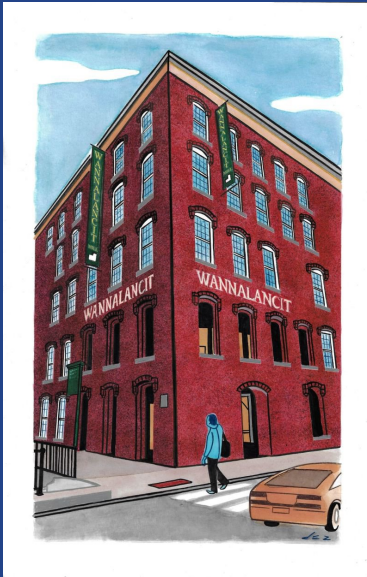




Northern Middlesex Council of Governments

Events and Opportunities



Reminder: 3/14 NMCOG Open House

The NMCOG open house is happening this Thursday, 3/14, from 4:00 – 6:00pm. All are invite to stop in, meet our team, see our new space, and learn about our work. Whether you're a municipal partner, or simply curious about what we do, we'd love to see you there.

Thursday, March 14
4:00 – 6:00pm

672 Suffolk Street, Suite 100, Lowell, MA

Wannalancit Mills Visitor Parking is available off of Suffolk Street across the street from the 660 Suffolk Street security office. (In map apps, enter 629 Suffolk Street, Lowell, MA).

There are also metered parking spaces for visitors directly in front of the office entrance on Suffolk Street.

MassCPTC 20th Annual Conference

Saturday, March 16 from 8:00am to 3:15pm

Mark your calendars for the MassCPTC 20th Annual Conference, scheduled for Saturday, March 16 at Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA. The Annual Conference includes three sessions of workshops with a wide range of planning-related topics, including roles and responsibilities of planning and zoning boards, climate resilience, MA cannabis law, fair housing, smart growth, historic preservation, and more.

[View the full list of workshops and register today.](#)

Training on Effective Public Engagement
*Virtual and in-person training for municipal staff, boards,
and local housing advocates this April*

MHP has partnered with [Citizens Housing and Planning Association](#) (CHAPA) and the [Consensus Building Institute](#) (CBI) to develop an interactive four-module training program to foster effective

public engagement in our communities. The training will start by framing why it is important to create safe and effective public meeting spaces, followed by an overview of four main topics:

1. Understanding legal requirements pertaining to public meetings.
2. Engaging in effective outreach and creating meeting ground rules.
3. Structuring public meetings for success.
4. Learning how to keep a meeting from going off-topic.

This training has been developed for municipal staff and board members, as well as local housing advocates.

Trainers include the Attorney General's office, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), and the Consensus Building Institute.

[Register for the April 1, 2024 virtual training](#)(to be held via Zoom, 9:00am to 12:45pm, free)

[Register for April 10, 2024 in-person training](#)(to be held at 100 High Street, Boston, 9:00am to 1:00pm, \$50 includes light breakfast and lunch)

MassEnergize Annual Conference April 3, 2023 Brandeis University, Waltham MA

MassEnergize is organizing a daylong gathering where community organizers, municipal sustainability officers, community climate leaders, climate funders, and others can learn from each other best practices to educate and motivate others to take climate action and reduce GHG emissions in their communities.

[View the schedule and register for the conference](#)

Grant Opportunities

Funds Available for Clean Transportation Projects *Application Deadline: May 31, 2024 at 4:00pm*

The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) announced the release of the Accelerating Clean Transportation for All Program, Round 2 (ACT4All 2). ACT4All 2 seeks to support the dual goals of increasing clean transportation access and decreasing transportation burdens for underserved and overburdened communities through innovative pilot and demonstration projects.

The topic areas supported under ACT4All 2 are:

- Electric Vehicle Charging Station Access,
- Regional Transit Authority Decarbonization, and
- Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities.

Funding for projects will range from \$500,000 - \$1,000,000. Applications for ACT4All 2 are due by 4 pm, May 31. **See the ACT4All 2 website** for more information, application resources, and application materials.

Local Acquisition for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant Program *Application Deadline: July 11, 2024 at 3:00pm*

The Division of Conservation Services (DCS) recently announced the opening of the LAND Grant Program which helps cities and towns acquire land for conservation and passive recreation purposes. The grants reimburse cities and towns for the acquisition of land in fee or for a conservation restriction.

An in-person information session will be held Monday, May 6, at 11:00 a.m. at MassWildlife Field Headquarters in Westborough, MA and a virtually meeting will be held via MS Teams at Thursday May 9, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Advanced registration is required for either information session: email vanessa.farny@mass.gov with the date you will attend.

[Find out more and download the application](#)

NMCOG News

Materials From Greater Lowell Vision Zero Plan Public Forum Available

Watch the meeting recording, view the presentation slides

On Tuesday, February 27, 2024, NMCOG hosted a forum for the Greater Lowell Vision Zero planning process. Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries. This approach recognizes that people make mistakes and that we can design policies and projects to address safety. This plan includes a comprehensive review of crash data in Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, and Westford.

All meeting materials are available on our website:

- [View the Presentation slides](#)
- [Watch the meeting recording](#)

The High-Injury Corridors represent corridors and intersections prone to crashes. The High-Risk Network indicates the areas with an increased risk or higher probability of a crash. Both approaches will allow NMCOG staff and WSP, our consultant, to formulate projects and interventions to address risk and prevent motor vehicle-related injuries. This data will be used to recommend specific infrastructure projects and interventions for implementation throughout the nine communities that comprise the Greater Lowell region.

FFY2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program Development

The Northern Middlesex Metropolitan Planning Organization (NMMPO) is in the process of programming the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Federal Fiscal Years 2025 through 2029. As staff to the NMMPO, NMCOG is presenting scenarios for how federal highway and transportation funding allocated to the Northern Middlesex region could be spent over the next five federal fiscal years.

NMCOG staff will present TIP scenarios to the NMMPO at their March meeting on Wednesday, March 27 at 2:00pm, after which the NMMPO may vote to release the scenarios for public comment.

Employment Opportunities

Now Hiring Transportation Planning Program Manager

Come join our team! Are you passionate about helping municipalities and the region advance transportation and mobility initiatives? NMCOG is seeking a dynamic mid-career transportation professional to lead our team of specialists and direct MPO and other mobility-related programs. If this sounds like the opportunity for you, please check out our open position of Transportation Planning Program Manager: <https://www.nmcog.org/employment>.

Visit our
Website



Northern Middlesex Council of Governments | 672 Suffolk Street, Suite 100, Lowell, MA 01854

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