



Understanding the TIP Process

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Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

1. **Introductions**
2. MPO basics
3. TIP funding
4. Project initiation and evaluation
5. Timeline and process
6. Policy updates
7. Resources
8. Discussion

Today's Session

- Introductions
- Boston Region MPO basics
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funding
- Project initiation and evaluation
- Timeline and process
- Policy updates
- Resources
- Discussion

Introductions

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Introductions

In the chat, please comment:

- Name
- Role
- Municipality/Agency/Organization

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Boston Region MPO Basics

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What is an MPO?

A federally required planning entity that engages governments (elected officials and various transportation agencies), residents, and other stakeholders in a **collaborative and transparent public process** to

CREATE FRAMEWORK



Long-Range Transportation Plan

20-year vision and goals for the transportation system and prioritizing projects and programs to meet the vision

INVEST



Transportation Improvement Program

Rolling, five-year capital investment plan, including the shorter-term investments that help realize the long-term vision

STUDY & ANALYZE



Unified Planning Work Program

Annual work program for how federal planning funds are allocated to studies and technical analyses to benefit the region

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Who Serves on the Boston Region MPO board?

Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA)

Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport)

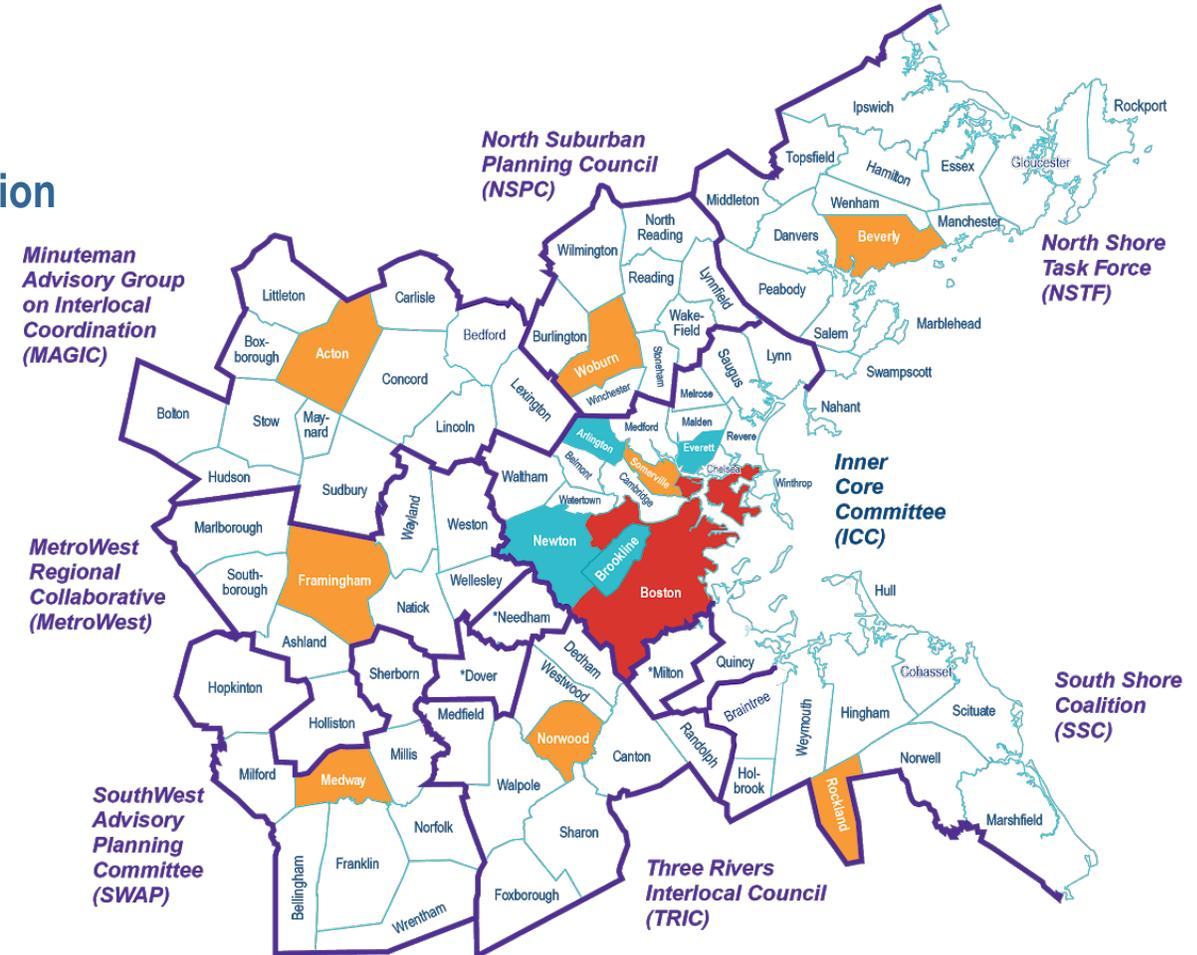
12 elected municipalities

2 for City of Boston

Regional Transportation Advisory Council

MBTA Advisory Board

Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)



*Community is in more than one subregion: Dover is in TRIC and SWAP; Milton and Needham are in ICC and TRIC.

Technical difficulties? Call Róisín Foley at 857.702.3704 or email rfoley@ctps.org.

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MPO Vision and Goals

MPO Vision

A modern, well-maintained transportation system that supports a sustainable, healthy, livable, and economically vibrant region.

MPO Goals



SAFETY



SYSTEM
PRESERVATION
AND MODERNIZATION



CAPACITY
MANAGEMENT
AND MOBILITY



CLEAN AIR AND
SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES



TRANSPORTATION
EQUITY



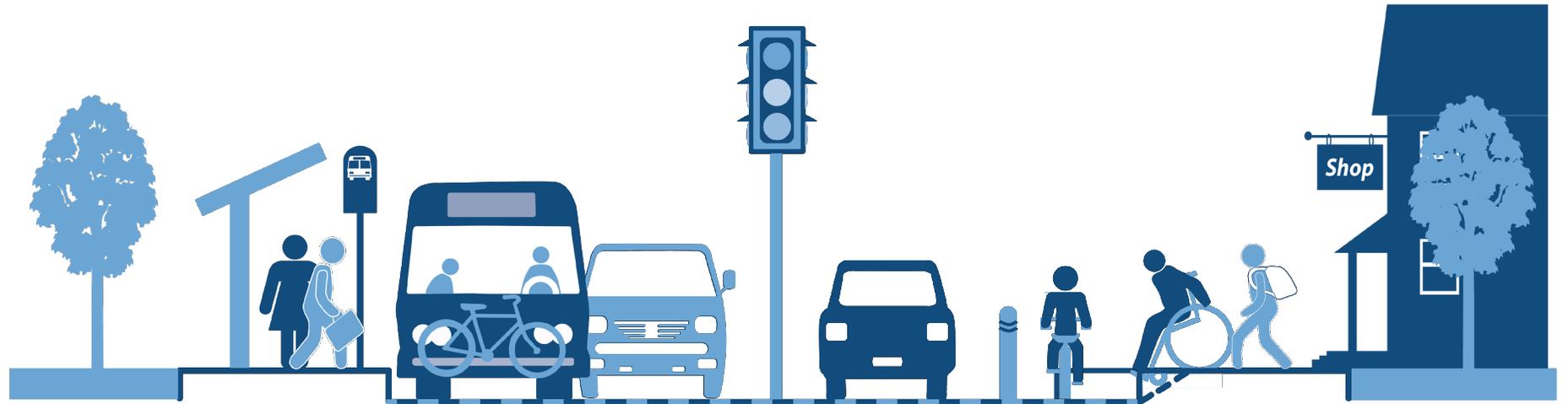
ECONOMIC
VITALITY

Fall 2021

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Multimodal Planning



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TIP Funding

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Projects Included in the TIP

