

## WHAT IS THE RTP?

The Pioneer Valley Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) outlines the direction of transportation planning and improvements for the Pioneer Valley through the year 2050. It provides the basis for all state and federally funded transportation improvement projects and planning studies.

The long range plan concentrates on both existing needs and anticipated future deficiencies in our transportation infrastructure, presents the preferred strategies to alleviate transportation problems, and creates a schedule of regionally significant projects that are financially constrained - in concert with regional goals and objectives and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

In the Pioneer Valley region, major transportation improvement projects such as:

- Restoration of Springfield's Union Station
- Repairs to the Interstate I-91 Viaduct
- Expansion of regional passenger rail service
- State of the art electric buses at the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority
- Construction and expansion of Westfield's Columbia River Greenway Trail

All advanced through a conforming RTP.



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Planning Commission**  
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# 2024 Update to the RTP

**Pioneer Valley Regional  
Transportation Plan**



**PIONEER VALLEY  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING  
ORGANIZATION (MPO)**

## ABOUT THE PIONEER VALLEY

The Pioneer Valley Region is comprised of 43 communities and is home to over 628,000 people based on the results of the 2020 census. Located in the Midwestern section of Massachusetts and bisected by the Connecticut River, the region is the fourth largest metropolitan area in New England, covering an area of 1,179 square miles. The region is extremely diverse in that it is comprised of a mixture of urban, suburban and rural communities. Some highlights include:



- Nearly 4400 roadway miles
- 685 bridges
- 41 fixed transit routes and shuttles
- Over 50 miles of shared use paths
- Passenger Rail service connecting to New Haven, CT
- ValleyBike Share Program in 8 communities

## RTP VISION

The Pioneer Valley region strives to create and maintain a safe, dependable, environmentally sound and equitable transportation system. We pledge to advance performance based strategies and projects that promote sustainable development, healthy and livable communities, provide for the efficient movement of people and goods and advance the economic vitality of the region.



## RTP EMPHASIS AREAS

Five emphasis areas were identified to assist in the achievement of the RTP vision and goals.

1. Safety and Security
2. The Movement of People
3. The Movement of Goods
4. The Movement of Information
5. Sustainability



## RTP DEVELOPMENT

Staff at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) are currently working on the 2024 Update to the RTP. Over the next few months, draft versions of the RTP will be available for public review and comment. This process began in October through attendance at local Farmers Markets and will continue into June of next year when a draft plan will be available for public review and comment. A complete schedule of RTP activities is available on PVPC's website: [www.pvpc.org](http://www.pvpc.org).

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Gathering public input is an important part of the development of the RTP. PVPC staff collects, analyzes and summarizes all comments and responses received throughout the RTP planning process. This information helps to refine the plan and ensure that it reflects community values and interests.

The continued growth of shared mobility services, maintenance needs of roadways and bridges, impact of self-driving vehicles, and expansion of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure are just a few of the transportation issues that must be addressed in the latest update to the RTP for the Pioneer Valley.

For more information and to submit comments on the RTP, please visit:

[www.pvpc.org](http://www.pvpc.org)