Understanding the TIP Process

November 15, 2022

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Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

Fall 2022

AGENDA

1. **Introductions**
2. MPO basics
3. TIP funding
4. Project initiation and evaluation
5. Timeline and process
6. Policy updates
7. Resources
8. Discussion

Technical difficulties? Call [Comms Contact] at 857.702.37XX or email [X]@ctps.org.

Today's Session

- Introductions
- Boston Region MPO basics
- MPO funding for projects (via LRTP and TIP)
- Project initiation and evaluation
- Timeline and process
- Policy updates
- Resources
- Discussion

LRTP = Long-Range Transportation Plan. TIP = Transportation Improvement Program.

Introductions

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Introductions

In the chat, please provide

- Name
- Role
- Municipality/Agency/Organization

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Boston Region MPO Basics

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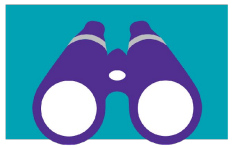
What is an MPO?

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

20-year vision and goals for the transportation system and strategies for funding projects to meet the vision

INVEST

Transportation Improvement Program

Rolling, five-year capital investment plan, including the shorter-term investments that help realize the long-term vision

STUDY & ANALYZE

Unified Planning Work Program

Annual work program for how federal planning funds are allocated to studies and technical analyses to benefit the region

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Who Serves on the Boston Region MPO board?

Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)

Massachusetts Bay Transporta Authority (MBTA)

Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport)

