



Water Transportation Advisory Council

March 13, 2017



Key facts and details

- Water Transportation Advisory Council was created by statute in 2016
- Chaired by the Secretary of Transportation
 - Staffed by MassDOT and the MBTA
- Membership is proscribed in statute, though it may be expanded. Currently includes:
 - Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Transportation
 - Several Mayors and Town Managers from coastal communities
 - Massport, Seaport Economic Council
 - Boston Harbor Cruises & Steam Ship Authority
 - Boston Harbor Now
- Authority: Advisory to the Secretary of Transportation



3/10/2017



Water Transportation Advisory Council Overview

On July 31, 2016 the Legislature enacted HB 4450, creating the Water Transportation Advisory Council

- Create a **vision for a comprehensive system** of water transportation services to serve the commonwealth's ferry passengers, commuters and tourists
- Identify an overall vision for the ferry system to enable the transportation of people, goods and vehicles by water
- Develop a series of goals and objectives to support the overall vision
- **Identify implementable policies and improvements** including, but not limited to, investment of public funds to support operating and capital expenses for existing and new ferry services
- Support the state agencies and independent authorities responsible for planning, designing, constructing, operating, funding and maintaining the ferry transportation infrastructure facilities
- **Meet at least quarterly and report on activities every 6 months**



3/10/2017



Key Element of Work Plan

- Review and give feedback Boston Harbor Now Sustainable Water Transportation Study*
- Business cases presentations for current and past services
- Infrastructure/Systems tours
- Geographic Working Groups to explore connectivity and coordination options, including:
 - Land side connectivity
 - Walking, biking, & transit
 - Parking best practice
 - Economic development & supportive land use

*more information on next slide



3/10/2017



4

Summary: “A Comprehensive and Integrated Water Transportation System Study for Boston Harbor”

- Boston Harbor Now to solicit and manage consultants on behalf of principal clients MassDOT and Massport plus a consortium of public and private funders
- Goals 1) Compile baseline site profiles for planning of passenger ferry services
2) Comprehensive business plans for up to three **financially sustainable services** that can be launched in 1-5 years
- RFP to be issued in March of 2017 and 8-10 months to complete work
- Geography is Gloucester to Provincetown, inner and outer harbor up to dams
- Also includes National Park Service funded *Transportation Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park*



3/10/2017



Study: Project Deliverables

- Criteria defined and consistent data compiled for +/- 25 potential passenger ferry sites harbor wide. Can serve as a baseline for ongoing evaluation and planning if maintained and updated
- Clear and transparent methodology for evaluating which sites can support financially sustainable services and in what time frame
- Business plans for up to three new or expanded and financially sustainable services that could be launched in next 1-5 years



3/10/2017



Key MassDOT & MBTA Staff

Astrid Glynn – MassDOT Rail & Transit Administer

John Ray – Assistant General Manager Commuter Rail Services

Mimi Lannin – Deputy Director of Finance Rail & Water Transportation

QUESTIONS?



3/10/2017



7

Thank You!



3/10/2017



Appendix



3/10/2017

Water Transportation Advisory Council Members

- Secretary of Transportation (Chair)
- General Manager of the MBTA
- House Chair on Joint Committee on Transportation
- Senate Chair on Joint Committee on Transportation
- President of Boston Harbor Now
- Officer of Boston Harbor Now
- Executive Director of Seaport Economic Council
- General Manager of Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority
- CEO of Massport
- Representatives of private ferry operations
- Mayors of Boston, Lynn, New Bedford, Quincy and Salem
- Town Managers of Hingham, Hull, Provincetown and Winthrop



3/10/2017

Water Transportation Advisory Council Members

- Stephanie Pollack – Secretary of Transportation and MassDOT CEO
- Brian Shortsleeve – MBTA Acting General Manager
- Senator Thomas McGee – Senate Chair on Joint Committee on Transportation
- Representative William Strauss – House Chair on Joint Committee on Transportation
- Cathy Abbott – Boston Harbor Now
- Philip Griffiths – Boston Harbor Now
- Caroline Kirk – Seaport Economic Council
- Ellen Cebula - Seaport Economic Council
- Wayne Lamson – Steamship Authority
- Tom Glynn – MassPort
- Alison Nolan – Boston Harbor Cruises
- Martin Walsh - City of Boston
- Judith Kennedy – City of Lynn
- Jon Mitchell – City of New Bedford,
- Thomas Koch City of Quincy
- Kim Driscoll – City of Salem;
- Ted Alexiades – Town of Hingham
- Philip Lemnios – Town of Hull
- David Panagore – Town of Provincetown
- James McKenna – Town of Winthrop
- Carlo DeMaria - Everett
- James Folk - Convention Center Authority



3/10/2017

Calendar

February 23 10am to 12pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work Plan/Schedule Adoption• Winthrop Case Study• Final update on Boston Harbor Now Study• Set Working Groups
May 25 10am to 2pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boston Harbor Infrastructure & Ferry Locations Tour and meeting• Quincy Case Study
September 14 10am to 12pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lynn/Salem Case Study• Understanding the work of the SEC – Presentation by Ellen Cebula• Parking best practices
December 15 10am to 12pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TBD



3/10/2017



Are you on board?

A Comprehensive and Integrated Water Transportation System Study for Boston Harbor

- Criteria defined and consistent data compiled for +/- 25 potential passenger ferry sites harbor wide. Can serve as a baseline for ongoing evaluation and planning if maintained and updated
- Clear and transparent methodology for evaluating which sites can support financially sustainable services and in what time frame
- Business plans for up to three new or expanded and financially sustainable services that could be launched in next 1-5 years
- From NPS study a framework for next Harbor Islands ferry contract (2019)



Are you on board?

A Comprehensive and Integrated Water Transportation System Study for Boston Harbor

Study Approach

- Establish a comprehensive list of potential passenger ferry sites harbor-wide, anticipate +/- 25 sites
- Compile site profiles, including potential ridership demand, infrastructure, local development/zoning/planning activities and intermodal connectivity
- Evaluate each site for likelihood of supporting financially responsible service in 1-5 years and 5-10 years
- Select +/- 10 promising sites for ridership demand modelling
- Select +/-3 sites or networks for detailed market and feasibility analysis
- Develop comprehensive business plan and financial sustainability analysis



Are you on board?

A Comprehensive and Integrated Water Transportation System Study for Boston Harbor

Project Implementation Schedule

- January/February 2017 - Boston Harbor Now and, MassDOT finalizing consultant scope of services and confirming funding commitments
- March 2017 – anticipated release of RFP
- Anticipate 8-10 months for work once contract awarded