

# Annual Listing of Federally Obligated Projects:

## The Northern Middlesex Region

FFY 2008 (October 1, 2007 – September 30, 2008)



Northern Middlesex Council of Governments  
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**Annual Listing of Projects with Federal Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2008 in the Northern Middlesex Region**

**Introduction**

On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed into law the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act, A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). One of the requirements of SAFETEA-LU is that government spending on transportation becomes more transparent to State and Local Officials, as well as the public. As part of this SAFETEA-LU legislation, the act requires "...an Annual Listing of projects, including investments in pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, for which Federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year shall be published or otherwise made available by the cooperative effort of the State, transit operator, and metropolitan planning organization for public review. The listing shall be consistent with the funding categories identified in each metropolitan transportation improvement program (TIP)."<sup>1</sup>

SAFETEA-LU, like its predecessor legislation TEA-21, requires the metropolitan planning organization (MPO), State, and public transportation operator(s) to cooperate in preparing a list of projects for which Federal funds were obligated for spending during the immediately preceding year. This cooperation is essential because of the different responsibilities held by the organizations in planning, programming, and project implementation. The Northern Middlesex Council of Governments presents information on the projected schedule and funding for projects contained in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) based upon funds that are anticipated from funding agencies. Thus, the annual report of projects for which an obligation of funds took place is a cooperative effort detailing actual funds set aside for specific projects..

This annual listing of federally obligated projects has been organized in response to the SAFETEA-LU requirements. This report lists all transportation projects in the Northern Middlesex region that were obligated in the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2008 (October 1, 2007 – September 31, 2008).

**Background**

The Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG) is the regional planning agency for the Northern Middlesex Metropolitan Planning Organization (NMMPO). Created under Chapter 40B of the General Laws of Massachusetts, NMCOG is one of 13 regional planning agencies in the Commonwealth serving area communities in an advisory capacity, and studying and making recommendations regarding regional transportation issues. The Council's planning district includes the following Massachusetts communities: The City of Lowell, and the towns of Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, and Westford.

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<sup>1</sup> SAFETEA-LU, USC 134(j)(7)(B), 23 U.S.C. 135(g)(4)(B), 49 U.S.C. 5303(j)(7)(B), and 49 U.S.C. 5304(g)(4)(B)

**Summary of Federally Funded Projects in NMCOG Region**

This report indicates that over \$13 million in federal funds were obligated for transportation projects in the region for the FFY 2008. The funding consists of over \$7 million (54%) of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds for road, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, bridge projects, transportation enhancements, and air quality projects. Almost \$6 million (46%) in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds have been obligated for transit projects throughout the Northern Middlesex region.

The largest project, in terms of federal funding, involves a bridge replacement on Morton Street over the B&M Railroad in Lowell, with a FHWA federal obligation of over \$2.8 million.

**The Annual Listing of Federally Funded Projects in the NMCOG Region**

This report is organized into two sections: FHWA funding and FTA funding. The list includes the project identification number, funding type, type of project, federal obligation, total project costs, and status of the project. The FTA section includes funding source, project description, federal amount, total project costs, and project status.

Obligation is defined as the Federal government's legal commitment to pay the Federal share of a project's cost. An obligated project is one that has been authorized by the federal agency and funds have been obligated. Projects for which funds have been obligated are not necessarily initiated or completed in the program year, and the amount of the obligation will not necessarily equal the total cost of the project. For FTA projects, obligation occurs when the FTA grant is awarded. For FHWA projects, obligation occurs when a project agreement is executed and the State/grantee requests that the funds be obligated.

**FFY 2008 Roadway, Bridge, and Intermodal Project Listing**  
**(Final spreadsheet including all amendments/adjustments)**

<i>FUNDING</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>ID#</i>	<i>PROJECT</i>	<i>FEDERAL AMOUNT</i>	<i>STATE AMOUNT</i>	<i>TOTAL AMOUNT</i>	<i>08 STATUS</i>	<i>OBLIGATION DATE</i>	<i>FEDERAL AID OBLIGATION AMOUNT</i>
BR	Lowell	48710	Bridge Replacement, L-15-004, Morton Street over the B&M Railroad	\$2,488,308	\$622,077	\$3,110,385	adv 9/20/08;BR-001S(703)	9/18/2008	\$2,812,058
NFA	Tyngsborough	600872	Rehabilitation,T-09-001, Route 113 over Merrimack River	\$0	\$18,040,626	\$18,040,626	adv 9/27/08	n/a	n/a
CMAQ	LRTA		Purchase 2 Hybrid busses	\$938,306	\$234,577	\$1,172,883	transferred to FTA	9/3/2008	\$938,306
HPP	Lowell		Wood St. Ext./Rourke Mem. Bridge Feasibility Study	\$285,039	\$71,260	\$356,299	no information		
STP	Lowell	602644	Gallagher Square Reconstruction (A/C year 2)	\$2,240,000	\$560,000	\$2,800,000	AC 9/22/07;STP-001S(647)	9/19/2008	\$2,240,000
STP	Westford	601010	Route 110/Powers Rd	\$1,191,760	\$297,940	\$1,489,700	adv 9/6/08;STP-001S(886)	9/5/2008	\$1,087,400

*FFY 2008 Transit Project Status*

<i>RTA</i>	<i>MPO</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Federal Amount</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Grant</i>
LRTA	Northern Middlesex	5307	capital	spare parts	\$80,000	ongoing	X441
LRTA	Northern Middlesex	5311	operating	operating - rural	\$7,773	completed	
LRTA	Northern Middlesex	5307	operating	operating assistance	\$2,032,598	completed	X465
LRTA	Northern Middlesex	5307	planning	planning activities	\$60,000	completed	X441
LRTA	Northern Middlesex	S 115	capital	Gallagher Terminal	\$700,000	ongoing	15-002
LRTA	Northern Middlesex	S 115	capital	Gallagher Terminal	\$1,100,000	completed	15-002
LRTA	Northern Middlesex	5307	capital	maintenance vehicles	\$128,200	completed	X460
LRTA	Northern Middlesex	5307	capital	preventive maintenance	\$1,885,700	ongoing	X534