

MassDOT Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2028 Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Summary of Public Comments and Responses

Subject	Comment Type	Summarized Comment	Response
West-East Rail	Request	It would be helpful to have a one pager to understand investment, particularly in rail, such as the East-West Rail project. It is difficult to grasp the funding programmed for the project. Additionally, the Representative and her constituents are interested in what the state is doing to fund East-West Rail and would like clear answer regarding this project.	Information about the West-East Rail initiative and related FY2024-28 CIP investments can be found in the "Selected Major Investments and Programs" section of the CIP. Individual investments during FYs 2024-28—such as funding to support track improvements at Pittsfield station and for the study and design of Palmer Station—are listed in Appendix A of the CIP. Also, following the approval of the FY2024-28 CIP, the Commonwealth received a \$108 million Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) award for the Inland Route, which will be reflected in the 2025-29 CIP and will represent a significant capital investment in the Springfield-Worcester segment of the West-East corridor.
West-East Rail - Palmer and Pittsfield Rail Projects	Request	The Western Mass Rail Coalition requests that a new project be added to the FY 2024-2028 CIP for the "Palmer and Pittsfield Rail Projects" that Governor Maura Healey identified in the FY2024 budget that she submitted to the legislature on March 1, 2023. The total amount requested is \$12,500,000 (https://budget.digital.mass.gov/govbudget/fy24/appropriations/transportation/15962407). These projects, as detailed in the Governor's budget, would provide "for one-time expenses for rail projects in Palmer and Pittsfield; provided, that not less than \$8,500,000 shall be expended for track improvements at the Pittsfield Station; and provided further, that not less than \$4,000,000 shall be expended for study and design of a Palmer Station." The governor clearly feels that these capital projects should move forward in FY2024, hence the reason that they were included in the budget, and we firmly believe that these projects should now be included in the current CIP update, even though the legislature decided not to provide the funding for these projects in the state budget. We believe that these projects could be funded right now from the transportation bond funding that was included in Chapter 383 of the Acts of 2020 and/or Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2022.	The Final FY 2024-28 CIP includes \$8 million to support track improvements at Pittsfield station and \$4 million for the study and design of Palmer Station. Additional information about the West-East Rail initiative can be found in the "Selected Major Investments and Programs" section of the CIP, and specific investments during FY2024-28 are listed in Appendix A for the CIP. Also, following the approval of the FY2024-28 CIP, the Commonwealth received a \$108 million Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) award for the Inland Route, which will be reflected in the FY2025-29 CIP and will represent a significant capital investment in the Springfield-Worcester segment of the West-East corridor.
Winchendon - Improvements and Related Work on Central Street (Route 202), from Front Street to Maple Street (608548)	Support	Thank you for including this project in the FY2024-28 CIP.	Thank you for your support for this project.