

Minuteman Advisory Group
on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC)

North Suburban
Planning Council (NSPC)

North Shore Task Force

MetroWest Regional Collaborative
(MetroWest)

Inner Core
Committee (ICC)

South West Advisory
Planning Committee (SWAP)

Three Rivers
Interlocal Council (TRIC)

South Shore Coalition

Digital Equity Introduction

South Shore Coalition Presentation

July 18, 2024

Background on Digital Equity

Digital equity means making sure that all individuals and communities have the technology and skills they need to fully take part in our society, democracy, and economy.



Digital divide is the issue.
Digital equity is the goal.
Digital inclusion is the work.

Digital equity is necessary for

- Civic and cultural participation
- Employment
- Lifelong learning
- Healthcare
- Public benefits
- Access to essential services

Source: National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA)

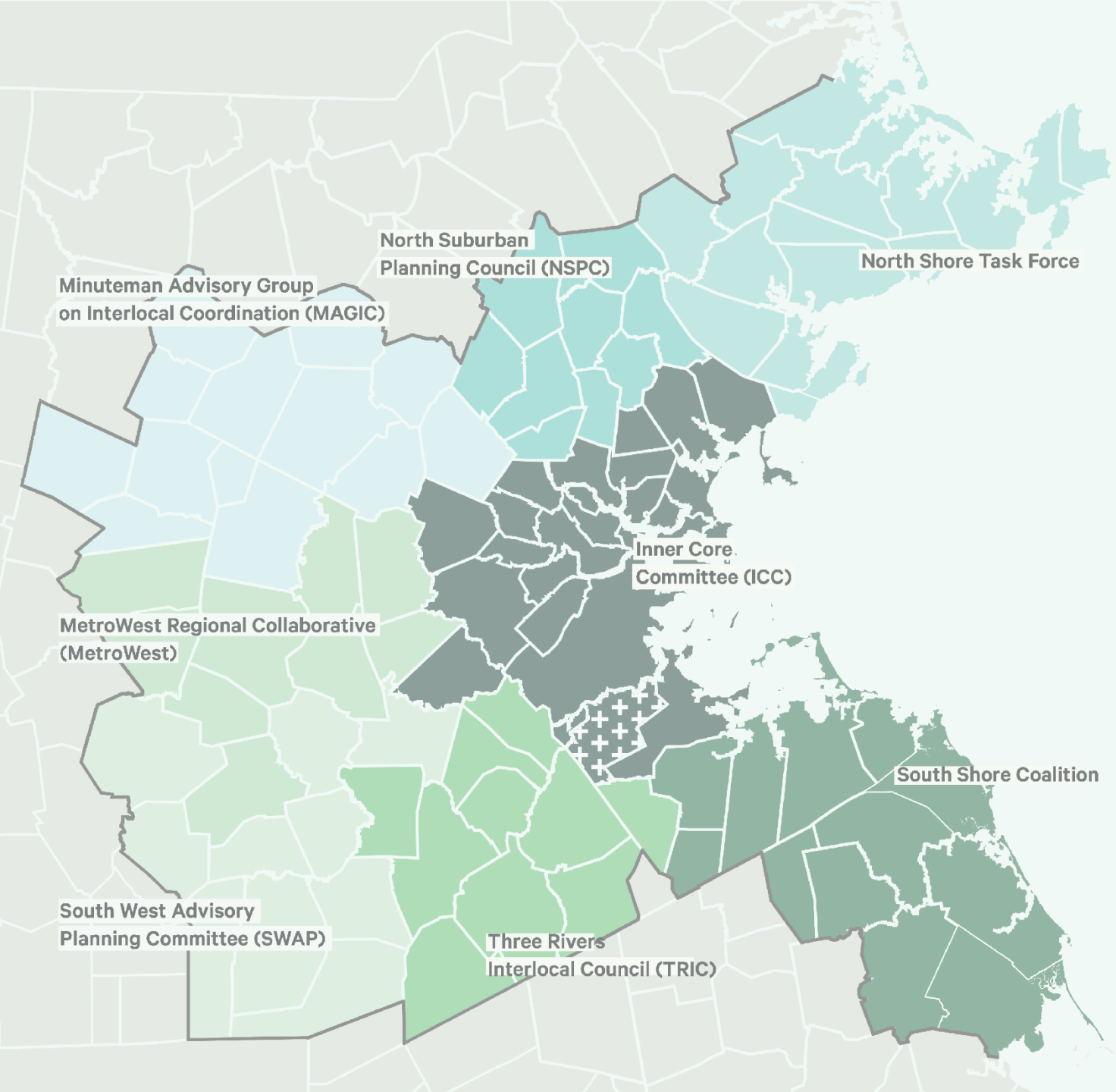




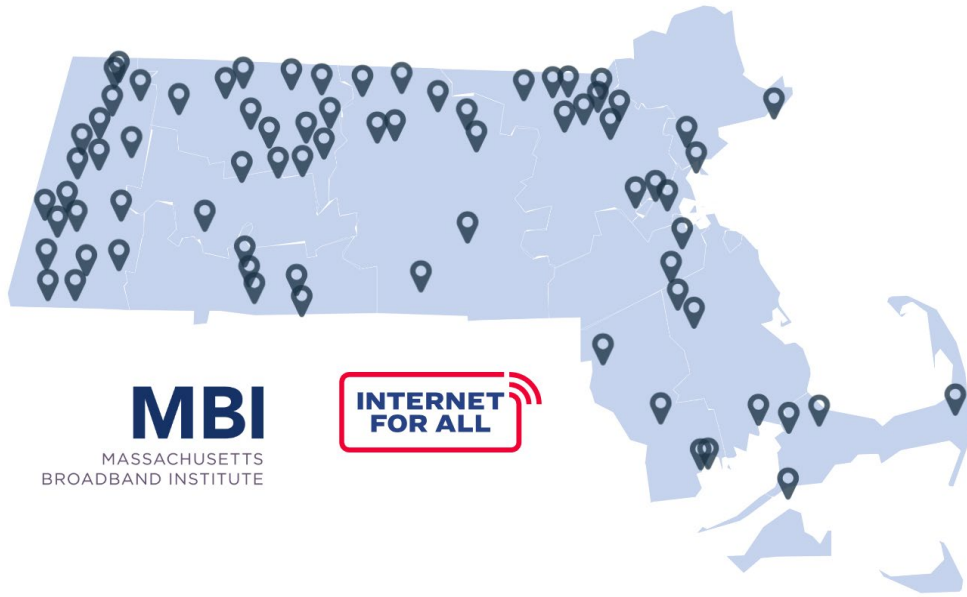
Practice areas at MAPC

01 | Digital Equity
Planning

02 | Apartment
Wi-Fi program



Digital Equity Planning



Municipal Digital Equity Planning Grant Program

Local plans that link state-wide plans

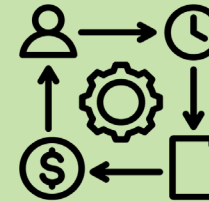
- Somerville
- Quincy
- Gloucester
- Chelsea
- Beverly
- Regional plan for the Greater Lowell region (with NMCOG)

