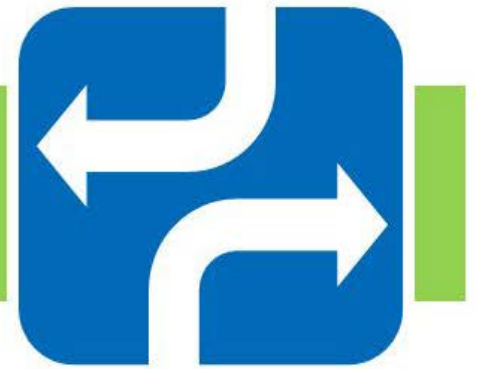


I-90 Interchange Study



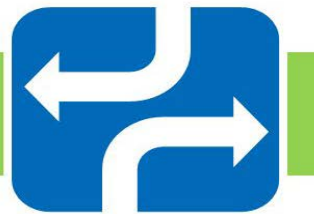
Working Group Meeting #1

February 8th, 2018

2:00-4:00PM

Blandford Town Hall

I-90 Interchange Study



INTRODUCTION

- MassDOT
 - Cassandra Gascon, Project Manager
- Consultant Team
 - AECOM
 - Prime Consultant, Regional Traffic Analysis, Alternatives Development & Design
 - Regina Villa Associates
 - Public Outreach
 - McMahon Associates
 - Local Traffic Analysis, Environmental Considerations, Health Impact Assessment
 - FXM Associates
 - Economic Impact Analysis
 - Green International Affiliates
 - Complete Streets, Base Mapping

AECOM

RVA
REGINA VILLA
ASSOCIATES

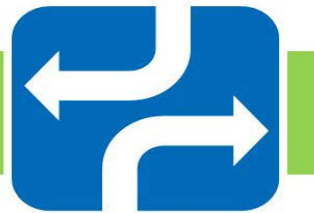
McMAHON
TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS & PLANNERS

FXM ASSOCIATES
ECONOMIC PLANNING AND RESEARCH

GREEN
INTERNATIONAL
AFFILIATES, INC.
Civil and Structural Engineers

massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation

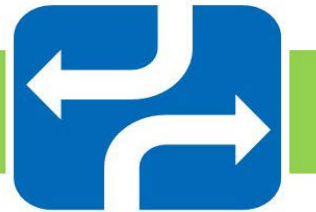
AECOM



- Working Group Members
 - Regional elected officials, planners, chambers, and transportation staff
 - Ground rules handout



Background and Purpose

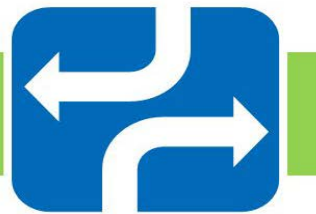


Study Origination: MA State Legislation

State Legislation

Lee/Westfield Turnpike Interchange Study

SECTION 139. (a) The Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall conduct a **feasibility study relative to the establishment of an interchange on interstate highway route 90 between the existing interchanges located in the city of Westfield and the town of Lee.**

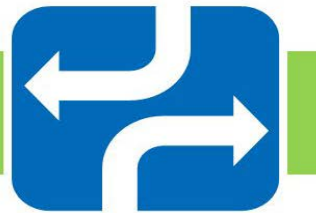


State Legislation Continued

The study shall examine and evaluate the costs and economic opportunities related to establishing the interchange including, but not limited to:

- (i) the projected capital costs;
- (ii) the projected operating costs;
- (iii) the projected use levels;
- (iv) the environmental and community impact estimates;
- (v) the availability of federal, state, local and private sector funding sources; and
- (vi) the resulting economic, social and cultural benefits to the surrounding region and the commonwealth.

