

# Bridging Transportation Gaps in Neponset Valley

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## Regional Coordinating Councils: Supporting Coordination & Community Transportation

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# MassDOT - Statewide Mobility Management

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Employing a series of strategies to create a continuum of interconnected multi-modal transportation services so that every citizen is able to transcend distance regardless of age, disability or income status without getting into a car in MA

*Focus:* Individual traveler and local gaps in service

*Success:* Trusted partnerships create coordinated solutions

*Massachusetts Mobility Management Center:*

Fostering collaborative solutions via resource and technical assistance provision

# Challenges in Massachusetts

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## Why coordinate?

- Transportation is a barrier to many people
- Community transportation system is fragmented
- Resources are scattered
- Funding is still in silos
- Needs are diverse

## Benefits of coordination:

- Increases efficiency
- Saves resources
- Provides better service options for consumers
- Stakeholders work together at the grassroots level
- Encourages creativity

# Framework for Coordination: Executive Order 530

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## Governor signed EO530 in 2011

- Looked at community transportation and paratransit issues
- Established Paratransit Commission & held listening sessions

## Released the EO530 report in 2012

- MassDOT and EOHHS to implement 60 + recommendations
- Three overarching recommendations:
  - Establish a Statewide Coordinating Council on Community Transportation (SCCCT)
  - Hire a Statewide Mobility Manager
  - Form Regional Coordinating Councils (RCCs)

# What is the role of the RCCs?

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- Provide a forum for open discussion about local unmet needs
- Assist with implementation of relevant EO530 recommendations
- Communicate policy issues to the SCCCT
- Improve core services in the system
- Provide innovative services and/or new connections to existing services such as travel training or volunteer driver programs
- Advocate for community transportation

