

Transportation Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler's Report to the Board

July 20, 2022



Budget Update:

- Legislature passed their FY23 Budget on 7/18. Governor Baker has 10 days to return with amendments or vetoes
- Passed version includes \$1.2 million in additional funding for operations than in the Governor's original submission (FY23 H.2) and \$62.4 million in additional funding for operations (\$50 million of which is for Snow and Ice) than what was presented to the Board in June (FY23 House version)
- MassDOT will present its final FY23 Budget, with updated detail, to F&A and Board for final consideration in September

FY23 Budget Update Continued...

Commonwealth Transfer Fund	FY 22 GAA	FY 23 H.2	FY23 House	FY23 Senate	FY23 Passed	Variance of FY23 Passed to Select Items			
						FY22 GAA	FY23 H.2	FY23 House	FY23 Senate
MassDOT									
Operation (1595-6368)									
Non-Snow & Ice	308.0	360.9	349.7	358.3	362.1	54.1	1.2	12.4	3.8
Snow & Ice	95.0	95.0	45.0	95.0	95.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0
Total Operation (1595-6368)	403.0	455.9	394.7	453.3	457.1	54.1	1.2	62.4	3.8
RTA (1595-6370)	94.0	94.0	94.0	96.5	96.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0
MRB (1595-6379)	11.3	11.6	11.6	11.6	11.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
MBTA (1595-6369)	127.1	187.0	187.1	187.0	187.1	59.9	0.1	0.0	0.1

MassTRAC Update:

- “An Act Relative to Massachusetts’s Transportation Resources and Climate,” (MassTRAC) has passed the House and Senate and is currently in conference. (Both nearly \$11 billion.) Expected to reach the Governor’s desk by the end of July.
- MassTRAC is an infrastructure bond bill which will advance and support significant investments in transportation and environmental infrastructure, as well as provide critical and required state matching funds to compete for, unlock and leverage federal formula and discretionary investments provided by the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) enacted in November 2021.
- MassTRAC as submitted by the Administration calls for \$6.2 billion to support core federal formula programs for highway, transit, and environmental projects and calls for \$3.5 billion in potential state matching resources to support the aggressive pursuit of new and existing federal discretionary and competitive grants.

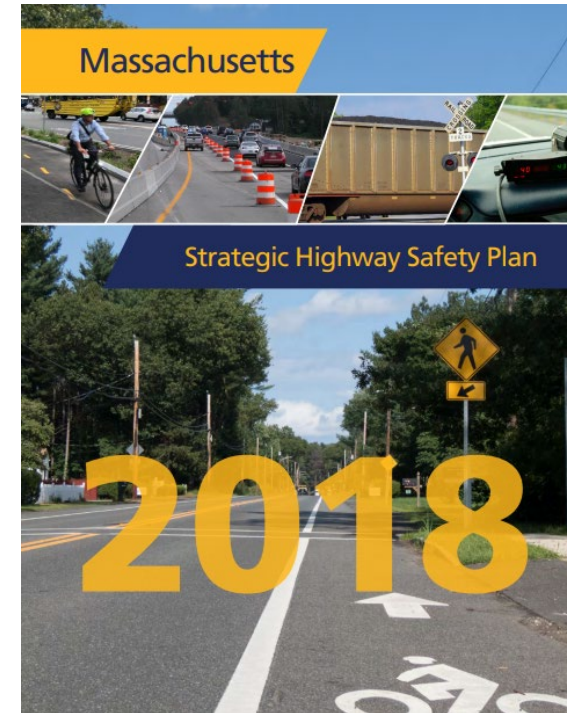


Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Update:

- The historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) included over \$110 billion total in competitive discretionary grants to be overseen by USDOT. These funds are to be distributed over five years and are eligible to governmental agencies in all 50 states, U.S. territories and tribal lands
 - There are currently 5 Massachusetts projects under review for RAISE grants, 5 under review under MPDG and one MPDG “Rural” project.
 - There are also 3 grant programs open for applications – Bridge, Safe Streets and Roads, and Re-Connecting Communities that MassDOT is either developing applications or partnering on applications for.
- These applications are in addition to the over \$1 billion currently programmed in MassDOT’s Capital Investment Plan.
- MassDOT has been preparing internally for months to take full advantage of these new federal funding opportunities, including streamlining the contract and procurement process, and hiring additional personnel to ramp up project capacity.

