

A close-up photograph of grass blades covered in a thin layer of white frost. The background is a soft, out-of-focus bokeh of light blue and white, suggesting a bright, overcast day. The lighting is soft and diffused, highlighting the texture of the frost on the grass.

# South Shore Coalition January Monthly Meeting

1/16/2025



# AGENDA

- Reflections
- Community Updates
- Policy Updates
- Engagement and Grant Opportunities
- Language Access Work at MAPC



# Reflections and Updates

- *What's one highlight or takeaway from an SSC meeting over the past year that stood out to you?*
- *As we step into the new year, what's something you're looking forward to or hope to accomplish as a member of the coalition?*
- *Updates or events to highlight to the group*

# FY 25 Legislative Breakfast

- When: Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Tentatively 9-10:30am
- Where: TBD
- Register: <http://mapc.ma/SSC-leg-2025>



# FY 25 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.

- When: Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
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## Who attends?

- Subregion members - municipal staff, residents
- Community leaderships – CEOs, Town Administrators others.
- Legislators
- MAPC Leadership
- MAPC Government affairs team and select staff



# Policy Updates

## ADUs Statewide:

- When will the law go into effect? **February 2, 2025**
- What does this mean for cities and towns?
  - **For communities who do not currently regulate ADUs or explicitly prohibit ADUs**, they will be regulated by this new state ADU provision. Any prohibitions on ADUs will be unenforceable after February 2, 2025.
  - **For communities who have an accessory dwelling unit bylaw and ordinance, sections of your regulations that conflict with the new state law** (e.g., an owner-occupant requirement) will be unenforceable. You may decide to amend your ordinance or bylaw to be consistent with state law, but this does not have to happen by February 2, 2025. February 2, 2025 is not a “compliance” deadline.
  - **For communities who wish to amend their ADU bylaw within the parameters of the new state law**, such as updating development review procedures to include ADUs, clarifying dimensional requirements, or adding requirements for short-term rentals, you may do this. It does not need to be done by February 2, 2025. You may want to prioritize updating administrative development review applications and procedures by the effective date.

Draft guidelines [linked here](#). public comment period closed on Jan 10<sup>th</sup>

# Policy Updates

Emergency Regulations that are in effect for 90 days are [linked here](#).

## MBTA Communities Act, Section 3A

- Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court issued an opinion affirming that the state's MBTA Communities Law is constitutional. The decision affirmed that under the law each of the 177 communities included in the MBTA Communities Law must have at least one zoning district of reasonable size where multifamily housing is permitted as of right. It also affirmed the Attorney General's right to enforce the law.
- As part of the opinion, the court wrote that the previous administration did not correctly advance the guidelines for the law's implementation. The court directed EOHLC to publish the law's guidelines in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act in order for the law to be enforceable. Emergency regulations are in effect immediately and for 90 days. EOHLC intends to adopt regulations permanently following a public comment period.
- Communities that did not meet prior deadlines must submit a new action plan to the state, outlining their plan to achieve compliance, by 11:59 p.m. on Feb. 13, 2025. These communities will have until July 14, 2025, to submit a district compliance application to the state.

