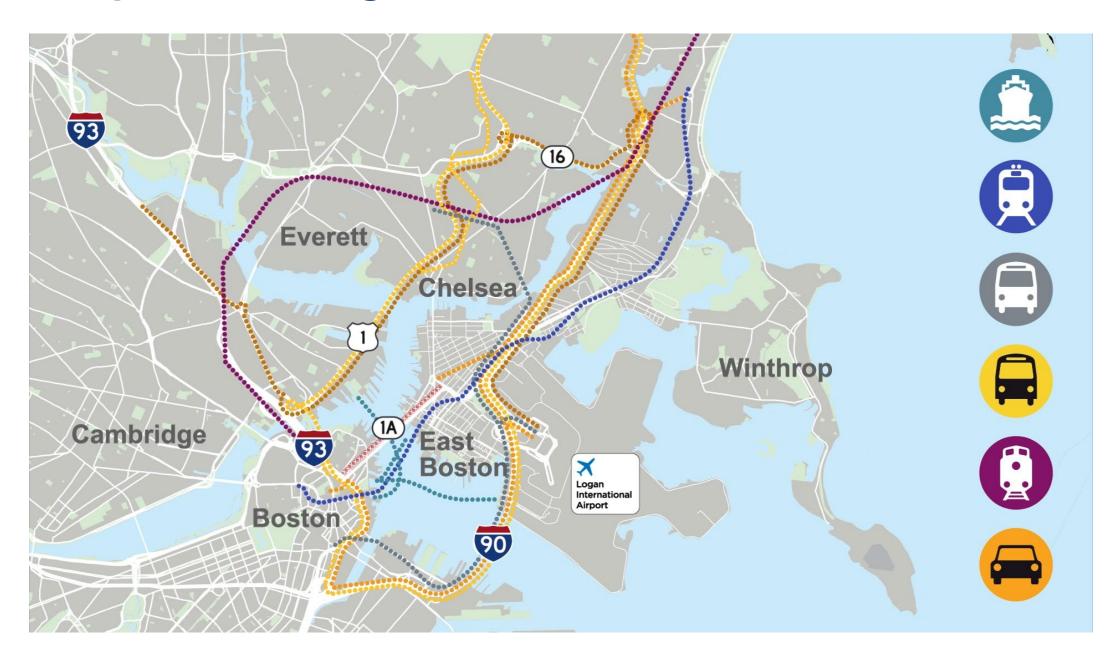
Tunnel Shutdown Schedule





Travel options during shutdown

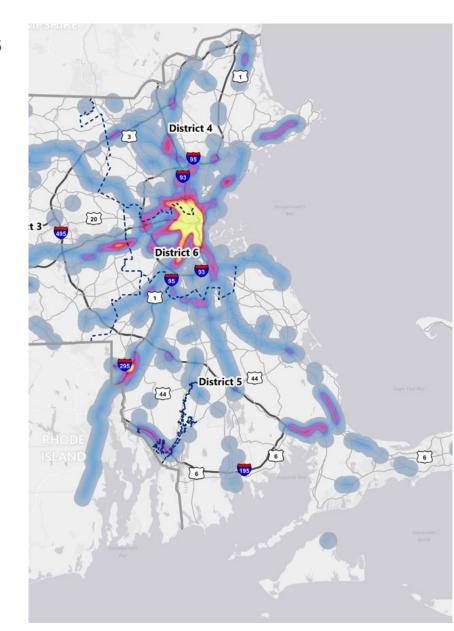




Coordination with Adjacent Projects



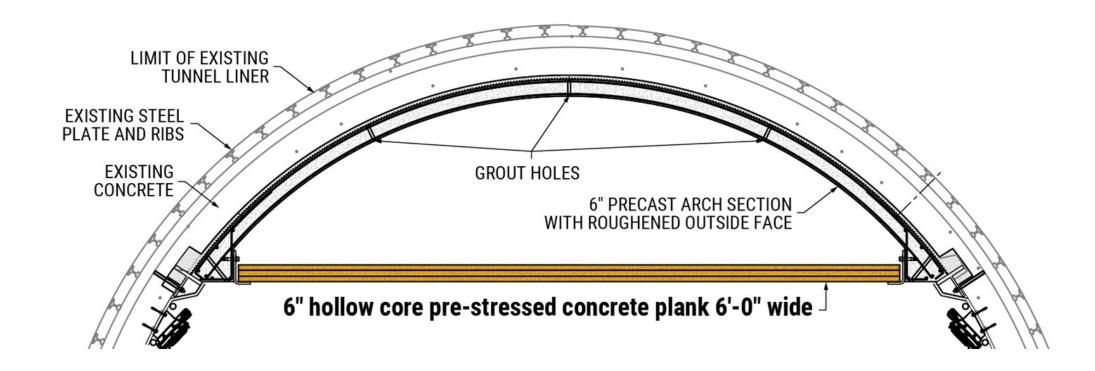
- MassDOT has coordinated work with all major capital programs
- MassDOT has accelerated necessary maintenance activities in the area, including the Ted Williams (I-90) and Tip O'Neill (I-93) tunnels
- Where possible, work is being suspended on nearby projects
- Maintenance activity is being limited to emergency work and schedule for off hours
- Existing traffic confutations for fixed work zones have been incorporated into the management plan
- Command Center structure will be used for initial phase of construction



Innovations During Construction



- Steel reinforcements for strength and fiber reinforcement for performance
- Grouted interlock between existing and proposed arch to protect existing arch from oxygen/contaminants
- Fire resistant main arch, hung plate provides additional fire protection



Innovations During Construction (3)



Before Demolition

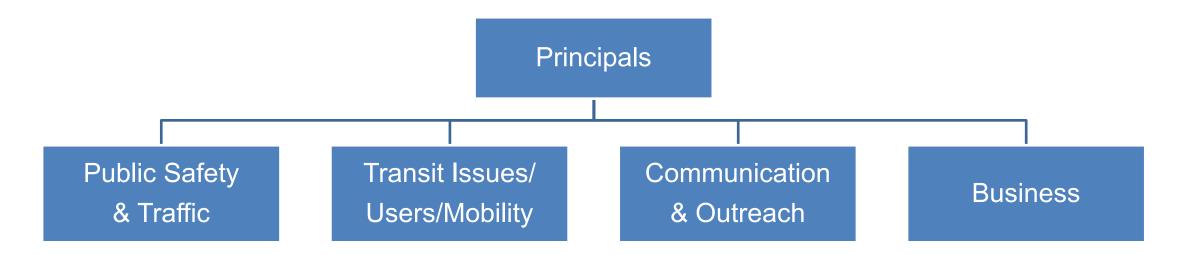


After Demolition



Mitigation Working Group Structure





Working Group Mission:

- Leave no stone unturned
- Review project impacts and current mitigation strategies
- Identify additional solutions and strategies to reduce impacts for all modes
- Limitations on proposals that involve changes to the scope of work timing, duration, approach to construction, etc.
- Categorize strategies into low-cost easily implemented and those that require additional coordination, funding, and third-party assistance





Relief Lane to Ted Williams (I-93 South) – deployed during weekend closures

Mitigates traffic backups at Logan Airport and balances traffic congestion in the region

Callahan Two-way

Review determined it to not be feasible due to safety, operational, and geometric reasons

Zipper Lane for EMS in Ted Williams Tunnel

- MassDOT reviewed the existing traffic volumes, modeled the impacts and examined the physical geometrics to put a counterflow in EB TWT
- The analysis determined that it was not feasible both on impacts and physical reconstruction to both sides of the tunnel

Reducing Impacts, Public Safety



Ambulatory Service

- 2 additional ambulances during day shift
- 2 additional ambulances during evening shift
- 1 additional ambulance during overnight shift

Working with Boston EMS on a week by week basis to review data and adjust as needed.



