

Highway Report

Undersecretary and Highway Administrator
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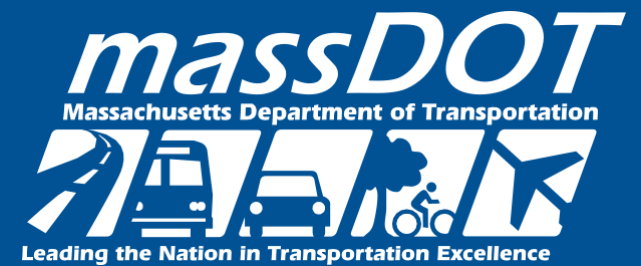


Table of Contents

- 3 Complete Streets
- 4 Grant Central: Estimating Tool
- 5 Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue
- 6 Maffa Way Before and After
- 7 Davol Street Corridor
- 8 Davol Street Before and After
- 9 E-ZPass Sticker Transponder
- 10 Service Plazas Update

Complete Streets – FY26 Round 2

- Latest grant round: \$6.6 million to 15 communities: five first-time awardees; two rural; 12 EJ communities
- Program objective: make travel safe, comfortable, convenient, and accessible for all ages, abilities, modes
- Awards to fund improvements to intersections, crossings, traffic signals, sidewalks, pathways, cycling infrastructure, and more
- Congratulations to Round 2 recipients:
 - Andover: \$499,971
 - Ashland: \$500,000
 - Athol: \$249,225
 - Bridgewater: \$499,989
 - Clinton: \$225,000
 - Fairhaven: \$499,850
 - Ipswich: \$500,000
 - Malden: \$500,000
 - Middleborough: \$500,000
 - Milford: \$479,923
 - Norfolk: \$499,240
 - Plainville: \$190,329
 - Somerville: \$500,000
 - Westport: \$499,800
 - Wilbraham: \$500,000



Transformative impact: Westfield Route 20/Elm Street after \$500,000 CSFP toward \$4M downtown reconstruction

Grant Central: New Web-Based Estimator Tool Launched

- The State Aid Reimbursable Programs Cost Estimating Tool (SARPET) was redesigned into the new Grant Central Estimator, a web-based application
- The Grant Central Estimator converts project details into preliminary cost estimates using engineering principles and weighted bid prices
- Helps municipalities create preliminary cost estimates for transportation projects funded by MassDOT Highway grant programs
- Online version is more accessible, mobile friendly, simpler navigation, and has automated up-to-date construction pricing data
- Municipal benefits: more accurate cost estimates will help determine feasibility, funding decisions, avoid unexpected costs

The screenshot shows the web interface for the Grant Central Estimator. At the top, there is a header with the Mass.gov logo and the text 'Mass.gov'. Below this is a navigation bar with the massDOT logo, the text 'Grant Central Estimator', and a circular button labeled 'CA'. A blue button with a left arrow and the text 'Return Home' is positioned below the navigation bar. The main content area is titled 'Create Project' and contains the following text: 'Create a new project to begin a preliminary cost estimate.' Below this text are two input fields. The first is labeled 'Project Name' and has a text box below it with the placeholder text 'Name of the project'. The second is labeled 'Project Description' and has a larger text box below it with the placeholder text 'A short description of the project'.

Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue: Full Beneficial Use Dec. 2025

5

- Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue superstructure replacement over Orange Line, Commuter Rail
- Design-Build JV: Skanska, CHA Consulting
- Estimated construction costs: \$54.9M (Additional \$19M for busing, rail outage support)
- Major milestone achieved: FBU December 2025
- New configuration: vehicular travel, designated space for buses, pedestrians, cyclists
- Remaining work: punchlist items, weather sensitive
- Contract completion: trending ~ **nine months ahead of schedule** thanks to:
- Extraordinary coordination during two extended MBTA shutdowns: summers of 2024 and 2025; piggybacking during TIP outages



Work during the rail outage, May 9 through May 18, 2025

Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue: Before and After



Before:
March 2022



After:
September 2025

Route 79–Davol Street Corridor Improvements

7

- Complete corridor transformation of one-mile segment: urban boulevard with pedestrian/cyclist accommodations, enhanced cross street connections for neighborhoods and waterfront
- Design–Build JV: DW White, SPS NE
- Estimated construction costs: \$121 million
- New opportunities for green space, vertical development unlocked
- Major milestone achieved: FBU reached January 2026 – **four months ahead of schedule**
- Official ribbon cutting to be scheduled this spring