# Policy Updates

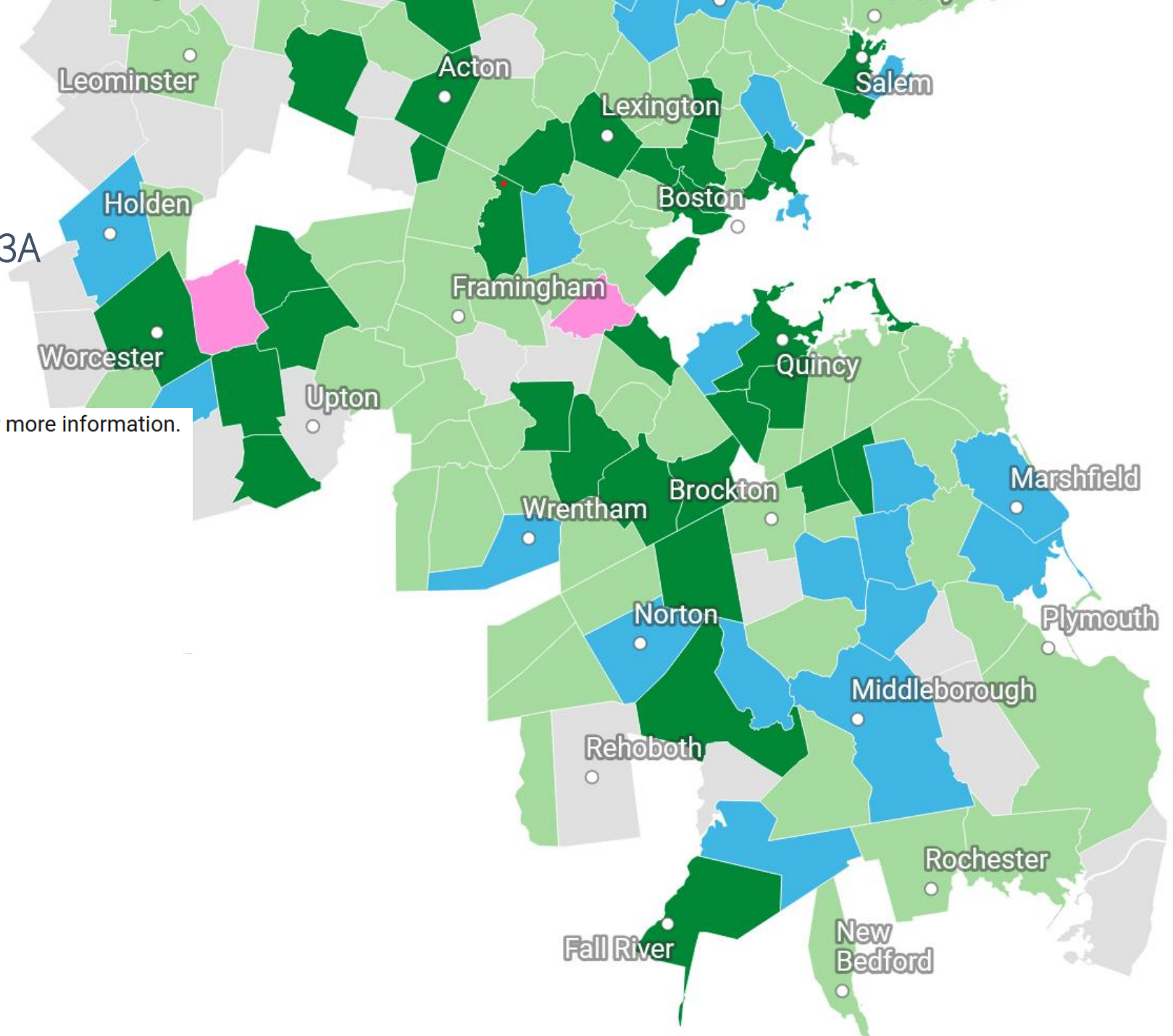
## MBTA Communities Act, Section 3A

*Please reach out for support as needed.*

As of January 14, 2025. Hover and click on municipality for more information.

### Compliance Details (# of municipalities)

- Compliant (41)
- District Compliance Application in review (75)
- Pending Referendum (3)
- Action Plan Due 2/13/2025 (28)
- Action Plan Approved (30)





# Funding Opportunities

## **Drought Resiliency and Water Efficiency Grant**

This new grant opportunity from EEA aims to fund projects to promote climate resiliency, specifically by helping communities and public water suppliers reduce indoor and outdoor water use and improve water loss control programs. Eligible project categories include (but are not limited to):

- 1) water loss control program development and implementation;
- 2) water conservation/efficiency program development and implementation;
- 3) outdoor water use efficiency improvements; and
- 4) drought management planning. Eligible applicants include Municipalities, Public Water Suppliers, Non-profit Organizations, Public Schools/Colleges/Universities, and Regional Planning Agencies.

Award Amounts: Up to \$50,000 per project, with potential for larger awards depending on the number of applications.

Contact Purvi Patel (purvi.patel@mass.gov) with questions. More information and to [apply here](#).  
Deadline is **January 31, 2025**.

# Funding Opportunities

## **Mass Save Municipal Energy Manager Grant**

This new grant will help cities and towns served by Eversource and/or National Grid to hire a staff member to manage their energy use, become more energy efficient, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from facilities, with a particular focus on K-12 school buildings.

The funding can be used to hire a full-time staff member or help to pay an existing staff member to take on the part-time responsibilities of an energy manager in municipalities that do not already have this position.

[Watch a recording](#) of a recent informational webinar and [apply here](#) by **January 31, 2025**.

# Funding Opportunities

## National Trust Preservation Funds

National Trust Preservation Fund grants are awarded for planning activities and education efforts focused on preservation.

Grant funds can be used to launch new initiatives or to provide additional support to on-going efforts.

Grants generally start at \$2,500 and range up to \$5,000. Applicants must be either a public agency, 501(c) (3), or other nonprofit organization to be considered eligible.

The next deadline for this program will be **February 3**, 2025. Learn more and [apply here](#).