Reducing Impacts

Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division

East Boston/North End

- Discounted tolls for the Tobin Bridge and Ted Williams Tunnel (must be in the Resident Discount Program)
- Free MBTA Ferry service from East Boston to Downtown
- Free monthly passes for July and August for residents enrolled in the Resident Discount Program
- Additional parking near Wood Island Station
- Signal phasing and timing changes
- Field Monitoring Units

North Shore

- Zone 1A fares for Salem and Swampscott inbound & outbound
- Salem, Swampscott, Beverley Depot and Rowley Commuter Rail parking lots reduced to \$2/day
- Discounted parking at all Blue Line lots (\$2 a day)
- Real Time information
- Travel Time Dashboard
- Transit passes







Logan Airport

- Logan Express 25% discount and kids >12 are free
- Real time data for shuttles from Airport Station to Logar
- "Skip the Line" Logan for all water transportation users
- Real time information on Silver Line shuttles
- Use of the I-90 EB Emergency Ramp

Reducing Impacts



Contract Protections

- Isolated intersection improvements Signal phasing and timing changes, turn restrictions, lane utilization/lane changes
- Disposal of runoff and materials offside
- Field Monitoring Units dust, water, noise, pest control, etc.
- Real Time Traffic Information
- Incentives/Disincentives for Design-Build team to ensure compliance with contract timelines

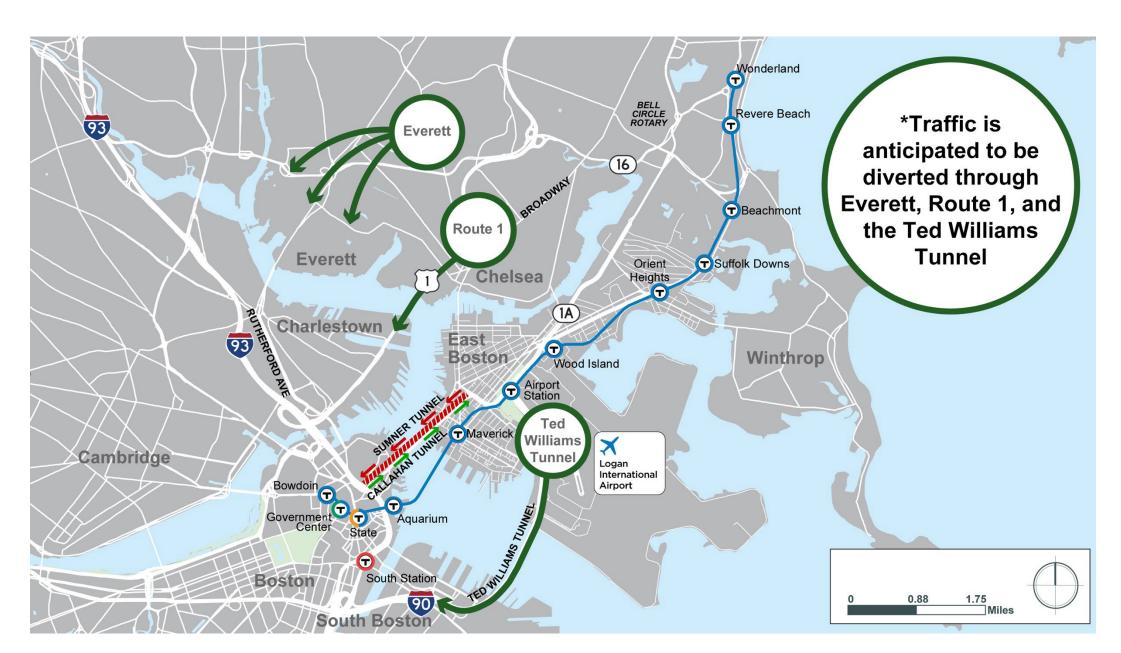






Traffic Diversions





MassDOT Traffic Monitoring Capabilities



Real-time Traffic Monitoring System (RTTM)