I-90 Interchange Study



BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

- Prior Related Studies
 - Lee Area Traffic Study, 2010
 - Primary focus on local traffic
 - Some interchange alternatives east of Exit 2
 - Recommendations focused on locations at or west of Exit 2

FINAL REPORT



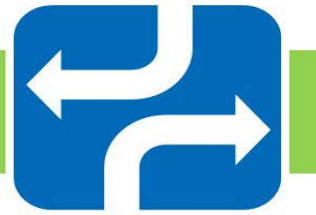
Lee Area Traffic Study



Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, November 18, 2010

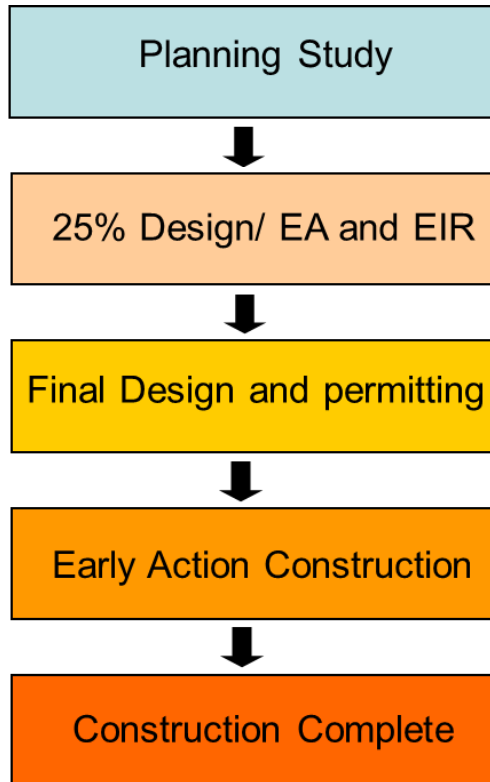
Prepared in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

