



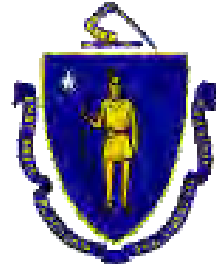
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Metro Boston DCR Parkways Study



DCR Public Meeting

Tuesday, October 27, 2015 - 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Shriners Hospital for Children Auditorium – 51 Blossom Street, Boston



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

Charles D. Baker

Lieutenant Governor

Karyn E. Polito

Energy and Environmental Secretary

Matthew A. Beaton

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

Carol I. Sanchez



DCR Mission Statement

To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all.

Parkways Study Meeting #1

Meeting Goals

- Introduce the project
- Discuss network vision

Agenda

- Project introduction
 - Context
 - Project goals and outcomes
 - Next steps
- Open house
 - What is your vision for the parkways?

Context

Roads as parks = Parkways



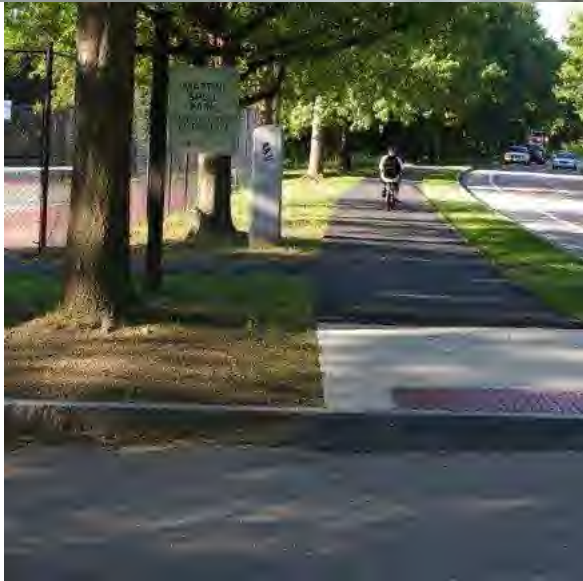
Source: DCR Historic Parkways Preservation Initiative