Other plans: Chelsea, Everett, Revere plan

MAPC approach



Data informed,
community-led



Planning for a
practical purpose



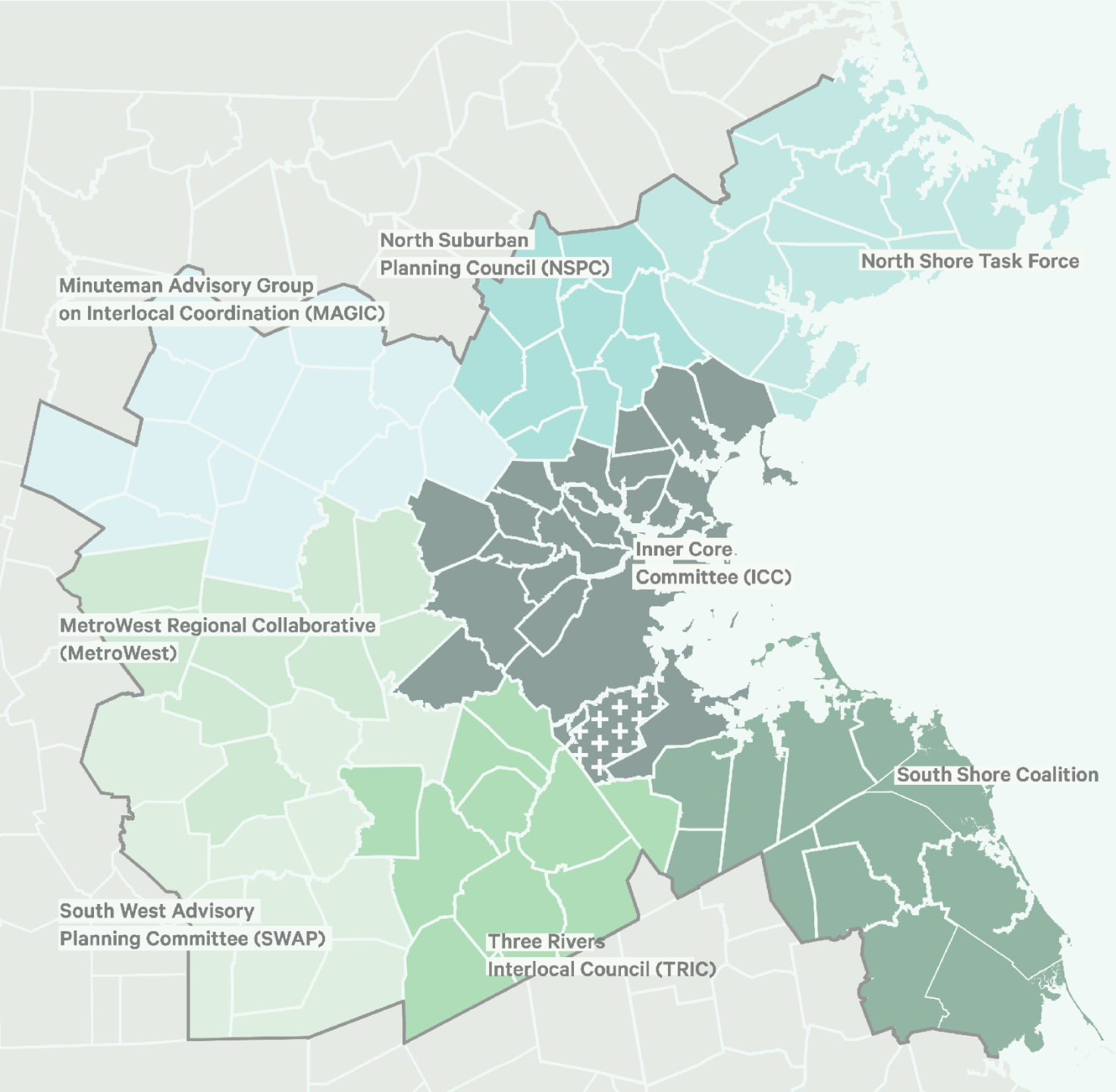
Public, multi-disciplinary,
collaborative, and regional





Implementation examples

- Somerville
 - Digital Equity staff capacity
 - Apartment Wi-Fi program
- Chelsea + Revere
 - Apartment Wi-Fi program
 - Chelsea Dig Once policy
 - Interest in municipal broadband