I-90 Interchange Study



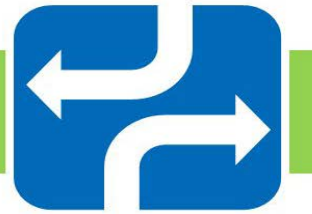
STUDY PROCESS

MassDOT Planning Process

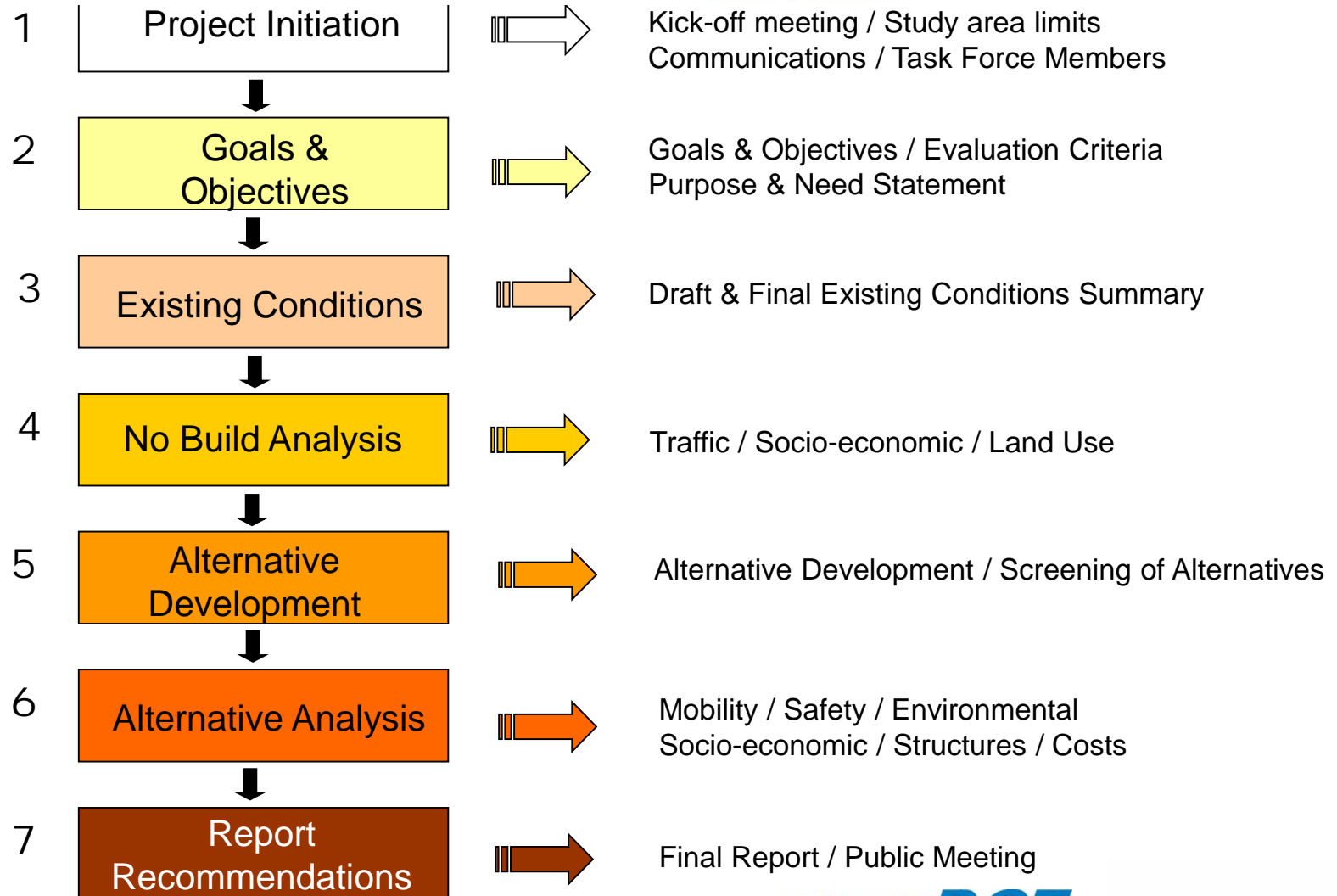


We are here

I-90 Interchange Study



STUDY PROCESS



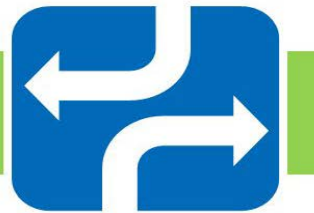


- Working Group Process
 - Share local knowledge and helpful information
 - Provide feedback on the work completed by the study team

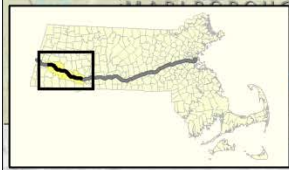


Study Framework

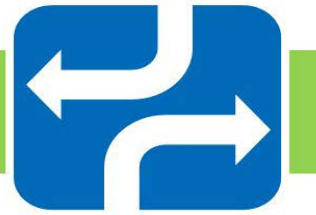
- Draft Study Area
- Draft Goals & Objectives
- Draft Evaluation Criteria
- Draft Public Involvement Plan



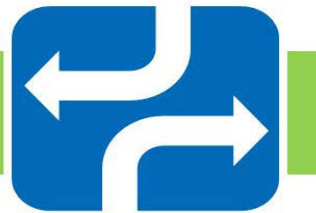
- Draft Study Area
 - Local: Corridor of I-90 between Exit 2 in Lee and Exit 3 in Westfield
 - Regional: Communities whose residents and employees may use a new interchange



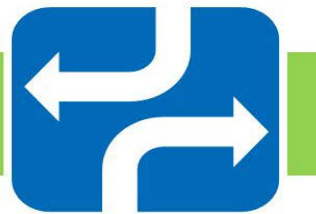




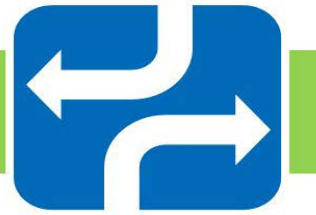
- Draft Goals & Objectives
 - Improve access to and from I-90 for towns in regional study area
 - Mitigate I-90-bound traffic to and from Lee and Westfield



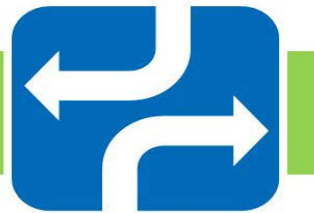
- Goal: Improve access to and from I-90 for towns in regional study area
- Objectives:
 - Identify logical connections between I-90 and local roadways
 - Identify other communities that would benefit from improved access to I-90
 - Balance access opportunities and impacts to local communities
 - Minimize environmental impacts
 - Identify potential economic benefits associated with improved access to I-90



- Goal: Mitigate I-90-bound traffic to and from Lee and Westfield
- Objectives:
 - Reduce congestion on local roadways connecting I-90 to Lee and Westfield at Exits 2 and 3
 - Reduce vehicle-miles traveled (VMT) and vehicle-hours traveled (VHT) on the regional roadway network
 - Provide alternative route(s) for commercial vehicles currently adding to local roadway congestion
 - Balance benefits to Lee and Westfield with potential impacts to adjacent communities