Context

Over time, parkways become routes for local and regional through traffic



Truman Parkway



Nonantum Road



Henderson Boardwalk

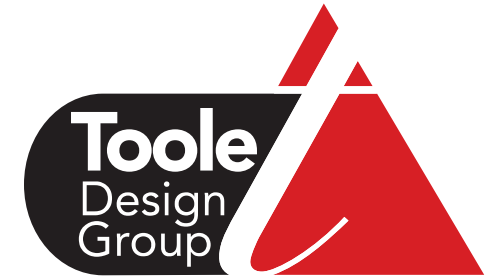






Mystic Valley Parkway

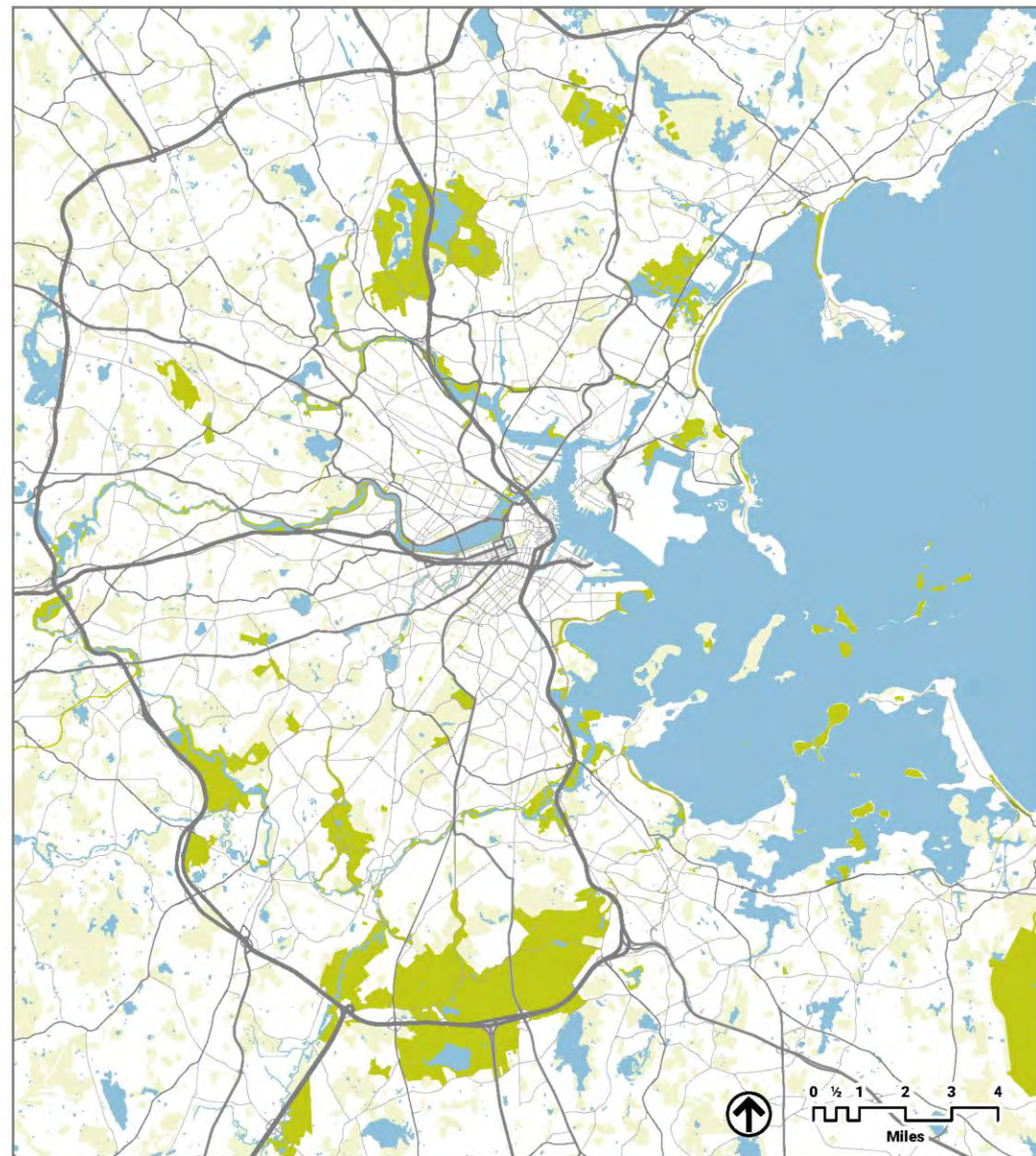
Toole Design Group's Mission Statement



*Safe streets for people of all ages and
abilities*



DCR Reservations

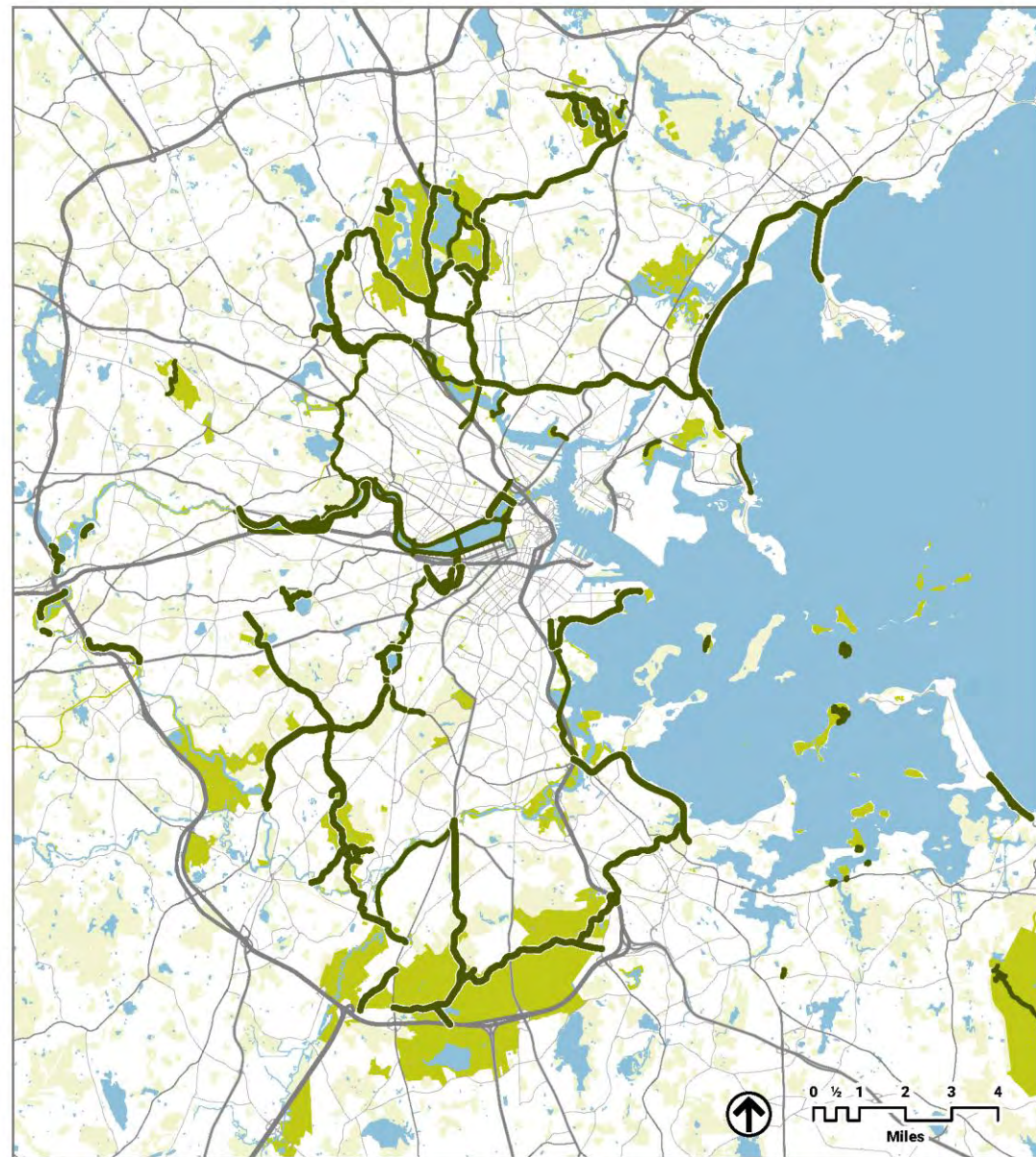


DCR Parkway Study

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| DCR Parkway in Study | On-Street Bike Facility (existing) |
| DCR Reservation | MBTA Mass Transit |
| Shared-Use Path (existing and proposed) | MBTA Commuter Rail |
| | MBTA Bus Route |
| | Major Road |



DCR Parkways



DCR Parkway Study

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| DCR Parkway in Study | On-Street Bike Facility (existing) |
| DCR Reservation | MBTA Mass Transit |
| Shared-Use Path (existing and proposed) | MBTA Commuter Rail |
| | MBTA Bus Route |
| | Major Road |



DCR Parkway

- Many Parkways (e.g. Memorial Drive, Truman Parkway, Morrissey Boulevard) are already multi-modal or are currently being studied as part of separate project.
- These parkways are not included in this study.