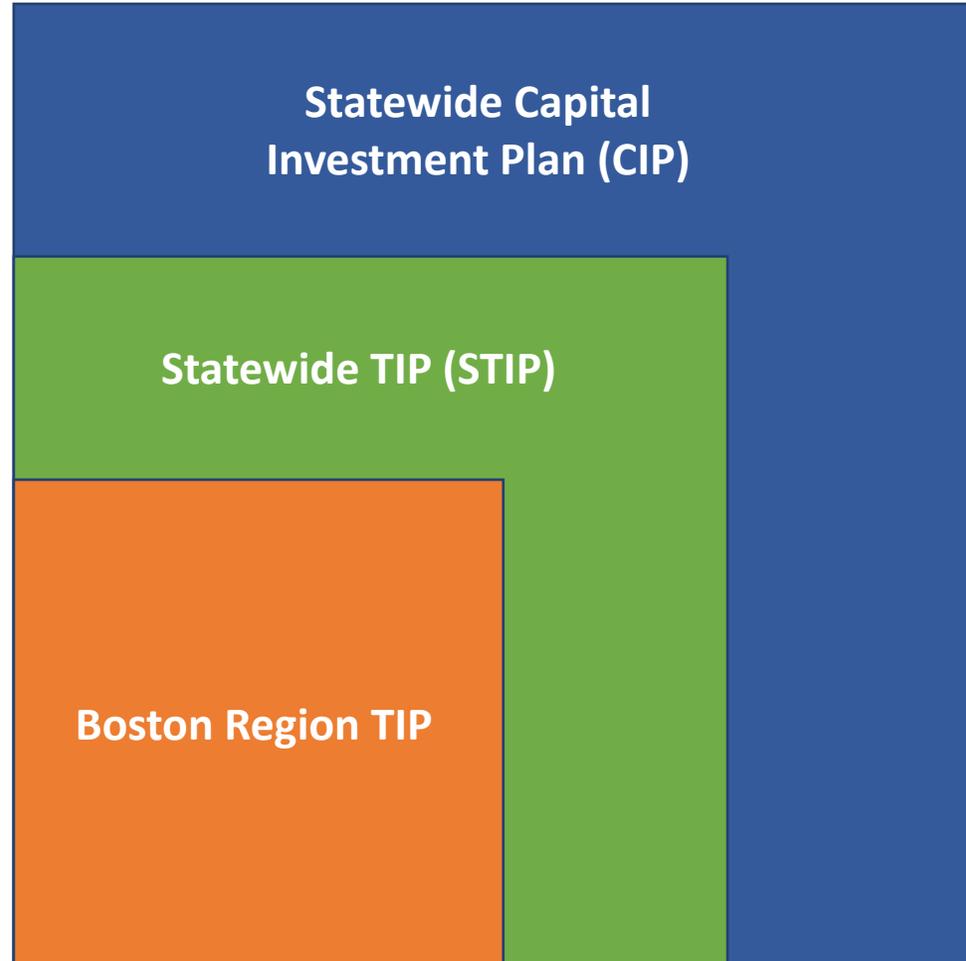
- **Funded through the TIP:**
 - **MPO-prioritized projects based on MPO's goals and investment programs**
 - MassDOT-prioritized projects that are federally funded
 - Transit projects for MBTA, MetroWest Regional Transit Authority, and Cape Ann Transportation Authority that are federally funded
- **Not funded through the TIP:**
 - State-funded projects
 - Locally funded projects



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Transportation Funding in Massachusetts



- **Boston Region TIP** = All projects in region funded using federal highway and transit funds
- **Statewide TIP (STIP)** = Compilation of all TIPs from each of 13 Massachusetts MPOs
- **Statewide CIP** = All projects in Massachusetts funded using both federal AND state funds

Local funds, public/
private grants, etc.



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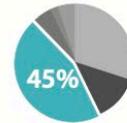
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MPO Investment Programs



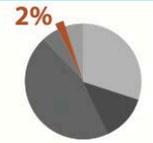
COMPLETE STREETS

- Continuous sidewalks
- Cycle tracks
- Dedicated bus lanes



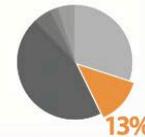
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- First- and last-mile connections
- Wayfinding



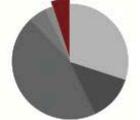
INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