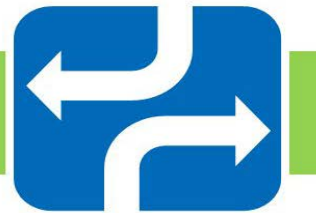


- Draft Evaluation Criteria – Design & Operations
 - Interchange Type/Configuration
 - Local Road Connections
 - Impact on Adjacent Interchanges
 - Safety Improvements
 - Truck Traffic

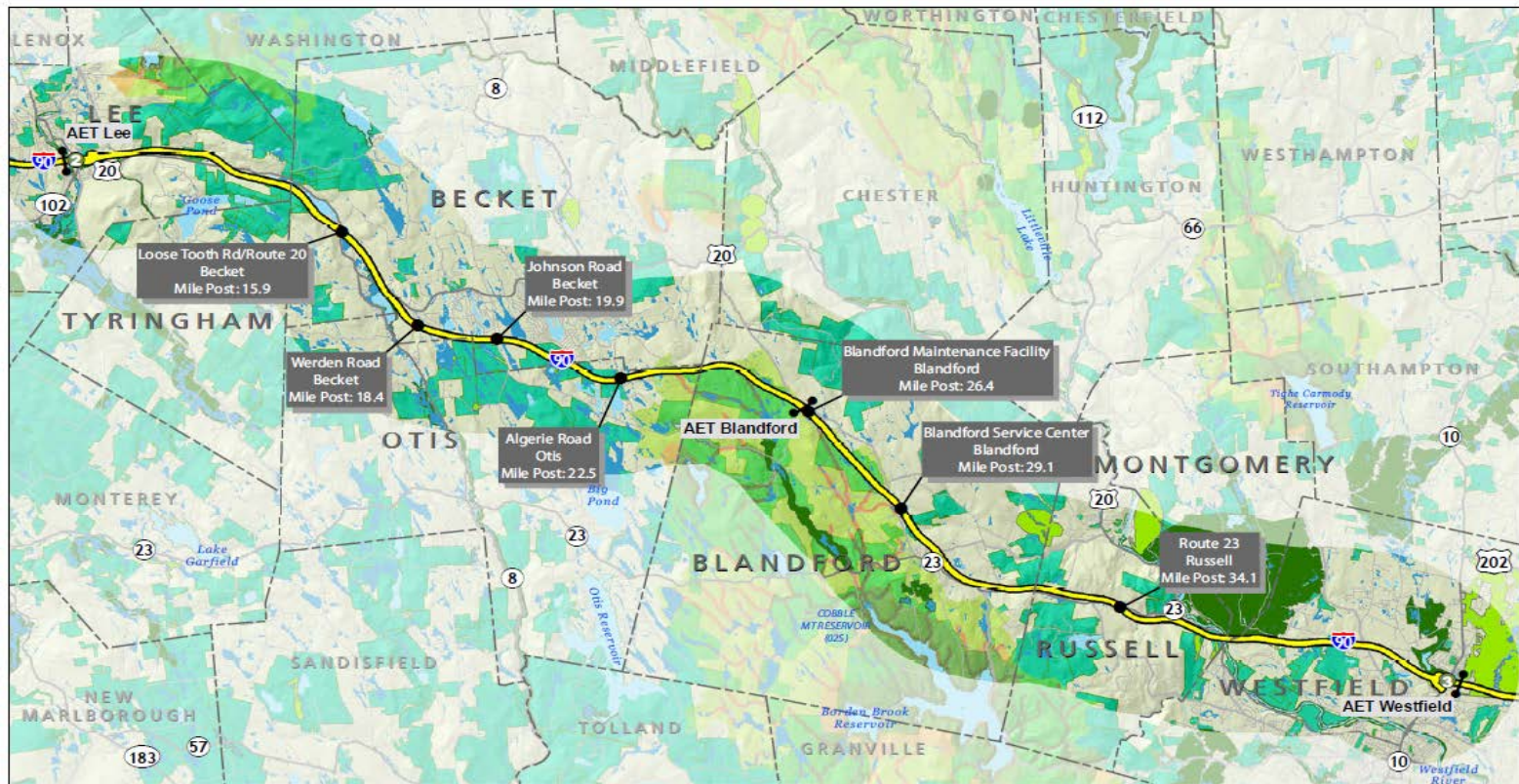


- Draft Evaluation Criteria – Environmental Resources
 - Wetlands
 - Water Resources
 - Protected Species Habitat
 - Steep Slopes / Topography
 - Public Open Space
 - Cultural Resources
 - Air Quality
 - Hazardous Materials

