



Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Richard A. Davey, Secretary & CEO
Frank DePaola, Administrator



March 28, 2014

Subject: I-90 Massachusetts Turnpike – Allston Interchange Improvement Project

Dear Senator Brownsberger,

As part of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's (MassDOT) commitment to facilitate the public involvement process for this project, I would like to invite you to serve on the Allston Interchange Improvement Task Force. MassDOT is convening this task force to solicit ideas on developing context sensitive design alternatives on how to best reconstruct the Allston I-90 Interchange and Viaduct to ensure the reconstructed interchange and ramp configurations will continue to service the current and future vehicular loading conditions; provide safe and reliable transportation access; and best respond to the social, economic, and environmental opportunities and constraints bearing on the project's design and construction. The selected design alternatives will be further evaluated and assessed as part of the environmental review process. The existing viaduct is severely deteriorated and alternatives under consideration for its replacement will provide MassDOT the opportunity to reconfigure the Allston Interchange which dates back to the 1965 extension of the Massachusetts Turnpike to downtown Boston. This project includes improving the alignment of I-90 between Cambridge Street and Commonwealth Avenue in order to support the implementation of All Electronic Tolling (AET). The alternatives shall seek to improve access and mobility through the project area for alternative modes of transportation when practicable.

We have invited Task Force members that represent a diverse cross-section of interests in the interchange area and to that end we are contacting elected and appointed officials, civic leaders, business and cultural representatives, and residents.

The first public information meeting will be held on **April 10, 2014** at the **Jackson Mann Community Center Auditorium, 500 Cambridge Street, Allston** to introduce the project to the community. An initial Task Force meeting is currently anticipated for the week of May 5, 2014.

The Task Force members will agree to meet bi-weekly for approximately five months, concluding on October 1, 2014 with the outcome resulting in a preferred alternative presented in environmental filings to be submitted for public comment in the Fall of 2014. In light of the general time table listed above, we request that you indicate your willingness to serve on the Task Force on or before April 9, 2014.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Michael O'Dowd, Project Manager, at (857) 368-9292 or Michael.O'Dowd@state.ma.us. We look forward to hearing from and working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Frank DePaola, P.E.
Administrator