Vision & Safe System Approach to Prevent Road Deaths:

- Consistent with national trends, Massachusetts is experiencing a significant increase in roadway fatalities over the last couple years.
- MassDOT is adopting the Safe System approach with the aim to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities on our roadways.
- The Safe System approach is a holistic view of the road system that anticipates human mistakes and makes safety an imperative of designers and owners of the transportation system.



Safe speeds
Speed management to prevent serious injuries and fatalities

Safety Activities:

- Developing Strategic Highway Safety Plan in partnership with other state agencies
- MassDOT will launch a Safety website as a consolidated and comprehensive landing page for safety resources, funding opportunities, and related guidance geared towards communities and state workforce.
- MassDOT promoting new USDOT Funding Opportunity
 - Series of upcoming actions in support of municipal/ regional applications
 - MassDOT will send data reports and resources to help municipalities and MPOs create safety plans and applications.
 - MassDOT will host a virtual open house/webinar to walk through the resources we have available, gather feedback, and answer questions.

What is new USDOT New Funding Opportunity?

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) establishes Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program
 - \$5-6 billion over the next 5 years to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries.
 - MPOs, cities, towns, and other special districts that are subdivisions of a state are eligible to apply (state agencies are not eligible)
- Eligible activities include:
 - Develop or update a “Comprehensive Safety Action Plan”
 - Conduct planning, design, and development activities in support of an Action Plan.
 - Carry out projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan.
- First round applications due September 15th

Berkshire Flyer Seasonal Service:

- Weekend pilot passenger rail seasonal service began on July 8th.
- Service run by Amtrak with trains departing Friday afternoon from Moynihan Station in New York City with the destination of Pittsfield, MA. Sunday afternoon train leaves Pittsfield for New York City.
- Photo taken Friday night, July 8, after the first Berkshire Flyer arrived at the station in Pittsfield, MA, the day seasonal service began.



2022 MassTrails Grants: \$11 million for 81 projects:

- June 28: Event at Wharf Street Park, Milton, with Lt. Governor Karyn Polito and Secretary Card to announce 2022 MassTrails grants.
- More than \$11 million total for 81 projects. MassTrails partnered with Conine Family Foundation's HubLuv Initiative to improve and expand the Commonwealth's existing trail network.
- Expanding network of trails is pivotal to creating comfortable, safe, and convenient travel pathways for people to walk and bike and is key part of the Baker-Polito Administration's commitment to providing an equitable transportation network that support's the Commonwealth's transit, economic, climate and public health goals. Across MA, there are roughly 900 miles of shared use paths, with hundreds more envisioned to expand networks, close gaps, and provide more people access.



Northern Tier Passenger Rail Study:

- The first virtual public meeting for the Northern Tier Passenger Rail Study was held July 14.
- Study team provided an overview and engaged the public in a discussion regarding the existing conditions analysis.
- A public workshop will be held in the fall to review initial service plan alternatives.
- Feedback will be used to develop four final service plan alternatives, which will be reviewed in winter of 2023.

Grant Funding Offered to Reduce Diesel Emissions:

- MassDEP announced \$1.88 million in competitive grants is now available for electric-only projects from public, private and non-profit entities to reduce diesel emissions from vehicles, engines, and equipment.
- Grant program funded under the federal Diesel Emissions Reduction Act and will accelerate the retirement of less-efficient and more-polluting vehicles, engines, and equipment, and replace them with zero-emission vehicles and equipment.
- Baker-Polito Administration has taken an aggressive approach in implementing strategies that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and better support the health of residents.
- Meanwhile, the FORWARD Act, filed by Governor Baker in April 2022, seeks to advance the Commonwealth's implementation of clean energy projects and reduce emissions. Significantly, the legislation proposes to direct \$750 million for the clean energy industry, as well as other environmental projects in MA.