# TRANS JULY 2010

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BOSTON REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

#### MEETING CALENDAR

For the most recent information on the following public meetings and others that may have been scheduled after TRANSREPORT went to press, go to www.boston mpo.org or call (617) 973-7119. A photo ID is required to access most meeting most meeting sites.

# AT THE STATE TRANSPORTATION BUILDING, 10 PARK PLAZA, BOSTON

July 8 (Thursday)

Boston Region MPO Transportation Planning and Programming Committee. *Conference Rooms 2 and 3*. 10:00 AM

#### July 13 (Tuesday)

MassDOT Public Outreach Meeting: Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation in Accelerated Bridge Projects in Highway Division District 6. *MBTA Board Room, 3rd Floor.* 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

#### July 14 (Wednesday)

Regional Transportation Advisory Council. *Conference Room 4*. 3:00 PM

#### July 22 (Thursday)

Boston Region MPO Transportation Planning and Programming Committee. *Conference Rooms* 2 *and* 3. 10:00 AM

#### July 26 (Monday)

MBTA Rider Oversight Committee. Conference Rooms 1, 2, and 3. 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

#### Week of July 26

Boston Region MPO: Federal Recertification Review. Location and times to be announced.

#### July 28 (Wednesday)

Access Advisory Committee to the MBTA. Conference Rooms 2 and 3. 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

#### August 5 (Thursday)

Boston Region MPO Transportation Planning and Programming Committee. *Conference Rooms* 2 *and* 3. 10:00 AM

### AT OTHER BOSTON AREA LOCATIONS

#### July 12 (Monday)

Boston Region MPO Walkable Community Workshop. *Wollaston Library, 41 Beale Street, Quincy.* 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM

#### July 27 (Tuesday)

Safe Driving Workshop. Beverly Council on Aging, 90 Colon Street, Beverly. 10:00 AM to noon

Meetings sponsored by the Boston Region MPO are conducted in accessible locations, and materi-als can be provided in accessible formats and in languages other than English. If you would like accessibility or language accom-modation, please contact the MPO at (617) 973-7100 (voice), (617) 973-8855 (fax), (617) 973-7089 (TTY), or e-mail public information@bostonmpo.org.

# Boston Region MPO **Releases Certification Documents to Public**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** SOUGHT ON PLANS FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECT SPENDING AND STUDIES

The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has released two planning documents for public review: the draft federal fiscal year (FFY) 2011–14 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the draft FFY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The TIP is the MPO's plan for investing federal transportation dollars over the next several years, and the UPWP describes the federally funded transportation planning studies to be

conducted in the upcoming vear.

The MPO invites comments regarding these documents until 5 PM on Tuesday, August 3. Subsequently, on August 19, the MPO's Transportation Planning and Programming Committee is scheduled to vote to finalize the two plans. The MPO will also accept public comments at that meeting.

During the public comment period, the MPO will hold public workshops where members of the public can learn more about the documents and relay their comments to the MPO staff.

• Certification Documents cont. on p. 2

### **Draft State Transportation Improvement Program to Be Released This Summer**

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is a compilation of the Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) of the state's MPOs. It lists projects that are scheduled to receive federal funding over the next several years. The public comment period for the draft federal fiscal years 2011–14 STIP is expected to begin in late July (the exact dates have not been finalized as of press time).

Look for the latest information on the Boston Region MPO's website, www.bostonmpo.org.



#### **MPO OPEN HOUSE AND WORKSHOPS**

#### **Boston Open House**

Date:	Thursday, July 15
Time:	Midday Session Noon to 1:30 PM
	Evening Session 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM
Place:	State Transportation Building* MPO Conference Room Suite 2150 10 Park Plaza Boston

#### **Natick Workshop**

Date:	Tuesday, July 20
Time:	5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Place:	Morse Institute Library Lebowitz Meeting Hall 14 East Central Street Natick

#### **Burlington Workshop**

Date: Wednesday, July 21 4:45 PM to 6:45 PM Time: Place: Burlington Public Library First Floor 22 Sears Street Burlington

Attendees must present a photo ID to enter the State Transportation Building.

### Notice

Notice of public meetings about the federal recertification of the Boston Region MPO will be announced soon on the MPO's website, www.bostonmpo.org, and in other outreach materials. These activities are expected to occur the week of July 26.

The members of the Boston Region MPO: Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Office of Planning and Programming, cities of Boston, Braintree, Newton, and Somerville, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Advisory Board, MassDOT Highway Division, Massachusetts Port Authority, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Regional Transportation Advisory Council, towns of Bedford, Framingham, and Hopkinton

## • Certification Documents cont. from p. 1

(See the workshop schedules on page one.)

Both the TIP and UPWP draft documents are available on the MPO's website, www.bostonmpo.org. They may also be obtained by contacting MPO staff: by mail at 10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150, Boston, MA 02116-3968; by voice at (617) 973-7100; by TTY at (617) 973-7089; by fax at (617) 973-8855; or by e-mail at publicinformation@ bostonmpo.org. Copies are free of charge and, upon request, will be made available in CD, print, and accessible formats.

# **Boston Region MPO Activities**

#### BOSTON REGION MPO ACTION ITEMS

The Transportation Planning and Programming Committee released three certification documents for public review in June: Amendment Five to the FFYs 2010–13 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the draft FFYs 2011–14 TIP, and the draft FFY 2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). (See the article on page 1.) The Committee also approved an administrative modification to the FFY 2010 UPWP and approved the MPO's Pedestrian Transportation Plan. MPO staff received approval to begin two work programs for collecting data to estimate transit ridership, which assists the MBTA with its submission of data to the National Transit Database.

#### REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

The Advisory Council met on June 9 to discuss the MPO's next Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) with MPO staff. Members learned about the visions and policies for the next LRTP, "Paths to a Sustainable Region," and the staff recommendations for the federal fiscal years (FFYs) 2011-14 TIP.

A presentation about the new GreenDOT policy of

the Massachusetts Department of Transportation is on the agenda of the Advisory Council's July 14 meeting. Members will also discuss the draft FFYs 2011–14 TIP and draft FFY 2011 UPWP. The Freight Committee will not meet in July.

#### ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE MBTA (AACT) UPDATE

Michael Muehe, Executive Director and ADA Coordinator of the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities, was the guest speaker at the June meeting. He spoke about the City's work to improve access for persons with disabilities. The meeting on July 28 will feature presentations by the MBTA Systemwide Accessibility Department on two transit-orienteddevelopment projects, a new Orange Line station at Assembly Square, and the rebuilding of Yawkey Station on the Framingham/ Worcester commuter rail line.

On July 26, the Americans with Disabilities Act 20th Anniversary Celebration will be held on the Boston Common. This event recognizes the progress made to achieve access and full inclusion for people with disabilities. Visit www.NewEngland ADA.org for more information.

#### TRANSREPORT

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