

North Suburban Planning Council (NSPC)

Identifying Transportation Needs, Construction Projects,
and Studies in Your Subregion



Fall 2017–Winter 2018



Burlington • Lynnfield • North Reading • Reading • Stoneham • Wakefield • Wilmington • Winchester • Woburn

WHAT NEEDS DID THE MPO IDENTIFY IN NSPC COMMUNITIES?

The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) conducted an assessment of transportation needs in the Boston region to inform the MPO’s current Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), *Charting Progress to 2040*. The MPO staff identified existing transportation conditions and made projections of future conditions and demand on the system. We also asked you about your transportation needs and the opportunities to improve transportation in your communities. The resulting Needs Assessment serves as a tool for planning the region’s future transportation network and prioritizing the MPO’s limited funding for transportation projects and studies.

Below are some of the needs that we identified in your subregion during our assessment and past visits to NSPC communities. For more information, please refer to the *Charting Progress to 2040* Needs Assessment report and applications on our website: bostonmpo.org/lrtp_needs.

Needs Identified During *Charting Progress to 2040* Development

Location of identified need	Municipalities	Top 25 Highway Crash Locations	Top 200 Intersection Crash Clusters	HSIP Crash Cluster	Truck Crash Cluster	Priority Congested Location	Activity undertaken to address need
I-95 between I-93 in Woburn and US 1 in Lynnfield	Woburn, Reading, Wakefield, Lynnfield					●	
Rte. 129	Wilmington and Reading					●	
Middlesex Tpke. at I-95	Burlington	●		●	●		
I-95 at I-93	Reading	●	●	●	●		A proposed infrastructure improvement project for the I-93/I-95 interchange is listed on page 4.
Rte. 1 at Rte. 129	Lynnfield	●		●	●		

Transit park-and-ride lots at more than 85 percent use

- Winchester — Wedgemere, on Lowell Line
- Wilmington — North Wilmington, on Haverhill Line, and Wilmington, on Lowell Line

Needs and Opportunities the MPO Has Heard from You

Safety

- The Intersection of Route 129 and Woburn Street in Wilmington is a high-crash location, and may need to be improved as part of a broader corridor plan
Note: This high-crash location was analyzed in a MPO-funded study listed on page 6
- Improve pedestrian safety at crossings on Stoneham's Main Street from Montvale Avenue to a bit past the Stoneham Public Library

Capacity Management/Mobility

- Address congestion on regional arterials
- Address congestion between Wilmington and North Reading
- Address congestion on highways (including I-90, I-95, I-495, and the I-93/95 interchange)
Note: A proposed infrastructure improvement project for the I-93/I-95 interchange is listed on page 4
- A proposed reuse of the Olin Corporation site in Wilmington could add 800 truck trips per day to the surrounding area, which includes Main Street (Route 38), Woburn Street, and Presidential Way
- Expand transit to reduce congestion
- Improve coordination of transit between Burlington and Woburn
- Support Complete Streets improvements
- Incorporate Complete Streets improvements along Route 28 between Nichols Street and Winters Street (Route 62) in North Reading
- Establish a first-mile/last-mile access to transit program, including investments in technology-supported services, such as Uber, to help people connect to transit
Note: First-mile/last-mile and transit mobility needs were studied as part of the North Suburban Mobility Study, listed on page 6

Economic Vitality

- Support economic development opportunities for businesses along Main Street in Stoneham with Complete Streets improvements that coordinate traffic signals, enhance pedestrian safety, and improve parking

The MPO also seeks information on your needs pertaining to the MPO's System Preservation, Clean Air/Clean Communities, and Transportation Equity goal areas.

WHAT PROJECTS HAVE BEEN FUNDED IN NSPC COMMUNITIES?

On May 25, 2017, the MPO endorsed the new Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which documents all transportation construction projects that will receive federal funding over the next five years, during federal fiscal years (FFYs) 2018–22.

Below is a selection of recent federally funded projects in NSPC communities that are supported by the MPO and MassDOT. Other proposed TIP projects are also listed.

