What is the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)?

The UPWP programs the budget for the annual activities of the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):

- Core MPO activities
- New studies
- Technical assistance

What does the UPWP help the MPO to accomplish?

The UPWP supports several activities:

- **Gathering** data about the Boston region’s transportation system, new technologies, regulations, and user preferences
- **Identifying** the needs of transportation system users
- **Developing** project concepts for improving roadway corridors, intersections, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and transit systems with the goal of creating communities that are safe, accessible, walkable, bikeable, and resilient
- **Anticipating** trends shaping the transportation industry to help the MPO better understand the relationships between transportation and other planning issues, such as land use and climate change

We are always looking for ideas and input. **Propose a study and let us know your issue or idea.**

What is an MPO?

MPOs, or metropolitan planning organizations, are federally required regional planning entities that engage government representatives, elected officials, transportation agencies, residents, and other stakeholders in a collaborative and transparent public process to

- Develop a vision in the Long-Range Transportation Plan for multimodal transportation in the region
- Distribute federal funds to construction projects that support the vision through the Transportation Improvement Program
- Carry out multimodal transportation planning at a regional scale through the Unified Planning Work Program
The Boston Region MPO’s Vision

The Boston Region MPO envisions a modern, well-maintained transportation system that supports a sustainable, healthy, livable, and economically vibrant region. To achieve this vision, the transportation system must be safe and resilient; incorporate emerging technologies; and provide equitable access, excellent mobility, and varied transportation options.

What are some of the recent UPWP-funded studies?

- **Transit Signal Priority Guidebook**
- **Route 16 Priority Corridor Study, Chelsea and Everett, Massachusetts**
- **Operating a Successful Community Shuttle Program Guidebook**
- **Pedestrian Report Card Assessment Interactive Database**

Past studies are available in our Publications Archive.
How can the MPO help you with technical assistance?

Our team of transportation planners and engineers has expertise in a broad range of transportation topics and can offer technical assistance to address various transportation concerns, such as traffic operations, bicycle and pedestrian access, livability, parking, transit service planning, and bus stop locations.

Community Transportation Technical Assistance: Staff can provide recommendations to municipalities ranging from traffic calming and intersection redesign to pedestrian circulation and bicycle accommodation. For more information, please contact Mark Abbott at 857-702-3641 or mabbott@ctps.org.

Regional Transit Service Planning Technical Assistance: Regional transit authorities, transportation management associations, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council’s subregions, and municipalities, can receive recommendations for improving ridership, optimizing routes, and making transit service more cost-effective. For more information, please contact Paul Christner at 857-702-3707 or pchristner@ctps.org.

Studies with large scopes or regional relevance can be considered as discrete studies in the UPWP.
How is the UPWP developed?

The UPWP Committee, a subcommittee of the MPO board, oversees the development process, selects studies, and invites the public to submit feedback before the plan is finalized. The development of the UPWP takes place each year:

**SEPTEMBER TO JANUARY**
- MPO staff gather ideas about possible studies from member municipalities, advocates, and the public.

**JANUARY TO MARCH**
- The UPWP Committee selects studies based on factors such as regional relevance, links to other MPO-supported research, practicality, rootedness in the MPO’s values, and available funding.

**MAY TO JUNE**
- The MPO receives public comments on the draft document containing discrete studies and other MPO budget priorities.

**JUNE TO JULY**
- The MPO board endorses the document.

**LATE SUMMER**
- The MPO receives approval of the UPWP from federal partners.

**APRIL**
- The MPO staff and UPWP Committee incorporate feedback from MPO members, municipalities, the Regional Transportation Advisory Council, and the public, and agree on a final list of discrete studies for federal funding.

**OCTOBER**
- MPO staff begin conducting studies programmed in the UPWP.
How can I get involved?

Provide feedback on the list of proposed studies: Let us know your thoughts during the plan development and public comment periods.

- Post a comment in the comment form on the MPO website.
- Subscribe to the MPO’s email list, and follow us on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, and LinkedIn at @BostonRegionMPO.
- MPO staff regularly attends outreach events. Check the MPO’s meeting calendar to find an event that is convenient for you.
- Invite us over
- Reach out to Kate White, Public Outreach Coordinator, at kwhite@ctps.org or 857.702.3658, if you would like MPO staff to visit or attend your meeting to discuss transportation issues that are important to you.
- Attend an MPO or UPWP committee meeting
- Observe the MPO in action and express your views at the MPO board and committee meetings. Find meeting notices on the MPO’s meeting calendar.
- Join our advisory council

The Regional Transportation Advisory Council, a voting member of the MPO, is an independent body that brings public viewpoints and advice on transportation policy and planning to the MPO. Contact Matt Archer, Transportation Planner, at marcher@ctps.org or 857.702.3708, to learn more about becoming a member.

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You are invited to participate in our transportation planning process, regardless of your race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), religion, creed, gender, ancestry, ethnicity, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran's status, or background. Read our full notice of rights and protections at www.bostonmpo.org/mpo_non_discrimination.

To request special accommodations, or if you need this information in another language, contact the MPO at 857.702.3700 (voice), 617.570.9193 (TTY) or civilrights@ctps.org (please allow 14 days).

ESPÀÑOL (SPANISH)
Si necesita esta información en otro idioma, por favor contacte la Boston Region MPO al 857.702.3700.

简体中文 (SIMPLIFIED CHINESE)
如果需要使用其它语言了解信息，请联系波士顿大都会规划组织 (Boston Region MPO) 《民权法案》第六章专员，电话 857.702.3700.

繁體中文 (TRADITIONAL CHINESE)
如果需要使用其他语言瞭解資訊，請聯繫波士顿大都會規劃組織（Boston Region MPO）《民權法案》第六章專員，電話 857.702.3700.

KREYÒL AYISYEN (HAITIAN CREOLE)
Si yon moun vle genyen enfòmasyon sa yo nan yon lòt lang, tanpri kontakte Espesyalis Boston Region MPO Title VI la nan nimewo 857.702.3700.

PORTUGUÊS (PORTUGUESE)
Caso estas informações sejam necessárias em outro idioma, por favor, contate o MPO da Região de Boston pelo telefone 857.702.3700.