



Open House #4: Meeting Summary

Date: May 24, 2017, 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Location: New Bedford Free Public Library, 213 Pleasant Street, New Bedford

Present

Project Staff:

Gabe Sherman and Trey Wadsworth, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Office of Transportation Planning (OTP); Nathan Higgins, Cambridge Systematics (CS); Regan Checchio and Sarah Paritsky, Regina Villa Associates (RVA).

Public Attendees:

Paul Mission, Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) William Veno, Martha's Vineyard Commission

*Brandon Wilcox, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Purpose

The fourth Open House was held to introduce the Massachusetts Freight Plan to the Southeastern Massachusetts region, share the work completed to date, and gather input from the public.

Format

The meeting was arranged in an open house format with boards at stations set up around the room. Four informational boards were set up on one side of the room and staff were available to answer questions:

- 1. Map
- 2. Background
- 3. Industries
- 4. How Freight Moves

Four additional boards with questions were set up on the other side of the room. Participants were given an opportunity to respond to a question on each board by writing responses on sticky notes, but no written comments were received. The project team posted one or two responses derived from the interviews to provide an example response.

A short presentation was projected in the back of the room (on a loop). The slides included information about the objectives, background, and timeline of the Freight Plan (see: Presentation, page 3).

^{*}Member of the Freight Advisory Committee

PRESENTATION



Our objectives

- Fulfill all federal requirements for State Freight Plans
- Articulate a vision for the freight system
- Raise awareness of freight's role in the economy
- Use scenario planning to address an uncertain future and develop robust strategies



How we see the freight system

Economy

Types of Industries, Number of Households, Types and Volumes of Commodities

Logistics

Supply Chains, Distribution Networks

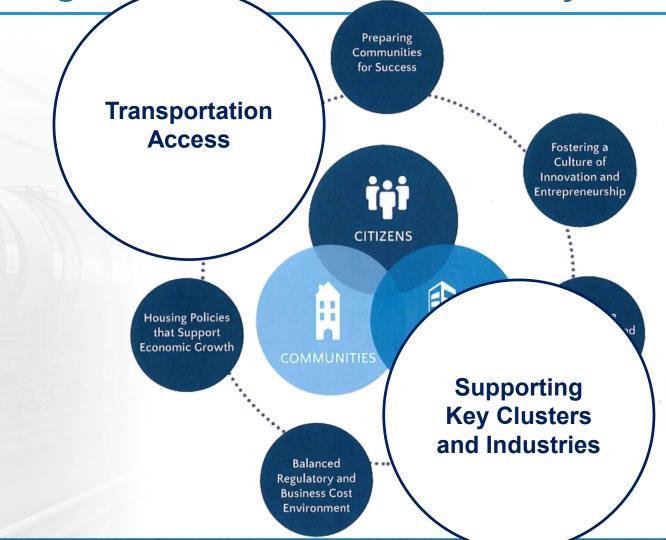
Transportation

Infrastructure: Highways, Rail Lines, Ports, Airports...
Vehicles/Flows: Trucks, Planes, Rail Cars, Ships...

Policy and Regulation Ownership,



Freight's role in the economy





What we are doing

Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul

Synthesize 30+ reports
Analyze Freight Data
4 Agency Round Tables
25+ Industry Interviews

4 FAC Meetings and Open Houses
Scenario Planning to articulate vision, goals, objectives, and robust strategies.

2017 Freight Plan



How MassDOT thinks about overall transportation goals



Customer Experience

Provide reliable and accessible services to MassDOT and MBTA customers and ensure that they are satisfied with the services provided.



System Condition

Ensure that the transportation system is well maintained and follows best practices for maintaining, preserving, and modernizing assets.



Budget and Capital Performance

Maximize capital investment effectively and efficiently by delivering programs and projects that produce the greatest benefits to the Commonwealth, its residents, and its visitors.



Safety

Provide and support a multi-modal transportation network that is safe for our workers and all users.



Healthy and Sustainable Transportation

Invest in and support a transportation system that promotes and protects the health of all users and the natural environment.



How MassDOT thinks about investment priorities

1

Reliability

Maintain and improve the overall condition and reliability of the transportation system

2

Modernization

Modernize the transportation system to make it safer and more accessible and to accommodate growth

3

Expansion

Expand diverse transportation options for communities throughout the Commonwealth