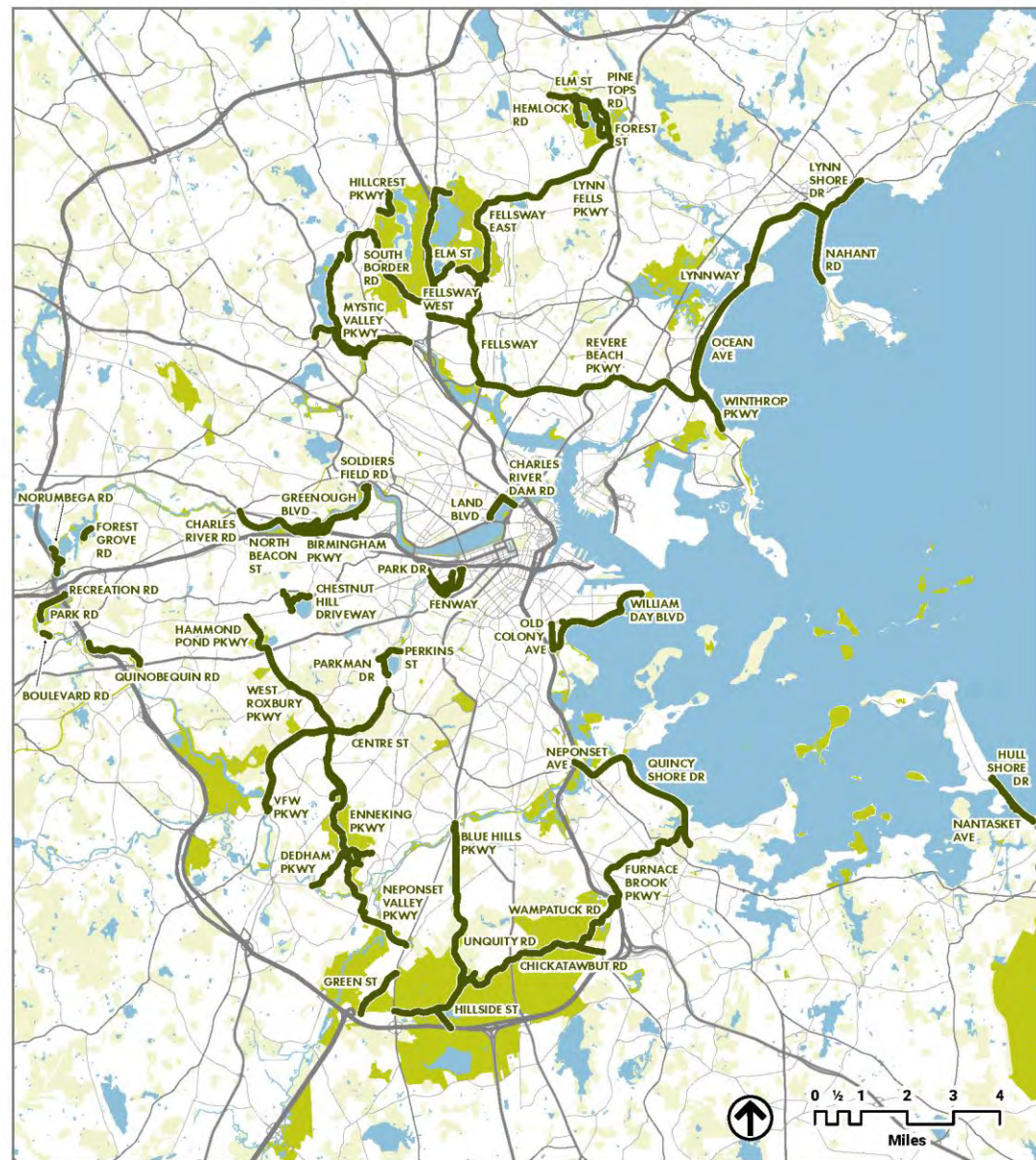


DCR Parkway Study

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| DCR Parkway in Study | On-Street Bike Facility (existing) |
| DCR Reservation | MBTA Mass Transit |
| Shared-Use Path (existing and proposed) | MBTA Commuter Rail |
| | MBTA Bus Route |
| | Major Road |

DCR Parkway

- All other parkways in the metropolitan Boston area will be addressed in this study.