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Apartment Wi-Fi program



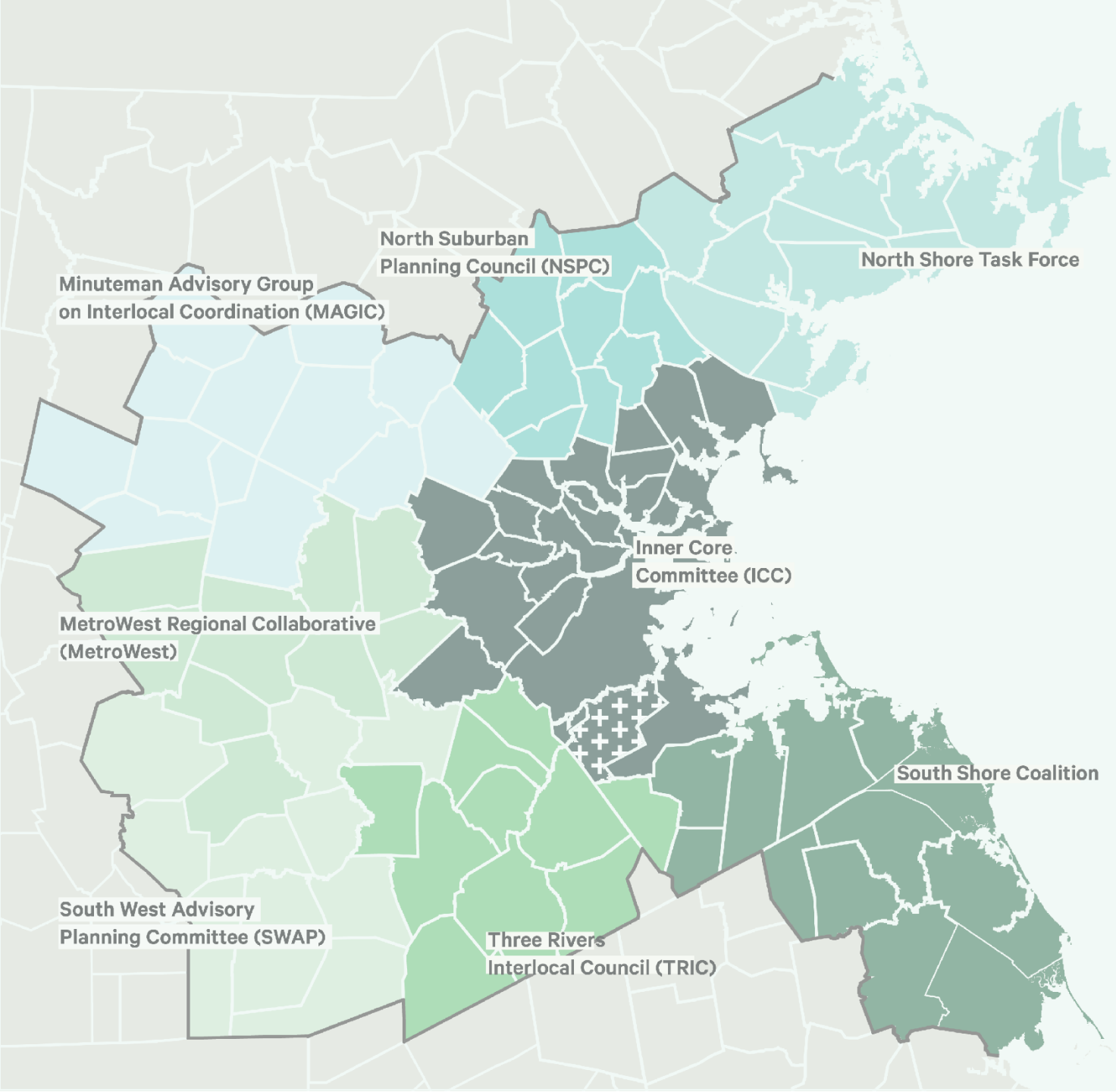
Overview

- Work with **public and affordable, multifamily housing** to build shared Wi-Fi networks that residents can use for free
- Covers 100% of capital expenses + 1 year of operating expenses
- Paired with MBI Residential Retrofit program



Program scale

- MAPC has **\$14.6M** in funding for this project, expected to cover **6,600 units** of housing
- Currently working in: Chelsea, Revere, Quincy, Boston, North Adams, Somerville, Lynn, North Hampton, New Bedford, and Hyannis
- More projects to be announced this fall!



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Work with us!