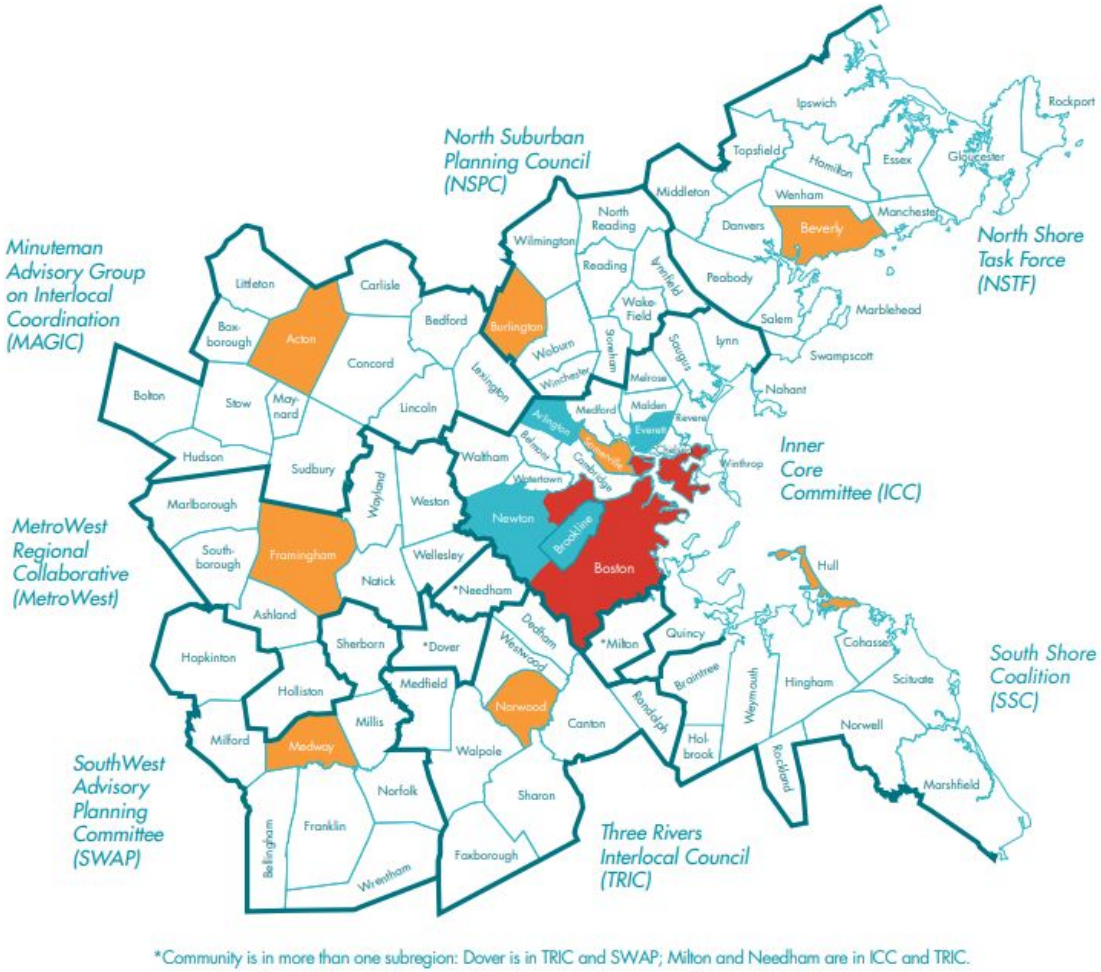
12 elected municipalities

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.

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MPO Vision and Goals

Function of Vision and Goals

Shape MPO investment programs and TIP project selection criteria

MPO Vision

A modern well-maintained transportation system that supports a sustainable, healthy, livable, and economically vibrant region.

MPO Goals

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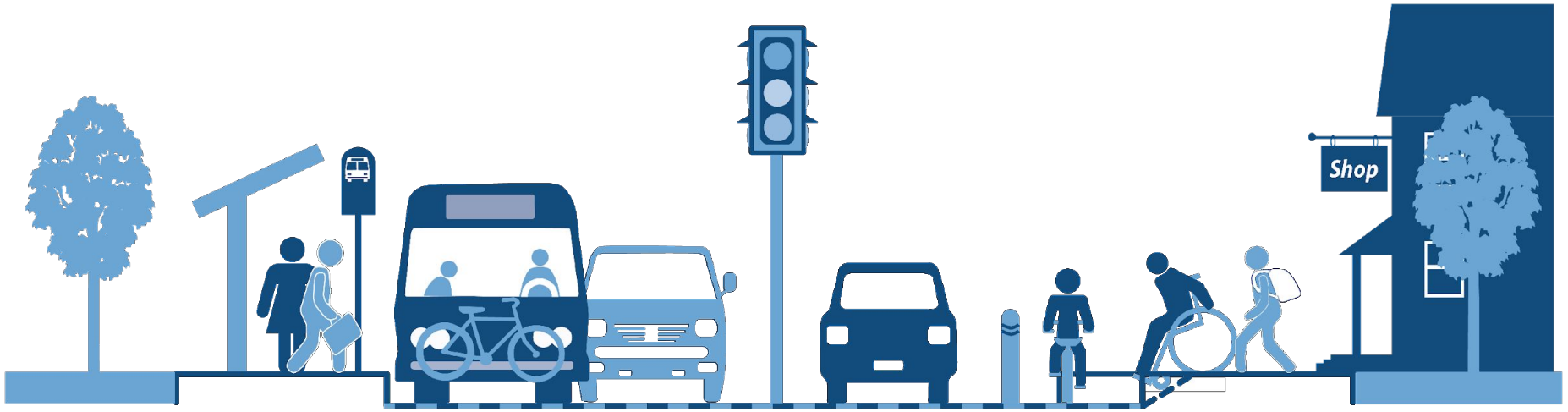
Multimodal Planning



TIP Funding

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Projects Included in the TIP

- Funded through the TIP
  - **MPO-prioritized projects based on MPO's goals and investment programs**
  - MassDOT-prioritized projects that are federally funded
  - Transit projects for MBTA, MetroWest Regional Transit Authority, and Cape Ann Transportation Authority that are federally funded
- Not funded through the TIP
  - State-funded projects
  - Locally funded projects

