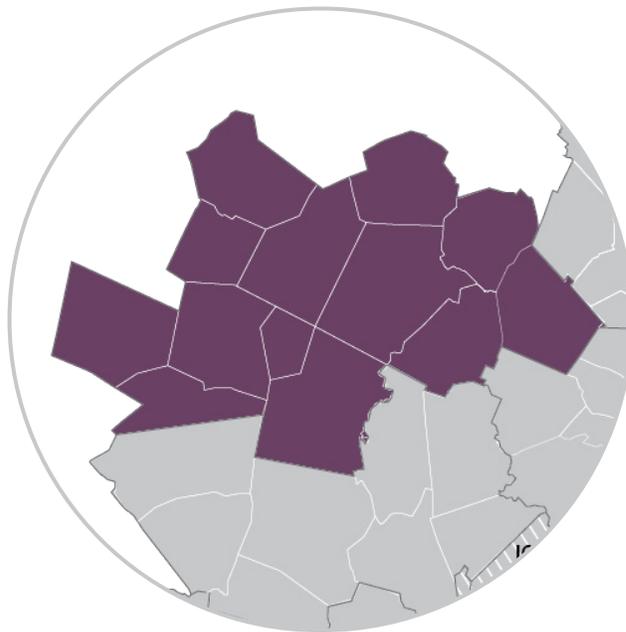


Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC)

Identifying Transportation Needs, Construction Projects,
and Studies in Your Subregion



Fall 2017–Winter 2018



Acton • Bedford • Bolton • Boxborough • Carlisle • Concord • Hudson • Lexington • Lincoln • Littleton • Maynard • Stow • Sudbury

WHAT NEEDS DID THE MPO IDENTIFY IN MAGIC COMMUNITIES?

The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) conducted an assessment of transportation needs in the Boston region to inform the MPO’s current Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), *Charting Progress to 2040*. The MPO staff identified existing transportation conditions and made projections of future conditions and demand on the system. We also asked you about your transportation needs and the opportunities to improve transportation in your communities. The resulting Needs Assessment serves as a tool for planning the region’s future transportation network and prioritizing the MPO’s limited funding for transportation projects and studies.

Below are some of the needs that we identified in your subregion during our assessment and past visits to MAGIC communities. For more information, please refer to the *Charting Progress to 2040* Needs Assessment report and applications on our website: bostonmpo.org/lrtp_needs.

Needs Identified During *Charting Progress to 2040* Development

Location of identified need	Municipalities	Top 25 Highway Crash Locations	Top 200 Intersection Crash Clusters	HSIP Crash Cluster	Truck Crash Cluster	Priority Congested Location	Activity undertaken to address need
Rte. 62 Main St. in Concord between Elm St. and Rte. 2	Concord					●	
Rte. 62, 225, and 4 corridor	Bedford and Lexington					●	Note: The proposed LRTP project on Rte. 4/225 (Bedford St.) and Hartwell Ave. in Lexington addresses a portion of this corridor (see page 5).
Interstate 95 at Rte. 2	Lexington	●		●	●		
Interstate 95 at Rte. 4 (Bedford St.)	Lexington	●		●	●		A bridge improvement project in I-95 and Rte. 2 in Lexington is currently under construction.
Rte. 2—Crosby’s Corner, Bypass Rd./Cambridge Turnpike-Piper Rd./Taylor Rd.	Concord/ Lincoln/Acton	●	●	●		●	The Intersection and Signal improvements project on Rte. 2 and Rte. 111 (Massachusetts Ave.) at Piper Rd. and Taylor Rd. in Acton addresses a portion of this corridor (see page 4).

Transit park-and-ride lots and bicycle parking at more than 85% use:

- Acton — South Acton, Fitchburg Line (park and ride)
- Concord — West Concord, Fitchburg Line (bicycle parking)

Bike/Pedestrian Priorities

- Hudson, Sudbury — Mass Central Rail Trail Corridor, Wayside Trail (Bay State Greenway Priority Corridor)
- Acton, Carlisle, Concord, Bedford — Merrimack-Charles River Corridor, Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Extension, and Reformatory Branch Trail (Bay State Greenway Priority Corridor)

Note: Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects to extend the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail are listed on pages 4–5

Needs and opportunities the MPO has heard from you

Safety

- Money is needed to make small adjustments that address pedestrian and cyclist safety concerns on numbered state routes without triggering the MassDOT design process

Capacity Management/Mobility

- Address congestion on regional arterials
- Improve the bike network between Acton and Concord
Note: The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Project (Phase II-B) will support bicycle connections between Acton and Concord (see page 4)
- Connect the Upper Charles Trail and Southern New England Trunkline Trail to the south and Bruce Freeman Trail to the north. Connect the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail to trails to the east and west
- Upgrade the rotary in downtown Hudson (the intersection of Routes 62 and 85) to modern standards, including by improving pedestrian infrastructure and reclaiming space adjacent to businesses
- More commuter rail service is needed for reverse commuting, specifically on the Fitchburg Line
- More capacity is needed on the Red Line at Alewife
- Increase parking capacity at transit stations, including Littleton/Route 495 and Fitchburg

