

MBR's mission

To apply the knowledge, experience, insight and unique managerial perspective of its membership toward the resolution of complex public policy issues. Whether it be transportation reform, or education, health care, fiscal policy or corporate social responsibility, MBR continues to have a quantifiable impact in developing and articulating long-term views, programs and policies that promote the social and economic vitality of Massachusetts.

1999



MBR had an idea: Study whether Massachusetts could increase its self-imposed \$1B annual borrowing limit—without impacting the state's credit rating—to address some of the state's pressing capital needs.

2000



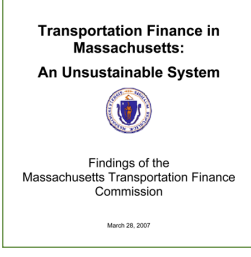
In May of 2000, MBR's Infrastructure Task Force commissioned a study by PricewaterhouseCoopers which determined that the state's annual bonding limit could be comfortably increased from \$1B to \$1.3B "without affecting the state's bond rating." **Based on MBR's report, the state added \$200M annually to its capital budget for infrastructure investment.**

2003



In January of 2003, MBR commissioned researchers from UMass Boston to determine how best to prioritize spending of the new capital dollars. The report made a series of recommendations to improve the state's planning & project selection processes. **From this MBR report, the legislature appointed the Transportation Finance Commission (TFC) to identify the funding needs for the state's transportation system.**

2007



MBR had two representatives on the 12-member TFC. The TFC released its reports in March and September of 2007, which identified a shortfall of between \$16B and \$20B in transportation infrastructure funding over the next 20 years and made **22 recommendations** on how to close that gap.

2009



In 2009, both Governor Patrick and the Massachusetts State Senate announced comprehensive plans to restructure and reform the Commonwealth's transportation system. Both plans include **all** 22 of the recommendations made by the Transportation Finance Commission.