

Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization

A Brief Guide to Old Colony MPO Membership

Presented By:

- Old Colony Planning Council*
- MassDOT – Office of Transportation Planning*

What is the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?

- ▶ It is the region's policy-making organization responsible for prioritizing transportation initiatives.
- ▶ It is the required “forum for cooperative transportation decision-making for the metropolitan area.” 23 CFR 450.104
- ▶ It conducts transportation studies to best determine how to program federal dollars for regional priorities.



What is the membership of the Old Colony MPO?

Secretary and CEO of MassDOT (Chair)

Administrator of Brockton Area Transit Authority
(Vice-Chair)

Chief Elected Officials of
Brockton, Plymouth, West Bridgewater, and Whitman

Administrator of MassDOT Highway Division

President of Old Colony Planning Council



What is the responsibility of an Old Colony MPO Member?

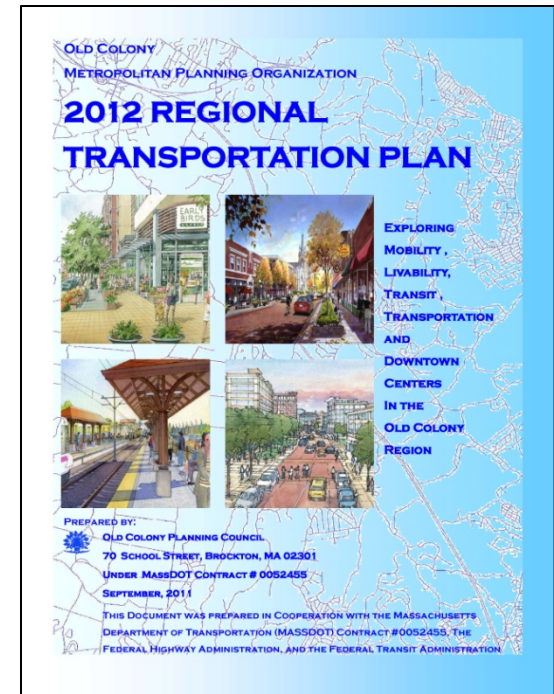
- ▶ Take approval action on documents that:
 - Set regional long-term transportation policies
 - Prioritize and program specific transportation initiatives for funding



The Federal Certification Documents...

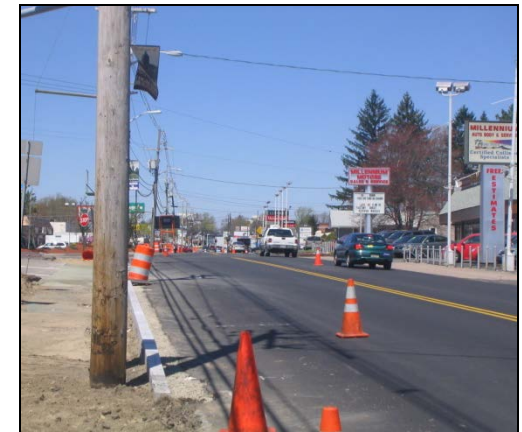
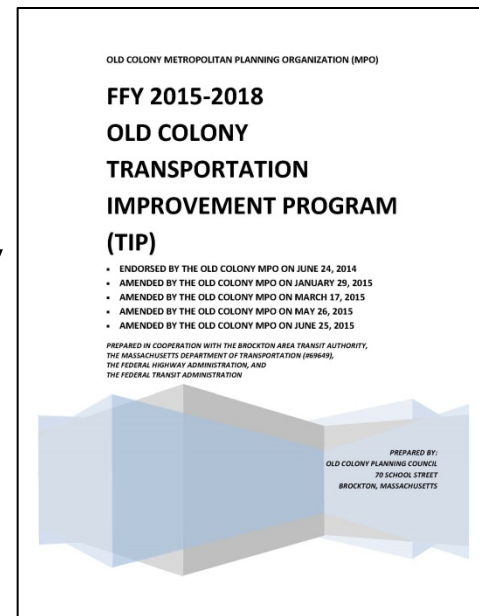
▶ Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

- Contains transportation policies to guide Old Colony MPO decision-making
- Incorporates population, employment and household forecasts
- Includes recommendations for all regionally significant short-and long-range projects
- Addresses a 20-year planning horizon and must be updated every four years.



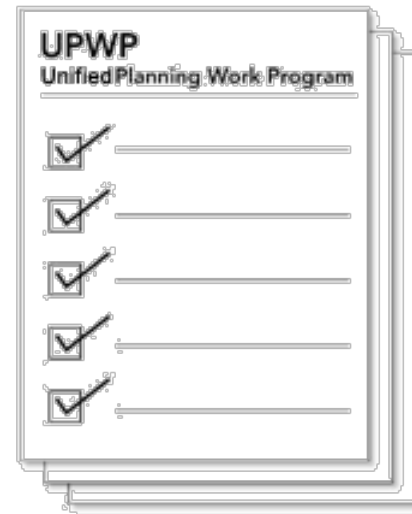
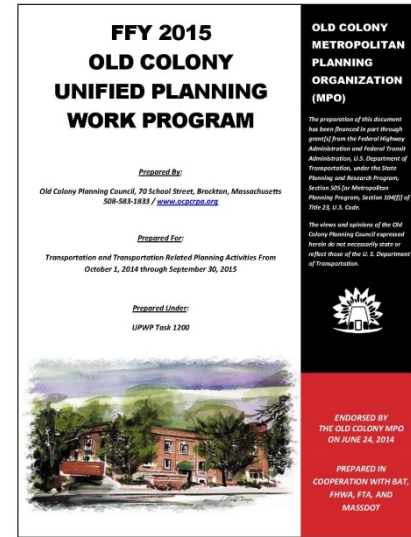
▶ Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- Priority list of federally funded highway and transit projects expected to be carried out in the next four years
- Contains projects consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan
- Must be fiscally constrained based on expected federal funding
- Updated annually



▶ Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- Document that lists all regional planning activities as determined by the Old Colony MPO
- Serves as the yearly work program for RPA staff in their capacity as staff to the Old Colony MPO
- Updated annually



How do we obtain the knowledge to make these decisions?

STAFF

RPA Staff to the MPO

- ▶ Prepare certification documents
- ▶ Develop data analysis
- ▶ Perform Studies
- ▶ Facilitate public input and feedback

ADVISORS

Committee of Advisors to the MPO

(Joint Transportation Committee)

- ▶ Provide specialized knowledge and citizen input on specific issues
- ▶ Make recommendations to the MPO on specific strategies or projects



What is the time commitment required of an Old Colony MPO Member?

- ▶ The time commitment varies based on the time of year and the issues before the Old Colony MPO.
 - 📅 *It would not be unusual to have monthly meetings while preparing the federal certification documents.*
- ▶ The OCPC and MassDOT staff make an effort to make the meetings as efficient and informative as possible.



Questions and Comments?

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