**Each RCC articulates its own mission and goals based on local needs**

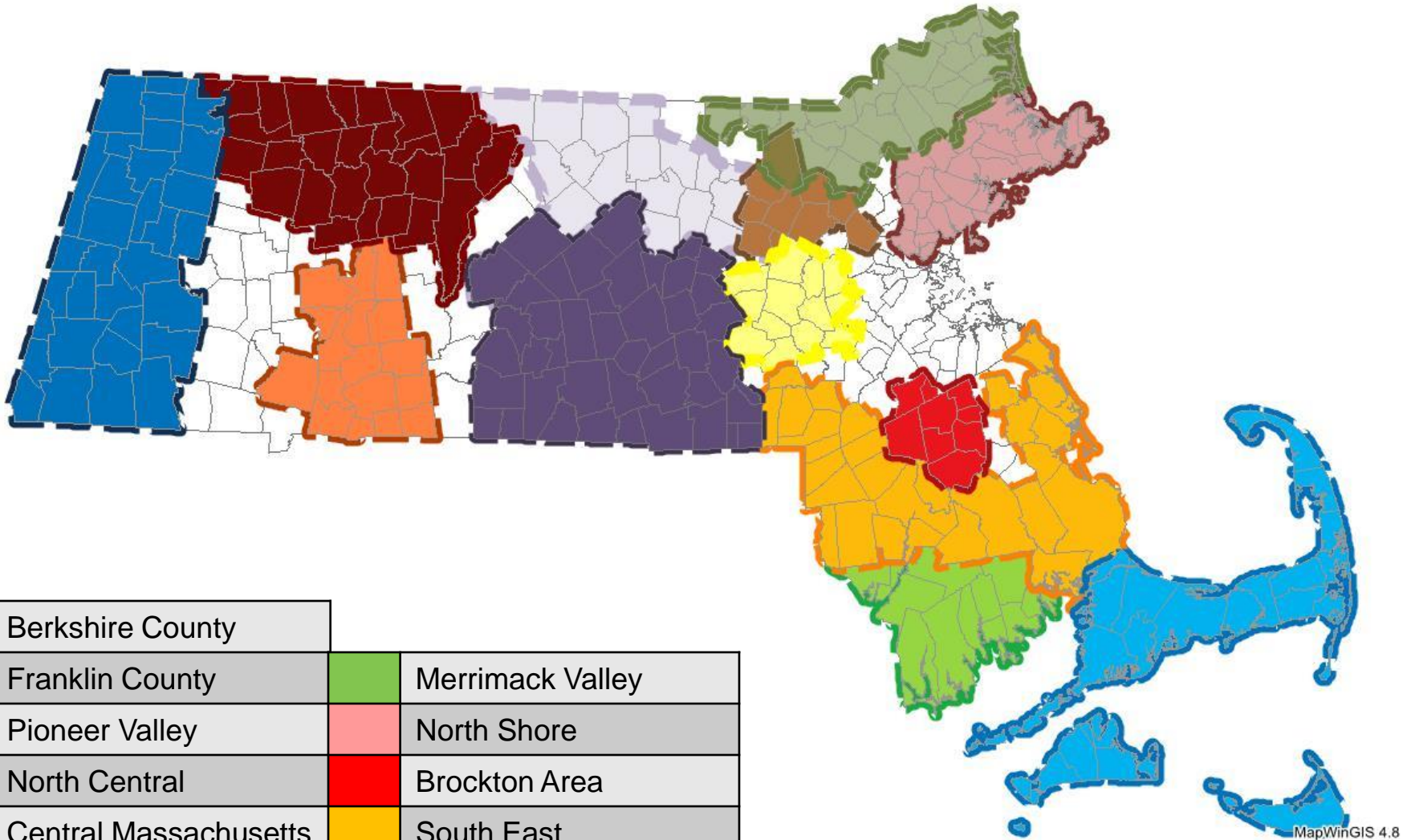
# EOHHS - MassMobility














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Through the MassMobility project, we:

- Support efforts across Massachusetts to **increase** mobility for people with disabilities, seniors, and others who need transportation
- Raise **awareness** about existing mobility options and transportation projects around the state
- Help groups working on community transportation initiatives **serve more people** and **be more sustainable**
- Serve as **technical advisors** to RCCs

# Current Regional Coordinating Councils



	Berkshire County		
	Franklin County		Merrimack Valley
	Pioneer Valley		North Shore
	North Central		Brockton Area
	Central Massachusetts		South East
	Metrowest		South Coast
	Minuteman		Cape & Islands

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# Boston Area Regional Coordinating Councils

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## Existing Boston MPO-area RCCs:

- North Shore (Gloucester to Lynn)
- Minuteman (Westford to Burlington)
- Metrowest (Wellesley to Hopkinton)

## Proposed Boston RCCs:

- Boston Core (Boston & Brookline)
- South Shore (Quincy to Scituate)
- Boston North (Charlestown to Lynn)
- Boston West (Waltham to Arlington)
- **Three Rivers (Dedham to Sharon)**



# Transportation Coordination ~ Example

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## CrossTown Connect

- A public/private regional shared transportation partnership
- Started as a community transportation coordination team that expanded to include business community (Clock Tower Place in Maynard)

### **Providing:**

- “Daily needs” trips for seniors and people with disabilities
- Traditional commuting from Acton & surrounding towns into Boston
- Suburb to suburb commuting for the general population
- Reverse commuting from the Boston area to this service area

# Transportation Coordination ~ More Examples

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## TMA & Community Collaboration

- ❖ **128 Business Council REV Bus & Lexington/Bedford**
  - Reverse commuter shuttle, also brings residents to Alewife on return trips
  - Funding from business partners and towns
  - Seen as economic development tool as well as transportation option
- ❖ **Middlesex 3 Coalition**
  - Regional partnership of communities along Rte. 3
  - Formed TMA and received Community Innovation Challenge grant to outreach to community members
  - Survey indicated desire for mid-day transportation to lunch and shopping destinations for employees

# Ways to Get Involved

## EO530 Initiatives:

- Join a Regional Coordinating Council
- Councils forming now across the state
- More information about the RCCs:  
<http://tinyurl.com/RCCaccomplishments>

## Build partnerships with businesses, towns and organizations:

- Prioritize transportation
- Find shared goals
- Apply for funding for new vehicles/services



# Resources & Contact Information

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## MassDOT

Website:

<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/transit/StatewideMobilityManagement.aspx>

## **Aniko Laszlo, MassDOT**

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## EOHHS

Website:

[www.mass.gov/hst](http://www.mass.gov/hst)

MassMobility Newsletter:

[www.tinyurl.com/massmobility](http://www.tinyurl.com/massmobility)

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