



MAKING A GREATER BOSTON REGION
AN INITIATIVE OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

MetroFuture goals through 2030

Sustainable Growth Patterns: Population and job growth will be focused in developed areas already well-served by infrastructure.

1. Population and job growth will be concentrated in municipalities already well served by infrastructure, with slower growth in less developed areas where infrastructure is more limited.
2. Most new growth will occur through reuse of previously developed land and buildings.
3. Brownfields and other polluted sites will be cleaned up and re-used for parks or development.
4. In suburban municipalities, most new growth will occur near town and village centers.
5. Most new homes and jobs will be near train stops and bus routes, and new growth will be designed to promote transit use.
6. High-quality design will help compact development to enhance the region's character and livability.
7. Cities, towns, and neighborhoods will retain their sense of uniqueness and community character.
8. Historic resources will be preserved and enhanced.
9. The region's landscape will retain its distinctive green spaces and working farms.
10. Growth in the region will be guided by informed, inclusive, and proactive planning.
11. The region will be prepared for and resilient to natural disasters and climate change.
12. Communities will work together to plan for growth and share resources.

Housing Choices: A diverse array of housing choices will meet the needs of the region's residents.

13. Families looking for suburban single-family homes will have a greater choice of smaller homes in more traditional neighborhood settings.
14. An increasing share of housing in each municipality will be affordable to working families and fixed-income seniors.
15. There will be less regional segregation as all municipalities increasingly reflect Metro Boston's growing diversity.
16. Low-income households will be able to find affordable, adequate, conveniently located housing, in suburbs as well as cities, and they will be able to avoid displacement.
17. Homelessness will be effectively eliminated from the region.
18. The region's seniors will have more housing choices and opportunities to downsize while staying in their own community.
19. Persons with physical or mental disabilities will be able to find housing that meets their needs in terms of design, services, and affordability.
20. Urban neighborhoods will boast more appealing housing options for young professionals and their families.

Healthy Communities: Residents will be safe, healthy, well-educated, and engaged in their community.

21. All communities will be safe, including areas currently afflicted by high rates of violent crime.
22. Urban and minority residents will not be disproportionately exposed to pollutants and poor air quality.
23. All neighborhoods will have access to safe and well-maintained parks, community gardens, and appropriate play spaces for children and youth.
24. Residents in all communities and of all incomes will have access to affordable, healthy food.
25. Most residents will build regular physical activity into their daily lives.
26. All residents will have access to affordable healthcare.
27. Children and youth will have access to a strong system of early education programs, after-school programs, teen centers, and youth organizations.
28. Public schools will provide a high-quality education for all students, not only in the fundamentals, but also in areas like health education, physical education, art, music, civics, and science.
29. More students will graduate from high school and go on to college or career training opportunities.
30. Municipalities will operate efficiently and will have adequate funding with less reliance on the property tax.
31. The region's residents—including youth, seniors, and immigrants—will be well-informed and engaged in civic life and community planning.
32. Seniors will remain active members of their communities.

Regional Prosperity: A globally-competitive regional economy will provide opportunity for all the region's workers

33. The region will be globally competitive in the knowledge economy.
34. The region will be a national leader in the green technology and clean energy sectors, from development through manufacturing and application.
35. Small business owners and entrepreneurs will play a major role in the region's economy and innovation.
36. Businesses will readily relocate to and expand in the region thanks to consistent and predictable economic development policies set by an informed public sector.
37. A strong supply of educated and skilled workers—of all ages—will encourage businesses to locate and expand here.
38. More minority and immigrant workers will have opportunities to advance on the career ladder, acquire assets, and build wealth.
39. More workers will participate in the labor force, earning a living wage through secure employment.
40. Fewer of the region's residents will live in poverty.
41. Corporations and institutions will see civic engagement and sustainability as central to their own success.
42. The region's agricultural economy will grow through a focus on sustainable farming and by bringing more locally produced foods to the market.
43. More people will take advantage of the region's artistic and cultural resources.

Transportation Choices: An efficient transportation system will offer more choices and make it easier to get around.

44. An expanded transit system will provide better service to both urban and suburban areas, linking more homes and jobs.
45. More people will use transit for work and personal trips.
46. Commuters will have more options to avoid congestion.
47. Most people will choose to walk or bike for short trips.
48. The average person will drive fewer miles every day.
49. Outlying areas will see little increase in traffic congestion.
50. People with disabilities will find it easier to get around the region.
51. Regional transportation planning will be linked with sustainable land use planning.
52. The transportation system will be reliably funded and transportation agencies will demonstrate accountability to the public.
53. Transportation projects will be designed and built quickly and cost-effectively.
54. Roads, bridges, and railways will be safe and well maintained.
55. The region's businesses will access the global marketplace through an efficient freight transportation network.

Healthy Environment: Natural resources will be protected thanks to a strong "environmental ethic."

56. The region will be a national leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
57. The region will use progressively less energy for electricity, heating, cooling, and transportation.
58. The region will produce less solid waste, and more of that waste will be recycled or composted.
59. The region will produce more renewable energy and will obtain more of its energy from renewable sources.
60. The region will have better air quality, both indoors and out.
61. Water resources will be carefully budgeted and sustainably managed so that clean water is available for appropriate uses and development.
62. The region's rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds will have sufficient clean water to support healthy populations of native fish and other species, as well as recreational uses.
63. The ecological condition of wetlands will improve, and fewer wetlands will be lost to development.
64. The region will retain its biodiversity, and will have healthy populations of native plants and animals, and fewer invasive species.
65. A robust network of protected open spaces, farms, parks, and greenways will provide wildlife habitat, ecological benefits, recreational opportunities, and scenic beauty.