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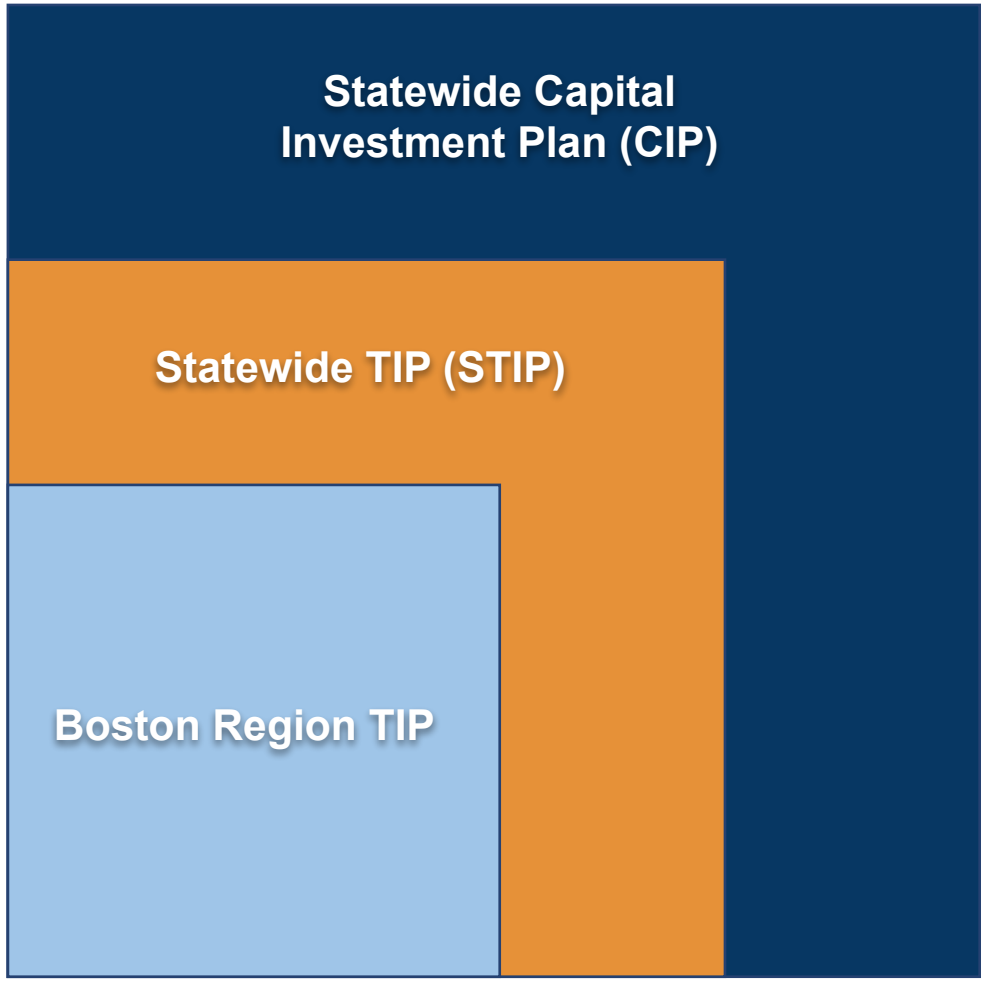
Transportation Funding in Massachusetts



- **Boston Region TIP =** All projects in region funded using federal highway and transit funds
- **Statewide TIP (STIP) =** Compilation of all TIPs from each of 13 Massachusetts MPOs
- **Statewide CIP =** All projects in Massachusetts funded using both federal AND state funds

Local funds, public/ private grants, etc.

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MPO Investment Programs

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LRTP and TIP Connection

Plan Feature	LRTP	TIP
Planning Horizon	20 federal fiscal years or more	Five federal fiscal years
Update Frequency	Every four years	Annually
Function	Establishes MPO investment programs and funding goals for 20-plus years	Identifies all federally funded transportation projects (MPO and other agencies) over five years
	Identifies major federal projects for the next 10 years (sets stage for TIP)	Content is shaped by LRTP framework
Project Types	Includes 1. Capacity-adding projects on interstates, expressways, freeways, and principal arterials 2. Transit fixed-guideway expansion projects	Includes all federally funded transportation project types

