



Federal Infrastructure Bill & Massachusetts



Tom Ryan

tryan@abettercity.org

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Image from MBTA.com

ABC Report: Ready To Move in Massachusetts

- Opportunities ahead
- Lessons from ARRA
- Recommendations

[Click here for link to report](#)



Opportunities Ahead



Image from Google or A Better City reports

Federal Infrastructure Bill

	New Funding (in Billions)
Transportation Infrastructure Programs	
Roads, bridges, major projects	109
Passenger and Freight Rail (including High-Speed Rail)	66
Public Transit	39
Airports	25
Ports & Waterways	17
Safety	11
Electric Buses / Transit	7.5
Electric Vehicle Infrastructure	7.5
Funding to Reconnect Neighborhoods Cut off by Historic Investments	1
Other	2
Subtotal Transportation Infrastructure Categories	285
Energy Infrastructure	73
Broadband and Communications	65
Water and Sewer Infrastructure	55
Resiliency Infrastructure	50
Cleanup of Brownfields, Superfund sites, & capping oil and gas wells	21
Other	1
Subtotal Non-Transportation Infrastructure Categories	265
Total Infrastructure Funding	550

No Guarantee Major Projects Will Happen Here

- State government & MBTA must be ready to compete for grants
- What are the lessons from the past on federal infrastructure programs?



How Federal Government Distributes Money

1. Formula Funding programs



2. Competitive Grants



3. Earmarks



What Does the BIL Mean for Massachusetts ?

- Are we getting \$9 Billion?
- According to the Boston MPO, the highway program will see an **increase of approximately 18 percent** over last year's TIP.



Source: [Boston MPO Draft FY23-27 TIP](#)

Competitive Grants Will Shape the Impact



- In 2010, Massachusetts won a **\$73 million grant** to improve high-speed rail service in Northampton.
- From the same federal program, California won a **\$2.5 billion grant**