Route 79–Davol Street Before and After



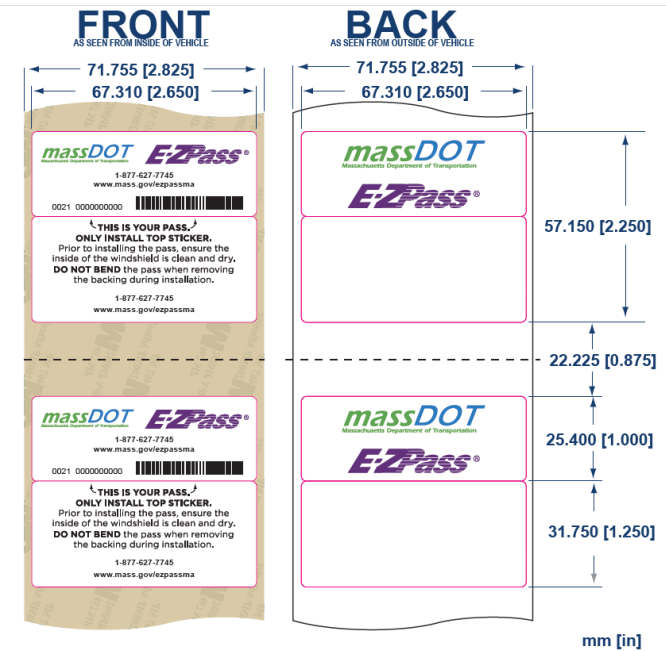
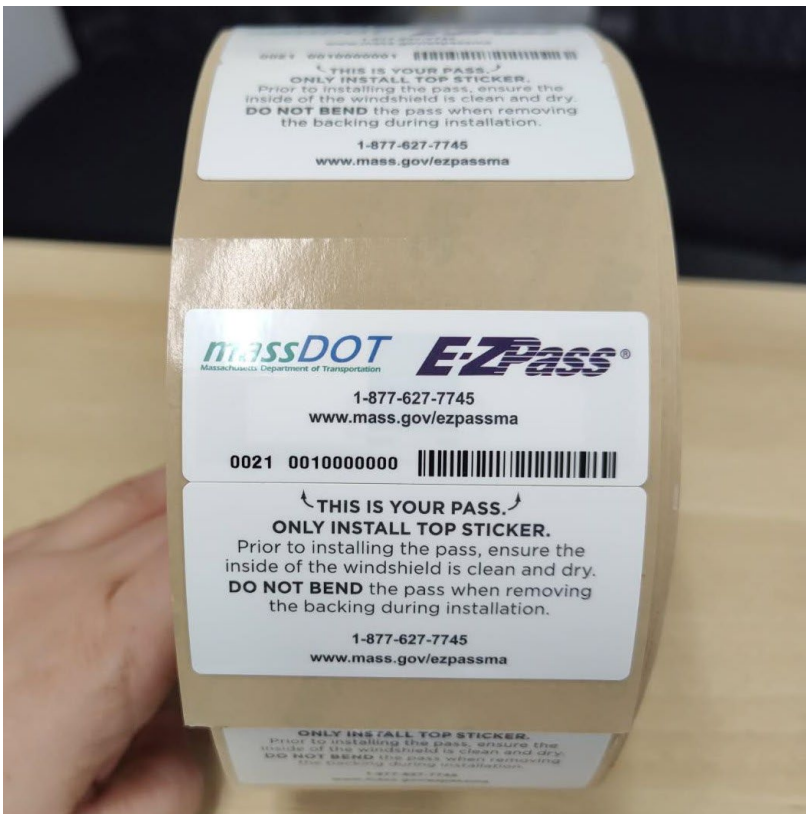
Before:
October 2020



After: November
2025

New E-Zpass Sticker Transponders Go Live March 1

- Starting **March 1**, sticker transponders roll out: new E-ZPass customers, transponder replacements
- Rollout coordinated with other states/tolling entities
- No requirement to convert; transponders still effective
- Two-fold benefits:
- Embracing new technology: smaller, no batteries, no hardcase
- Potential cost savings: ~\$615,000/month (\$7.38 million/year)*



* \$0.55 per sticker tag; \$6.70 per transponder; MassDOT distributes approximately 100,000 transponders per month

Service Plazas Update

- Master tenant leases with Gulf and McDonald's extended by 18 months, through June 30, 2027
- Ensures continued operations at service plazas
- All 18 service plaza leases now end on June 30, 2027



Service Plazas Update

- Office of Real Estate and Economic Development is transitioning day to day management of the plazas to the Highway Division
- Highway's Operations and Maintenance team will handle plaza oversight, inspections, and corrective action
- The team is also implementing an updated work order system and maintenance tracking system



Thank You

