



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration
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Region I
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David J. Mohler
Executive Director
Office of Transportation Planning
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

September 30, 2025

***Subject: Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026-2030
Statewide Transportation Improvement Program***

Dear Mr. Mohler:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed a joint review of the FFY 2026-2030 Massachusetts Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and of the associated FFY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) adopted by the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). Based on this review, FHWA and FTA hereby approve the FFY 2026-2030 STIP with one corrective action, based on the following determinations:

- FHWA and FTA find that the FFY 2026-2030 STIP and the associated FFY 2026-2030 TIPs are based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process that substantially meets the requirements of 23 U.S.C. §§ 134 and 135, 49 U.S.C. §§ 5303 and 5304, and 23 CFR § 450 subparts A, B, and C.
- FHWA and FTA have determined the FFY 2026-2030 STIP is fiscally constrained for the first four years.
- And, FHWA and FTA issued a joint conformity finding on October 15, 2024 stating that the FFY 2026-2030 TIPs and Metropolitan Transportation Plans are in conformity with the State Implementation Plan, are consistent with the Clean Air Act, and are consistent with the Environmental Protection Agency's conformity regulations as stated in 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93.

In support of our determination, we have attached a planning finding that contains additional recommendations and observations to help strengthen the Statewide and metropolitan transportation planning and program development processes. The 2026-2030 STIP Federal Planning Finding includes zero (0) commendation, zero (0) corrective action, and eight (8) recommendations.

Based on our review and the Federal Planning Finding, FHWA and FTA jointly approve this STIP with one corrective action. Approval of the STIP does not constitute project or grant approval. Both FHWA and FTA may need additional information on specific projects in the approved STIP when project advertisement or grant submission approval is requested.

Finally, FHWA and FTA recognize the submittal of MassDOT's Carbon Reduction Strategy. The approval of the FFY 2026-2030 STIP and of the associated FFY 2026-2030 TIPs does not constitute a certification of the Carbon Reduction Strategy. That certification will come at a later date.

We look forward to the continued cooperation of you and your staff in efforts to carry out the statewide and metropolitan planning processes in an effective manner.

Sincerely,



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Joi Singh
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration, MA Div.

**PETER SHANNON
BUTLER**

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Peter Butler
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration, Region 1

cc: Jonathan L. Gulliver, Highway Division Administrator, MassDOT
Derek Krevat, Manager of MPO Activities, MassDOT
Massachusetts Regional Planning Agencies
Ariel Garcia, Environmental Protection Specialist, EPA Region 1
Sharon Weber, Massachusetts DEP



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David J. Mohler
Executive Director
Office of Transportation Planning
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116

September 18, 2025

Subject: Massachusetts Air Quality Conformity Determination

Dear Mr. Mohler:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our air quality conformity reviews for the Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and their associated FFY 2024-2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTPs) for each of the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in Massachusetts. A FHWA/FTA air quality conformity determination is required pursuant to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Transportation Conformity Rule stated in 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93, and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Metropolitan Planning Rule stated in 23 CFR Part 450.

Under the 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) all of Massachusetts was designated as being in moderate nonattainment but was separated into two nonattainment areas: the Eastern Massachusetts Ozone Nonattainment Area and the Western Massachusetts Ozone Nonattainment Area. As of July 20, 2012, all of Massachusetts, except for Dukes County, is unclassifiable/attainment for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS, and as of April 6, 2015, the 1997 ozone standard is revoked for transportation conformity purposes. Dukes County is an isolated rural non-attainment area under the 2008 ozone standard. In 2002, EPA approved the re-designation of the City of Springfield, City of Lowell, City of Waltham, and City of Worcester as attainment areas under the carbon monoxide NAAQS; those areas are currently under a limited maintenance plan.

The transportation conformity regulation at 40 CFR Part 93.109 sets forth the criteria and procedures for determining conformity. The conformity criteria for MTPs and TIPs include latest planning assumptions, latest emissions model, consultation, transportation control measures, and emissions budget and/or interim emissions. For the 1997 ozone NAAQS areas, transportation conformity for MTPs and TIPs can be demonstrated without a regional emissions analysis, per 40 CFR Part 93.109(c). Because of the approved limited maintenance plan for the Cities of Lowell, Waltham, Springfield, and Worcester, a regional emissions analysis for carbon monoxide is not required pursuant to 40 CFR Part 93.109(e). As no regional emission analysis is

required for conformity determinations, there is no requirement to use the latest emissions model, budget, or interim emissions tests.