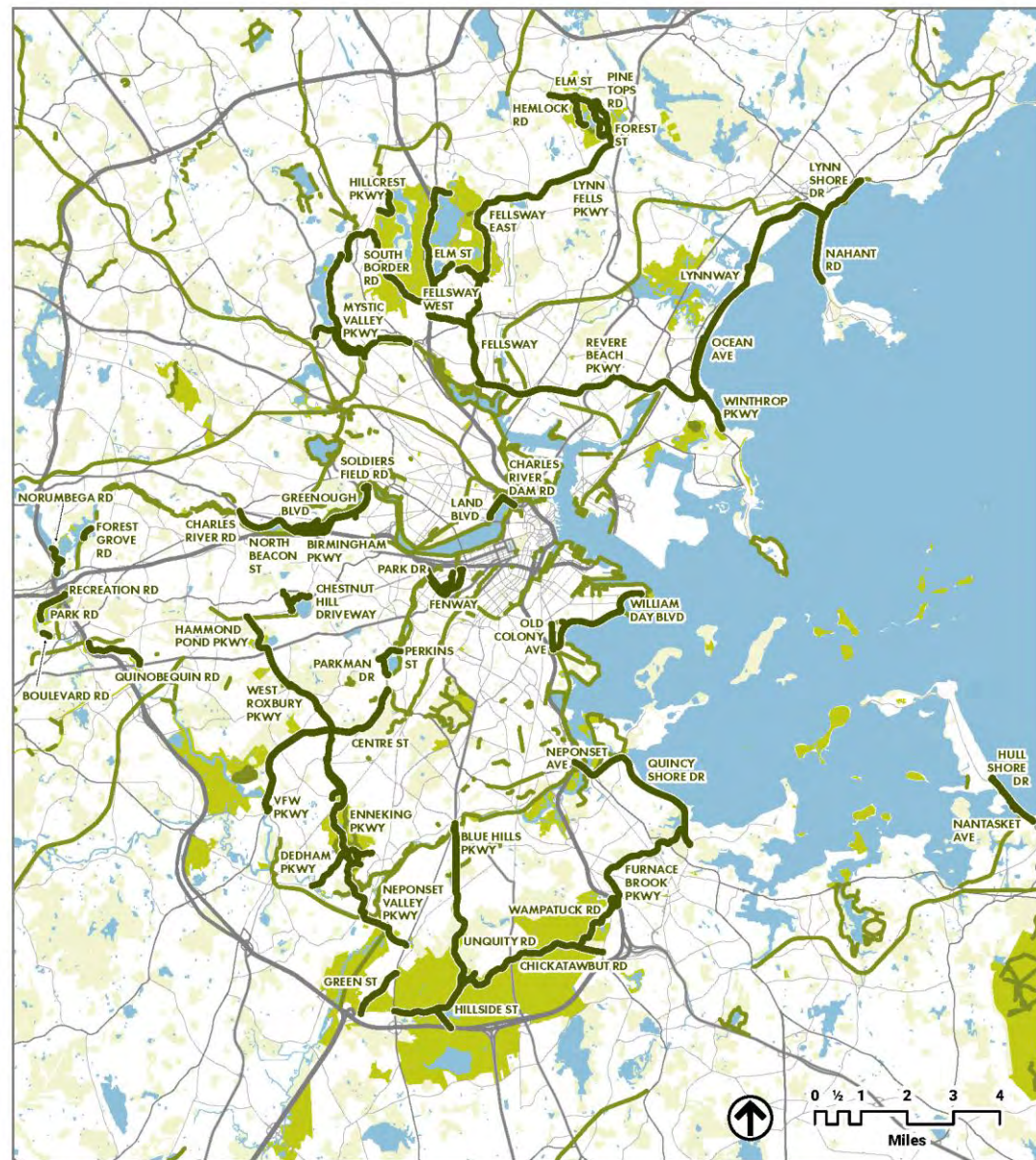


DCR Parkway Study

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| DCR Parkway in Study | On-Street Bike Facility (existing) |
| DCR Reservation | MBTA Mass Transit |
| Shared-Use Path (existing and proposed) | MBTA Commuter Rail |
| | MBTA Bus Route |
| | Major Road |

DCR Parkway

- All other parkways in the metropolitan Boston area will be addressed in this study.



