

RIO Task Force

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What is Public Transportation

Mode of transport such as buses, trains, vans, ferries available to the public, usually charge fares and are subsidized by the government.

- Follow federal rules of safety and non-discrimination.
- Successful public transportation relies on good sidewalks, roads and strong ridership

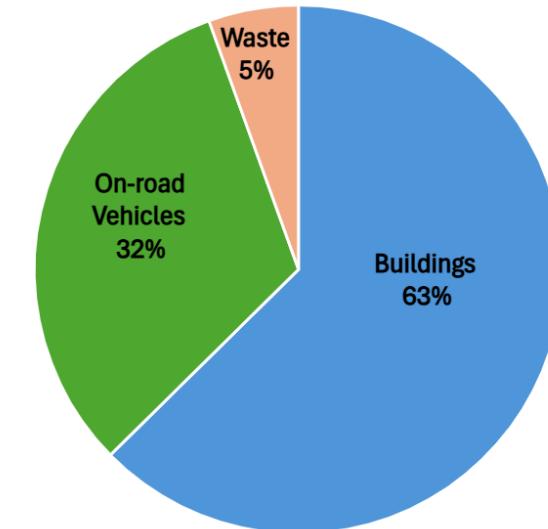
Benefits

- Accessibility and Equity
- Economic Growth
- Environmental
- Community

Why is it important?

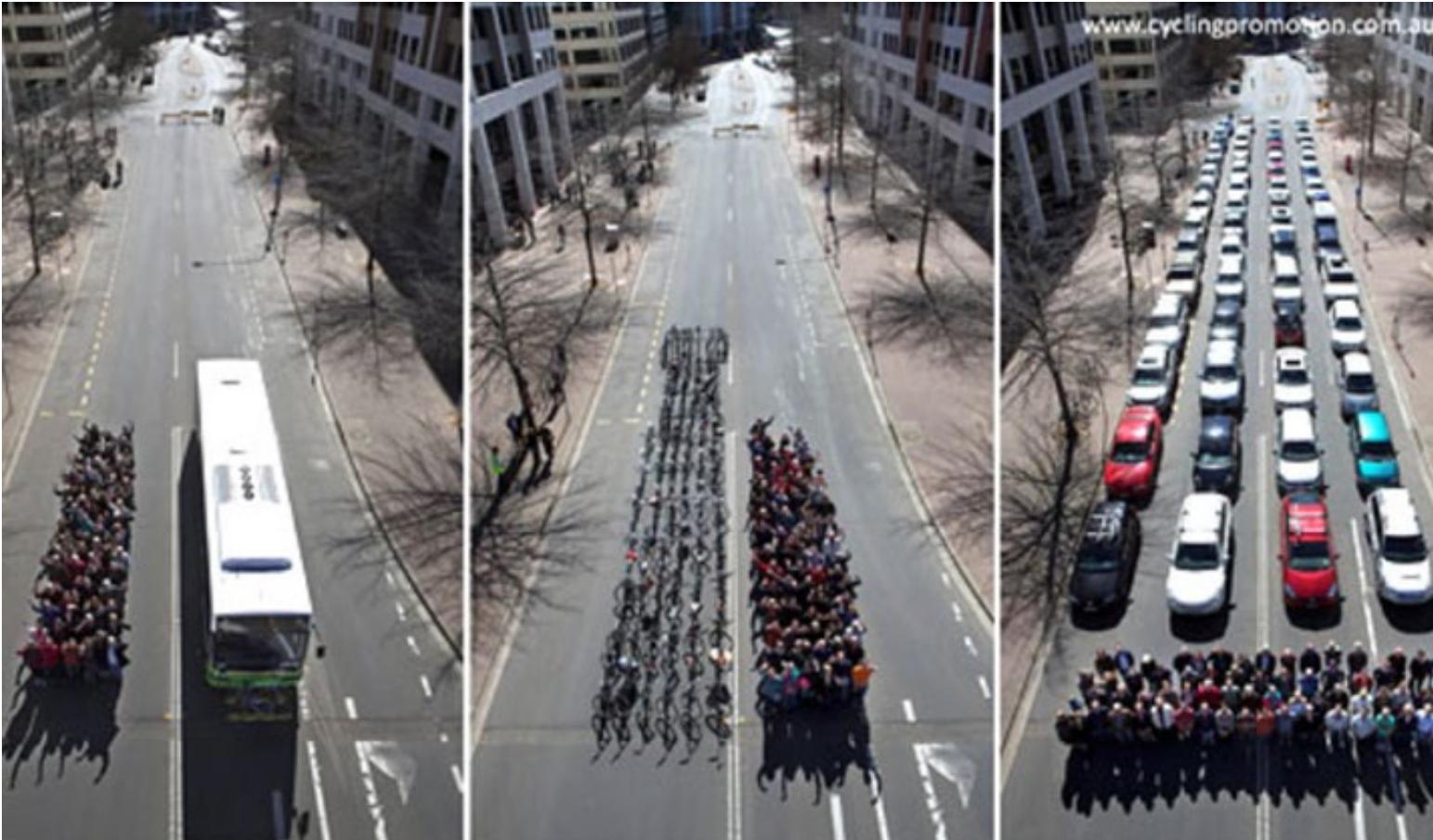
- Wellesley's Climate Action Plan
 - Net-Zero by 2050
- 32% of Wellesley's greenhouse gas emissions comes from Transportation
- Wellesley's Sustainable Mobility Plan
 - Reduce SOV's
 - Connect to Destinations
 - Smart Development
 - Reduce vehicle trip lengths
- Impact on water quality, trees, and air pollution

Contribution to 2023 Total GHG Emissions (MTCO2e)



Source: Town of Wellesley 2023

Why is it important?



Single occupancy vehicles (SOV's) take up a lot of space and resources.

Car Ownership

Wellesley – 1.1%

Natick - 2.7%

Weston - 0.0%

Wayland - 1.4%

Sherborn -

Boston - 23.1%

Acton - 0.6%

Framingham - 3.5%

Needham -



Percentage of households reporting zero cars - American Community Survey 5-year (2019-2023) Estimates

Wellesley's Public Transit

MBTA Commuter Rail Framingham Worcester Line

Service ~ 45 minutes

- Wellesley Square - 1,050 weekday riders
- Wellesley Hills
- Wellesley Farms

Station Improvements - fully accessible platforms are coming

Schedules could change

Stations could change



Wellesley's Public Transit

MetroWest Regional Transit Authority

Route 1

Catch Connect

Hospital Shuttle

Para-transit

MWRTA is Fare Free!



Wellesley's Public Transit

MetroWest Regional Transit Authority – Route 1 Bus



MWRTA is Fare Free!

- 7 days a week –
- M-F ~ 5 am – 11 pm
- Weekend route and schedule
- Realtime App
- 17,000 riders Rt 1 – 7,000/Wellesley
- Flag Down with few signed stops
- Travel Training
- Routes can change and adapt to demand



1st half 2025

Wellesley's Public Transit

MetroWest Regional Transit Authority – Catch Connect

Catch Connect - Microtransit - shared on-demand

Anywhere in Wellesley

Woodland/Waban/NW Hospital/Natick CC

First/last mile

M-F 6:45-8:45

4-6 vans

Woodland and Babson most demand

1210 ride in June 2024 4326 rides in October 2024



MWRTA is Fare Free!
MWRTA is Fare Free!

Wellesley's Public Transit

MetroWest Regional Transit Authority

Hospital Shuttle

- p/u Anywhere in Wellesley to Boston VAs and Hospitals
- T,W,TH – 8:30 am – 6 pm
- Reservations Required

ParaTransit

- Qualifications
- Reservations Required

Hospital Shuttle & Para Transit

Public Transportation - Making it Better Together

Adjusting and Growing for Demand

- Safety, Demand, Industry Best Practices
- Route 8 - ~700 rides/month; Catch Connect 1210 – 4326 rides/month
- 495 Connector - new North-South Route



MWRTA moving towards signed stops

Connections to other services

Customer Service needs to know - Report bad experiences to MWRTA. They can't fix what they don't know.

Support Public Transit by riding

Thank You!