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2022–23 TIP and LRTP Activities

- This cycle, the MPO is developing a TIP and an LRTP

- **For the TIP:** Let MPO staff know what projects you hope to advertise for construction in next five years
  - Projects should be initiated/in early phases of design

- **For the LRTP:** Let staff know what major projects you hope to advertise for construction in the next 10 to 15 years
  - Projects may be more conceptual

Project Initiation and Evaluation

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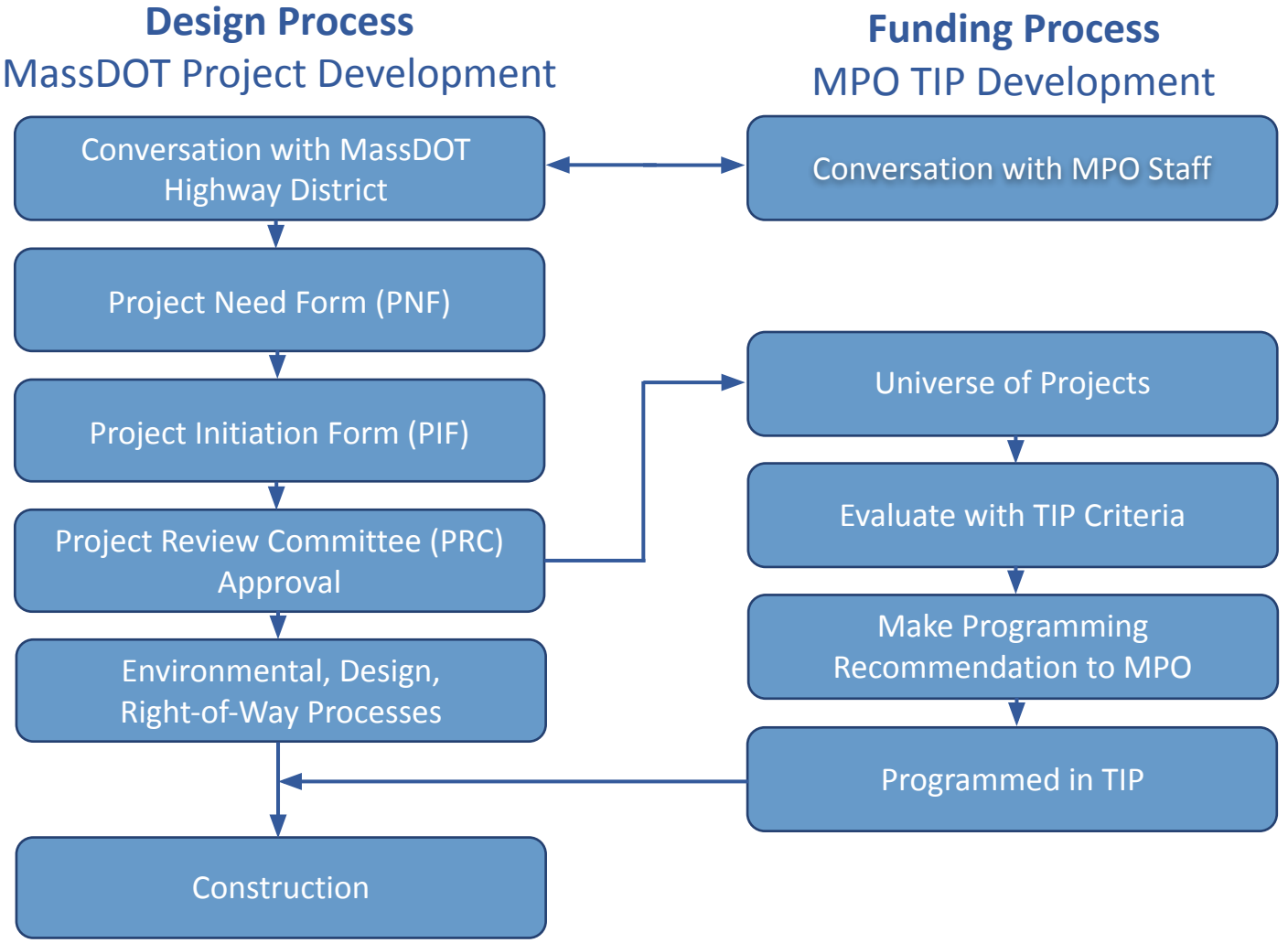
Project Funding Process