# Funding Opportunities

## **Latinos in Heritage Conservation**

Latinos in Heritage Conservation has launched a [grant program](#) to fund grassroots non-profits and community groups working on Latinx heritage and historic preservation projects.

The funding can be used for a wide variety of projects including capital, consulting services and training, project planning as well as programming and interpretation.

Applications are due February 15, 2025. There's also grant application support being offered for applicants.

# Funding Opportunities

## National Park Service 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant Program

The National Park Service is accepting applications for the fourth round of funding for the Semiquincentennial [Grant Program](#).

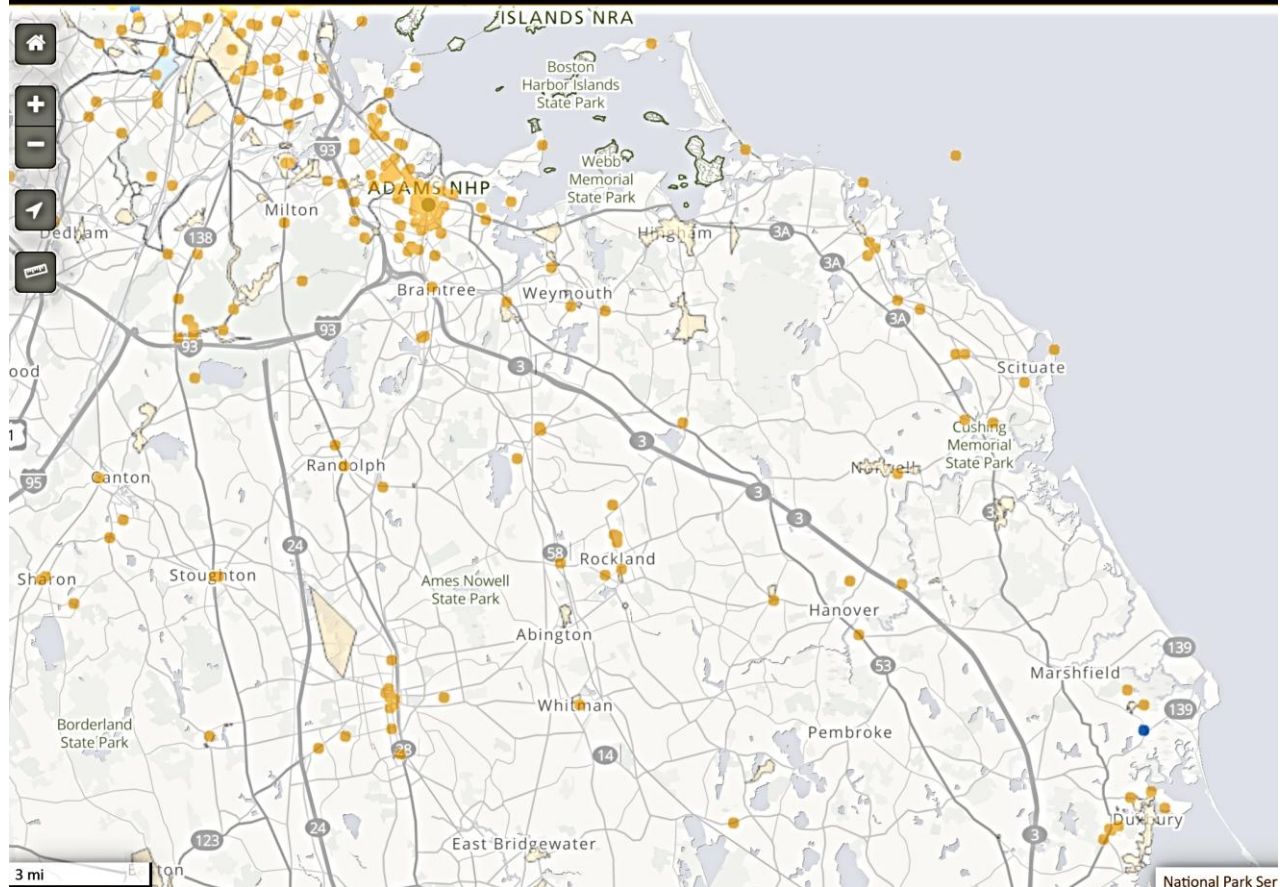
Grants support the physical preservation of a broad variety of cultural resources associated with the country's 250th anniversary.

Applications are due **March 18, 2025**.

Grants are awarded through a competitive process and do not require non-Federal funding match.

## National Register of Historic Places

Public, non-restricted data depicting National Register spatial data processed by the Cultural Resources GIS facility. Last minor update, September 2024.





