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CAPE COD
COMMISSION

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Cape Cod 2016 Regional Transportation Plan (2016-2040) – Executive Summary

Cape Cod's transportation system has both shaped and been shaped by development patterns of the region. As our regional economy has evolved so too has our transportation infrastructure. From a reliance on ports and marine transport, to a steady growth by rail, and explosion of change fueled by the automobile – our region has undergone dramatic changes. All the while, our connection with our environment and our past has continued to define us. What will define our region for the next 25 years?

The 2016 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a **community-driven, performance-based** plan that considers the unique **challenges and opportunities** of the region and establishes spending **priorities** to allocate available surface transportation **funding** towards transportation **infrastructure** projects for Cape Cod through 2040.

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN

The RTP was developed through input from a wide-range of federal, state, and local agencies and organizations, and the public. In addition to over two dozen meetings including six regional public meeting and two open houses, feedback was solicited through an online survey. The online survey provided valuable input into the process including the identification of over 235 locations with transportation issues or challenges. The outreach will continue following release of the document for public comment including additional in-person public meetings, a virtual public meeting, signs on transit vehicles, and an outreach table at a major outdoor event.



PERFORMANCE-BASED

Consistent with new federal legislation, the RTP is built on a performance-based planning approach with a vision statement, goals, objectives, performance measures and targets, strategies, and policies.

The RTP vision statement established the overarching vision of the document and is as follows:

The Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization envisions a transportation system that supports the environmental and economic vitality of the region through infrastructure investment that focuses on livability, sustainability, equity, and preservation of the character that makes our special place special.

The goals of the RTP expand on the vision statement in seven areas of emphasis. The goals are:

- **Safety:** Provide safe travel options for all users
- **Environmental and Economic Vitality:** Maintain, protect, and enhance the natural environment while strengthening the economy
- **Livability and Sustainability:** Support livable communities and village centers that strengthen the long-term sustainability of the region
- **Multimodal Options/Healthy Transportation:** Provides a variety of healthy transportation options to all users
- **Congestion Reduction:** Reduce congestion and improve travel time reliability
- **System Preservation:** Preserve, maintain, and modernize the existing transportation system
- **Freight Mobility:** Improve efficiency and reliability of freight movement

The performance measures and targets established in the RTP are quantifiable targets that the region will work to achieve over the coming year through implementation of a series of strategies and policies.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

While the region faces many of the same transportation challenges as communities across the country and across the world, there are also many things



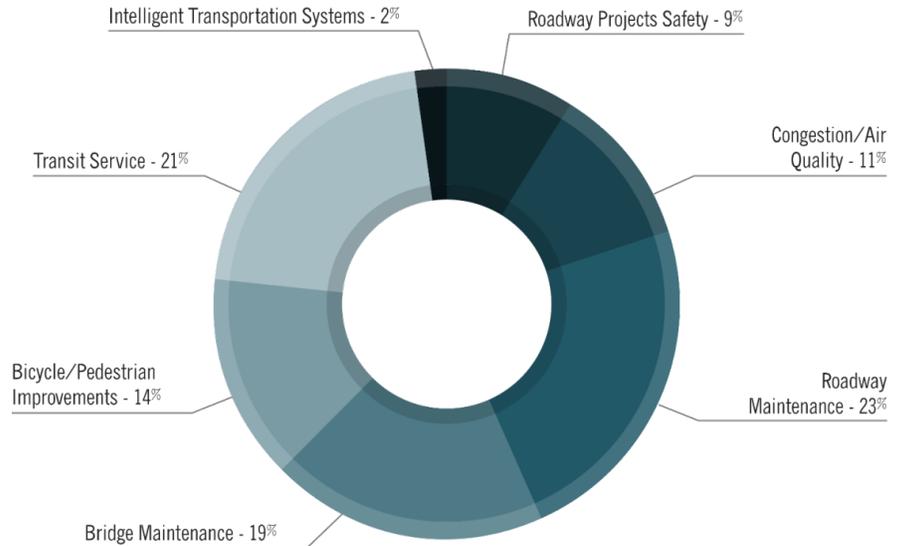
that make Cape Cod unique. Developing transportation solutions for Cape Cod must take into account the things that make the region a special and desirable place to live, work, and play. Some of the challenges and opportunities for the region that are detailed in the RTP include:

