MASSACHUSETTS PEDESTRIAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

MABPAB Progress Update
January 18, 2017
Outline

• Progress Update
• Plan Outline
• Municipal Resource Guide
• Preliminary Results of Critical Gap Analysis
• Next Steps

Objectives

• Get your input on preliminary results
• Discuss ideas on how to address identified topic areas
• Gather suggestions for municipalities to include as case studies, best practices
Plan Outcomes

Core Goals
• Improve accessibility
• Improve safety
• Improve maintenance and usability
• Invest prudently

Deliverables
• Prioritized Investment Strategy
• Municipal Resource Guide
What we heard from you

May 25th MABPAB

• Seek input from an informed audience (municipal staff, MassDOT staff, Mass in Motion) rather than general public

• Address the equity of safety

• Influence rural, non-federal aid roads

• Make the case for why walking is important

• Uncover the institutional barriers to developing walkable communities
MassDOT
- Safety Section
- Office of Civil Rights
- MBTA
- Complete Streets Funding Program
- Office of the Secretary
- Highway Division
- Snow & Ice Operations
- Safe Routes to School
- Traffic Engineering Section
- Walking and Biking Working Group

WalkBoston

MA Department of Public Health

Mass Municipal Association
Planned Interviews

• MassDOT Districts
• Regional Planning Agencies
• Regional Transit Agencies
• MA Office on Disability
• Mass in Motion Coordinators
• Municipal Staff
The Plan should address the following areas:

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility
- Pedestrian Access to Transit
- Statewide Safety Trends
- Snow Clearance
- Ongoing Facility Maintenance
- Support for Small Projects
- Meaningful Performance Measures (e.g., SRTS)
- Project Evaluation and Selection
Plan Structure

Core Goal

• Area
  • Testimonial describing how the issue affects MA residents on a daily basis
  • What is the issue?
  • What is the existing condition?
  • What are current initiatives related to this area?
  • What are the opportunities to address the issue? (statewide and municipal)
  • What performance measures should be applied to this area?
Plan Outline

Goal: Improve Accessibility
- ADA Accessibility
- Pedestrian Access to Transit

Goal: Improve Safety
- Context/State of the Practice
- Safety Trends in MA and Recommendations

Goal: Improve Maintenance
- Snow Clearance
- Ongoing Facility Maintenance

Goal: Prudent Investment
- Support for Small Projects
- Meaningful Performance Measures
- Project Selection

Prioritized Investment Strategy
Municipal Resource Guide
Municipal Resource Guide

Goal
• Connect practitioners to resources and best practices

Format
• Concise and graphic
• Checklists
• Toolkits (8)
• Case studies (6)
• Templates, samples
Resource Guide Topics

- Why is walkability important?
- Elements of walkable communities
- ADA Transition Plan template
- Bus stop checklists
- Ped safety countermeasures
- Setting speed limits/Municipal Modernization

- Maintenance
  - Best practices
  - Sample inspection programs
- Snow Clearance
  - Best practices
  - Developing a prioritization plan
  - Sample policy, maintenance contract
Thoughts So Far?

- Are we missing or misreading anything?
  - Are we hitting the mark?
- Thoughts on municipalities to highlight for best practices, case studies?
Critical Gap Analysis and Prioritization
**Objectives**

- Identify top priority areas for investment in walking
- Identify major types of barriers and improvements that are needed in priority areas

**Data Sources**

- MAPC Local Access Score
- MassDOT Sidewalk Inventory
- MassDOT Crash Data
- US Census ACS 2010-2014
- MassDOT Office of Civil Rights
Critical Gap Analysis and Prioritization

Inputs

• Infrastructure
  • Utility/demand
    • Schools
    • Retail & restaurants
    • Parks
    • Transit
  • Sidewalk gaps
• Safety

• Equity
  • % non-white
  • No vehicle
  • Low income
  • Limited English proficiency
• Disability
Preliminary Results:
Priority Areas for Investment in Walking
Next Steps

• Dive deeper into priority areas: what are the barriers to walking?
• Complete safety research and analysis
• Validate topics with public
• Interview practitioners: municipal and regional staff, MassDOT districts, etc.
• Gather testimonials

• Develop Municipal Resource Guide
  • Case studies, best practices
  • Toolkits, checklists, templates
• Develop prioritized investment strategy