

# TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE 2023 POLICY AGENDA



*Supporting a safe, reliable, accessible transportation system for our regional economy*

The future prosperity of the Commonwealth is directly related to the strength, reliability, and affordability of the statewide transportation system. Today, our statewide transportation system is in crisis and needs rebuilding, including improvements to the public transit system and opportunities to build the future network of roads, bridges, transit, and connections for bicycles and pedestrians. The Transportation & Infrastructure 2023 Policy Agenda supports a forward-thinking approach to delivering major transportation infrastructure projects while reducing carbon emissions, managing traffic congestion, supporting transportation equity, and addressing affordable housing needs throughout the Commonwealth.

## GOAL 1: STRENGTHEN THE MBTA AND POSITION IT TO SERVE THE BOSTON METROPOLITAN REGION AS A 21ST CENTURY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

- Monitor and hold the MBTA accountable for systemwide safety improvements and implementation of the 2019 Safety Review Panel Findings as well as the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Safety Management Inspection (SMI) and corrective action plans (CAPs).
- Advocate for strong MBTA Leadership Governance to guide the MBTA out of the safety crisis, restore service, and prioritize near- and long-term equity and climate priorities.
- Continue to build and strengthen relationship with MBTA and MassDOT.
- Continue to urge the MBTA to restore “full service” and enhance service across all MBTA transit modes to induce demand, support the regional economic recovery, and safeguard the region’s competitiveness.
- Continue to support MBTA outreach to recruit and retain MBTA employees and seize opportunities to train new hires.
- Support continuous improvements on the commuter rail to advance regional rail and make recommendations related to for the steps needed to prepare for a new procurement of the operator for the commuter rail system.
- Advocate for improved communications and mitigation plans during diversions.
- Prioritize fare equity to close the gap in low-income fare programs and support innovative and effective fare policy.

# TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE CLUSTER POLICY AGENDA: 2023



## GOAL 2: WORK TOWARD SHAPING A COMPREHENSIVE AND TRANSPORTATION FINANCE PLAN

- Prepare for the “fiscal cliff” that threatens the future of the MBTA and Greater Boston’s economic and mobility needs.
- Calculate funding gaps for roads, bridges, and RTA service throughout the Commonwealth.
- Assess the scale of the statewide transportation and large-scale infrastructure funding needs in 2023 and develop a forward-looking finance plan.
- Build support from Governor Healey, legislators, and coalition advocates through public testimony, op-eds, and letter writing to advance legislative and administrative solutions related to transportation finance issues.

## GOAL 3: ADVANCE KEY TRANSIT CAPITAL PROJECTS TO IMPROVE SERVICE, CONNECTIVITY, ACCESSIBILITY, AND CLIMATE READINESS

- Continue to Advocate for Implementation of Key Transit Capital Projects to Improve Public Transit Service, Connectivity, and Support Equitable Statewide Decarbonization.
- Advocate for a Strong Mitigation Plan for Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project Four-Month Complete Closure.
- Review, monitor, and influence the design, construction, and mitigation of transit and roadway projects that have a significant impact on members of A Better City and the business community.

## GOAL 4: SCALE TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT CAPACITY, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

- Launch A Better City Strategic Framework for TDM Impact and rally City, State, and Institutional partners to engage in more effective program and policy delivery.
- Support and scale the expansion of active transportation, bikeshare, and personal micromobility options.
- Grow our internal data analysis and visualization capacities to better support our Framework for TDM Impact and other initiatives.
- Continue to support updates to public transit infrastructure, policies, and uptake by our TMA members.

## GOAL #5: ADVANCE I-90 ALLSTON MULTIMODAL PROJECT

- Continue to Lead Advocacy and Support Advancement of the Allston I-90 Multimodal Project.