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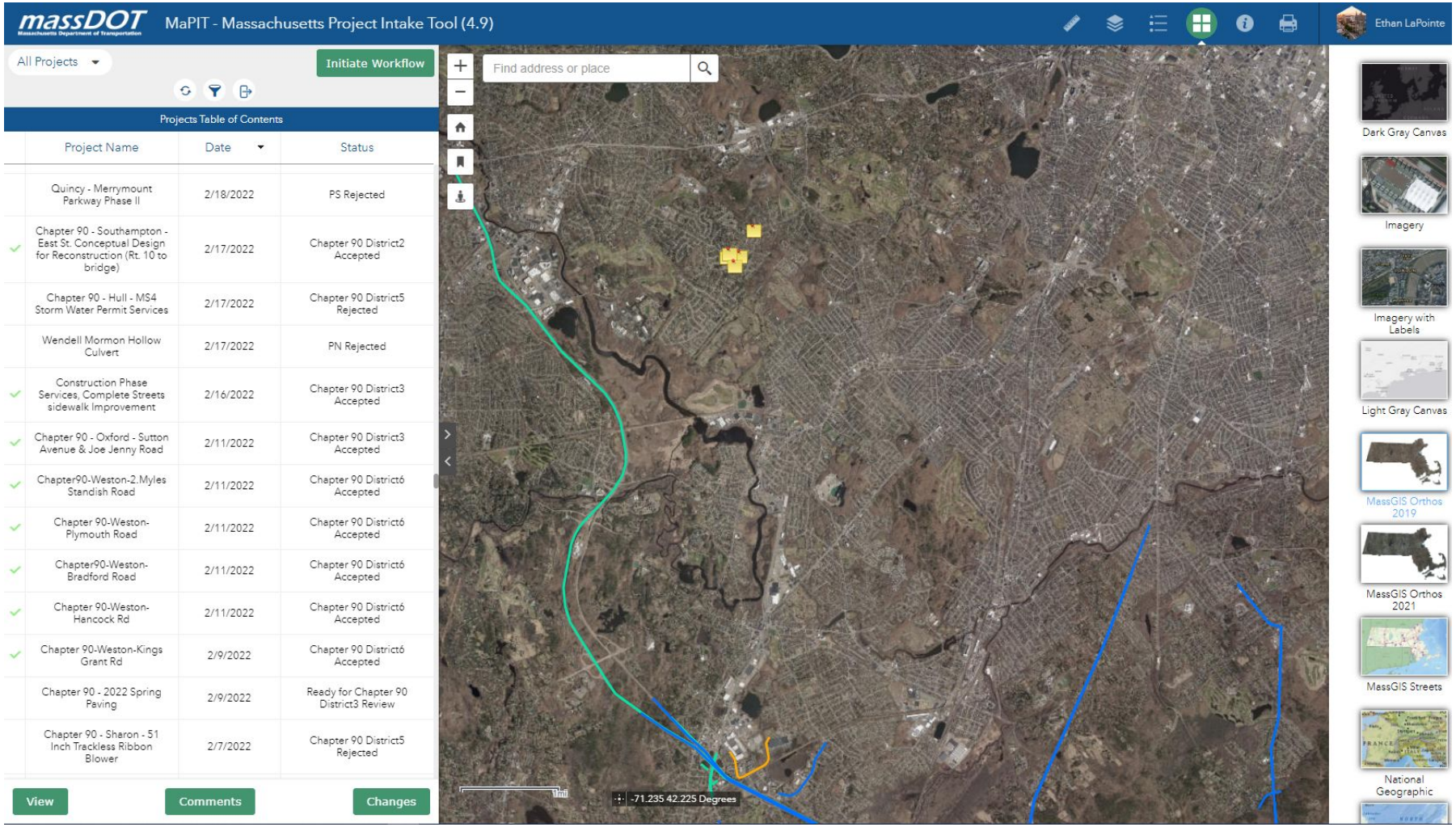
Project Initiation Process