# Funding Opportunities

## **Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) Grant**

Administered by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund is a state-funded 50% matching grant reimbursement program that supports the preservation of properties, landscapes, and sites listed in the State Register of Historic Places.

Applicants must be a municipality or nonprofit organization. There will be a virtual workshop on Monday, January 27th from 2-4 p.m.

Applications are due on **March 14**, 2025. More [information here](#).

# Funding Opportunities

## MEMA Funding Programs

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is pleased to announce the availability of funding for the following Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs:

- FY 2024 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
- FY 2024 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4780 (HMGP)

Important deadlines:

- ASAP – Register for the FEMA GO application portal
- 2/10/2025 – Statement of Interest due (required for all projects)
- 2/24/2025 – Draft BCA due (required for construction projects only)
- 3/10/2025 - Final subapplications due in FEMA GO

MEMA will be hosting an [informational webinar](#) on **January 28**, 2025 at 2:00PM to provide an overview of the grant programs and application requirements. Links:

- FY 2024 BRIC: [\(FEMA NOFO\)](#) [\(MA State NOFO\)](#)
- FY 2024 FMA: [\(FEMA NOFO\)](#) [\(MA State NOFO\)](#)
- HMGP 4780: [\(MA State NOFO\)](#)

# Training + Engagement Opportunities

## **Model Floodplain Bylaw Training**

Join the state floodplain managers on Wednesday, January 22nd from 12-1:30 p.m. as they guide you through the requirements for communities in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and answer questions about updating your local regulations.

Key topics will include ensuring compliance with NFIP regulations, understanding the 2020 MA Model Floodplain Bylaw, and answers to all your questions on updating local floodplain regulations. [Register here.](#)

# Trainings + Engagement Opportunities

## **Best Practices for Welcoming and Protecting Immigrant Communities**

Join MAPC and the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition on January 28th from 12:00-1:00 p.m. for a panel to hear from experts and municipal leaders about how municipalities can support their immigrant residents in a time of heightened uncertainty and threats of increased immigration enforcement.

Panelists will discuss strategies to keep their immigrant communities informed and safe, ensure that all individuals are treated equally regardless of immigration status, and devote local resources to local priorities.

Please contact Georgia Barlow ([gbarlow@mapc.org](mailto:gbarlow@mapc.org)) with any questions.

[Register here.](#)

# Trainings + Engagement Opportunities

## **Mass Audubon Bylaw Review Tool: Bylaw Review for LID & Climate-Smart, Nature-Based Solutions**

“Our [bylaw review tool](#) will help you become more familiar with any best practices your community is already following, and where it can improve.

This Excel-based analysis tool incorporates local, regional, state, and federal best practices. It also allows users to evaluate existing land use regulations in comparison to these best practices in a “conventional,” “better,” and “best” format in relation to over 30 considerations (such as street width, erosion control measures, sidewalk drainage, and more).

Users can evaluate local Zoning, Site Plan Review, Subdivision Rules and Regulations, Stormwater or LID bylaw, and cluster or Open Space Residential Design bylaws. While the focus is primarily on residential development, the concepts are also applicable to other forms of development and redevelopment.”

Additional resources on how to use the tool here: Bylaw Review ([snepnetwork.org](https://snepnetwork.org))



# Trainings + Engagement Opportunities

## **Transit-Supportive Density Event**

Join Boston Indicators and TransitMatters on Thursday, January 30th to celebrate the release of their report on transit-supportive density.

The event will take place from 9:00-10:15 a.m. at the Edgerley Center for Civic Leadership at the Boston Foundation; it will also be live-streamed and recorded.

More info and to [register here](#).

# Trainings + Engagement Opportunities

## **Boston Region Vision Zero Public Forum**

- Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2025
- Time: 6:00 PM
- Location: Online ([Pre-register here](#))

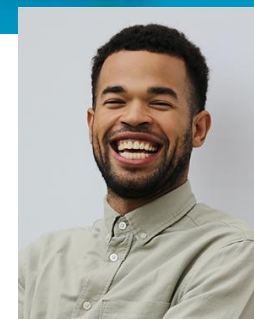
The Boston Region MPO is hosting a public forum to discuss the Vision Zero Action Plan, aimed at eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries. This is an opportunity to learn about regional crash data, share safety concerns, and contribute to solutions for safer streets.

Learn more at [bostonmpovisionzero.org](https://bostonmpovisionzero.org).



# Language Access Work at MAPC

Sasha Parodi and Najee Nunnally



**THANK YOU**

**Reminder:** HOLDs for Legislative Breakfast – March 14<sup>th</sup> (Friday)

**Next Meeting:** Feb 20th

Topics:

- Workplan + CHES Data Discussion
- Please reach out with requests.