Expect a Nationwide Competition for Grants

Buttigieg Has Final Say Over \$105 Billion in Infrastructure Grants

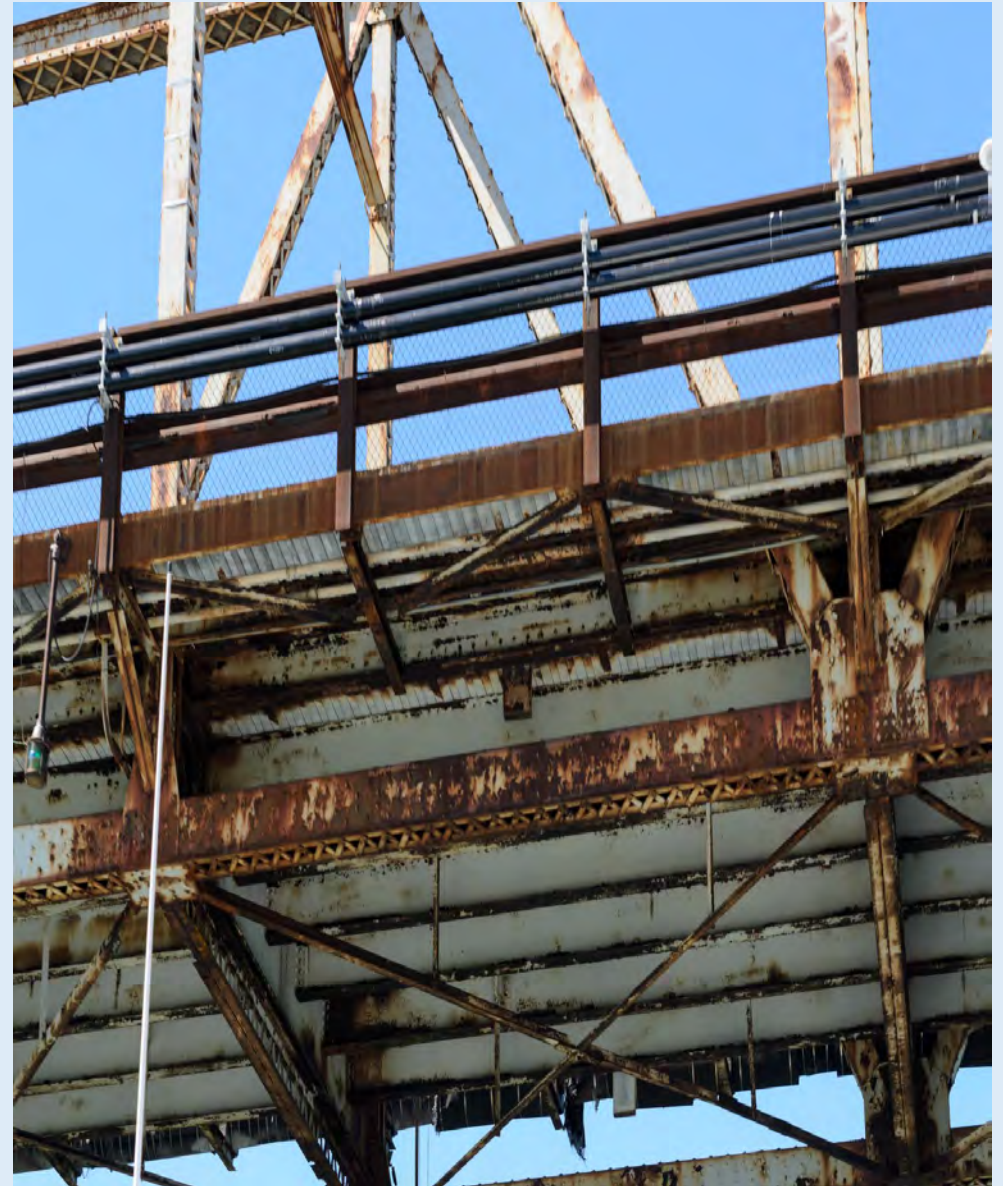


Source: Roll Call

<https://www.rollcall.com/2021/08/02/infrastructure-bill-buttigieg/>

Biggest Opportunities In Competitive Grants

- RAISE program
- Port Infrastructure Development
- Bridges & Culverts
- Bus & Bus Facilities
- **MEGA projects**
- **INFRA program**
- EV Charging & Fueling
- “Protect” program for Resilient Transportation



“MEGA” Projects



- New grant program for multimodal projects that generate national or regional economic, mobility, or safety benefits. (“**MEGA Projects**”)
- Funding for Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects. (“**INFRA Grants**”)

“MEGA” Projects

- For MEGA & INFRA projects, the USDOT can award 60% of the project cost & allow other federal formula funds to contribute another 20% of the project.
- MEGA projects can exceed \$500 million. INFRA projects can exceed \$100 million.
- Applications Due May 23rd

Allston I-90 Multimodal

- A Better City is asking MassDOT to apply to MEGA & INFRA for Allston I-90
- Seeking over \$1 Billion in infrastructure funds



Picture shows elevated Massachusetts Turnpike between BU and Charles River with Soldiers Field Road at grade. The bend in the Turnpike at the top of the picture would be straightened if the broader project I-90 Allston interchange project is pursued.

TRACKING TRANSPORTATION / TRANSPORTATION / OPINION

Mass. should seek fed grants on I-90 Allston this month

Project is exactly the type Biden, Buttigieg are looking for

 RICHARD DIMINO and  JAMES ALOISI May 2, 2022

Click here for link to [Commonwealth article](#)

What Are The Federal Government's Goals?

- “Shovel-worthy” instead of “Shovel-ready” projects
- USDOT is focused on safety, sustainability, climate change, resilience, equity, and project delivery
- We need to anticipate the federal government's goals: to show action, to create jobs, to deliver meaningful improvements throughout the nation.

How Can MA Take Advantage?



The best way to show the federal government that infrastructure projects in Massachusetts are actually shovel-worthy is to prove it by starting the early design, planning and permitting process.

Other Parts of the Country are Getting Ready

Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg visits Chicago area, touts Biden infrastructure plan

Earlier, Buttigieg joined Mayor Lightfoot and other elected officials to tour the 95th Street Red Line Station. Chicago is counting on federal dollars to complete the extension of the Red Line down to 130th Street. Buttigieg promised Chicago will be in line for significant federal dollars.

Final EIR/EIS released for California High-Speed Rail

The 80-mile Bakersfield to Palmdale project section would be the first high-speed rail segment in Southern California to be environmentally cleared. The authority also notes the milestone moves the project section closer to being “shovel ready” for when preconstruction and construction funding become available.

Schumer, Buttigieg Vow to Advance NYC Gateway Tunnel

Pursuing Large Grants Is Worth The Effort

- Economic impact for this region
- Systemwide needs are obvious
- If not now, then when?

US pledges nearly \$1b for Green Line extension

By Nicole Dungca Globe Staff, December 2, 2014, 9:54 a.m.

