

Community Conversations:

Micromobility, Bus Advocacy, and Policy in Boston, MA

Livablestreets Alliance- Maha Aslam

Our work

Advocating for innovative and equitable transportation solutions that create safe, affordable, and convenient options for everyone in Metro Boston.



Measuring *Equity* vs *Inequity*

Equity

inclusion

access to infrastructure

mobility options

adaptable and diverse
solutions

vs

vs

vs

vs

Inequity

marginalization

lack of infrastructure

transportation limitations

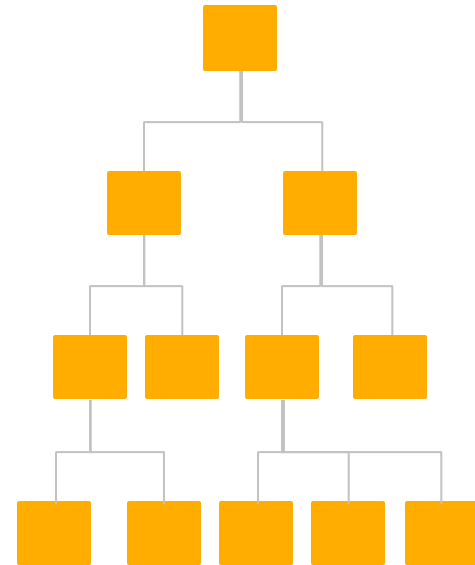
single solution

Inequity in Process

Communal



Governmental



Equity in transportation

Equity in transportation means making sure that no matter who you are or where you live, you have the same opportunities to use safe, affordable, and convenient transportation.

How we measure equity

Highlight where the equity gap is being reduced and how

Meeting people where they are at- *BHA Bus Rider Survey*

From April 18th to June 3rd, 2023, LivableStreets Alliance led a team of Street Ambassadors to engage bus riders and gather feedback on their experience of Blue Hill Avenue. We interacted with ~**700** bus riders & collected **520** surveys.

As a token of appreciation, the Street Ambassadors also distributed \$5 gift vouchers from two local businesses, *Ali's Roti* and *Cafe Juice Up*, to 200 bus riders who participated in the initiative.

Meeting people where they are at- *BHA Bus Rider Survey*

1. Most of the people riding the bus are from **Roxbury, Dorchester & Mattapan.**

2. Most of the people are taking the bus to go to **work, school & to visit family & friends**

3. Bus riders **rarely use other means of transport** to travel along Blue Hill Avenue



4. Bus riders want **safer crossings** on Blue Hill Avenue, **consistent buses, less traffic on roads & better security** on buses.

5. Bus riders also want **more benches, more bus shelters, public restrooms and better lighting** on Blue Hill Avenue

Finding new ways to talk to people-

Southwest Corridor Action plan

From May to Sept 2023, LivableStreets Alliance has been actively engaging with the residents of the neighborhoods along the Southwest Corridor Park. So far we've had about a ~**1000** interactions with park users & have collected a little over **700** surveys.

Finding new ways to talk to people-

Southwest Corridor Action plan

1. We have used a variety of tools to get the word out

Online Surveys, An Interactive Map, Yard Signs, Flyers, Survey for Teens, Placemats for Kids, Pinterest Boards.