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TIP Project Evaluation Process

- Projects scored by MPO staff
- Criteria applied by project type
- Submit proponent questionnaire

TIP Timeline and Process

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TIP Timeline and Process

- **October:** Initial outreach and data collection
- **November:** Project universe and data collection
  - Project funding application launch
  - 11/17: MPO – Universe presentation
- **December:** Data collection and project evaluations
  - Deadline for submitting project information
- **January:** Project evaluations
  - January 22 – February 5: Project proponents review evaluation results

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TIP Timeline and Process

- **February:** Readiness updates and presentation of evaluation results
  - February 9: MassDOT TIP readiness day (tentative)
  - Presentation of evaluation results to MPO
- **March:** Programming discussions
  - Project readiness updates
  - Discussion of new programming scenarios
- **Late April:** Draft TIP released for public comment
- **Late May:** MPO endorses final FFYs 2024–28 TIP

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LRTP Activities

- **Fall 2022 – Winter 2023:** Identify and/or update investment programs and candidate projects
  - MPO staff will review past LRTP Universes and inquire about project updates
  - Let MPO staff know if you are planning major projects
  - Connections between TIP and LRTP projects will be shared during TIP Universe discussions
- **Spring 2023 – Summer 2023:** Allocate funds to investment programs and select projects
- **Summer 2023:** Adopt a final *Destination 2050* plan

Policy Updates

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Refresh: TIP Policy Changes to Address Project Cost Increases

Proposed updates based on recent MPO committee decisions

- Requiring 25 percent design submission to be considered for MPO funding
- Will do preliminary project scoring any time
- New requirements for proponent check-ins with MPO staff and board
- New rescoring process with cost-effectiveness analysis for funded projects with cost increases

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Update: TIP Policy Changes to Address Project Cost Increases

Objectives of new policies

- Prevent cost increases before they happen
- Set more clear expectations for all stakeholders
- Create more reliable funding stream for prospective projects

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Update: MPO's Community Connections Program

Updates to first- and last-mile funding program

- Moving to collective procurement model in partnership with MAPC and MassDOT
- This year's funding round will support projects such as
  - Bike racks and bikeshare
  - Bus and bike lane paint
  - Transit signal priority
- Shuttle and microtransit projects encouraged in partnership with regional transit authorities

Application launch November 17th

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Federal Transportation Funding Legislative Update

- As of November 15, 2021, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) is in effect
  - Currently in year two of the BIL (FFY23)
  - As of August 12, 2022, BIL now complemented by Inflation Reduction Act
- Action item: Initiate your projects in the MassDOT process
  - Talk to MPO and MassDOT Highway District staff about your project
  - Fill out project need and initiation forms
  - Helps MPO and MassDOT to better understand local needs and allocate resources

TIP Resources

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District 5

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District 6

Ben Muller
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MassDOT Highway District Finder

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Helpful Links

TIP Development Page
www.bostonmpo.org/tip-dev

LRTP Development Page
www.bostonmpo.org/destination2050

MassDOT Project Development Page
www.mass.gov/lists/massdot-highway-project-development-tools

MassDOT Project Initiation Page
www.mass.gov/info-details/massdot-highway-initiating-a-project

MassDOT GeoDOT Account Application
www.mass.gov/forms/request-a-geodot-account

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Stay Engaged

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

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Closing Thoughts

1. Initiate your project now
   – Take advantage of potential additional federal funding
2. Communication is key as project advances
   – Keep MPO staff informed
   – Talk regularly with MassDOT districts and PMs
3. Keep project on track
   – Delays can jeopardize funding
   – Cost overruns can jeopardize timeline
4. Advance project design early to allow for unforeseen delays
   – Projects may be eligible to access funding earlier

Contact for Questions

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Discussion