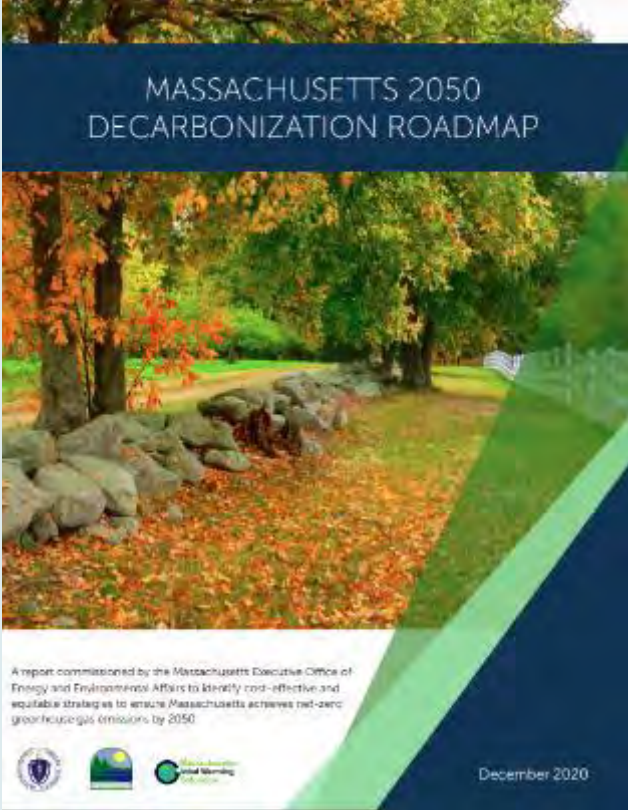
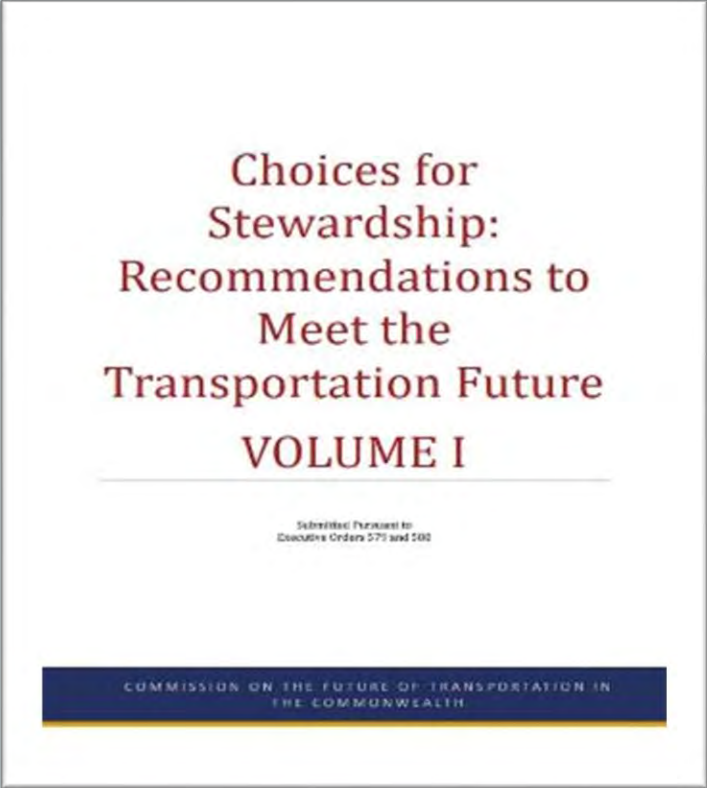
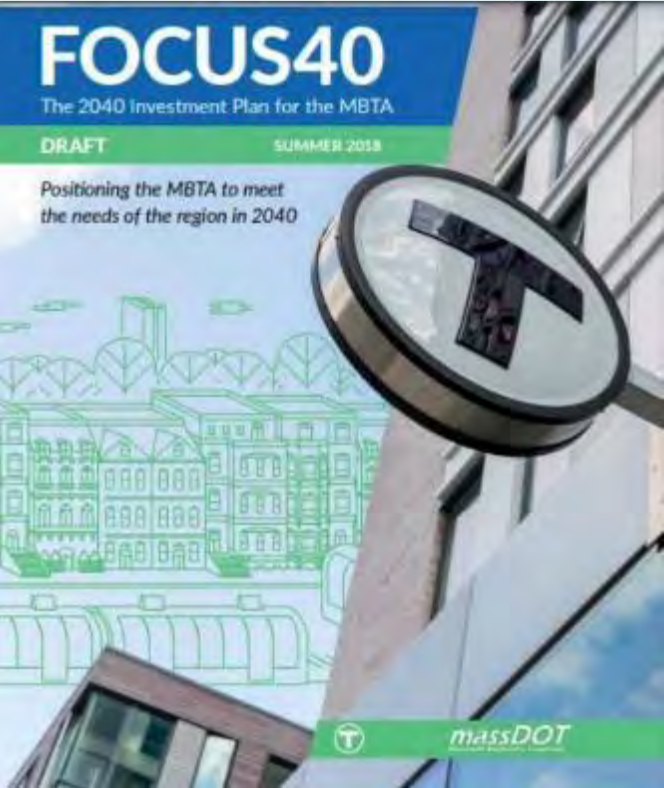


[Click here for link to 2014 Boston Globe article on GLX award](#)

Major MBTA Projects are Unfunded



Our Studies Are Complete...



We Can Maximize Federal Grant Opportunities



RAIL VISION

Commuter Rail Communities Coalition
Presentation

OCTOBER 11, 2019

massDOT Massachusetts Department of Transportation



The slide features a circular inset image on the left showing a train at a station platform. The main text is in purple and black. The massDOT logo is in green and blue, and the T logo is in black.



Or Wait for State Money to Do This Work...



To Read More:



www.abettercity.org/publications

Tom Ryan

tryan@abettercity.org

