



2018 Annual Report

Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination

Acton, Bedford, Bolton, Boxborough, Carlisle, Concord, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Maynard, Stow, and Sudbury

The Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC) includes the towns of Acton, Bedford, Bolton, Boxborough, Carlisle, Concord, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Maynard, Stow, and Sudbury. MAGIC was established as a growth management committee in 1984 and has become a respected voice in regional decision-making; focusing on transportation, the environment, energy, open space, affordable housing, economic and community development, and legislative issues.

MAGIC Highlights

MAGIC held annual elections at its September 6th meeting. MAGIC's three leadership positions are one Chair and two Co-Chair positions. Together, they work with the MAGIC Coordinator, to steer the ship and ensure MAGIC encourages regional collaboration and discussion of issues of regional interest and concern. Congratulations and thanks to **Adam Duchesneau**, Boxborough Town Planner, who is taking on the position of Chair; **Kristina Johnson**, Assistant Director of Planning and Community Development in Hudson, who will be continuing leading as MAGIC Co-Chair, and welcome and thanks to **Margot Fleischman**, Bedford Selectman, who newly joins us as Co-Chair as well this year. Thanks as well to **Jennifer Burney**, Director of Planning and Land Use in Lincoln, who has served for two years as MAGIC Chair. She has been a great advocate, collaborator and convener over the past years in her role as Chair.

We welcomed new MAGIC members and participants this year, Kate Reid, Select Board Member, Carlisle; Jonathan Stevens, Planning Board, Carlisle; Madeline Blake, Planning Board Alternate, Carlisle; Charles Hornig, Planning Board, Lexington; and Jill Hai, Select Board Member, Lexington.

MAGIC's towns also said goodbye to several town managers and town administrators. In turn, it welcomed several incoming town managers and town administrators:

- Acton:** Steven Ledoux retired after serving as Acton's Town Manager for 10 years. John Mangiaratti started as Acton's new Town Manager
- Bedford:** Rick Reed retired after serving as Bedford's Town Manager for 30 years. Sarah Stanton joins Bedford as its new Town Manager
- Boxborough:** Selina Shaw retired after serving as Boxborough's Town Administrator for 20 years. Ryan Ferrara began as the town's new Town Administrator.
- Concord:** Chris Whelan announced he will be retiring in Summer 2019. He has served as the Town Manager for 16 years.
- Lexington:** Carl Valente retired after serving as Lexington's Town Manager for 13 years. Jim Malloy began as Lexington's new Town Manager.
- Littleton:** Keith Bergman retired after serving as Littleton's Town Administrator for 11 years. Andrew Ansaldi serves at the interim Town Administrator
- Maynard:** Kevin Sweet left his 5-year position as Maynard's Town Administrator. Andrew Scribner-MacLean served as the interim Town Administrator, and Greg Johnson started as the new permanent Town Administrator

Heidi Stucker, Assistant Director of Public Health, served as the Subregional Coordinator to MAGIC.

MAGIC Meetings

MAGIC held six regular business meetings in 2018. Highlight meeting topics included the following:

- MPO Transportation Planning & Projects discussion
- AARP Age Friendly Applications
- Community Engagement Tools, best practices in use in MAGIC
- MetroCommon 2050, the update to the regional plan
- MAGIC FY 2018 Work Plan discussion
- MAGIC Special Assessment Funds to priority projects allocation
- MicroTransit Project discussions

Regional Projects

MAGIC communities make a voluntary annual contribution to a Special Assessment Fund, to increase the region's capacity to pursue projects of regional interest. FY2018 and FY2019 MAGIC Special Assessment allocations to regional projects are as follow:

Fiscal Year 2018:

- MAGIC Regional Age Friendly Planning: \$17,395.67
- MAGIC Climate Resilience Project: \$5,000.00

Fiscal Year 2019:

- MAGIC Stormwater Partnership: \$10,000.00
- MAGIC MicroTransit Project: \$10,000.00

Special Events

MAGIC held three special events in 2018.

2018 MAGIC Legislative Breakfast Over 50 local officials, municipal staff, and other members of the MAGIC gathered at the Maynard Golf Course on Tuesday, April 10 to hear from and ask questions of their state and Congressional representatives over a continental breakfast. Congresswoman Niki Tsongas, State Sen. Jamie Eldridge, and State Reps. Jennifer Benson and Kate Hogan attended to engage in a dialogue, explain their legislative priorities, and talk about local concerns. State Rep. Carmine Gentile also stopped by for a portion of the breakfast to connect with constituents. Congresswoman Tsongas kicked off the discussion after being presented with MAPC's Congressional Leadership Award for proudly representing the 3rd Congressional District of Massachusetts, exemplifying bipartisanship in the halls of the U.S. Congress, and her fierce advocacy on priorities benefitting Massachusetts and the nation. Congresswoman Tsongas reflected on her career, her legislative successes, and the political situation in Congress before fielding questions from participants. More on the breakfast and photos is available on the MAPC [blog](#).

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs): Public Education and Support On July 17, as part of MAGIC's membership in the [AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities](#), we hosted a webinar on ADUs, with a focus on strategies for educating and getting support from the public. This webinar was facilitated by members of [Orange Splot](#), a Portland, Oregon-based housing development company and general contractor that specializes in new models of housing, including ADUs. The webinar recording is available [here](#).

MetroCommon 2050 Event MAGIC town representatives and community partners met on December 6 at the Battle Road Brew House in Maynard for a regional MetroCommon2050 breakfast and lunch. The breakfast brought together 40 municipal leaders, to discuss the biggest regional challenges and possible solutions. The lunch engaged municipal staff and community partners in similar discussion. Attendees also heard a presentation from Josh Fiala on MAPC's assessment of municipal comprehensive plan goals and priorities, research that will inform the development of MetroCommon. Discussions covered perennial issues common to MetroBoston's suburban communities, including transportation and housing. There was also significant buzz around regional solutions to the climate crisis, municipal solid waste, ensuring the region is meeting the needs of older and younger adults, and funding desired changes.