- A first-mile/last-mile access to transit program is needed, including investment in technology such as Uber to help with connections. Support is needed to coordinate first-mile/last-mile solutions across multiple communities
Note: Several first-mile/last-mile studies conducted by the MPO for MAGIC communities are listed on page 7
- Suburbs need help providing shuttles and para-transit, particularly Concord, which has little MBTA service. Shuttles may also be needed in Acton
- Suburban transit is needed beyond Boston and beyond Regional Transit Agency (RTA) boundaries. Facilities are needed in the area between Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) and the Boston Region MPO
- Concord and Hudson businesses cannot get employees to their facilities because millennials want to be in the city and take transit. More reverse commute options may be needed
- Municipalities need help implementing plans for suburban transit in order to connect transportation hubs, such as the Littleton/495 and South Acton commuter rail stations, to employment centers and other destinations
- Municipalities need help planning for the continued sustainability of new suburban transit services
- Prioritize suburban mobility over the Concord Rotary. Creating a more integrated and connected transit system would provide more equitable transportation options and would be more effective than fixing roadways
- More transit options are needed for the aging population, including door-to-door service for the elderly
- Service to the airport is needed, specifically in the Fitchburg area

The MPO also seeks information on your needs pertaining to the MPO's System Preservation, Clean Air/Clean Communities, Transportation Equity, and Economic Vitality goal areas.

WHAT PROJECTS HAVE BEEN FUNDED IN MAGIC COMMUNITIES?

On May 25, 2017, the MPO endorsed the new Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which documents all transportation construction projects that will receive federal funding over the next five years, during federal fiscal years (FFYs) 2018–22.

Below is a selection of recent federally funded projects in MAGIC that are supported by the MPO and MassDOT. Other proposed and recommended projects are also listed.

Recently Programmed TIP Projects:

- Acton — Intersection improvements at Massachusetts Avenue (Route 111) and Main Street (Route 27) (Kelly's Corner)
Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2022
- Acton — Intersection and signal improvements on Route 2 and Route 111 (Massachusetts Avenue) at Piper Road and Taylor Road
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2022
- Acton, Concord — Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Construction (Phase II-B)
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2019
Note: This project supports an MPO-identified bicycle and pedestrian need listed on page 2
- Bedford — Minuteman Bikeway Extension, from Loomis Street to the Concord town line
Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2022
- Bedford, Burlington, and Billerica — Middlesex Turnpike improvements, from Crosby Drive north to Manning Road (Phase III)
Status: Funded by the MPO, a federal earmark, MassDOT, and the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG) and programmed in FFYs 2016–17. Advertised for construction
- Boxborough — Bridge replacement, Route 111 over I-495
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFYs 2020–22
- Concord — Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Construction (Phase II-C)
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
Note: This project supports an MPO-identified bicycle and pedestrian need listed on page 2
- Concord, Lexington, Lincoln — Resurfacing and related work on Route 2A
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Lexington, Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge — Pavement preservation on Route 2
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2018

- Lexington — Reconstruction on Massachusetts Avenue from Marrett Road to Pleasant Street
Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2016. Under Construction
- Maynard — Bridge replacement, Florida Road over Assabet River
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Stow — Bridge replacement, Box Mill Road Over Elizabeth Brook
Status: MassDOT-funded and programmed in FFY 2021
- Sudbury — Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Construction (Phase II-D)
Status: MPO-funded and programmed in FFY 2022. This project supports an MPO-identified bicycle and pedestrian need listed on page 2