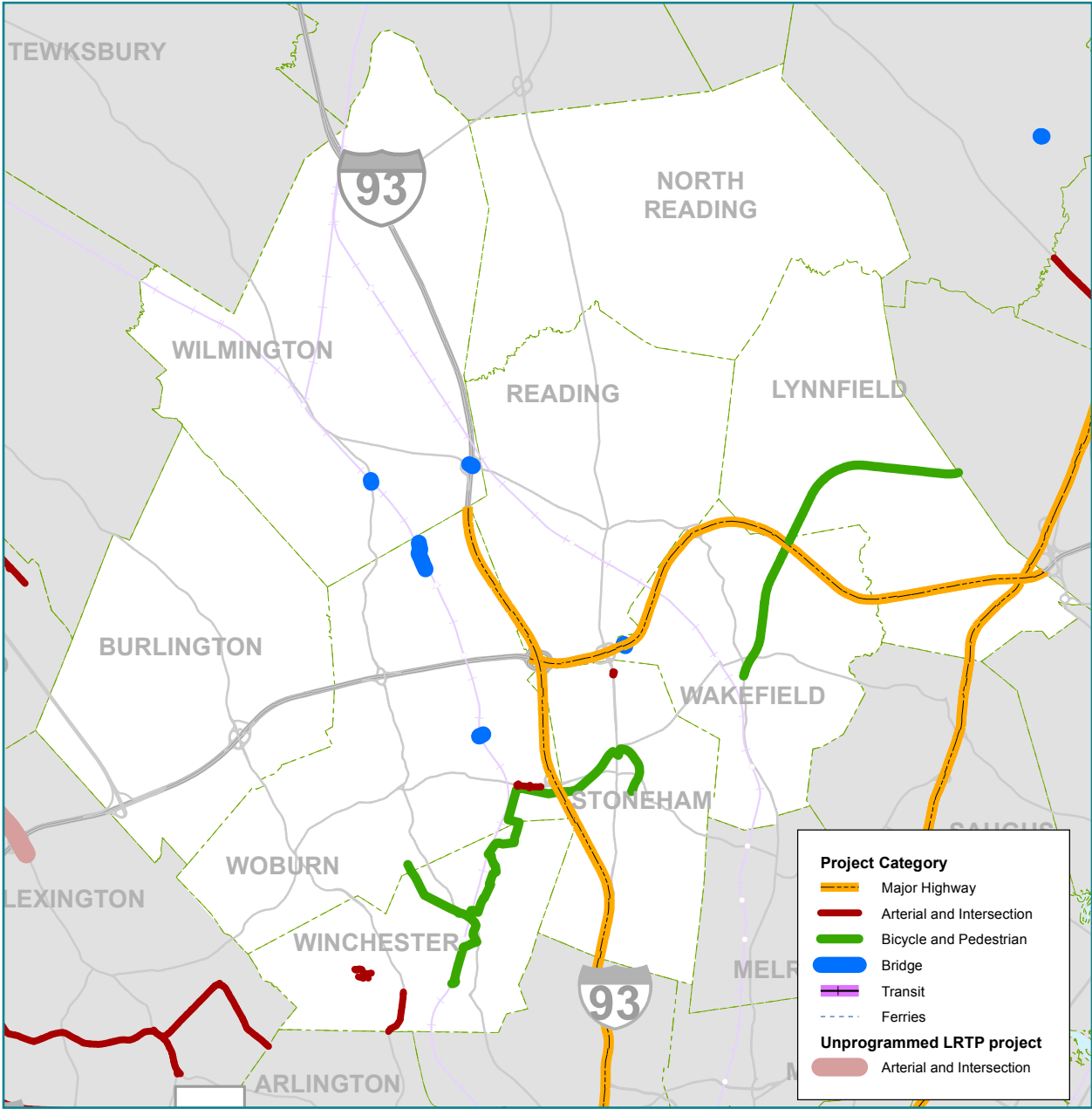
Recently Programmed TIP Projects:

- Bedford, Burlington, and Billerica — Middlesex Turnpike improvements, from Crosby Drive North to Manning Road (Phase III)
Status: Funded by the MPO, a federal earmark, and the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments. Programmed in FFYs 2016–17. Advertised for construction
- Lynnfield, Wakefield — Rail Trail Extension from the Galvin Middle School to Lynnfield/Peabody town line
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Reading, Wakefield — Interstate maintenance and related work on I-95
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2019
- Stoneham — Signal and intersection improvements at Route 28 and North Street
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2017. Advertised for construction
- Stoneham, Winchester, Woburn — Tri-Community Bikeway including new bridge over the Aberjona River
Status: MPO- and earmark-funded and programmed in FFY 2016. Under construction
- Winchester — Improvements at Vinson-Owen Elementary School (Safe Routes to School)
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2020
- Wilmington — Bridge replacement, Route 38 (Main Street) over the B&M Railroad
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Wilmington — Bridge replacement, Route 129 (Lowell Street) over I-93
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Woburn — Reconstruction of Montvale Avenue, from the I-93 interchange to Central Street
Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2017. Advertised for construction
- Woburn — Bridge replacement, Salem Street over MBTA
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2016. Under construction
- Woburn — Bridge replacement, New Boston Street over MBTA
Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2021

