

Social Equity & Infrastructure What Engineers Need to Know ACEC – Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Increasing specialization of practice, combined with *new disruptions* in transportation service and mobility needs (demographics, technology, modal diversity, etc).

The **<u>GAP</u>** is between the have and the have nots is at risk of getting wider.

Engineers play and important role in preventing further inequities and isolations of people from transportation services. It starts with:

- 1) Understanding the risks
- 2) Asking the right questions
- 3) Getting the information and data
- 4) Understanding the metrics to use to achieve inclusion.

The Forest and The Trees



Over last few decades, there has been significant progress to advance the understanding of the need to consider inclusion

- Policies: Title VI, EJ, and ADA
- Tools: GIS, Asset Management Data bases
- New Data and Emerging Tools: Engage Portal, MaPIT and others to come.



Policy, Tools and Data

Originally an offline Environmental data viewer.

Expanded into a comprehensive project screening tool.

Other data layers were added to provide planners with a holistic vision of a project's unique character.





MaPIT tool

How to Access MassDOT/MBTA Data Sets to better understand, plan and design projects... **GO TO** <u>http://massdot.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html</u>

That will take you to Engage and to MaPIT <u>http://gis.massdot.state.ma.us/engage/projectimpact/</u>

Other Critical Data Links: *MBTA Better Bus Project Site* <u>https://www.mbta.com/projects/better-bus-project</u>

Rail Plan and links to other Plans

https://www.mass.gov/service-details/rail-plan

Governor's Report on the Future of Transportation https://www.mass.gov/orgs/commission-on-the-future-oftransportation

MassDOT/MBTA is a RESOURCE for YOU

Planning: Steve Woelfel at OTP Equity: John Lozada & Greg Sobczynski at ODCR

Planning Portal at MassDOT



System Preservation	 Projects should contribute to a state of good repair on the transportation system.
Mobility	Projects should provide modal options efficiently and effectively.
Cost Effectiveness	 Projects should result in benefits commensurate with costs and should be aimed at maximizing the return on the public's investment.
Economic Impact	• Projects should support strategic economic growth in the Commonwealth.
Safety	 Projects should contribute to the safety and security of people and goods in transit.
Social Equity & Fairness	 Projects should equitably distribute both benefits and burdens of investments among all communities.
Environmental & Health Effects	 Projects should maximize the potential positive health and environmental aspects of the transportation system.
Policy Support	 Projects should get credit if they support local or regional policies or plans; or state policies not addressed through the other criteria.

Holistic Approach is Needed To Consider Growing and Changing Needs

Category	Sample Measure
Economic Impacts	Priority development areas; improvements to existing labor market; workforce commuting and accessibility; freight corridors and roadways of economic significance
Social Equity	Environmental Justice; Title VI; air quality and GHG reduction; regional equity
Mobility	Effects on motor vehicle, pedestrian, bicycle and transit mobility and congestion; and connectivity

Sample Metrics to Consider