Call to action



Planning

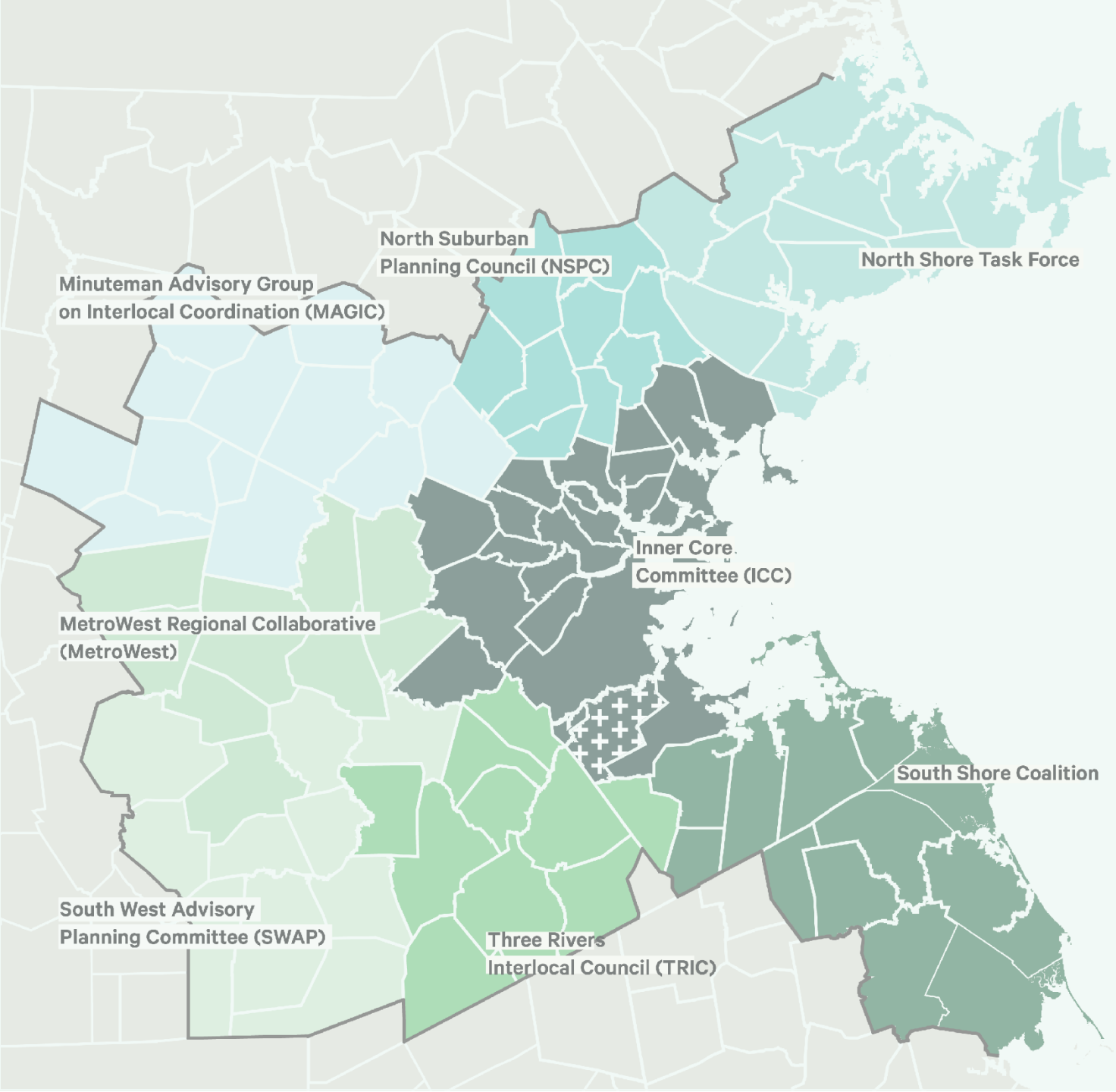
- Component of your community's master plan or economic development plan



Apartment Wi-Fi

- Submit a property for consideration:
https://mbicx.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3aCFDYWAYTbEBUy





Contact info

Anagha Devanarayanan
Digital Equity Planner
adevanarayanan@mapc.org

Will Pfeffer
Civic Technologist
wpfeffer@mapc.org