



“Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.”

-- Søren Kierkegaard



Highway Revolt: Rebellion or Revolution?

Urban Transportation Planning
MIT Course 1.252j/11.540j
Fall 2016

Frederick Salvucci, MIT Senior Lecturer



Early History

- Tobin Bridge
- Storrow Drive
- Central Artery
- West End
- Turnpike
- Prudential



Early Battles

- Spy Pond, Arlington
- Lexington
- Memorial Drive – Sycamores
- Jamaicaway
- Leverett Circle Bridge



Neighbourhood vs. City of Cambridge

- Father McManus
- Cambridge Committee on the Inner Belt
- MIT vs. Neighborhoods
- McCormack vs. Volpe
- Kennedy (Gifford)
- DPW Restudy
- Casa Grande
- Killian
- Junior faculty petition
- City of Cambridge revised position, Justin Gray
- Galbraith vs. Moynihan
- Kevin White elected, Barney Frank Chief of Staff
- Task A vs. Task B
- McCormack



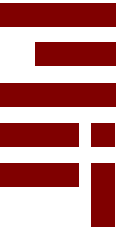
Municipal Coalition vs. the State

- Nixon victory, Volpe to D.C.; Sargent becomes governor
- White vs. Sargent
- Civil rights
- Demonstration on Boston Common
- Moratorium
- I-93 in Somerville
- Task Force, Altshuler and Jack Wofford
- Study Design
- Sargent beats White

Boston Transportation Planning Review



- Participation in study
- Technically multi-modal
- Study Element II
- Sargent decision; downtown progress
- NEPA



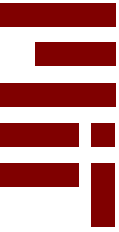
Implementation

- Constitutional change concerning gas tax
- Interstate transfer
- Operating subsidies for transit
- Re-organized T
- Affirmative Action in construction
- Legislature blocks Third Harbor Tunnel
- Sargent vs. Dukakis vs. Quinn
- EIS, Southwest Corridor, Red Line, Commuter Rail
- Blue Line, Revere Beach Connector, Peabody-Salem Connector
- King beats Dukakis



Implementation (cont'd)

- Transit chaos, reform legislature on T
- Construction of Red Line and Southwest Corridor
- Dukakis beats King
- Southeast Expressway reconstruction
- Central Artery and Tunnel
- 1987 Surface Transportation Act
- MBTA “Customers”
- Conservation Law Foundation agreement
- Weld becomes Governor
- 1991 ISTEA
- Central Artery/Tunnel construction



Rashamon

- Community action and advocacy
- Municipal politics
- Legislature and Congressional electoral politics
- Electoral executive politics
- American style separation of executive from legislative branch
- National Environmental Policy Act; Clean Air Act, Section 4(f)
- Concept of the city: physical, social
- Economy of region

Postscript: Reaction and Re-emergence of Highways



- 1991 ISTEA and MPO
- Fiscal constraints and the pipeline
- (non) Benign neglect of transit
 - Blue-Red Connector
 - Silver Line Phase III
 - Green Line Extension
 - Orange Line vehicles
- Forward funding of MBTA and stealth service erosion
- Fix it first
- Avoid dramatic harm
- The frog in the boiling water
- McGrath Highway rebuild; Charlesgate flyover
- MassPike, Crosby Corner, and Route 3 add a lane
- Blue-Red connector; Blue line to Lynn; Silver Line Phase III; Urban Ring
- Can the Green Line absorb 50% more passengers?
- MBTA fare increases; parking creep
- Externalities as a central problem
- Reform before revenue and the unified DOT
- Storrow Drive and Esplanade
- Charles River bridges a an opportunity
- Importance of the Mayor; Governor; media
- What is the relevance in China?

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