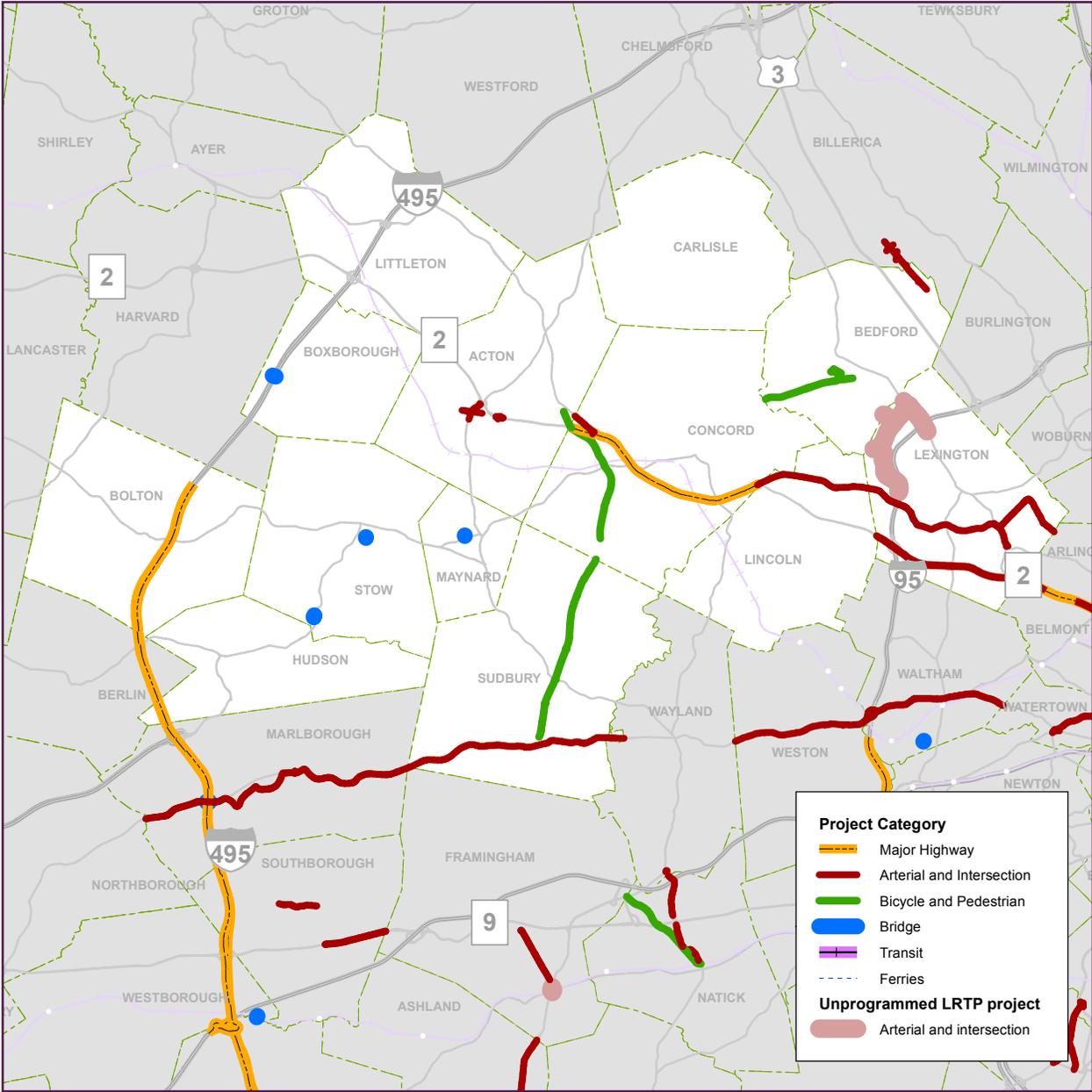
Proposed TIP Projects:

- Concord — Improvements and upgrades to Concord Rotary (Routes 2, 2A, and 119)
Status: Approved by MassDOT Project Review Committee (PRC)
- Concord — Reconstruction and widening on Route 2, from Sandy Pond Road to bridge over MBTA/B&M Railroad
Status: Approved by MassDOT PRC
- Littleton, Ayer — Intersection improvements on Route 2A at Willow Road and Bruce Street
Status: Approved by MassDOT PRC
- Sudbury — Intersection improvements at Route 20 and Landham Road
Status: 75% design submitted. Project will be on the MPO FFYs 2019–23 First Tier List

Recommended LRTP Projects:

- Lexington — Routes 4 and 225 (Bedford Street) and Hartwell Avenue
Status: Not yet programmed

MPO and MassDOT Projects Funded from FFY 2016 through 2022 and LRTP Projects not yet Programmed in the TIP



WHAT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING STUDIES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN MAGIC?

The MPO conducts studies through its Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that advance our understanding of the transportation system, new technologies, regulations, and travel preferences. The MPO also offers technical assistance to address transit, bicycle and pedestrian, and roadway issues—at no cost to municipalities. Below is a list of studies and technical assistance projects undertaken in MAGIC communities over the past five years.

- Concord, Lincoln — Traffic Signal Retiming Study, Route 2
Status: Completed in 2013
- Concord — Regional Transit Service Planning Technical Assistance: Bicycle and Pedestrian Connections to West Concord Station
Status: Completed in 2016
- Concord — Regional Transit Service Planning Technical Assistance: Analysis of Potential Last-Mile Shuttle in West Concord
Status: Completed in 2016
- Concord — Regional Transit Service Planning Technical Assistance: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Wayfinding Signage in Concord
Status: Completed in 2016
- Littleton, Westford, Devens — Regional Transit Service Planning Technical Assistance: Evaluation of employee location data for development of a first-mile/last-mile shuttle to/from Littleton/495 commuter rail station
Status: Underway

Note: Several of these studies address first-mile/last-mile planning needs mentioned on page 4.

NOW WHAT?

This fall, help us get started on our next LRTP, *Destination 2040*. As we embark on a new cycle of determining how to spend the federal transportation dollars that come into the Boston region, we want to hear about the transportation needs and opportunities to improve transportation in your community:

- What's working well with the transportation system in your community?
- Are there transportation barriers or mobility issues that prevent people from getting where they need to go?
- Are there transportation needs that you've heard from people of color, people with low incomes, older adults, youths, people with disabilities, and people with limited English proficiency?

- What changes or trends are occurring that might affect the transportation system and how you use it?
- What opportunities for improving the transportation system do you see now or in the near future?

We also welcome ideas for studies and technical assistance projects. Share your views with us during our visit to MAGIC communities, or through any of the channels listed at bostonmpo.org/public_involvement.



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