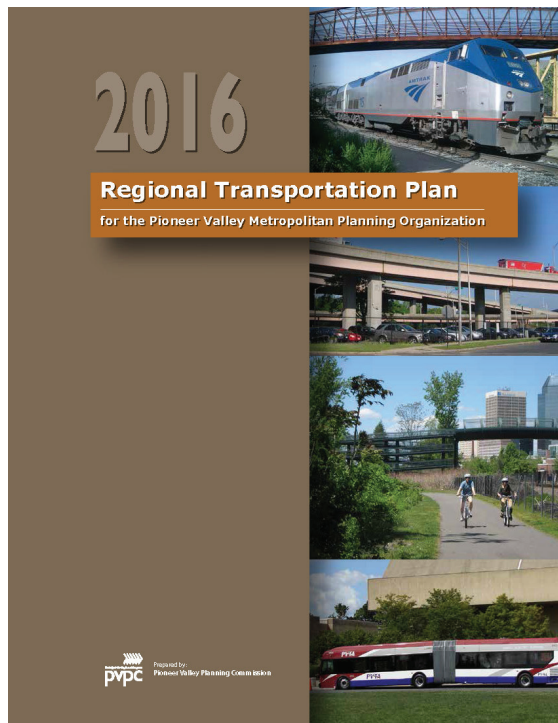


Regional Transportation Plan 2016 Update Now Available



The draft version of the 2016 Update to the Regional Transportation Plan for the Pioneer Valley (RTP) is now available for public review and comment. The RTP outlines the direction of transportation planning and improvements for the Pioneer Valley through the year 2040.

Updated every four years, 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 transportation improvement projects that are financially constrained. Prepared in concert with regional goals

and objectives and the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21 Century (MAP-21) legislation, the RTP plays a vital role in the advancement of transportation projects and policies for the region. New information included as part of RTP update includes:

- A 30-page Executive Summary document providing an overview of the RTP process and a sampling of high priority transportation improvement projects included as part of the draft plan.
- Seven problem statements, developed in consultation with a series of regional focus groups, to define the overarching issues that must be addressed through the implementation of the RTP.
- A series of seventeen regional performance targets to serve as indicators of how well the MPO is doing in advancing the goals of the RTP.

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