Under the Massachusetts SIP and the Massachusetts conformity regulations, the MassDEP is required to issue a finding of concurrence or non-concurrence with the conformity determinations made by the MPOs. The MassDEP issued its finding of concurrence on September 26, 2024. Additionally, Region 1 of the EPA reviewed the TIPs, MTPs and the air quality analyses, and via e-mail on October 9, 2024, stated that they support a positive transportation conformity finding.

Based on FHWA and FTA's joint evaluation of the TIPs and MTPs and the input received from MassDEP and EPA, FHWA and FTA have determined that the TIPs and MTPs are in conformity with the goals of the SIP, are consistent with the Clean Air Act, and are consistent with the EPA conformity regulations as stated in 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93. The conformity determination of the MTPs and TIPs will remain in effect until such time as a new determination is required by 40 CFR Part 93.104.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Anthony Jones (FHWA) at (617) 494-3113 or Jonathan Schmidt (FTA) at (617) 494-4742.

Sincerely,



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Joi Singh
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration, MA Div.

**PETER SHANNON
BUTLER**

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Peter Butler
Regional Administration
Federal Transit Administration, Region 1

cc: Jonathan L. Gulliver, Highway Division Administrator, MassDOT
Massachusetts Regional Planning Agencies
Ariel Garcia, EPA Region 1
Eric Rackauskas, EPA Region 1
Sharon Weber, Massachusetts DEP



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Rebecca L. Tepper
Secretary

Bonnie Heiple
Commissioner

September 30, 2025

David Mohler, Executive Director
Office of Transportation Planning
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Ten Park Plaza, Suite 4150
Boston, MA 02116

RE: Conformity review of the FFY 2026-2030 State Transportation Improvement Program
and Regional Transportation Improvement Programs

Dear Mr. Mohler:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has reviewed the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) submittal of its proposed State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) received July 30, 2025, which reflects the State's project and programming needs for federal fiscal years (FFY) 2026-2030. MassDEP received the ten Metropolitan Planning Organizations' (MPOs) and three Transportation Planning Organizations' (TPOs) regional FFY 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) from August 8, 2025 to September 5, 2025. This letter is MassDEP's finding of concurrence with MassDOT's Certification that the air quality conformity determinations included in the STIP and TIPs satisfy the applicable criteria and procedures in 310 CMR 60.03 and 40 CFR Part 93 and are consistent with the air quality goals of the Massachusetts State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Conformity determinations are required to ensure that STIPs and TIPs conform to the State SIP requirements and mobile source emissions will not cause or contribute to violations of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Section 176 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) requires MPOs and States within non-attainment areas and/or attainment areas with maintenance plans to perform air quality conformity determinations prior to the approval of transportation plans and TIPs. In accordance with 310 CMR 60.03(6)(g), after MassDEP receives MassDOT's conformity determinations on the STIP and TIPs, MassDEP is required to review the conformity determination and issue a finding in writing of concurrence or non-concurrence with MassDOT's conformity determination. Based on that review, MassDEP observes the following:

This information is available in alternate format. Please contact MassDEP at 617-292-5500.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370
MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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Ozone Standard

MassDOT found that the FFY 2026-2030 STIP and TIPs demonstrated transportation conformity with the SIP, the Clean Air Act, and the EPA conformity regulations (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93) for the 1997 ozone NAAQS by showing that the applicable requirements in Table 1 in 40 CFR 93.109 have been met, including use of the latest planning assumptions (93.110), consultation (93.112), timely implementation of transportation control measures (93.113) and being fiscally constrained (93.108).

After reviewing MassDOT's determination that the STIP and TIPs conform to the SIP and mobile source emissions will not cause or contribute to violations of the NAAQS, MassDEP concurs with MassDOT's Certification of the air quality conformity determinations included in the FFY 2026-2030 STIP and TIPs. If you have any questions regarding MassDEP's review, please call Sharon Weber of the Bureau of Air and Waste, Division of Air and Climate Programs at (617) 981-5484.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Heiple
Commissioner

Cc: Lynne Hamjian and Ariel Garcia, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Peter Brady, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Brandon Burns, Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Derek Shooster, MassDOT