



Vision Summary (2019)

North Shore Coalition: Transportation Vision

Vision Statement

The North Shore will have a transportation system with a diversity of travel modes (walking, cycling, transit, and automobile) that provides access and mobility to all.

Residents, workers and visitors will have greater access to jobs, housing, educational opportunities, tourist and recreational destinations, and services without the need of a personal automobile. The North Shore will have more options to avoid congestion on our roadways and transit system, and the economic vitality of our region will be enhanced by a well-functioning transportation network.

For too long, the North Shore's transportation has been underfunded. Our region has been depending on a crumbling infrastructure that must be updated to enhance our residents' quality of life, the vitality of our businesses and educational institutions, and our natural and recreational treasures. The North Shore and its residents deserve a 21st century transportation system and it requires both short-term and long-term actions.

Guiding Principles and Goals

- ❑ **Geographic Diversity** - *varied solutions to meet the access and mobility needs of all the residents*
- ❑ **Economic Development** - *local transportation and housing investments will focus on connecting workers, employers, students and tourists to foster economic growth*
- ❑ **Mobility** - *reliable access to their destinations in and around the region*
- ❑ **Efficiency** - *innovative ways of using existing resources*
- ❑ **Equity** - *Seniors, persons with disabilities, low-income people, youth, and households without automobiles will have greater affordable access ... Changes will not place disproportionate impacts on vulnerable and disadvantaged populations*
- ❑ **Natural Environment** - *prioritize reducing greenhouse gases emissions and be resilient to the effects of climate change*

Goals

Goal 1: Residents will be able to access their daily needs and most workers will be able to access their jobs without the need to own a personal automobile

Goal 2: The North Shore will be a leader in reducing greenhouse gas pollution from transportation and in combatting climate change

Goal 3: The North Shore will see an increase in transit and active transportation. Non-automobile travel modes will have precedence, particularly for populations that are cost-burdened and/or do not have access to a private automobile

Goal 4: The North Shore will better manage traffic congestion

Goal 5: Traffic fatalities and severe injuries will be eliminated, while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all

Transportation Actions

1. Assess what current transportation options and access challenges exist in the North Shore communities; this is a critical first step to comprehensive tackle the other action steps below and is the baseline for the evaluation of actions and commitments.
2. Support the implementation of regional transportation efforts (including water transportation, bus, and rail), which advance the Vision and Guiding Principles and Goals above, in collaboration with MassDOT, the MBTA, and neighboring municipalities, through joint planning, design and funding of projects and programs.
3. Advocate for the modernization of our region's transportation system to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation – including electrification of our rail networks, adoption of zero-emission transit vehicles by local and regional transit, and adoption of zero-emission privately-owned vehicles.
4. Advance water and coastal transportation services to enhance travel options to, from, and within the North Shore region.
5. Support equitable roadway tolls for the North Shore by advocating for a 21st century smart toll system for the entire Boston region.
6. Coordinate and/or consolidate existing municipal transportation services, including Council on Aging and medical transportation to make these service more efficient and effective.
7. Develop a transportation action plan for the most vulnerable populations in the community, including households without automobiles, seniors, persons with disabilities, low-income households, and young people.
8. Implement local transit services, or work with neighboring municipalities jointly to create regional transit services.
9. Implement bus priority infrastructure (including bus priority lanes, shelters, and signal prioritization) on municipally-owned streets.
10. Evaluate the feasibility of implementing newer on-demand transit services (microtransit) in areas with housing and employment densities, and service times (e.g., mid-day) that do not support fixed-route transit.

Transportation Actions

11. *Join a Transportation Management Association (TMA) to develop partnerships with businesses and non-profits to provide employees alternative transportation options.*
12. *Create mobility hubs in downtowns, major employment centers, and commuter rail stations to provide sites for mobility options, including regional and local transit, bicycle and e-bicycle share, scooter-sharing, car-sharing, ride-hailing (taxis, transportation network companies), and rail trails.*
13. *Adopt Complete Streets policies and plans, and implement projects in locations that provide critical links to jobs, schools, and daily services.*
14. *Substantially increase Equitable Transit-Oriented Development (ETOD), by establishing and continuing to enhance zoning and land use measures consistent with the scale and character of high-density, mixed-use developments, including affordable housing.*
15. *Expand active transportation infrastructure and services that encourage biking and walking, including implementing a bicycle-share program and expanding the LandLine and other trails.*
16. *Evaluate the feasibility of allowing micro-mobility personal vehicles and shared services (battery powered personal scooters, skateboards, etc.) and, where necessary, adopt appropriate regulations.*
17. *Substantially increase the placement of electric vehicle and/or hydrogen fuel cell charging stations through regional purchasing, partnerships with employers and developers, and zoning reform.*
18. *Adopt a green fleet policy for new and replacement municipal vehicles.*
19. *Limit required parking for new residential and commercial development in downtowns and near transit to reduce vehicular traffic congestion and to encourage active transportation and transit use.*

Funding Principles

- Gas tax and other vehicle fees.
- Transportation & Climate Initiative.
- Increased surcharges for Transportation Network Companies.
- Municipal revenue-raising tools.
- Expanded tolling to other highways.

Discussion

Discussion prompts:

- Do you think that your municipal officials would agree with the guiding principles and goals today?
- What changes have occurred in the last 5 years that might prompt reconsiderations of the vision, goals, actions?
- Has your city or town worked on any of the recommended transportation actions?