



EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR ALTERNATIVES

The overall goals of the RDM Transit Needs Study are to evaluate the existing transportation operations and MBTA service in the study area, to identify and evaluate a comprehensive list of improvements that would enhance the quality of the public transportation system for residents and businesses in the corridor, and to further advance designs for up to three strategies that garner support during the civic engagement process.

To identify improvements that would enhance the quality of public transportation, a list of evaluation criteria has been developed to assess the benefits and impacts of alternatives developed during the study. Based on comments received during the first round of public meetings and Advisory Group meetings, and commonly used criteria, the following categories of evaluation criteria are recommended for the RDM Transit Needs Study to address benefits and compatibility of the recommendations:

System Benefits	
<u>Criterion</u>	<u>Measures</u>
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decreased distance to access bus/transit</li> <li>• Bus/transit service provided to neighborhoods without previous service</li> <li>• Improvement in access for persons with disabilities</li> </ul>
Connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More connections to destinations in the study area</li> <li>• More connections to destinations/employment hubs outside the study area (i.e., Boston Medical Center, downtown Boston, LMA)</li> <li>• Increase in frequency of service</li> </ul>
Passenger Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More amenities for MBTA users (i.e., shelters benches, lighting, passenger information)</li> </ul>
Reliability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced variability of travel time from route origin to destination</li> <li>• Improvement in on-time performance</li> </ul>
Ridership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in ridership as a result of enhancement (i.e., faster travel time, connections to more destinations)</li> </ul>
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement in vehicular, pedestrian, or rider safety</li> </ul>
Travel Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decreased travel time to destination</li> </ul>



Compatibility within Study Area

Criterion	Measures
Community Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public support for alternatives</li> <li>• No impact on nearby residents (i.e., no right of way taking, no disruption to homes or businesses)</li> </ul>
Construction Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No impact caused by construction activities (i.e., to residents, businesses, or travel patterns)</li> </ul>
Environmental Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement in air quality</li> <li>• Reduction in noise/vibration</li> <li>• No influence on any other environmental resources (i.e., wetlands, animal habitats)</li> </ul>
Parking Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No reduction in number of on-street and off-street parking spaces</li> </ul>
Technical Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capable of physically and technically implementing the enhancement</li> </ul>
Traffic Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No impact on signalized intersections (i.e., reduced level of service, increased delays, or increased queues)</li> <li>• No reduction in lane or turning movement capacity</li> </ul>