



BOSTON REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Bernard Cohen
Secretary of Transportation
and MPO Chairman

Arnold J. Soolman
Director, MPO Staff

The Boston Region MPO, the federally designated entity responsible for transportation decision-making for the 101 cities and towns in the MPO region, is composed of the following:

Executive Office of Transportation
and Public Works

City of Boston

City of Newton

City of Salem

City of Somerville

Town of Bedford

Town of Framingham

Town of Hopkinton

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Massachusetts Bay Transportation
Authority Advisory Board

Massachusetts Bay Transportation
Authority

Massachusetts Highway Department

Massachusetts Port Authority

Massachusetts Turnpike Authority

Regional Transportation Advisory
Council (nonvoting)

Federal Highway Administration
(nonvoting)

Federal Transit Administration
(nonvoting)

November 5, 2008

Dear Interested Party:

We are writing to invite you to submit a letter of interest for a Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) funding program for suburban mobility that may interest your community or organization.

Funding is available for new suburban mobility services. Eligible services include but are not limited to fixed-route services, demand-response services, joint dispatch services, and combined fixed-route/demand-response services. Other services that reduce the use of single-occupant vehicles are also eligible and encouraged. The MPO is particularly interested in services that act as feeders to commuter rail stations or other transit transfer points, provide increased access to employment, and/or improve mobility for transit-dependent suburban residents.

The MPO has allocated \$650,000 for this program using federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funding for federal fiscal year 2009. CMAQ funding originates with the Federal Highway Administration and is available for Suburban Mobility Program projects through the Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works. These funds may *not* be used to extend or supplement funds for an existing service or program.

Eligible applicants for the Suburban Mobility Program include municipalities, regional transit authorities, and regional planning agencies in the Boston Region MPO area. Proposed new services must primarily serve one or more of the 85 suburban communities listed in the attachment to this letter entitled "Eligible Communities for the Suburban Mobility Program." The MPO expects to fund one or more new suburban mobility projects in 2009. If you think your community or organization may be interested in participating in this funding program, you should submit a letter of interest. **To be eligible for funding, letters must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 4, 2008.** All letters of interest should include a brief description of the proposed service and its intended market, and should be addressed to:

Barbara Lucas, Chair
Suburban Mobility Subcommittee
Boston Region MPO
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150
Boston, MA 02116

By e-mail: blucas@mapc.org

By fax: (617) 973-8855

The MPO's Transportation Planning and Programming Committee will review letters of interest received by the deadline and determine funding eligibility. **All letters of interest will receive a response, and eligible candidates will be asked to submit formal funding applications by Thursday, April 2, 2009.**

Thank you for your consideration of this program. If you have any questions, please contact one of us or Jonathan Belcher of the Boston Region MPO at jbelcher@ctps.org or (617) 973-7253. You may also visit the Boston Region MPO website at www.bostonmpo.org and click the Suburban Mobility and TDM link for more information, including sample application forms. We look forward to hearing from you.



David Mohler, Chair
Boston Region MPO Transportation Planning and Programming Committee



Barbara Lucas, Vice-Chair
Boston Region MPO Transportation Planning and Programming Committee

Attachments:

Eligible Communities for the Suburban Mobility Program
Suburban Mobility Program Fact Sheet