# **South Shore Coalition** (SSC)

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



Fall 2017-Winter 2018



#### WHAT NEEDS DID THE MPO IDENTIFY IN SOUTH SHORE 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 the South Shore. 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
Rte. 3 at Rte. 18 (Main St.)	Weymouth	•		•	•		
Rte. 18 (Main St.) intersection at West St. and corridor	Weymouth	•	•	•	•	•	MPO-funded project included intersection improvements to Rte. 18 and West St.  MPO-funded project will make improvements to the Rte. 18 corridor (see page 4).
Interstate 93 at Rte. 37 (Granite St.)	Braintree	•	•	•	•		
Rte. 3A	Marshfield, Norwell, Hanover, Weymouth, Braintree, and Quincy					•	

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

• Braintree — Red Line

#### Needs and opportunities the MPO has heard from you

#### Safety

• Route 3A in Hingham is a high-crash location

Note: The MPO's 2016 Subregional Priority Roadways study of Summer Street/George

Washington Boulevard includes the Route 3A Rotary in Hingham (see page 6).

#### Clean Air/Clean Communities

Coordinate GreenDOT across state agencies

#### **System Preservation**

• Support increased and improved transit within the existing system

#### Capacity Management/Mobility

- Address congestion on regional arterials
- Consider add-a-lane on the Derby Street exit (Exit 15) off of Route 3 in Hingham
- Exit 16 of Route 3 in Weymouth is a chokepoint for commuters. Consider widening the route from Weymouth (Exit 16) to Plymouth (Exit 7)
- The opening of a direct connection between the naval base and the Rockland Town Center will have traffic impacts on surrounding areas (this should be studied)
- More connections are needed between regional trail systems and multi-use trails
- A first mile/last mile access to transit program including improved connections to suburban commuter rail stops is needed
- Increase parking at transit stations (Braintree, Kingston, Greenbush, and Plymouth); some park-and-ride lots are always full and some are not fully used. Pricing should be reasonable for customers seeking all day parking
- Expand commuter rail and subway infrastructure to better connect the South Shore and Boston. Current price and schedules discourage regular use by commuters
- Extend the Red Line further than Braintree
- More ferry service is needed in coastal cities/towns, including scheduled, crossharbor water transportation serving Boston and communities north and south of Boston

The MPO also seeks information on your needs pertaining to the MPO's Transportation Equity and Economic Vitality goal areas.

#### WHAT PROJECTS HAVE BEEN FUNDED IN SOUTH SHORE 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 SSC that are supported by the MPO and MassDOT.

#### **Recently Programmed TIP Projects:**

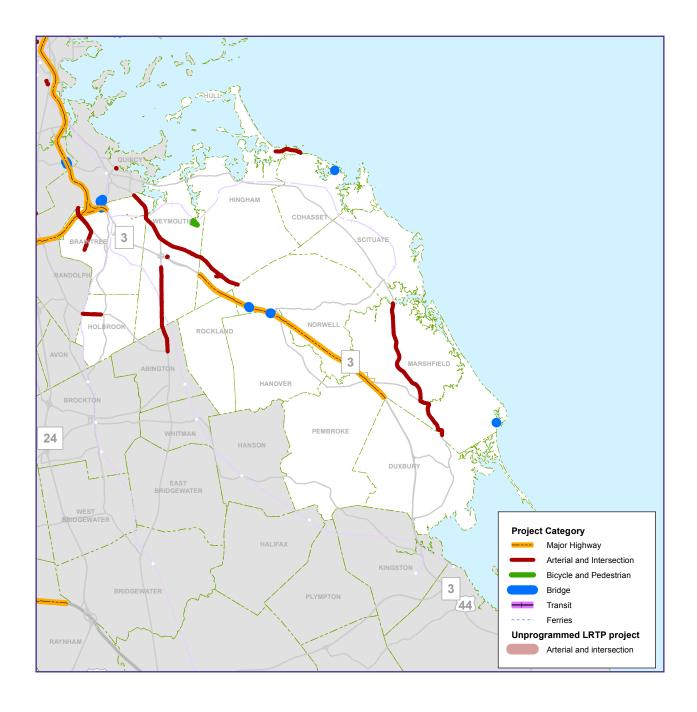
- Braintree Adaptive signal controls on Route 37 (Granite Street)
   Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2018
- Braintree, Hingham, Weymouth Resurfacing and related work on Route 53 Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Cohasset Superstructure replacement and rehabilitation, Atlantic Avenue over Little Harbor Inlet
  - Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2016. Under construction
- Hingham Reconstruction and related work on Derby Street from Pond Park Road to Cushing Street
   Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2017. Advertised for construction
- Hingham Intersection improvements at Derby Street, Whiting Street (Route 53), and Gardner Street
   Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2018
- Holbrook Reconstruction of Union Street (Route 139), from Linfield Street to Centre Street/Water Street
   Status: MPO- and earmark-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Hull Reconstruction of Atlantic Avenue and related work, from Nantasket Avenue to Cohasset Town Line Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Marshfield Bridge replacement, Beach Street over Cut River Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2016
- Marshfield, Pembroke, Norwell, Hanover, Rockland, Hingham Resurfacing and related work on Route 3
   Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2018
- Marshfield Resurfacing and related work on Route 3A
   Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2016. Under construction

