Transportation Planning:

Identifying Problems—Implementing Solutions

An overview of the Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Planning Process.
The MPO Members
[ Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization ]

**Voting Members:**
Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works (EOTPW)
Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD)
Barnstable County Commissioners
Cape Cod Commission (CCC)
Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA)
Barnstable Town Council
Selectman from Sub-region A: Bourne, Falmouth, Mashpee, Sandwich
Selectman from Sub-region B: Brewster, Chatham, Dennis, Harwich, Yarmouth
Selectman from Sub-region C: Eastham, Orleans, Provincetown, Truro, Wellfleet

**Non-voting Members:**
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Army Corps of Engineers
Cape Cod National Seashore
Woods Hole, Nantucket, and Martha’s Vineyard Steamship Authority (SSA)
Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee (CCJTC)

Barnstable County / Cape Cod Commission, September 2007
Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee Comprises:
A representative from each of the fifteen Towns in Barnstable County: 
Barnstable, Bourne, Brewster, Chatham, Dennis, Eastham, 
Falmouth, Harwich, Mashpee, Orleans, Provincetown, Sandwich, 
Truro, Wellfleet, Yarmouth
A bicycle representative

Ex-officio Members include:
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works (EOTPW)
Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD)
Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA)
Cape Cod Commission (CCC)
Association for the Preservation of Cape Cod (APCC)
Federal Requirements of the MPO

Transportation Planning Documents
Cooperative, comprehensive, and continuing process

Three major regular MPO documents:
– Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
– Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
– Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

– Updated every year
– Outlines the transportation planning activities to be performed for Cape Cod, including:
  • Data collection
  • Transportation studies (by CCC staff and others, such as EOT/MassHighway Hyannis Access Study)
  • Coordination efforts with federal, state, and regional, and local agencies, towns, and the public
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Existing conditions → Problem areas

Consider planning factors and financial capabilities

Potential solutions

Draft RTP out for public review (ALL MODES)

Public comments

Finalize RTP solutions / concepts / recommendations

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Development

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is developed through federal, state, and local guidance. The RTP recommendations need to conform with estimated finances and air quality improvement programs.

The RTP is produced locally and is most important for communicating local policy and project priorities to state and federal partner participants on the MPO.

The RTP is updated every four years.
The TIP is a tool for how solutions from the RTP planning process may get accomplished. Bicycle, Bus, Ferry, Highway, Pedestrian, and Rail—projects for all modes related to surface federal aid eligible facilities are considered for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The TIP:

- Provides access to federal and state funding
- Total costs for projects must be within the estimated funding
- Typically updated every year (federal requirement to update every four years)
- First TIP year includes projects that are “ready to go” —such as, transit service to begin operating / roadway improvement to be advertised for construction [must be all designed and permitted]
$ 14 million spent on 20 bridges around Cape Cod

$ 12 million spent on the Bourne and Sagamore highway Bridges

$ 28 million on 33 roadway and intersection projects

$ 7 million on bicycle facilities

$ 33 million on transit operations / facilities

Other projects include: Hyannis Steamship Authority ferry terminal, Nauset Light Relocation.

Land Acquisition – Provincetown and Hyannis
Land Use 1999

MPO Planning Process

Barnstable County / Cape Cod Commission, September 2007

Cape Cod: 375%
State: 35%

% Difference
Growing Congestion

Red = LOS E or F

1997

MPO Planning Process

Barnstable County / Cape Cod Commission, September 2007
A TWENTY-FIVE YEAR COMPARISON OF AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC CROSSING THE SAGAMORE AND BOURNE BRIDGES

MPO Planning Process
Recommended Projects Through 2010

Bourne, Scenic Highway Median Barrier $15,000,000

Sandwich to Orleans, Route 6 Interchange Improvements $68,241,000
  (Route 6 Interchanges numbered 2-12)

Cape Cod Rail Trail Extensions $4,000,000
  (Dennis-Yarmouth-Barnstable To Hyannis Transportation Center)

Bourne, Bourne Rotary Improvements (short-term) $1,000,000

Year-Round Daily Passenger Rail Service $26,000,000
  (Hyannis, Buzzards Bay, Middleborough (to Boston), Providence, RI (to TF Green, to NY)

Bourne, Canal Area ITS for Real Time Information $3,000,000

Barnstable, Route 132 Boulevard Landscaping $1,500,000

Orleans Transportation Center $1,000,000

**MPO Planning Process**  For a complete list of recommended programs and projects, please see Chapter 7 of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

*Barnstable County / Cape Cod Commission, September 2007*
Opportunities for Participation

Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Process

• Review documents online and comment to staff via email, facsimile, or in writing

   For online Cape Cod MPO information see: http://www.capecodcommission.org/transportation

• Attend and comment at the meetings of the MPO, the CCJTC, and/or additional public meetings held locally

• Talk to MPO and/or CCJTC Members