- Modernized signals
- Shorter crosswalks



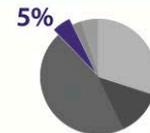
TRANSIT MODERNIZATION

- Transit station improvements
- Climate resiliency



BICYCLE NETWORK AND PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS

- Shared-use paths
- Bicycle facilities



MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE

- New transit lines
- Large-scale Complete Streets projects



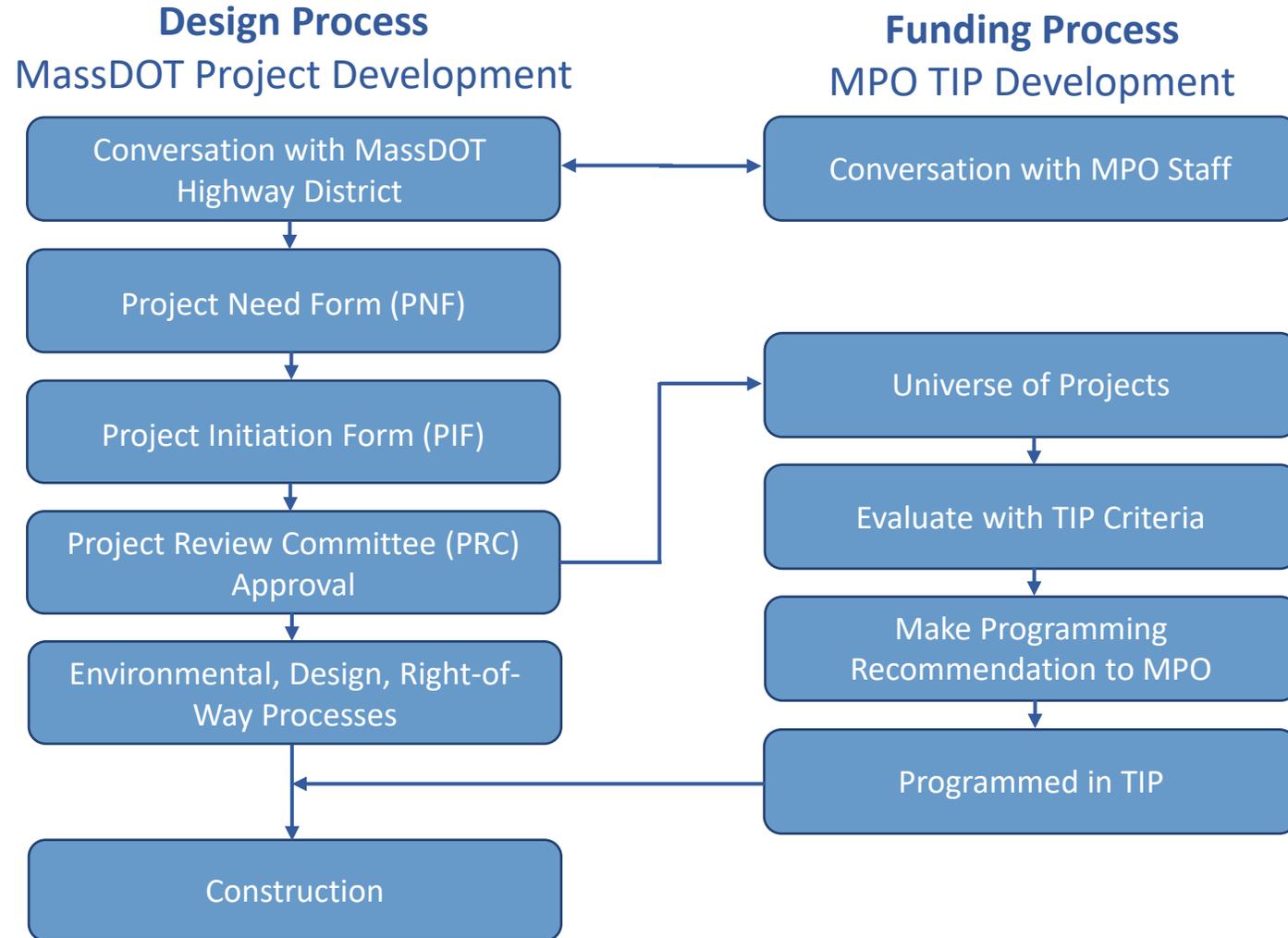
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Project Initiation and Evaluation

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Project Funding Process



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Project Initiation Process

massDOT MaPIT - Massachusetts Project Intake Tool (3.0)

