



Deval L. Patrick, Governor  
Richard A. Davey, Secretary & CEO



February 20, 2014

Mr. David Vega-Barachowitz  
Director, Designing Cities Initiative  
National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)  
55 Water Street, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10041

Dear Mr. Vega-Barachowitz:

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is committed to becoming a national leader in the integration of sustainability in all transportation sectors. Our goal is to foster transportation decisions that balance the needs of all transportation users, expand mobility, improve public health, support a cleaner environment, and create stronger communities around the Commonwealth. MassDOT officially endorses the National Association of City Transportation Official's (NACTO) *Urban Street Design Guide* as a valuable tool which can be used in conjunction with other state design guides to develop and design streets and public spaces that embody the Commonwealth's sustainability mission.

This *Guide* provides a concrete vision for improving the safety and livability of our streets for pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers, and transit users. The guidance, vision, and flexibility articulated in the *Urban Street Design Guide* are consistent with the Commonwealth's Healthy Transportation Directive, "Complete Streets" initiative, and in line with GreenDOT (MassDOT's sustainability plan). This *Guide* uses illustrations and case studies from various urban cities to help demonstrate best practices in successful Complete Street implementation, and provides guidance for customizing design applications.

As MassDOT continues to develop sustainable transportation practices around the Commonwealth, we value research and design elements that will help us reach our vision. The *Urban Street Design Guide* provides essential design principles which can create safe, multi-modal, urban street designs around the Commonwealth. MassDOT is pleased to share in NACTO's commitment to improving urban streets and creating sustainable street designs.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Davey  
Secretary & CEO  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation