

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

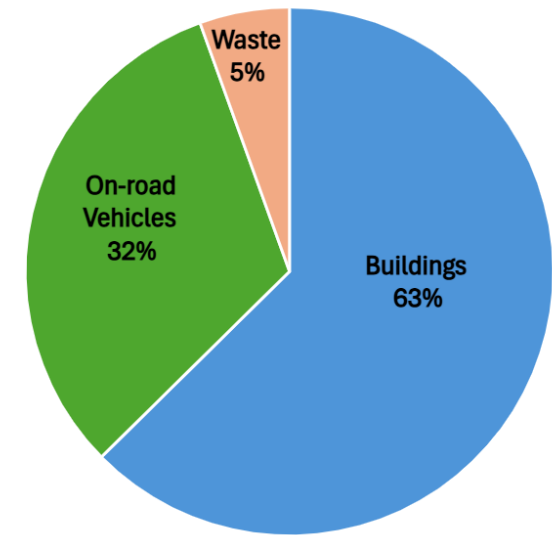
Benefits

- 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%

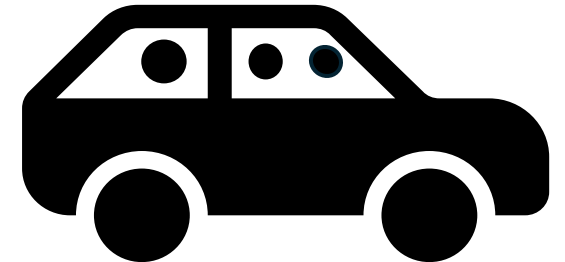
Sherborn -

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!

Wellesley's Public Transit

MetroWest Regional Transit Authority

**Hospital Shuttle
&
Para Transit**

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

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!