



What is the South Coast Rail Economic Development and Land Use Corridor Plan?

A plan that coordinates land use and economic development with new transportation investments. The Patrick Administration is committed to bringing new transportation choices to southeastern Massachusetts by extending passenger rail from Boston to New Bedford and Fall River through the South Coast Rail project. To make sure that this project brings maximum benefits to local communities, the region, and the state as a whole, the Commonwealth has adopted an innovative planning process that integrates land use, economic development and transportation planning from the beginning. A joint initiative of the Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works (EOTPW) and the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED), the *South Coast Rail Economic Development and Land Use Corridor Plan* will identify economic development opportunities and smart growth land use strategies that can be coordinated with the new transportation investments. The plan is based on a partnership with 31 corridor communities and three regional planning agencies to analyze, identify and promote strategies that will

unlock economic opportunity, stimulate investment and new revenues, shape growth to avoid sprawl, and, at the same time, preserve community character and environmentally sensitive lands. The Corridor Plan will be completed by July 1, 2009. (Please see the map of the cities and towns in the South Coast Rail Corridor on the other side of this sheet.)

A public process to plan for shaping growth and promoting economic development. A broad variety of meetings and civic engagement events will ground the planning process in the realities of the South Coast and the aspirations of its citizens for the future. A consultant team working with regional planning agencies and the 31 cities and towns in the Corridor will identify best practices from national and international models, analyze current and projected economic and land use trends in the Corridor, identify compact growth and open space preservation opportunities at the community and potential station site level, analyze the potential for new revenues, and prepare growth and preservation strategies tailored to the needs of the local communities.

How will my community benefit from the Corridor Plan?

The plan pays attention to local needs and priorities. Integrating the concerns and priorities of Corridor communities with planning for the new rail service is a key focus of the Corridor plan. Each community will receive a *Growth and Preservation Portfolio* containing maps, strategies, and tools—specifically targeted to the needs and priorities of the community—for managing growth, preserving open space and sensitive areas, and promoting desirable economic development. These strategies and tools could range from recommendations for zoning and design principles for compact development to funding options for open space preservation.

The plan offers opportunities for cooperation throughout the corridor. Through inter-municipal cooperation, regional approaches, and state programs, communities can achieve local goals that may be more difficult to attain on their own. The Corridor Plan will develop recommendations for new and innovative ways for the state and Corridor communities to partner on preserving and enhancing the entire region's quality of life while creating new opportunities through investment in the rail project.

South Coast Rail Corridor Communities

