



BOSTON REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MEMORANDUM

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The Boston Region MPO is
composed of:

Massachusetts Department of
Transportation
Metropolitan Area Planning Council
Massachusetts Bay Transportation
Authority Advisory Board
Massachusetts Bay Transportation
Authority
Massachusetts Port Authority
Regional Transportation Advisory
Council
City of Boston
City of Beverly
City of Everett
City of Newton
City of Somerville
City of Woburn
Town of Arlington
Town of Bedford
Town of Braintree
Town of Framingham
Town of Lexington
Town of Medway
Town of Norwood
Federal Highway Administration
(nonvoting)
Federal Transit Administration
(nonvoting)

DATE April 26, 2012

TO The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

FROM Alicia Wilson

RE JARC and New Freedom Grant Proposals Received by the MPO

Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) (49 USC Section 5316) and New Freedom (49 USC Section 5317) are federal formula grant programs whose eligible recipients are states and public bodies. MassDOT is the eligible recipient for the Boston urbanized area, which contains the Boston Region MPO and four other MPOs in Massachusetts.

JARC provides grants to support the development and maintenance of projects designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to employment. New Freedom provides grants for new public transportation services and public transportation alternatives that assist individuals with disabilities and exceed the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

In previous years, MPOs conducted solicitations for proposals for these two grant programs. This year, MassDOT consolidated several federal and state grant application programs into one single grant application that had to be filed electronically with them. The solicitation period began on February 29, 2012 and ended on March 30, 2012. After checking for completeness, MassDOT forwarded the JARC and New Freedom applications to respective MPOs to rank and prioritize.

MPOs decide which applications to advance and their priorities for funding. Prioritized projects are forwarded to MassDOT which then uses a competitive selection process to determine which proposals will be funded.

Funding available for the Boston urbanized area is \$2,135,106 for the JARC Program and \$1,619,919 for the New Freedom Program. The MPO received five JARC applications from three entities with requests totaling \$2,846,640 and 12 New Freedom applications from eight entities with requests totaling \$4,293,147.

The accompanying tables list and summarize the proposals and the funds requested.

AW/aw