2. We've attended Community Events

Mildred Hailey Hot Dogs Night, Unity Day, Teen Summer Night

3. We've met people at local markets

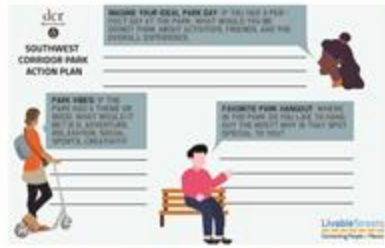
Mission Hill Farmer's Market

4. We sent our Streets Ambassadors to talk to people in the park

5. We've attended Festivals

Wakeup the Earth festival, Jamaica Plain Open Streets

Finding new ways to talk to people- *Southwest Corridor Action plan*

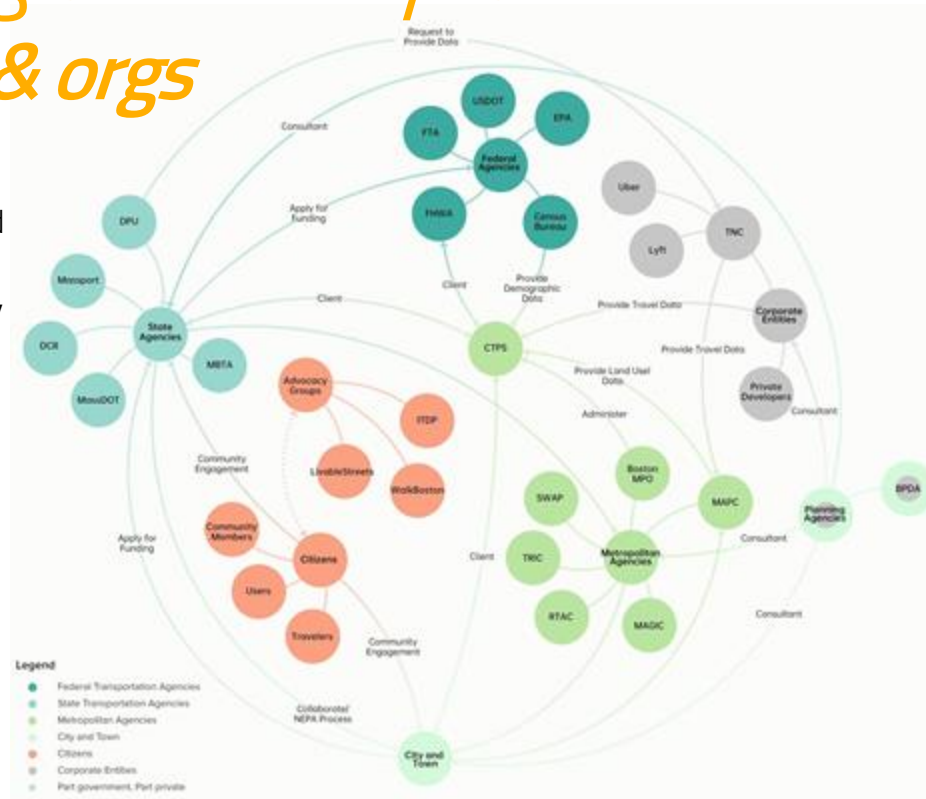


Finding new ways to talk to people- *Southwest Corridor Action plan*

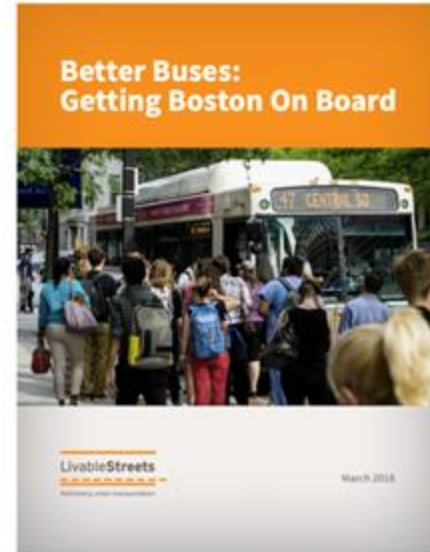
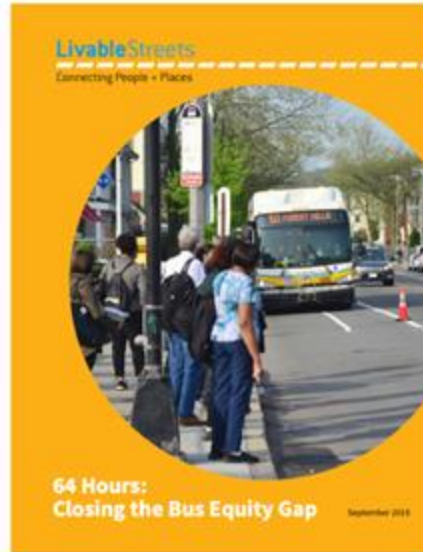


Navigating the ecosystem of *governance & orgs*

Understanding the system and **relationships** at play for **transportation, development, and other intersections**



Writing about what we have heard— *Bus Reports*



Writing about what we have heard-

Bus Reports

1. Assessed the current bus system by identifying the most vulnerable bus routes and communities.
2. Evaluated roadblocks to expanding service and opportunities for realizing existing transit demand.
3. Providing policy recommendations for equitable expansion that reflect the region's needs.

Annual Travel Time Disparity Compared to White Riders



Black Riders **+64** hours



Latinx Riders **+10** hours

Source: MAPC Regional Indicators, 2014

Supporting policy that speak to what we hear - *fare free Buses*

FARE-FREE BUSES



Contact Information

Get involved with LivableStreets:

www.livablestreets.info

Want to talk more about Transit, reach out:

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