All Projects Initiate Workflow

Project Name	Date	Status
Amesbury Riverwalk Connector to the Salisbury Point Ghost Trail	10/7/2020	PN Accepted
Stoughton, MA - Intersection Improvements at Canton Street (Route 27) at School Street / Summer St.	9/9/2020	Ready for PS Review
Fall River - Third St and Fourth St	9/8/2020	PN Accepted
Boston-Albany Street	9/8/2020	PN Accepted
Holliston-Reconstruction of Concord St./Rt.126 from Ashland St. to the Ashland town line	8/27/2020	Ready for PS Review
West Springfield - Rte. 20 Shared-use Path and Sidewalk Construction	8/24/2020	PN Accepted
LEE - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT PARK STREET/MAIN STREET (US ROUTE 20) AND WEST PARK STREET	8/18/2020	Ready for PS Review
Tyngsborough - Housing Authority Pedestrian Connector	8/12/2020	Ready for PN Review

Map showing project locations across Massachusetts, color-coded by district (District 1 to District 5). The map includes labels for major cities and towns such as Boston, Worcester, Springfield, and Lowell. The interface also shows a search bar, a scale bar (30mi), and coordinates (40.258 -73.842 Degrees).

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Project Evaluation Process

- Projects scored by MPO staff
- Criteria applied by project type
- Submit proponent questionnaire



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TIP Timeline and Process

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TIP Timeline and Process

- **October:** Initial outreach and data collection
- **November:** Project universe and data collection
 - Project funding application launch
 - 11/18: MPO – Universe presentation
- **December:** Data collection and project evaluations
 - December 10: Deadline for submitting project information
- **January:** Project evaluations
 - January 22 – February 5: Project proponents review evaluation results

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TIP Timeline and Process

- **February:** Readiness updates and presentation of evaluation results
 - February 9: MassDOT TIP readiness day (tentative)
 - February 17: MPO – Presentation of evaluation results
- **March:** Programming discussions
 - March 3: MPO – Project readiness updates
 - March 17 and 31: MPO – Discussion of new programming scenarios
- **Late April:** Draft TIP released for public comment
- **Late May:** MPO endorses final FFYs 2023–27 TIP

Policy Updates

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Update: TIP Policy Changes to Address Project Cost Increases

Proposed updates based on recent MPO committee decisions:

- Requiring 25 percent design submission to be considered for MPO funding
- Will do preliminary project scoring any time
- New requirements for proponent check-ins with MPO staff and board
- New rescoring process with cost-effectiveness analysis for funded projects with cost increases



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Update: TIP Policy Changes to Address Project Cost Increases

Benefits of new policies

- Prevent cost increases before they happen
- Set clearer expectations for all stakeholders
- Create more reliable funding stream for prospective projects

Changes are not yet final

- MPO will discuss at board meeting on November 4

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Update: MPO's Community Connections Program

Updates to first- and last-mile funding program

- Moving to collective procurement model in partnership with MAPC and MassDOT
- This year's funding round will support projects such as
 - Bike racks and bikeshare
 - Bus and bike lane paint
 - Transit signal priority
- Shuttle and microtransit projects encouraged in partnership with regional transit authorities

Application launch in early November

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Federal Transportation Funding Legislative Update

- As of October 2, 2021, 30-day extension of FAST Act passed
 - Deadline of October 31 for passage of bipartisan bill
 - Current bill contains increase in TIP funding
- Action item: Initiate your projects in the MassDOT process
 - Talk to MPO and MassDOT Highway District staff about your project
 - Fill out project need and initiation forms
 - Helps MPO and MassDOT to better understand local needs and allocate resources



TIP Resources

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[MassDOT Highway District Finder](#)



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Helpful Links

- TIP Development Page
 - <https://www.bostonmpo.org/tip-dev>
- MassDOT Project Development Page
 - <https://www.mass.gov/lists/massdot-highway-project-development-tools>
- MassDOT Project Initiation Page
 - <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massdot-highway-initiating-a-project>

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Stay Engaged

- Sign up for the MPO's email list
- Follow @BostonRegionMPO on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn
- Check out past meeting recordings on YouTube



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Closing Thoughts

1. Initiate your project now
 - Take advantage of potential additional federal funding
2. Communication is key as project advances
 - Keep MPO staff informed
 - Talk regularly with MassDOT districts and PMs
3. Keep project on track
 - Delays can jeopardize funding
 - Cost overruns can jeopardize timeline
4. Advance project design early to allow for unforeseen delays
 - Projects may be eligible to access funding earlier



Contact for Questions

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Discussion