DCR Parkway Study

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| DCR Parkway in Study | On-Street Bike Facility (existing) |
| DCR Reservation | MBTA Mass Transit |
| Shared-Use Path (existing and proposed) | MBTA Commuter Rail |
| | MBTA Bus Route |
| | Major Road |



Parkways Study Vision...

- The Parkways of the Boston Metropolitan Region provide safe and comfortable access and mobility for people of all ages and abilities.
- The Parkways are an integral component of the regional walking and bicycling networks.

...and Goals



- Safety
- Comfort
- Connectivity
- Health
- Recreation
- Conservation
- Sustainability
- Equity

Safety



Comfort



Connectivity



Health



Recreation



Conservation



Sustainability



Equity



Urban Paths and Parkways Committee (UPPC)

- Formed to better incorporate public input into DCR projects
- Representatives from stakeholder groups
- Executive Committee advises this project



What this plan will consider

- Parkway cross sections
- Walking (sidewalks, paths)
- Bicycling (on- & off-street)
- Intersections
- Safety
- Crossings
- Connections to DCR and non-DCR facilities
- Accessibility
- Drainage
- Bridges
- Transit access

What this plan will do

- Set priorities for maintenance activities and capital improvements



What this plan will do

- Identify immediate short-term improvements that can be rapidly implemented



Saugus/Melrose
Lynn Fells
Parkway

What this plan will do

- Provide policy and design guidance for improving the parkways for all travel modes



What this plan will do

- Articulate a long-term vision for enhancing the parkways



What this plan will do

For every parkway, this plan will provide:

- **Short-term Recommendation**

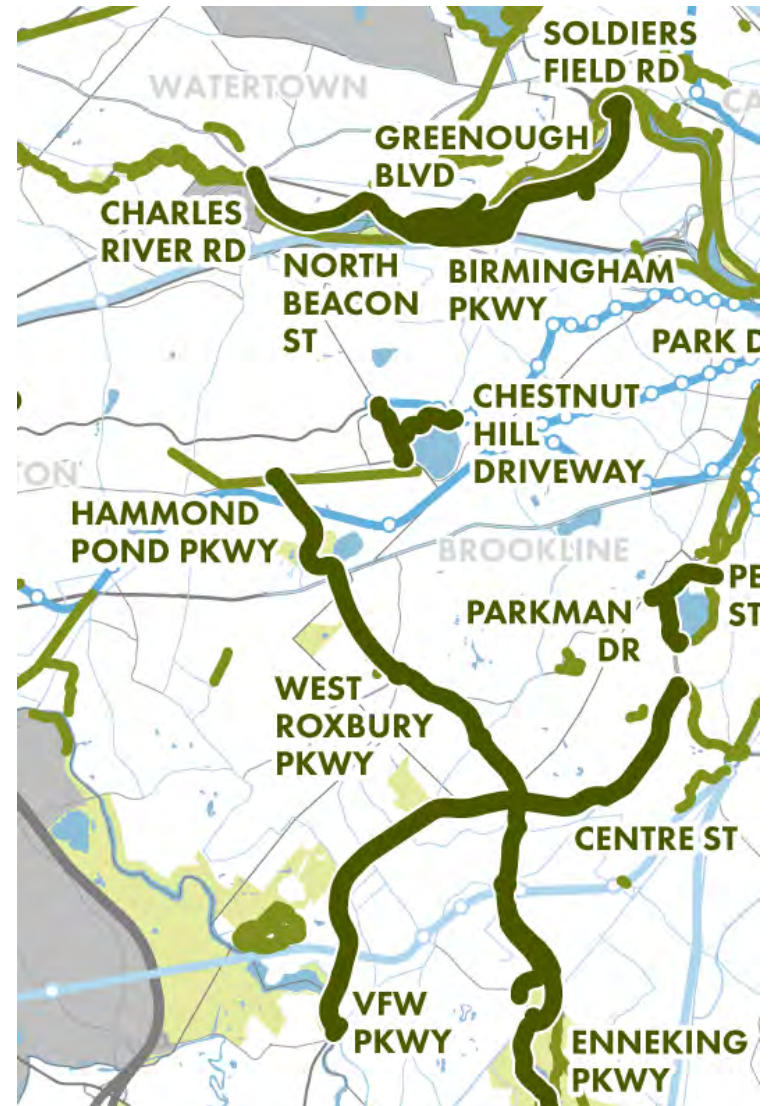
- What can be achieved through maintenance e.g. repaving program
- Study will provide new cross section for every parkway

