Strategic plan underway

In February, MBTA members were asked to complete a survey about the organization. The questionnaire called for information about members' attitudes regarding MBTA's mission and organizational goals. The survey was designed to give board members guidance as they began the strategic planning process.

The MBTA board is working with Robert Harris, CAE, on the new plan. Harris has worked with organizations from Texas to Maine and Japan to the Ukraine on strategic plans. He helps organizations define board roles and responsibilities and trains organizational staff on risk, efficiency, policy management, and governance.

He has authored books on everything from how to start an organization to how to advocate for change. His best-selling publication, Association Self-Assessment Process, poses 150 questions to assess an organization's documents and process. He is known for his no-nonsense style, and has said his ultimate goal is "to promote the association management profession and share the tools of success."

The MBTA board also completed a separate survey that served as a guide for a one-day planning retreat held late in March. At that session, board members reviewed the MBTAs prior plan and affirmed the MBTAs goals, vision and values and set strategies. During the session, participants also set performance measures that will act as guideposts, keeping staff and board members focused on the plan in the coming years.

After the planning retreat, Harris will work with the MBTA staff and board to complete a draft and finalize the new strategic plan. The entire process takes about 90 days from initial membership survey to the plan's completion.

"The last time we revisited the strategic plan, it was in 2006," said MBTA President Thomas Gorrill. "A lot has happened since then, and the board felt it was time we looked at where we are going and how we want to get there."

Gorrill included the updated strategic plan as one of the goals of his term, and he has called the process a "road map" that will give the MBTA leadership insight and direction over the next several years.

"This is our 75th year, and I can't think of a better time to be doing this," said Gorrill. "

---

Promotional content:

PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF

Over 125 Years of Engineering Excellence

- Highway & Bridge Engineering and Design
- Planning
- Resident Engineering & Inspection
- Thermoplastic Bridge Design
- Railroad Engineering

New England Offices:
- Manchester, NH
- Boston, MA
- Glastonbury, CT
- Providence, RI

www.pbworld.com

Sibley Pond Design-Build Bridge Replacement Project
Route 2, Canaan/Pittsfield, Maine