



**Transportation**  
for America



## **Measuring Up: More Bang For The Buck in Transportation Project Selection**

Wednesday, July 16, 2014 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (EDT)

Boston, MA | Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Planning, Northeastern University

### **A Call for Action:**

Critical transportation investment needs far exceed the funding available, but the 2013 Transportation Finance Act marked an important step forward to address this challenge. The legislation combines new funding resources with important policy priorities, including the expectation that policy experts will draft project selection criteria that select and prioritize transportation projects in a transparent manner. In an era of constrained funding, it matters more than ever that every dollar delivers a strong return on taxpayer investment and that the prioritized projects are those that offer the greatest benefits.

Important progress is being made towards identifying project selection criteria that are right for Massachusetts. It is critical that we create a way to truly offer more bang for the buck.

### **The Event:**

Please join us Wednesday, July 16th at a valuable morning conference co-sponsored by Transportation for Massachusetts and Transportation for America. National experts and professionals from around the commonwealth will join us to share their perspectives on the opportunities and challenges in applying performance measures towards successful project selection efforts.

This free morning event (9am – 12noon) will be held at the Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Planning at Northeastern University (360 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA)

James Corless (Director, Transportation for America) and Kristina Egan (Coalition Director, Transportation of Massachusetts) will host the meeting, providing opening remarks. Mr. Corless will also provide summary comments at the end of the program.



The program will begin with three speakers to provide a national, state and regional view on the workshop's theme:

- ▣ Richard Davey (Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of MassDOT) will offer recorded introductory remarks.
- ▣ Beth Osborne (Senior Policy Advisor, Transportation for America) will offer a federal perspective from her years working on performance measures as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, US Department of Transportation.
- ▣ Steve Heminger (Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in the San Francisco Bay Area) will offer a regional view on successful performance-based planning and programming strategies that are considered national best practices.

Following the presentations, there will be a one hour panel discussion that brings together the national speakers with regional and local government agency representatives from across Massachusetts. Panelists will discuss the opportunities and challenges in implementing transportation project selection criteria in Massachusetts.

- ▣ Eric Bourassa (Transportation Director at the Metropolitan Area Planning Council in Boston) will moderate the panel session.
- ▣ Tim Brennan (Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning Council) and Hayes Morrison (Director of Transportation and Infrastructure, City of Somerville) will join Beth Osborne and Steve Heminger as panelists.

After the panel discussion, Stephanie Pollack (Associate Director of Research, Dukakis Center of Urban and Regional Planning) will speak. Drawing on a synthesis of the preceding presentations and panel discussion, Ms. Pollack will offer some perspective on project selection criteria considerations that reflect a diversity of interests and issues.

Please contact Josh Ostroff at [jostroff@t4ma.org](mailto:jostroff@t4ma.org) or (508) 654-3330 for questions or to RSVP. Space is limited so please act soon.