Understanding the TIP Process

November 15, 2022

Ethan Lapointe
Transportation Improvement Program Manager

Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
Today’s Session

• Introductions
• Boston Region MPO basics
• MPO funding for projects (via LRTP and TIP)
• Project initiation and evaluation
• Timeline and process
• Policy updates
• Resources
• Discussion
Introductions
Introductions

In the chat, please provide

• Name
• Role
• Municipality/Agency/Organization
MPO Staff Contacts

Ethan Lapointe  
TIP Manager  
elapointe@ctps.org  
857.702.3703

Logan Casey  
Administrative Coordinator  
lcasey@ctps.org  
857.702.3706

Jonathan Church  
Manager, MPO Activities  
jchurch@ctps.org  
857.702.3709

Michelle Scott  
LRTP Manager  
mscott@ctps.org  
857.702.3692

Technical difficulties? Call [Comms Contact] at 857.702.37XX or email [X]@ctps.org.

Fall 2022

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

- **Long-Range Transportation Plan**: 20-year vision and goals for the transportation system and strategies for funding projects to meet the vision

- **Transportation Improvement Program**: Rolling, five-year capital investment plan, including the shorter-term investments that help realize the long-term vision

- **Unified Planning Work Program**: Annual work program for how federal planning funds are allocated to studies and technical analyses to benefit the region
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)
MPO Vision and Goals

Function of Vision and Goals
Shape MPO investment programs and TIP project selection criteria

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

MPO Goals
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Multimodal Planning

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TIP Funding
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
Transportation Funding in Massachusetts

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- **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.
MPO Investment Programs

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### LRTP and TIP Connection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan Feature</th>
<th>LRTP</th>
<th>TIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning Horizon</td>
<td>20 federal fiscal years or more</td>
<td>Five federal fiscal years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update Frequency</td>
<td>Every four years</td>
<td>Annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Function</td>
<td>Establishes MPO investment programs and funding goals for 20-plus years</td>
<td>Identifies all federally funded transportation projects (MPO and other agencies) over five years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identifies major federal projects for the next 10 years (sets stage for TIP)</td>
<td>Content is shaped by LRTP framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Types</td>
<td>Includes 1. Capacity-adding projects on interstates, expressways, freeways, and principal arterials</td>
<td>Includes all federally funded transportation project types</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Transit fixed-guideway expansion projects</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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2022–23 TIP and LRTP Activities

• This cycle, the MPO is developing a TIP and an LRTP

  • For the TIP: Let MPO staff know what projects you hope to advertise for construction in next five years
    – Projects should be initiated/in early phases of design

  • For the LRTP: Let staff know what major projects you hope to advertise for construction in the next 10 to 15 years
    – Projects may be more conceptual
Project Initiation and Evaluation
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Project Funding Process

**Design Process**

- MassDOT Project Development
  - Conversation with MassDOT Highway District
  - Project Need Form (PNF)
  - Project Initiation Form (PIF)
  - Project Review Committee (PRC) Approval
  - Environmental, Design, Right-of-Way Processes
  - Approval

**Funding Process**

- MPO TIP Development
  - Conversation with MPO Staff
  - Universe of Projects
  - Evaluate with TIP Criteria
  - Make Programming Recommendation to MPO
  - Programmed in TIP

Construction
Project Initiation Process

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TIP Project Evaluation Process

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

![Image with points and icons]

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TIP Timeline and Process
TIP Timeline and Process

- **October**: Initial outreach and data collection
- **November**: Project universe and data collection
  - Project funding application launch
  - 11/17: MPO – Universe presentation
- **December**: Data collection and project evaluations
  - Deadline for submitting project information
- **January**: Project evaluations
  - January 22 – February 5: Project proponents review evaluation results
TIP Timeline and Process

- **February:** Readiness updates and presentation of evaluation results
  - February 9: MassDOT TIP readiness day (tentative)
  - Presentation of evaluation results to MPO
- **March:** Programming discussions
  - Project readiness updates
  - Discussion of new programming scenarios
- **Late April:** Draft TIP released for public comment
- **Late May:** MPO endorses final FFYs 2024–28 TIP
LRTP Activities

- **Fall 2022 – Winter 2023**: Identify and/or update investment programs and candidate projects
  - MPO staff will review past LRTP Universes and inquire about project updates
  - Let MPO staff know if you are planning major projects
  - Connections between TIP and LRTP projects will be shared during TIP Universe discussions

- **Spring 2023 – Summer 2023**: Allocate funds to investment programs and select projects

- **Summer 2023**: Adopt a final *Destination 2050* plan
Policy Updates
Refresh: TIP Policy Changes to Address Project Cost Increases

Proposed updates based on recent MPO committee decisions

1. Requiring 25 percent design submission to be considered for MPO funding
2. Will do preliminary project scoring any time
3. New requirements for proponent check-ins with MPO staff and board
4. New rescoring process with cost-effectiveness analysis for funded projects with cost increases
Update: TIP Policy Changes to Address Project Cost Increases

Objectives of new policies

- Prevent cost increases before they happen
- Set more clear expectations for all stakeholders
- Create more reliable funding stream for prospective projects
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 November 17th
Federal Transportation Funding Legislative Update

• As of November 15, 2021, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) is in effect
  – Currently in year two of the BIL (FFY23)
  – As of August 12, 2022, BIL now complemented by Inflation Reduction Act

• 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
Fall 2021
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MassDOT Highway District Contacts

**District 3**
Ann Sullivan
ann.sullivan@state.ma.us
508.929.3868

**District 4**
Tim Paris
timothy.paris@state.ma.us
857.368.4156

**District 5**
Pam Haznar
pamela.haznar@state.ma.us
508.884.4254

**District 6**
Ben Muller
benjamin.muller@state.ma.us
617.694.3082

Technical difficulties? Call [Comms Contact] at 857.702.37XX or email [X]@ctps.org.

MassDOT Highway District Finder
Helpful Links

1. TIP Development Page
   www.bostonmpo.org/tip-dev

2. LRTP Development Page
   www.bostonmpo.org/destination2050

3. MassDOT Project Development Page
   www.mass.gov/lists/massdot-highway-project-development-tools

4. MassDOT Project Initiation Page
   www.mass.gov/info-details/massdot-highway-initiating-a-project

5. MassDOT GeoDOT Account Application
   www.mass.gov/forms/request-a-geodot-account
Fall 2021

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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
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

Ethan Lapointe
TIP Manager
elapointe@ctps.org
857.702.3703
Discussion