I-90 Interchange Study



BACKGROUND & PURPOSE



Base map data supplied by MassGIS

- Potential Interchange Opportunity
- ② Existing Interchange
- ⌋ Existing AET Gantry

- MassDEP Wetland
- Protected Open Space
- NHESP Priority Habitats for Rare Species
- NHESP Estimated Habitats for Rare Wildlife

- Surface Water Protection Area
- Zone A
- Zone B
- Zone C



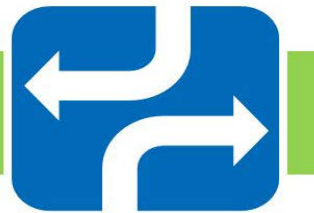
0 1 2 4 Miles

I-90 Interchange Study
Study Corridor Opportunities
and Constraints

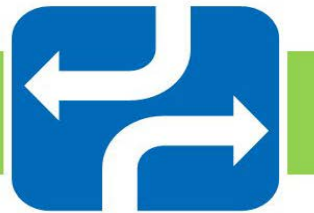
AECOM

massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation

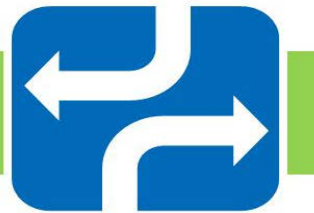
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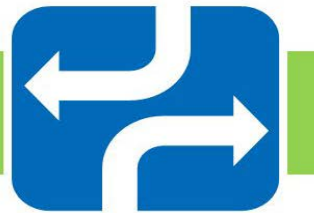
- Draft Evaluation Criteria – Socioeconomic Effects
 - Noise
 - Neighborhood Impacts
 - Right-of-Way Impacts
 - Environmental Justice
 - Economic Benefit
 - Public Health



- Draft Evaluation Criteria – Financial & Regulatory
 - Construction Cost
 - Constructability
 - Property Takings
 - Need to Upgrade Connecting Roadways
 - Schedule and Phasing
 - Permit Requirements
 - Regulatory Filings
 - Mitigation Requirements

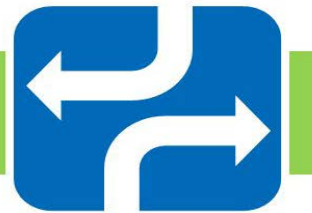


- Draft Public Involvement Plan
 - 5 Working Group meetings, composed of regional elected officials, planners, chambers, and transportation staff
 - Project website for reports and information and email database
 - Briefings for stakeholders
 - 2-3 public meetings/workshops before project milestones



- Schedule
 - Next WG meeting in May, time/date/location TBD
 - Thoughts on time/place?
 - 1st public meeting in late March/early April
 - Time/date/location TBD

I-90 Interchange Study



SCHEDULE

	2018											
	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
Task 1: Study Area, Goals and Objectives, Evaluation Criteria, and Public Participation												
Study Area												
Goals and Objectives												
Evaluation Criteria												
Public Participation Plan												
Task 2: Existing Conditions, Future No-Build Conditions, and Issues Evaluation												
Existing Conditions and Data Collection												
Future Year Conditions												
Definition & Evaluation of Issues & Opportunities												
Constraints Identification												
Task 3: Alternatives Development												
Design Development												
Task 4: Alternatives Analysis												
Mobility & Accessibility Analysis												
Safety Analysis												
Environmental Effects Analysis												
Public Health Analysis												
Land Use & Economic Development Analysis												
Community Effects/Title VI/Environmental Justice Analysis												
Cost Analysis												
Task 5: Recommendations												
Recommendations												
Task 6: Final Report												
Draft and Final Report												



- Next Steps
 - Finalizing:
 - Study area
 - Goals and objectives
 - Evaluation criteria
 - Public Involvement Plan
 - Existing conditions and data collection

I-90 Interchange Study



ADJOURN

- Thank You