
7 FUTURE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

7.1 URBAN RING

The MBTA's proposed Urban Ring project would improve circumferential transit service in Boston and the surrounding communities of Chelsea, Everett, Medford, Somerville, Cambridge, and Brookline. It would provide direct transit connections between many of the MBTA's existing radial transit lines, improving transit access and mobility for people in the Urban Ring corridor and throughout the region.

By providing new and improved intermodal connections between bus, rapid transit, and commuter rail, it would relieve transit congestion in the central subway as well as traffic congestion on congested roads in the Urban Ring corridor.

The Urban Ring is proposed for implementation in three phases: Phase 1 improved bus service in the Urban Ring corridor; Phase 2 would principally consist of bus rapid transit (BRT) service in the corridor; and Phase 3 would add rail rapid transit in a portion of the corridor.

7.2 TIP/RTP/PMT PROJECTS IN STUDY AREA

There are many transportation projects and studies located either along Route 28 or in the vicinity. Table 8.1 lists those that have been programmed for fiscal years 2007 to 2010 in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP),¹ included in the February 26, 2007, draft of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP),² or screened in the 2003 Program for Mass Transportation (PMT).³ Table 7.2 provides descriptions of transportation projects that have been identified but not funded or programmed.

¹ Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization, *Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Determination: Fiscal Years 2007–2010*, August 17, 2006.

² Draft *JOURNEY TO 2030: Transportation Plan of the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization*, February 26, 2007.

³ MBTA, *Program for Mass Transportation*, 2003.

Table 7.1 Programmed Transportation Projects in Vicinity of Route 28

Project	Source	Fiscal		Description
		Year	Funding	
I-93 Mystic Avenue Interchange (study and design)	TIP	2007	\$258,130	Fund the design and study of the Interstate 93/Route 28/Mystic Avenue interchange (Fells–McGrath Highway).
	TIP	2008	\$87,000	
	TIP	2009	\$87,000	
	RTP	2007		
I-93 Mystic Avenue Interchange (construction)	RTP	2021 to 2030	\$118,510,000	Construct interchange improvements.
Assembly Square Multimodal Access Improvements	TIP	2007	\$3,226,625	Fund the construction of multimodal improvements at Assembly Square.
	TIP	2008	\$1,087,500	
	TIP	2009	\$1,087,500	
Rutherford Avenue/Sullivan Square (Boston)	RTP	2007 to 2010	\$21,252,500	Reconstruction of Rutherford Avenue, consisting of two components: • A new four-lane bypass road adjacent to the Interstate 93 viaduct from City Square to Sullivan Square. • A four-lane roadway for local Charlestown traffic.
		2011 to 2020	\$79,443,000	
Orange Line Station at Assembly Square	TIP	2010	\$31,250,000	Fund the construction of an Orange Line station at Assembly Square. This is a discretionary earmark that if appropriated prior to fiscal year 2010 will be made available.
	RTP	2007		
	PMT	2003		
Green Line to Ball Square (Boston, Medford, and Somerville)	RTP		*	Extend the Green Line from Lechmere Station in Cambridge to Medford Hillside.
Union Square Improvements (study)	TIP	2007	\$258,130	Fund a study of Union Square in Somerville.
	TIP	2008	\$87,000	
	TIP	2009	\$87,000	
Somerville Community Path, Phase I	TIP	2008	\$776,543	Construct Phase I of the Somerville Community Path from Cedar Street to Central Street. Funds for this project include \$2,431,038 in Congestion Management and Air Quality Improvement funds and High-Priority Project funds in the amount of \$621,234 in federal fiscal year 2008 and \$156,600 in federal fiscal year 2009.
	TIP	2008	\$2,431,038	
	TIP	2009	\$195,750	
Cross Street Bridge	TIP	2007	\$2,200,877	Rehabilitate the Cross Street Bridge (S-17-5) over the B&M Railroad.
Beacon Street	TIP	2010	\$2,887,191	Reconstruct Beacon Street from Oxford Street to the Cambridge city line. The High-Priority Project federal portion of this project is \$2,309,753, and the Surface Transportation Program portion is \$1,012,809.
Lechmere Intermodal	TIP	Carryover	\$4,383,056	Provide funds for design of Lechmere Station relocation and intermodal expansion.
	TIP	2007	\$4,516,944	
Belmont, Cambridge, and Somerville Bicycle Facility	TIP	2007	\$3,000,000	Improve the bicycle facility connecting existing paths in Somerville and Cambridge to link the communities of Belmont, Cambridge, and Somerville.

* SIP Commitment project currently being reevaluated by EOTPW and DEP. The cost for this project is included in the total cost of \$743,130,000 that has been included in the RTP for the SIP projects to be constructed in the future.

Table 7.2 Not-Programmed Public Transportation Projects

Project	Source	Cost or Year Estimate	Description
Magoun Square	Somerville	\$3,100,000	Project reconstructs the square to replace outdated traffic control equipment and provide ADA-compliant ramps, much-needed pedestrian and bicycle amenities, and other traffic modifications to improve safety.
Somerville Streetscape and Adaptive Re-use Plan	Somerville	\$983,928	This is a federal appropriation for the City to implement, study, design, and/or construct transportation improvements and enhancements.
Temple Street	TIP Universe of Projects	No estimate	Reconstruct Temple Street from Broadway to Mystic Avenue.
Reconstruction of Washington Street	TIP Universe of Projects	No estimate	Reconstruct Washington Street from Boston city line to Route 28.
Telecom Boulevard, Phase I	TIP RTP	\$3,600,000 2007	Construct Phase I of Telecom Boulevard from Santilli Circle in Everett to the approach for the Malden River Bridge.
Telecom Boulevard, Phase II	TIP RTP	\$10,000,000 2007	Construct half-mile roadway from Malden River Bridge and Corporation Way in Medford to Route 16.