- Travel Times
- Connected Work Zone through traffic sensors. PTZ Cameras, Portable Message Boards

Intersection Monitoring

• 13 "hot spot" intersections in area of impact

RITIS System

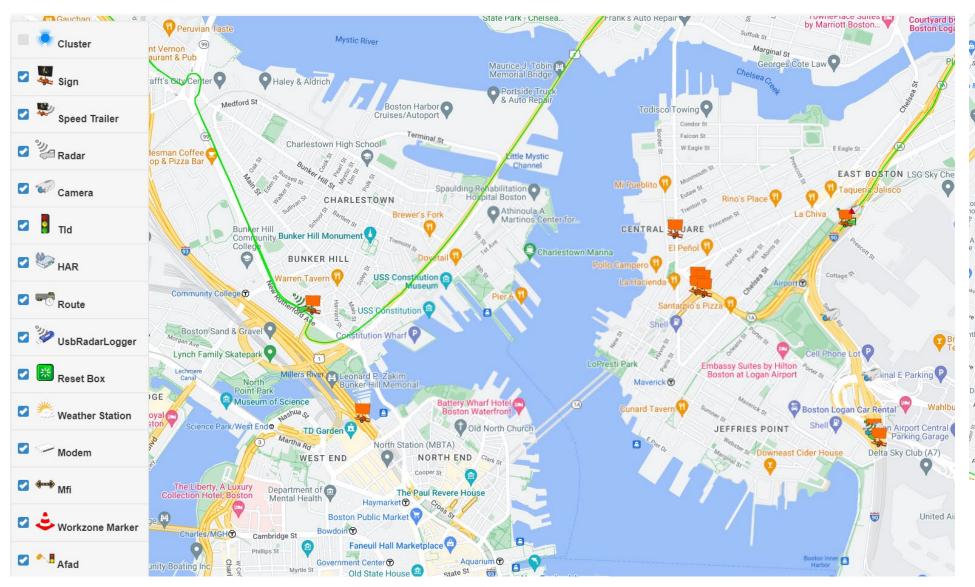
- Congestion Scans
- Travel Times
- Speeds

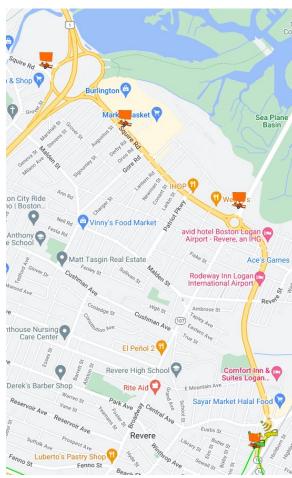
Historic Traffic Time Dashboard – under review