Proposed TIP Projects:

- Reading — Intersection signalization at Route 28 and Hopkins Street
Status: 25 percent design submitted. Approved by MassDOT Project Review Committee (PRC) in 2012. Project will be on the MPO's FFYs 2019–23 First Tier List
- Reading, Stoneham, Wakefield, Woburn — Interchange improvements to I-93/I-95
Status: Approved by MassDOT PRC in 2009
Note: This proposed project would address a safety need listed on page 1. This project would need to be programmed in both the LRTP and the TIP, based on estimated cost and proposed capacity expansion
- Reading — Resurfacing and related work on Route 28 (Main Street)
Status: Approved by MassDOT PRC in 2006
- Wilmington — Reconstruction on Route 38 (Main Street) from Route 62 to the Woburn city line
Status: Approved by MassDOT PRC in 2014
- Woburn — Middlesex Canal Park improvements, from Alfred Street to School Street (Phase II, Segment 5)
Status: Approved by MassDOT PRC in 2010
- Woburn — Intersection reconstruction at Route 3 (Cambridge Road) and Bedford Road and South Bedford Street
Status: Approved by MassDOT PRC in 2014

MPO and MassDOT Projects Funded from FFY 2016 through 2022
and LRTP Projects not yet Programmed in the TIP



WHAT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING STUDIES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN NSPC COMMUNITIES?

The MPO conducts studies through its Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that advance our understanding of the transportation system, new technologies, regulations, and travel preferences. The MPO also offers technical assistance to address transit, bicycle and pedestrian, and roadway issues—at no cost to municipalities. Below is a list of studies and technical assistance projects undertaken in your subregion over the past several years.

- All NSPC Municipalities — North Shore Mobility Study
Status: Completed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) in 2017
Note: This study analyzes first-mile/last-mile and transit mobility needs described on page 2
- Lynnfield — Community Transportation Technical Assistance study of South Common Street
Status: Completed in 2017
- Reading, Stoneham, Wilmington, Winchester, and Woburn — A Preferential Lane on I-93 North: A Conceptual Plan
Status: Completed in 2014
- Reading — Community Transportation Technical Assistance study of Main Street (Route 28) from South Street to Washington Street
Status: Completed in 2014
- Reading — Town of Reading Bicycle Network and Pedestrian Priority Plan
Status: Completed by MAPC in 2014
- Reading, Wakefield, Melrose — Main Street Corridor Study
Status: Completed by MAPC in 2012
- Stoneham and Woburn — Low-Cost Improvements to Express Highway Bottleneck Locations study of I-93 southbound between I-95 and Montvale Avenue
Status: Completed in 2015
- Wilmington — Safety and operations analysis at Main Street (Route 38/129) at Church Street/Burlington Avenue (Route 62)
Status: Completed in 2012
- Wilmington — Safety and operations analysis of Lowell Street (Route 129) at Woburn Street
Status: Completed in 2011
Note: This study addresses a high-crash location mentioned on page 2

NOW WHAT?

This fall, help us get started on our next LRTP, *Destination 2040*. As we embark on a new cycle of determining how to spend the federal transportation dollars that come into the Boston region, we want to hear about the transportation needs and opportunities to improve transportation in your community:

- What's working well with the transportation system in your community?
- Are there transportation barriers or mobility issues that prevent people from getting where they need to go?
- Are there transportation needs that you've heard from people of color, people with low incomes, older adults, youths, people with disabilities, and people with limited English proficiency?
- What changes or trends are occurring that might affect the transportation system and how you use it?
- What opportunities for improving the transportation system do you see now or in the near future?

We also welcome ideas for studies and technical assistance projects. Share your views with us during our meeting with NSPC community representatives, or through any of the channels listed at bostonmpo.org/public_involvement.



North Suburban Planning Council (NSPC)
Identifying Transportation Needs, Construction Projects,
and Studies in Your Subregion