- **Long-term Recommendation**

- Requires new construction/reconstruction
- Includes changes to curbs, new sidewalks, paths, separated bike lanes, etc.

Demonstration Construction Project

- Hammond Pond Parkway
 - Beacon Street (Newton) to Horace James Circle (Brookline)
 - Develop 100% Design Plans
 - Hold Public and stakeholder meetings



Public Participation Tools & Methods

- Future meetings
- Email list to subscribe for updates
- Website

Mass.gov State Offices & Courts | State A-Z Topics | State Forms ▲ No Active Alerts [Skip to main content](#) | [A A](#) | [English](#) | [A A](#)

The Official Website of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs


Energy and Environmental Affairs

Search... in Energy & Environment SEARCH

Agriculture | Energy & Utilities | Environmental Protection | Fisheries, Wildlife & Habitats | Recreation & Conservation | Services & Assistance | **Agencies**

[EEA Home](#) > [Agencies](#) > [Department of Conservation and Recreation](#) > [Conservation](#) > [Bureau of Planning, Design & Resource Protection](#) > [MCRT - Norwottuck Branch Rail Trail Rehabilitation](#)

MCRT - Norwottuck Branch Rail Trail Rehabilitation Project



[Click to see the full size image.](#)

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Highway Division are working together to rehabilitate the oldest sections of the 10.6 mile Norwottuck Rail Trail, which extends from Northampton to Belchertown, MA. Design funding has been provided through a state and federal partnership between DCR, MassDOT, and the Federal Highway Administration. Funding for the planned \$4 million construction phase will come from federal and state funds set aside by Congressman John Oliver in a federal transportation bill and by MassDOT.

The scope of work for upgrades and safety improvements includes excavating and repaving the existing trail surface, widening up to 10-feet where possible, cutting of the trailside roots, enhancing the road crossings, changing the alignment at the Route 9 tunnel, adding turn-arounds and other universal access improvements, re-decking bridges, enhancing and installing new parking, and upgrading trail signage and other amenities.


Norwottuck Rail Trail Rehabilitation Project Updates

Occasionally during the life of this project, DCR will send out project updates informing the public of upcoming meetings or project milestones. If you would like to receive these updates, please subscribe here.

[Subscribe to Norwottuck Rail Trail Project Updates](#)

Please note: Clicking the link above will open your preferred Email application in an attempt to send an email to the DCR list serve for subscription.

MCRT – Norwottuck: Reconstructed and Reopened!



June 3, 2015

Nearly 23 months after breaking ground the Norwottuck Rail Trail reconstruction project is final done – pretty much on time and on budget.

