



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION



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**GOVERNOR PATRICK ANNOUNCES FIRST EIGHT  
HIGHWAYS PROJECTS ADVERTISED USING FEDERAL  
RECOVERY FUNDS**

*First "shovel-ready" projects to be advertised this week*

BOSTON – Thursday, March 13, 2009 – The Patrick Administration today announced the first eight "shovel-ready" transportation projects using federal highway stimulus funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will be advertised for bid on Saturday of this week. The eight initial projects span from the Berkshires to Cape Cod and represent an estimated total value of approximately \$30 million.

Massachusetts has received the authority from the federal government to spend a total of \$437.9 million on highway projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Approximately \$153.2 million will be committed to "shovel-ready" projects advertised for bid within the next 120 days, including the first eight projects to be advertised this week.

"As promised we are well prepared and putting these federal stimulus funds to work immediately," said Governor Deval Patrick. "When combined with our unprecedented investments in road and bridge construction, including the Accelerated Bridge Program, we are just beginning the long-term investment of billions of dollars to rebuild our neglected roads and bridges and put literally thousands of people to work."

The first eight projects to be advertised represent critical road resurfacing and traffic sign replacement in each of the five MassHighway regional districts. The first eight road projects include:

- Adams- 1.5 miles of resurfacing and sidewalk reconstruction on Route 116
- Bourne- Resurfacing on Route 6 (Scenic Highway) from Nightingale Pond Road to Bourndale Road.

- Bridgewater-Middleborough- Resurfacing Route 18 & Route 28 from Bridgewater Center to Middleborough Rotary
- Gill-Erving-Orange-Wendell- Resurfacing of 3.6 miles on Route 2
- Harvard-Littleton- Resurfacing of 4.4 miles on Route 2
- Lexington-Reading- Route 128 (I-95), Traffic and guide sign replacement
- Swansea- Resurfacing Route 6 from Somerset town line to Rehoboth town line
- Westport- Resurfacing of 4.6 miles on Route 6

“These initial shovel-ready projects address the important basic road maintenance needs that were identified by our partners at the federal, state, regional, and local level,” said Transportation Secretary James Aloisi, Jr. “We will put people to work making our roads safer this spring, and we are just getting started.”

"We are pleased to see the Executive Office of Transportation and MassHighway move forward thoughtfully and expeditiously to invest these recovery funds," said Governor Patrick's Director of Infrastructure Investment Jeffrey Simon. "Federal stimulus funds are supplementing our other road and bridge repair investments, allowing us to accelerate road and bridge maintenance projects while creating and maintaining jobs."

Federal recovery transportation projects are selected from the State Transportation Improvement Plan, which is comprised of projects submitted by the state's 13 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) following a collaborative public review process including the public and dozens of state, regional, and local officials.

Road and bridge projects funded by federal recovery money are selected from all regions based upon readiness and the Administration's priorities, in order to meet the 120-day "use-it-or-lose-it" federal deadline. Additional projects funded by the remaining transportation federal stimulus funds must be advertised for bid by March 2010.

Federal officials have also announced an additional \$319 million in recovery funds for transit projects at the Regional Transit Authorities and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority -- \$159.9 million of which must be committed to "shovel ready" projects within the next 180 days.

Federal recovery funds enhance the Patrick-Murray Administration's two year effort to address a legacy of neglect inherited from previous Administrations. The Administration working with the Legislature has approved more than \$9 billion for road, bridge and transit projects through Transportation Bond bills and an historic eight-year Accelerated Bridge Repair Program.

To view the list and descriptions of the first eight projects to be advertised along with more information about federal transportation recovery funding visit Governor Patrick's Massachusetts Recovery and Reinvestment Plan website, [www.mass.gov/recovery](http://www.mass.gov/recovery).

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