Provide directional travel time history for the signed detour routes

Real-time Traffic Monitoring





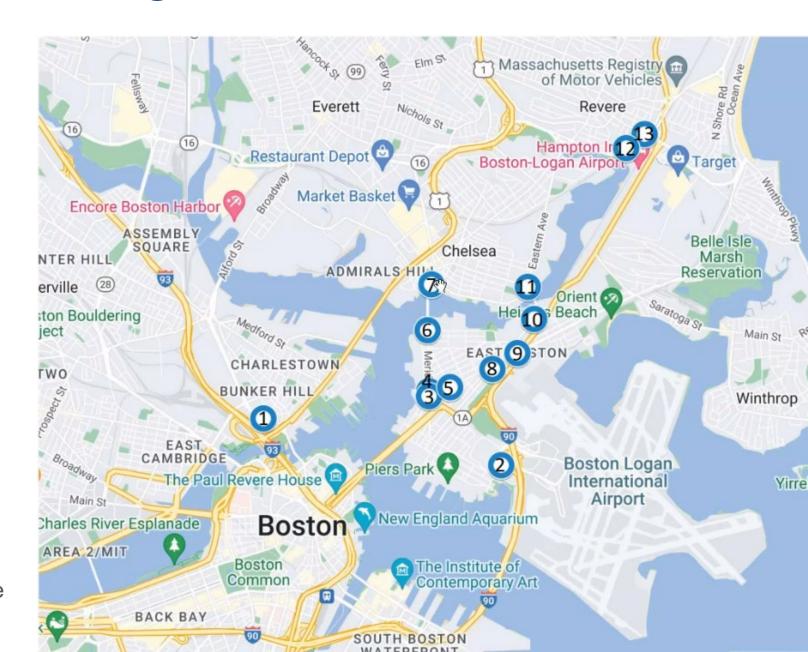


Intersection Traffic Monitoring Locations



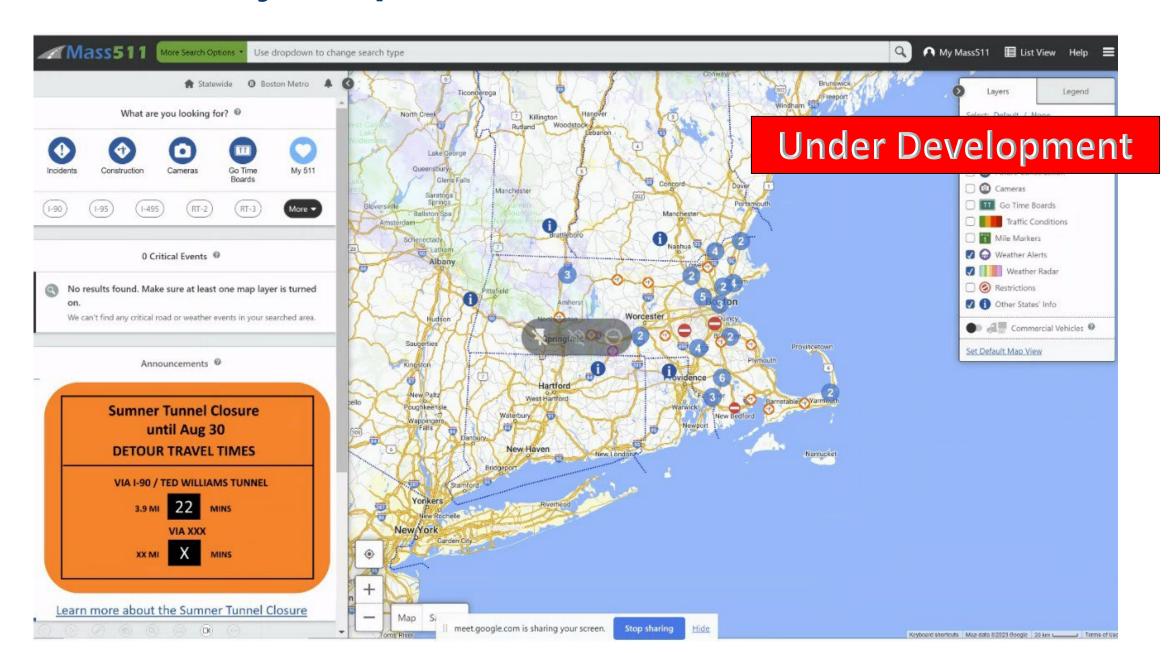
Sumner Tunnel Observations

- 1. New Rutherford St & Rt 1 Ramps
- 2. Transportation Way & Jeffries St
- 3. Porter St & Meridian St
- 4. Meridian St & Saratoga St
- 5. Bennington St & Marion St
- 6. Meridian St & Condor St
- 7. McArdle Bridge & Marginal St
- 8. Bennington St & Chelsea St
- 9. Bennington St & Neptune St
- 10. Chelsea St & Curtis St
- 11. Chelsea St & Marginal St
- 12. Revere Beach Pkwy & Vinal St
- 13. Revere Beach Pkwy & Winthrop Ave



