

Massachusetts Transportation Infrastructure

Support for:

- Support speedy passage of [H.4561, An Act relative to Massachusetts's transportation resources and climate](#) with Dig Safe Language
- Support speedy passage of [H.4638 An Act financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges](#)

INVESTING TODAY FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCY, CONGESTION REDUCTION AND OUR FUTURE

We support bills that help to provide:

- Accessible, frequent, and fast public transit gets people to their destinations without contributing to traffic.
- Connected, well-maintained, and extensive roads, trails, bike lanes, and sidewalks encourage active transportation, health, and recreation.
- Making our entire transportation system safe, comfortable, and accessible for users of all ages, abilities, income, and travel modes leads to healthier and stronger communities.

This session, we urge support for these bills:

[H.4561, An Act relative to Massachusetts's transportation resources and climate](#)

- Additional authorization for existing appropriations for the federal aid and non-federal aid programs to allow MassDOT and the MBTA to continue and accelerate work, taking advantage of the historic increase in annual federal apportionments over the next five years
- Private Development Mitigation/Transit Oriented Development authorization to allow MassDOT and the MBTA to enter into development agreements that include transportation and other public benefits without having to separately bid for those elements.
- Provide authorization needed to pursue new federal competitive and discretionary grants and support new investments in clean transportation and the environment.
- Provides additional authorization to support investments in cities and towns
 - Promote bicycle and pedestrian safety,
 - Improve municipal transportation asset conditions, and
 - Invigorate downtown community public spaces through several successful grant programs, including Complete Streets Funding Program, Municipal Small Bridge, Municipal Pavement, and Shared Streets and Spaces Program.
- **AND: We are asking the Joint Committee on Transportation to Include language updating the Dig-Safe law in H.4561**
- **The addition of this language, which would strengthen and clarify the Dig-Safe statute and will further protect workers engaged in the projects undertaken through this bond bill.**
- Dig-Safe laws and regulations, Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 42, §40A – §40E and 220 CMR 99.00 *et. seq.* govern the marking of underground utilities for purposes of protecting against unintended strikes or breaks to utility equipment. Instituted to protect the public, utility company assets and the lives of contractors, the Dig-Safe laws and regulations are enforced by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (“DPU”). Through its oversight, the DPU is charged with determining whether Dig-Safe laws have been violated, the party responsible and the assessment of penalties, if any.

[H.4638 An Act financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges](#)

Municipal “Chapter 90” bill: *As of 5/6/2022: In Senate Ways & Means*

H. 4638 includes:

- \$200 million for Chapter 90 allocation (Request \$300M)

- Authorizes \$30 million for the municipal small bridge repair program, \$30 million for the Complete Streets grant program, \$25 million for municipal grants for bus-related projects and \$25 million for grants supporting efforts to increase access to mass transit and commuter rail stations.
- Also includes \$40 million for non-federal maintenance state numbered routes and municipal roadways of state numbered routes, many of which are major roads and are municipally owned for which cities and towns are responsible for maintenance.

ACTIONS REQUESTED

- Support speedy passage of [H.4561, An Act relative to Massachusetts's transportation resources and climate](#) with **Dig Safe Language**
- Support speedy passage of [H.4638 An Act financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges](#)
- Support a multiyear commitment of \$300 M/year for Chapter 90 funding, enabling municipalities to do longer term planning for capital needs.