

495/MetroWest Development Compact

June Public Forums

A key component of this project will be identifying priority development and preservation areas, and significant transportation and infrastructure investments for the region (see below). The 495/MetroWest plan will be prepared in collaboration with regional and local participants and engage both public and private sectors to form the framework for public decision-making in land use regulation and infrastructure investment within the region over the next twenty years.

What to Expect at the Regional Forums:

The **Open House** will allow attendees to view **multi-municipal maps**, highlighting the priority development and preservation areas for each of the 37 municipalities. These maps are the result of staff level and Planning Board meetings conducted by the respective planning agencies in each of their communities. Planning staff from CMRPC and MAPC will be available to answer questions during the Open House as well as staff from the other project partners.

The **Public Meeting** will include an introduction by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, providing an overview of the project including goals and outcomes, followed by a detailed presentation by the planning agency partners on current conditions, development, and planning for growth in a regional context. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers.

Two Additional Public Forums will be held in the Fall of 2011. The project is slated to be completed by December 31, 2011.

Below are some examples of the PDA's, PPA's, STI's, and SII's; for a more detailed list as well as further information on the Compact project visit www.495partnership.org/compact.

Priority Development Areas (PDA)

Locations potentially capable of supporting additional development or redevelopment, but that may first require additional investments in infrastructure.

Areas designated under state programs such as Chapter 43D (expedited permitting), Chapter 40R (smart growth zones) or Economic Opportunity Areas can be examples of PDAs.

Priority Preservation Areas (PPA)

Deserve special protection due to significant environmental factors and/or natural features, such as endangered species habitats, large blocks of high quality intact habitat (BioMap2), areas critical to water supply, scenic vistas, areas important to a cultural landscape, or areas of historical significance.

May be critical to linking open space and also trails within a community across municipal boundaries that are part of a larger, regional network.

Significant Transportation Investments (STIs)

Transportation projects that have the potential to increase efficiency and enhance interconnectivity for facilities which serve regional transportation needs.

Locally identified projects, along with projects from other statewide and regional planning documents, will be evaluated to develop an initial set of Regionally Significant Transportation Investments (RSTIs).

Significant Infrastructure Investments (SIIs)

Are infrastructure projects that have the potential to increase efficiency and capacity and enhance development potential for facilities/sites which serve regional needs.

In most cases, these potential projects address water, sewer/wastewater, stormwater, and may include new infrastructure upgrades/increase in capacity to existing infrastructure that either individually or collectively serve regional needs.