- Weymouth and Abington Reconstruction and widening on Route 18 (Main Street), from Highland Place to Route 139
   Status: MPO- and earmark-funded and programmed in FFYs 2016–20. Under construction
   Note: This project addresses the Route 18 Corridor included in the MPO-identified
  - needs list on page 1.
- Weymouth Intersection improvements at Middle Street, Libbey Industrial Parkway, and Tara Drive
   Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2016. Under construction
- Weymouth Intersection and signal improvements at two locations: State Route 53 (Washington Street) at Mutton Lane and Pleasant Street Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2016. Under construction
- Weymouth Improvements at Pingree Elementary School (Safe Routes to School)
   Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2017. Advertised for construction

#### **Recently Proposed TIP Projects:**

- Cohasset Corridor improvements and related work on Justice Cushing Highway (Route 3A), from Beechwood Street to the Scituate Town Line Status: 25% design submitted
- Duxbury Signal installation at Route 3 (NB and SB) ramps and Route 3A (Tremont Street)
   Status: Approved by MassDOT Project Review Committee (PRC)
- Weymouth Reconstruction on Route 3A, including pedestrian and traffic signal improvements
   Status: Approved by MassDOT PRC

### MPO and MassDOT Projects Funded from FFY 2016 through 2022 and Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Projects not yet Programmed in the TIP



## WHAT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING STUDIES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS HAVE THE MPO UNDERTAKEN IN SOUTH SHORE 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, pedestrian, and roadway issues—at no cost to municipalities. Below is a list of studies and technical assistance projects undertaken in SSC communities over the past five years.

 Cohasset and Scituate — Subregional Priority Roadways study of Route 3A from the MBTA commuter rail station in Cohasset to Henry Turner Bailey Road in Scituate

Status: Completed in 2014

 Braintree — Safety and operations analysis of Franklin Street (Route 37) at West Street and Granite Street Status: Completed in 2014

 Hingham and Hull — Subregional Priority Roadways study of Summer Street/ George Washington Boulevard

Status: Completed in 2016

Note: This study addresses safety issues on Route 3A in Hingham, a need identified by South Shore community members, as shown on page 2.

- Holbrook Safety and operations analysis of North/South Franklin Street (Route 37) at Union Street/Plymouth Street (Route 139)
   Status: Completed in 2014
- Norwell Boston Region MPO Livability Program study of Norwell Town Center Status: Completed in 2013
- Scituate MAPC Corridor/Subarea Planning Study of Scituate Harbor Parking Status: Completed in 2015
- Weymouth Safety and operations analysis of Washington Street and Broad Street

Status: Completed in 2014

#### **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 visit to the South Shore, or through any of the channels listed at bostonmpo.org/public\_involvement.

