



Maura Healey, Governor
Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor
Phillip Eng, Interim MassDOT Secretary
Meredith Slesinger, MassDOT Rail & Transit Administrator



FY26 Transit Connectivity Awards

The FY26 state budget included \$10 million for grants to Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) to advance connectivity. The Healey-Driscoll Administration is pleased to announce \$10 million in funding to Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) to support 16 projects that increase connections between towns, including to neighboring states. Grants will allow RTAs to pilot new expansions, continue promising pilots, and improve existing connections.

While some of these new services may launch early in 2026, others will not launch until later as RTAs work to hire drivers and add the new service to their offerings. MassDOT encourages potential riders to contact their RTA directly with any questions.

Recipient	Project	Award	Summary
Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority	SmartDart Flex	\$395,367	Explore service improvements on the Outer Cape through increasing microtransit capacity, fulfilling unmet trip requests, and reducing deviations on the fixed route
Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority	Brockton - Taunton - Fall River Connection (Gateway Link)	\$1,495,065	Continuing funding for a pilot service linking the BAT, GATRA, and SRTA service areas that launched August 2025
Lowell Regional Transit Authority	Nashua Connections Pilot	\$1,227,772	Pilot funding to provide year-round service connecting Lowell and Nashua building on successful seasonal service. The proposed LRTA route connects to Nashua Transit System routes.
Merrimack Valley Transit	X Marks the Spot - Crosstown/ Crossborder Connection	\$1,211,951	Pilot two new routes, connecting Lawrence & Methuen to key destinations in Salem, NH as well as improving connectivity within the MeVa system by providing cross-town travel so Methuen residents do not have to travel to Lawrence and back to access key destinations in their own city. Manchester Transit Authority provides fixed-route and demand-response services that connect to the proposed MeVa route.
MetroWest Regional Transit Authority	The 495+ Connector (comprising 3 projects)	\$1,405,000	Funding for 3 projects: continuing funding for a fixed route connecting the LRTA, MWRTA, and GATRA service areas around the 495 corridor; continuing funding to provide MWRTA microtransit in the WRTA town of Berlin; and pilot funding for MWRTA to partner with Marlborough on their shuttle that provides first and last mile commuter rail connections
Montachusett Regional Transit Authority	Winchendon Ashburnham Community Connector	\$252,905	Funding to MART to partner with the Town of Winchendon on their microtransit and regionalize their model to include Ashburnham
NRTA	New Transit Service to Bartlett Farm	\$396,990	Pilot a new route serving underserved areas, including links to a grocery store, hospital, military housing, and senior housing

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Pioneer Valley Transit Authority	Pioneer Valley Connectors II (comprising 5 projects)	\$1,583,311	Funding for 5 projects: continuing funding for 3 PVTA fixed routes that improve connectivity within their service area; continuing funding for FRTA to operate microtransit in two rural towns that connect to PVTA's fixed routes; and a new pilot PVTA fixed route connecting Ware to Holyoke
Southeastern Regional Transit Authority	Intercity Express - 9X	\$1,235,208	Continuing funding for express service linking two economic hubs
Southeastern Regional Transit Authority	Providence-Fall River-Newport Service Expansion	\$796,431	Pilot funding to SRTA to partner with RIPTA to increase RIPTA's frequency on their route connecting Fall River to Providence and Newport
TOTAL		\$10,000,000	