



# Boston Region MPO *Destination 2050* Plan Development

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October 14, 2021

Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

1. Overview

2. LRTP Overview

3. *Destination 2050* Schedule

4. Identifying Needs

5. Identifying Programs and Projects

6. Stay Engaged

7. Discussion

# Key Takeaways

- The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) long-range plan establishes a vision and major investment priorities for multimodal transportation in the region
- The MPO is kicking off development of *Destination 2050*, its long-range plan for 2050
- Stay engaged and help us understand your transportation needs and ideas!

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# Today's Presentation

- MPO Overview
- Long-Range Transportation Plan Overview
- *Destination 2050* Schedule
- Identifying Transportation Needs
- Identifying Programs and Projects
- Stay Engaged
- Discussion

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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

Develop a vision and major investment priorities for multimodal transportation in the region

## INVEST



### Transportation Improvement Program

Distribute federal funds to construction projects that support the region's transportation vision

## STUDY & ANALYZE



### Unified Planning Work Program

Carry out multimodal transportation planning at a regional scale

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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)

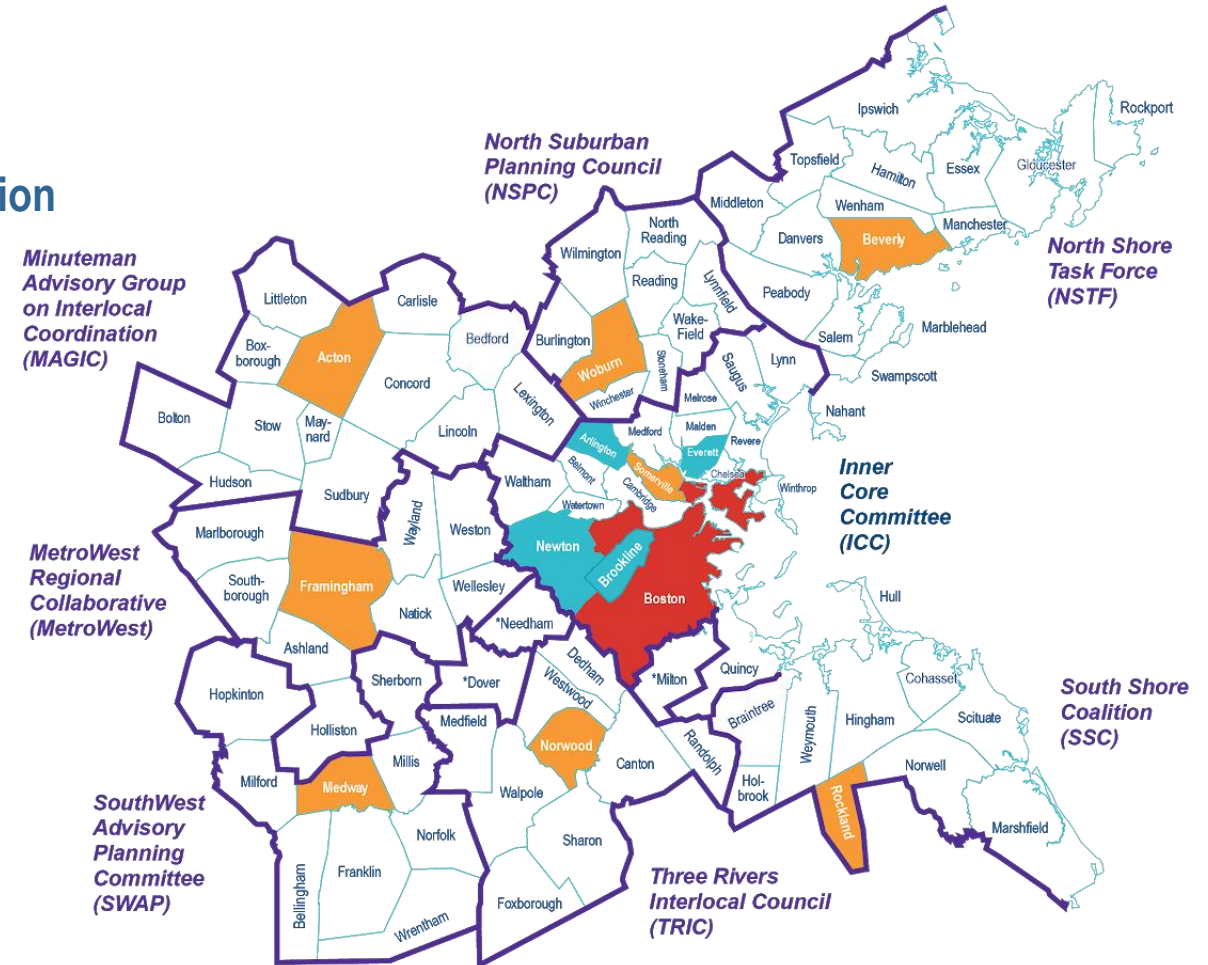
12 elected municipalities

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.

# Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Overview

## What is the LRTP?

- Long-range plan that provides a vision and goals for the Boston region's transportation system over the next 25 years
- Prioritizes major projects and programs to meet the vision
- Shapes annual Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) decisions about projects and studies to fund
- Updated every four years
- Current LRTP: *Destination 2040* (adopted 2019)

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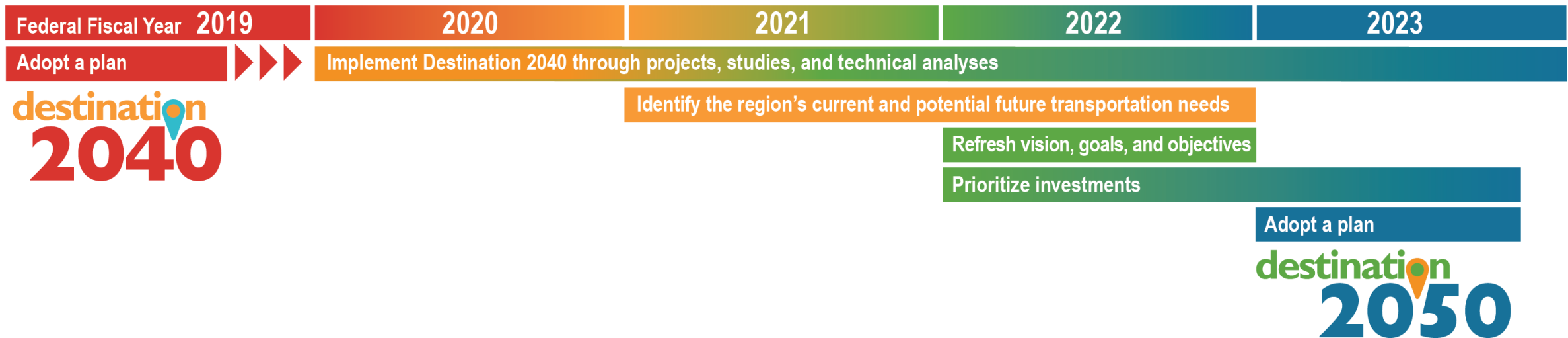
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# Next LRTP (2023)



# Destination 2050 Schedule





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# Identifying Transportation Needs

## Key Questions:

- What transportation challenges and opportunities do we have today?
- What challenges and opportunities might we face in the future?

## Addressed by:

- LRTP Needs Assessment
- Exploratory Scenario Planning

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# Exploratory Scenario Planning



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# MPO “Big Ideas” Study

- Collected input on future forces and strategies via regional stakeholder focus groups
- Staff expects to present stakeholder feedback at **November 4** MPO meeting
- MPO will prioritize scenarios for staff analysis
- Scenario results will be used when making strategy recommendations for the LRTP

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# *Destination 2050* Needs Assessment

- Describes transportation needs by MPO goal areas
- Current LRTP Goals
  - Safety
  - System Preservation and Modernization
  - Capacity Management and Mobility
  - Clean Air and Sustainable Communities
  - Transportation Equity
  - Economic Vitality

Destination 2050 Development

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# Identifying Transportation Needs

1. How have your communities' transportation needs and priorities changed since the start of the pandemic?
2. What transportation challenges and opportunities do you see on the horizon (near-term and long-term)?



Share your ideas on our Google Jamboard!  
(link in chat)



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# Future: Establish MPO Investment Programs



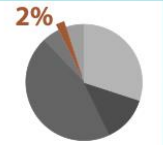
## COMPLETE STREETS

- Continuous sidewalks
- Cycle tracks
- Dedicated bus lanes



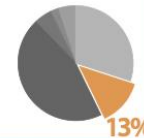
## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- First- and last-mile connections
- Wayfinding



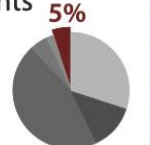
## INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

- Modernized signals
- Shorter crosswalks



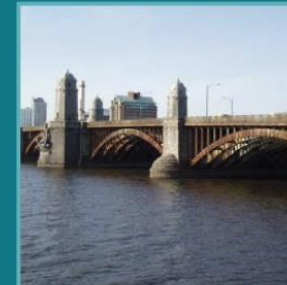
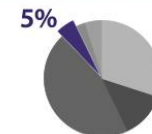
## TRANSIT MODERNIZATION

- Transit station improvements
- Climate resiliency



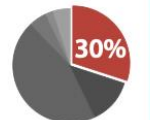
## BICYCLE NETWORK AND PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS

- Shared-use paths
- Bicycle facilities



## MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE

- New transit lines
- Large-scale Complete Streets projects



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# Future: Create Universe of Projects

- Includes:

- Projects programmed in the LRTP and Transportation Improvement Program
- Active MassDOT projects
- Projects identified in the Needs Assessment
- Projects that have emerged from studies conducted by the MPO and others
- MassDOT Capital Investment Plan projects
- MBTA Focus40 projects

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# Future: Prioritize Investments

- Establish investment programs
- Develop and discuss the Universe of Projects
- Evaluate projects
- Set investment program targets
- Review finances from MassDOT (expected early 2023)
- Identify major projects and program funding that will be included in the recommended LRTP



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# Stay Engaged!

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

**Share your needs, concerns, ideas,  
and project and program priorities!**



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# MPO Staff Contacts

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# Questions and Discussion

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