

SSC April Meeting

4/18/2024

Agenda

- Annual Legislative Breakfast in May
- Community Share updates, challenges, successes
- Resource Sharing







Annual Legislative Breakfast

• Date: May 3rd, Friday

Where: Marshfield Senior Center

• Timing: Tentatively 9:00 – 11:00

Annual Legislative Breakfast



What it is?

Opportunity for members of the subregion to

- learn more about
 MAPC's legislative, policy
 and budget priorities,
- hear from legislators about their top priorities for their respective districts, and
- share important projects happening in the region.



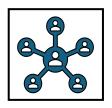
Who attends?

Subregion members

Community leaderships/CEOs/Admini strators

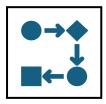
Legislators

MAPC Leadership, Government affairs team and select staff



What will SSC's breakfast entail?

Few topics of interest that are part of MAPC's legislative priorities – Housing, regional collaborations, equity centered projects.



Our Request

What would be helpful for you and your leaderships?

Are their projects you would like to share?

Are you interested in presenting?

Community Share

Please share any updates, challenges or successes with the group.

2024 Housing Choice Communities Designation Application

- Applications will be accepted until 5:00PM on Friday, April 26, 2024. <u>Link</u> to more information.
- There are no substantial changes to the 2024 application compared to last year's application. See the Housing Choice Communities Designation application page for eligibility criteria and best practices, an updated US Census Building Permit Survey data of new units, and a sample application.
- If you have any questions regarding the Housing Choice Designation, please email <u>mckenzie.bell@mass.gov.</u> We are looking forward to receiving new designation applications from interested communities.

Community Conversion Initiative

- Helping communities transform underutilized commercial spaces into homes.
 - MassHousing's Commercial Conversion Initiative promotes growth and vitality in downtown areas while addressing the statewide need for new housing. The program provides municipalities with a suite of planning services that will accelerate the reuse and redevelopment of underutilized downtown commercial buildings across Massachusetts.
 - To apply for the Commercial Conversion Initiative, complete the online application before **May 1, 2024**.
 - Link to application.

Apply for MHP's Technical Assistance Program for MBTA communities (3A-TA)

- Depending on consultant availability, MHP will now also offer technical assistance with the development of site plan review standards; preparation of an economic feasibility analyses (EFA) for affordability requirements; community engagement, outreach and education; and the development of eligible mixed-use zoning development districts per the recent <u>revisions</u> to the guidelines.
- Applications will be reviewed and awarded on a rolling basis, dependent on consultant availability. Communities are welcome to apply more than once.
- Application link

MetroBridge program at Boston University

- The MetroBridge program at BU's Initiative on Cities is currently seeking government and community project partners for the fall 2024 and spring 2025 academic year.
- We work to embed your research needs into semester-long courses at BU, providing students with real-world, experiential learning opportunities and helping to provide necessary support to cities, towns, and community organizations.
- Learn more and submit a proposal

Grants

- MassDEP's first round of <u>2024 Reduce</u>, <u>Reuse</u>, <u>Repair Micro-Grants</u> are now open! The application deadline is <u>May 15</u>, <u>2024</u>
- The FY25 Round of the Community **One Stop for Growth** is Now Open. The One Stop will begin accepting Full Applications on May 6, 2024. The submission deadline is **June 5, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.** For more information on the Full Application, Expression of Interest, Office Hours, and the FY25 Round of the One Stop in general, visit www.mass.gov/onestop. Questions can be sent to onestop@mass.gov.

Grant Opportunities and Updates from MAPC

- Be sure to visit MAPC's <u>Federal Funding Opportunities webpage</u> often for information on grants as well.
- In March, MAPC kicked off a **Monthly Grants Email Pilot Program** as we continue to work to provide you with information on relevant grant opportunities.
- In addition to sharing grant opportunities here in the monthly MAPC Matters newsletter, we're stepping up our effort to get this information to you in an email completely focused on state grants, federal grants, tools, and resources.
- View the March Grants email.



Engagement Opportunities

2024 Massachusetts Municipal Cybersecurity Summit (free)

- Cyber attacks can have a devastating effect on the functionality of local governments, and unfortunately, these attacks are on the rise.
- Cybersecurity plays a vital role in both preventing and protecting against such attacks, which is why we are sharing the two cybersecurity opportunities with you below.
- When: May 8, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. | DCU Center, Worcester
- Hosted by the MassCyberCenter, this free, in-person, event for the 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts will provide the opportunity to hear from cyber experts about the latest security threats and how to improve your protection against them, and much more.



It's budget season and we need your help!

- House Committee on Ways and Means released their FY25 Budget Proposal.
- The proposal includes level funding for District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) at \$3 million, but it does not include our requested increase to \$3.4 million to better meet the planning needs of communities across the Commonwealth, nor does it include the \$2 million we have received in the past two years for the Grant Assistance Program (GAP) to assist communities in applying to federal funding opportunities.
- This *proposal includes a small increase to the Shannon Community Safety Grant line item, but it does reach our full ask of \$13.4 million* to support the program that brings together community-based organizations and local law enforcement to reduce youth violence.
- You can use the <u>Partners Budget Advocacy Email Template + Instructions Copy.docx</u> to voice your support for both programs. Please feel free to add your own experiences with these programs to the template to ensure legislators truly understand their impact. The House will begin debating this budget on April 24th so it is important that you reach out to your legislators soon.

OUR WORK

GET INVOLVED

ABOL

New Tools and Resources

MBTA Communities Show Your Support Toolkit

- This toolkit aims to empower municipal stakeholders and housing advocates as they educate community members about the MBTA Communities Law and its role in helping to solve Massachusetts' housing crisis. It includes:
 - Messaging Guide
 - Community Outreach Planning
 - Navigating Town Meeting
 - Downloadable Materials
- Access the toolkit <u>here</u>

Your Support Toolkit

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New Tools and Resources

MAPC History & Heritage Services

- MAPC has recently launched a new webpage that provides centralized information about our work to uplift history and heritage in communities throughout our region. Our staff brings diverse expertise in historic preservation and public humanities and can work on a variety of projects.
- <u>Visit the webpage</u> to learn more about how to partner with us to build an understanding of our shared past that leads us to a future in which everyone can thrive.



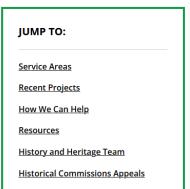
MAPC | Smart Growth & Regional Collaboration

History and Heritage

Overview

Committed to ensuring that Greater Boston is full of <u>unique places and experiences that bring joy and foster diversity and social cohesion</u> [27], MAPC helps communities across our <u>region</u> uplift their unique histories and heritage through a lens of equity and in alignment with other community priorities. By leveraging the strengths of the Arts & Culture and Land Use Departments, MAPC brings expertise in historic preservation practice and public humanities and offers strategies to advance preservation and heritage planning alongside cultural vitality and inclusion, tourism and small business development, climate resilience, and housing.

By emphasizing diverse voices and experiences, we work hand in hand with local communities to achieve a comprehensive understanding of our shared past that directs us to a future in which everyone can thrive. In addition to our project-based work, MAPC is responsible for overseeing the historic commission appeals for communities in our region and coordinating the <u>Eastern Massachusetts Historical Commission Coalition</u>.



We are hiring

Regional Housing and Land Use Planner II Full-time | \$72-82k/annual | Benefits

Senior Economic Development Planner
Full-time | \$78-88k/annual | Benefits

Senior Housing and Land Use Planner Full-time | \$78-88k/annual | Benefits

Regional Field Trainer

Full-time | \$70-80k/annual | Benefits