Mass511 – Project Specific Information





Project Communications





Public Outreach



Meetings	Direct Outreach	Provide Information	Places and Spaces
 Virtual legislative briefings Virtual stakeholder and community group briefings Virtual public meetings 	 Neighborhood pop-ups Informational posters throughout the region Emails to EZ-Pass holders in 25 municipalities Outreach to Logan Express, Regional Bus Companies, and Rental Car Agencies Outreach to abutters and diverse community groups Outreach to businesses/organizations Encourage use of park and rides and ridesharing apps such as Uber and Lyft 	 Update project website Provide regular project and traffic updates via email listserv MassDOT social media posts Press briefings Press releases Newspaper notices Radio/Media 	 Little League Opening Day Events Chelsea Market Basket Mayor Wu's Coffee Hours East Boston Neighborhood Food Bank La Collaborative Suffolk Downs Daffodil Dash Piers Park

Public Outreach Activities May-June



Briefings

- Jefferies Point Neighborhood Associations (5/8)
- City of Boston (5/9)
- TNC Operators (5/9)
- Massport Cargo Consortium (5/10)
- Local Elected Officials (East Boston and the North End) (5/11 and 6/13)
- Massport Taxi Industry (5/11)
- Mass. State House (5/24 and 6/15)
- Maverick Central Neighborhood Association (5/16)
- Business/Organization Briefings 5/17 & 5/18
- Boston MPO (5/18)
- Ray Flynn Marine Park Business Association (5/23)
- Trucking Association of MA (5/23)
- Harbor View Neighborhood Association (6/5)

Public Outreach Activities May-June



Events / Pop-ups	Public Information Meetings	
Revere Public Library (5/2)	Next Public Meetings- May 24th and 25th	
Chelsea Market Basket (5/3)	Updated Project Website	
• East Boston Little League Opening Day (5/6)	Email notification via project listserv (over 2000	
 Piers Park Opening Day (5/6) 	contacts)	
• 10 Park Plaza (5/8)	MassDOT social media posts	
Mayor Wu's Coffee Hour (East Boston and the	Press Advisory- Early next week	
North End) (5/27, 5/24, and 5/31)	• EZ Pass User Notification (736,830 email addresses across 131 zip codes and 25 towns)	
 Kennedy Greenway (5/18, 5/25, 6/14, and 6/15) 		
	 Flyers to direct abutters in North End and East Boston 	
	Newspaper Notices	
	*Additional Public Meetings- June 20th & 21st	

Project Communications



Explore Sumner Alternatives

Expected delays and plan ahead

- Reduce
 - If able, adjust your commute time or work from home
- Reroute
 - Alternate Routes
 - Travel Time Dashboard
 - Mass.gov/511
- Re-mode
 - Explore MBTA Transit, Ferry, and Commuter Rail
 - Carpool

THE SUMNER TUNNEL IS CLOSING **JULY 5, 2023 - AUGUST 31, 2023**

YOUR COMMUTE **WILL BE IMPACTED**











EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS AND PLAN YOUR ALTERNATIVE ROUTE



FOR MORE PROJECT INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT MASS.GOV/SUMNER-TUNNEL

Project Communications



First Full Closure: July 5 – August 31

Plan your commute: Mass.gov/Sumner-Tunnel

Project Email: Sumner100@dot.state.ma.us

Project Hotline: (508) 510-2920

Use your phone to scan the QR code at the right to learn more about your alternative travel options.





Questions



May 18, 2023

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Chair's Report
- 3. Executive Director's Report
- 4. Public Comments
- 5. Committee Chairs' Reports
- Regional Transportation Advisory Council Report
- 7. Action Item: April 13, 2023, MPO Meeting Minutes
- 8. Action Item: FFYs 2023–27 TIP Amendment Four
- 9. Action Item: FFYs 2023–27
 TIP Amendment Six
- 10. Action Item: FFYs 2023–27
 TIP Amendment Seven
- 11. Summary of Needs Assessment Findings
- 12. Sumner Tunnel Project
- 13. Members' Items

Members' Items

Reports and notices by MPO members, including regional concerns and local community issues



