



## BOSTON REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Jamey Tesler, MassDOT Secretary and CEO and MPO Chair  
Tegin L. Teich, Executive Director, MPO Staff

### WORK PROGRAM

## FUTURE OF THE CURB, PHASE 3

JANAURY 20, 2022

### Proposed Motion

The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) votes to approve this work program.

### Project Identification

#### Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Classification

Boston Region MPO Planning Studies and Technical Analyses

**Project Number** 13313

#### Client

Boston Region MPO

#### Project Supervisors

*Principal:* Paul Christner

*Manager:* Blake Acton

#### Funding Source

2022 MPO Combined PL Funds

### Schedule and Budget

**Schedule:** 8 months after work commences

**Budget:** \$70,000

Schedule and budget details are shown in Exhibits 1 and 2, respectively.

### Relationship to MPO Goals

The Boston Region MPO elected to fund this study with its federally allocated metropolitan planning funds during federal fiscal year (FFY) 2022. The work completed through this study will address the following goal areas established in the MPO's Long-Range Transportation Plan: capacity management and mobility, and economic vitality. This study advances the MPO goals for capacity management and mobility by helping planners more effectively leverage curb space to meet community goals and adapt to changing demands.

## Background

This study will build on the Future of the Curb, Phase 2, guidebook that provides local planners with a foundation of curb management implementation strategies and best practices. In this study, Central Transportation Planning Staff (CTPS) will evaluate the effectiveness of curb management strategies described in the guidebook. CTPS will identify curb management case studies in the region and develop methods to determine the success of each curb management strategy. CTPS will identify metrics and datasets to evaluate the impact of each strategy according to the unique goals and community priorities in each case study. If available datasets are insufficient, staff will collect field data through counts, surveys, or other observations.

## Objectives

This study will generate a method to measure curb space effectiveness by management strategy and municipality type, developed from available data within the Boston region.

## Work Description

CTPS will identify specific curb management strategies to study (such as bus lanes, pick-up and drop-off [PUDO] zones, and designated spaces for freight loading and deliveries). CTPS will also find examples of where these curb management strategies are actively in use within the Boston region, keeping in mind different community types throughout the region. CTPS will then collect data to measure the efficacy of the strategies through available digital data sources (such as automatic passenger counter-derived bus delay data and municipal parking data) and through in-person data collection efforts (such as turnover counts in parking spaces). CTPS will then analyze the results to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of each curb management strategy.

### **Task 1 Identify Curb Management Strategies to Study**

CTPS will use the Curb Management Guidebook produced in the Future of the Curb, Phase 2, project to select as many as three curb management strategies to measure. CTPS will identify strategies that have been implemented in various locations throughout the region, considering data availability and the popularity of the strategies. Some of the possible strategies that may be selected from the larger set in the guidebook are parking policy and pricing changes as well as implementation of PUDO zones, parklets, and freight loading zones.

#### ***Product of Task 1***

List of curb management strategies to measure and data needed for evaluation.

### **Task 2 Collect Data at Boston Region Locations**

CTPS will identify locations in the Boston region where curb management strategies are implemented to serve as case studies. More than one location may be identified

for the same strategy and more than one strategy may be evaluated within a single municipality. The locations selected will have varying densities and land uses in order to provide useful examples to municipalities throughout the Boston region. CTPS will work with municipalities to determine available data sources and schedule times for in-person data collection.

CTPS will create a data collection plan that establishes processes for data collection and will serve as an example for Boston region municipalities that wish to collect their own curb management data. CTPS will then collect all relevant data based on chosen locations and curb management strategies to be measured.

### ***Products of Task 2***

Data collection plan and final set of curb usage data.

## **Task 3 Analyze Data and Provide Results and Guidance on Measuring Curb Efficiency**

### ***Subtask 3.1 Analyze Data***

CTPS will analyze the data that have been gathered in Task 2 to measure the effectiveness of curb management strategies based on individual community goals. Staff will examine and compare before-and-after data to make comparisons and measure the effectiveness of changes to curb management. If there is a lack of “before” data, qualitative measures may be used depending on community goals.

### ***Subtask 3.2 Provide Case Study Summaries and Guidance on Measuring Curb Strategy Effectiveness***

After the data have been analyzed, CTPS will summarize each case study and provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of curb management strategies based on each community’s stated goals for the strategy. CTPS will also provide guidance on curb management data collection and analysis. The goal will be to provide municipalities with tools and guidance for curb data collection and analysis of curb management strategies. The guidance is intended to be relevant for all the different community types in the Boston region so that the municipalities can use this guidance to estimate the effect of curb management changes.

### ***Product of Task 3***

An online guide presenting case study summaries and guidelines for data collection and analysis to measure curb management strategy effectiveness.

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Title VI Specialist  
Boston Region MPO  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150  
Boston, MA 02116  
[civilrights@ctps.org](mailto:civilrights@ctps.org)

**By Telephone:**

857.702.3702 (voice)

For people with hearing or speaking difficulties, connect through the state MassRelay service:

- **Relay Using TTY or Hearing Carry-over:** 800.439.2370
- **Relay Using Voice Carry-over:** 866.887.6619
- **Relay Using Text to Speech:** 866.645.9870

For more information, including numbers for Spanish speakers, visit <https://www.mass.gov/massrelay>.

**Exhibit 1**  
**ESTIMATED SCHEDULE**  
**Future of the Curb, Phase 3**

Task	Month							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Identify Curb Management Strategies to Study	█							
2. Collect Data at Boston Region Locations		█ A						
3. Analyze Data and Provide Results and Guidance on Measuring Curb Efficiency						█ B		

**Products/Milestones**

A: Data collection plan, final set of curb usage data

B: An online guide presenting case study summaries and guidelines for data collection and analysis to measure curb management strategy effectiveness

**Exhibit 2**  
**ESTIMATED COST**  
**Future of the Curb, Phase 3**

<b>Direct Salary and Overhead</b>								<b>\$70,000</b>
Task	Person-Weeks				Direct Salary	Overhead (109.09%)	Total Cost	
	M-1	P-2	Temp	Total				
1. Identify Curb Management Strategies to Study	1.0	2.0	0.0	3.0	\$4,054	\$4,422	\$8,476	
2. Collect Data at Boston Region Locations	1.3	6.0	2.0	9.3	\$10,879	\$11,868	\$22,747	
3. Analyze Data and Provide Results and Guidance on Measuring Curb Efficiency	3.4	10.0	0.0	13.4	\$18,546	\$20,232	\$38,777	
Total	5.7	18.0	2.0	25.7	\$33,478	\$36,522	\$70,000	
<b>Other Direct Costs</b>								<b>\$0</b>
<b>TOTAL COST</b>								<b>\$70,000</b>

**Funding**  
 2022 MPO Combined PL Funds