

CENTRAL VISION STATEMENT

The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization envisions a modern transportation system that is safe, uses new technologies, provides equitable access, excellent mobility, and varied transportation options—in support of a sustainable, healthy, livable, and economically vibrant region.

GOALS

OBJECTIVES

SAFETY

Transportation by all modes will be safe

- Reduce number and severity of crashes, all modes
- Reduce serious injuries and fatalities from transportation
- Protect transportation customers and employees from safety and security threats (Note: The MPO action will be to incorporate security investments into capital planning.)

SYSTEM PRESERVATION

Maintain the transportation system

- Improve condition of on- and off-system bridges
- Improve pavement conditions on MassDOT-monitored roadway system
- Maintain and modernize capital assets, including transit assets, throughout the system
- Prioritize projects that support planned response capability to existing or future extreme conditions (sea level rise, flooding, and other natural and security-related man-made hazards)
- Protect freight network elements, such as port facilities, that are vulnerable to climate-change impacts

CAPACITY MANAGEMENT/MOBILITY

Use existing facility capacity more efficiently and increase healthy transportation capacity

- Improve reliability of transit
- Implement roadway management and operations strategies, constructing improvements to the bicycle and pedestrian network, and supporting community-based transportation
- Create connected network of bicycle and accessible sidewalk facilities (at both regional and neighborhood scale) by expanding existing facilities and closing gaps
- Increase automobile and bicycle parking capacity and usage at transit stations
- Increase percentage of population and places of employment within one-quarter mile of transit stations and stops
- Increase percentage of population and places of employment with access to bicycle facilities
- Improve access to and accessibility of transit and active modes
- Support community-based and private-initiative services and programs to meet last mile, reverse commute and other non-traditional transit/transportation needs, including those of the elderly and persons with disabilities
- Eliminate bottlenecks on the freight network
- Enhance intermodal connections
- Emphasize capacity management through low-cost investments; give priority to projects that focus on lower-cost O&M-type improvements such as intersection improvements and Complete Streets solutions

CLEAN AIR/CLEAN COMMUNITIES

Create an environmentally friendly transportation system

- Reduce greenhouse gases generated in the Boston region by all transportation modes as outlined in the Global Warming Solutions Act
- Reduce other transportation-related pollutants
- Minimize negative environmental impacts of the transportation system
- Support land use policies consistent with smart and healthy growth

TRANSPORTATION EQUITY

Provide comparable transportation access and service quality among communities, regardless of income level or minority population

- Target investments to areas that benefit a high percentage of low-income and minority populations
- Minimize any burdens associated with MPO-funded projects in low-income and minority areas
- Break down barriers to participation in MPO-decision making

ECONOMIC VITALITY

Ensure our transportation network provides a strong foundation for economic vitality

- Respond to the mobility needs of the 25–34-year-old workforce
- Minimize the burden of housing and transportation costs for residents in the region
- Prioritize transportation investments that serve targeted development sites
- Prioritize transportation investments consistent with the compact-growth strategies of MetroFuture