- **Historical Context:** maintaining a sense of place and recognition of history while evolving to meet the need of the next generation
- **Aging Infrastructure:** repairing or placing a significant amount of transportation infrastructure that is at or near the end of its design life
- **Safety:** identifying the locations of greatest need and implementing proven safety countermeasures to improve safety for all users
- **Security:** being prepared for extraordinary events that would threaten the people and the infrastructure of the region
- **Freight:** recognizing the importance of freight to the region while exploring a variety ways to safely and efficiently transport it
- **Bicycling, Pedestrians, and Transit:** identifying the unique needs of all users and improving options for a variety of modes of healthy transportation
- **Congestion Management:** identifying opportunities to reduce the intensity, duration, and extent of congestion for all modes of transportation
- **Stormwater Management:** identifying solutions to minimizing the contribution of nutrients and pollutants into the Cape's waterways from stormwater runoff
- **Coastal Resiliency:** preparing the region for the impacts of climate change through a focus on adaptation, sustainability, mitigation and energy sources
- **Access to Essential Services:** ensuring all users of the transportation have the same and convenient options to access essential services
- **Regional Cooperation:** ensuring that there is a cooperative and coordinated planning approach that involves all stakeholder agencies and the public
- **Economic Development:** supporting sustainable, year-round economic development opportunities through transportation infrastructure
- **Environmental Protection:** ensuring that transportation projects provide environment benefits including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions

- **Equity:** ensuring full and fair participation by communities in the transportation decision-making process, and equitable distribution of benefits and any potential burdens from transportation projects

PRIORITIES

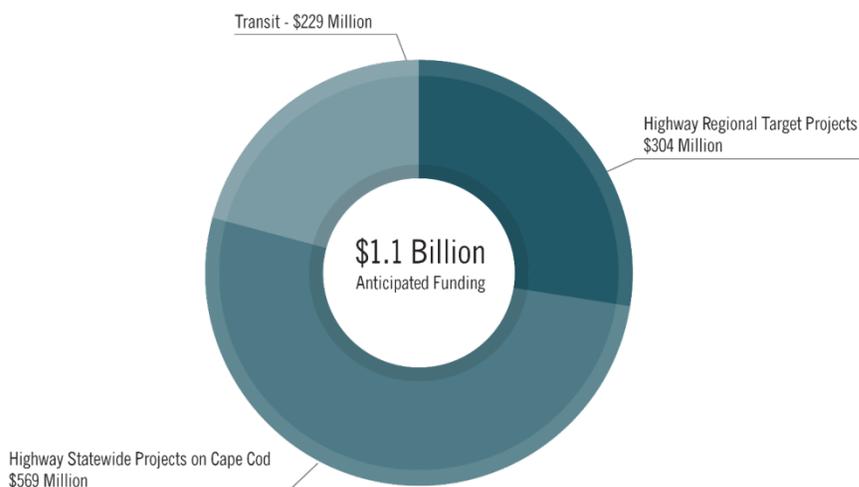
As a document that establishes the vision for the transportation system for the region, the RTP sets the framework for what will be built on Cape Cod. Based on a critical assessment of infrastructure needs, discussions at RTP development meetings, and feedback on the RTP survey, the following program of spending was developed. The overall distribution of proposed spending is shown the figure to the right.





FUNDING

The anticipated funding in the region over the next 25 years totals approximately \$1.1 billion. This total includes spending on transit as well as highway projects (including roads, bridges, sidewalks, multiuse paths, etc) broken down as shown in the following figure to the left.



INFRASTRUCTURE

Out of the \$304 million in funding for highway projects identified and selected by the region, the following projects were selected balancing a number of factors including potential benefit, estimated cost, consistency with the objectives of the RTP, equity as it relates to minority, low income, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and other protected populations, and GHG reduction potential:

- Hyannis Access Improvements (phased)
 - Route 28 at Yarmouth Road
 - Yarmouth Road
 - Iyannough Road and Airport Rotary
- Canal Area Improvements
 - Belmont Circle/Route 25 Ramp
 - Route 6 Exit 1C Reconfiguration
- Multimodal Improvements
 - Cape Cod Rail Trail Extension: S. Wellfleet to Provincetown
 - Cape Cod Rail Trail Extension: Barnstable to Cape Cod Canal
 - Shinning Sea Bikepath Extension to Cape Cod Canal Path
 - Route 28 Multimodal Improvements (various segments)



- Route 6 Outer Cape Safety Improvements
- Buzzards Bay Commuter Rail Infrastructure
- Various smaller-scale projects to be identified based on future evaluations

While many uncertainties exist about the future, the strength of the transportation infrastructure will undoubtedly be a key to Cape Cod's long-term vitality. The 2016 RTP sets forth this vision for the region and sets the framework for making smart transportation investments within the region through 2040.