Originally constructed in 1993, the 8.5 miles from Damon Road in Northampton to Station Road in Amherst has now been fully re-designed, re-constructed and repaired. The entire path is open, the

Project Updates

June 3, 2015

April 2, 2015

November 5, 2014

[See All](#)

[Subscribe](#) [Learn more](#)

Related Documents

[Norwottuck Rail Trail NPC](#)

[Currently Proposed Plans](#)

2MB

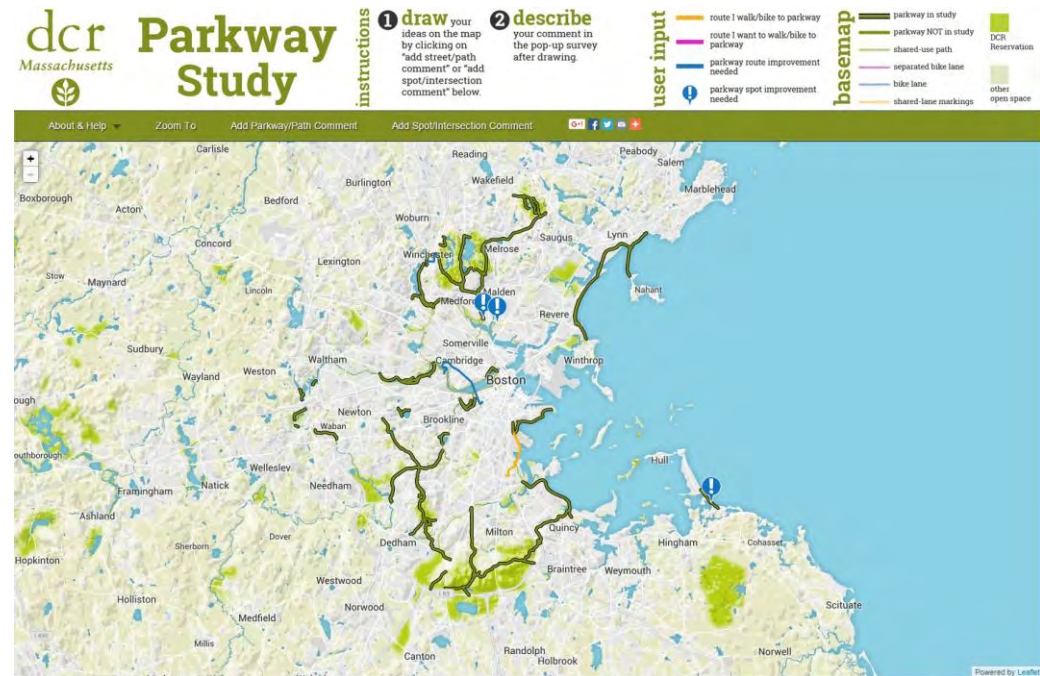
MCRT - Norwottuck Rail Trail

Contact Us

Paul Jahnige
Director Greenways and Trails
Program
Department of Conservation and
Recreation
136 Damon Rd
Northampton, MA 01060
413-586-8706 ext. 20
paul.jahnige@state.ma.us

Tools & Methods (continued)

- Wikimap
 - Describe your current route
 - Describe your desired route
 - What prevents you from using it now
 - What are the issues



Next Steps

- Complete base mapping
- Assess parkway conditions
- Continue to coordinate with stakeholders, municipalities, etc.
- Continue public outreach



Open House

5 Stations

- Wikimapping
- North subregion
- South subregion
- West subregion
- What is your vision for the parkways?





Additional Information

For more information:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/public-meetings/>

If you have comments or suggestions:

Submit Online: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/submit-public-comments/>

Write: Department of Conservation and Recreation
Office of Public Outreach
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston, MA 02114

Deadline: Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Note: Public comments submitted to DCR may be posted on the DCR website in their entirety.

If you have questions or concerns, or wish to subscribe to a DCR general information or project-specific listserv: contact

DCR's Office of Community Relations at 617-626-4973 or

Mass.Parks@state.ma.us.