



July 16, 2013

The Honorable William Brownsberger State House Room 423 C Boston, MA 02133-1053

Dear Senator Brownsberger,

It was pleasure to meet with you to discuss the progress the MBTA has made toward providing the best possible service to our Green Line customers. I am pleased to update you on the following specific initiatives.

- Green Line Tracking System: The specifications for this project are currently in development with intended completion of this planning work by December 2013. The project is expected to be fully implemented by late 2016, with visible customer improvements beginning in 2015.
- Traffic Signalization & Timing Improvements: Additional signal "green time" was provided by the City of Boston for Green Line vehicles at Lake Street, Cleveland Circle, and Packard's Corner. This has been a major improvement. We are also evaluating existing Transit Signal Priority (TSP) systems along the B Line (Commonwealth Ave.) and the E Line (Huntington Ave.)
- Stop Consolidation: We are currently engaged in meetings with the City of Boston concerning Commonwealth Avenue, Huntington Avenue and Beacon Street. By eliminating and/or consolidating stops we would enhance overall customer service by reducing travel time and waiting time. As discussed, low ridership and proximity to other stops are two important factors that are part of our stop consolidation analysis work. The next round of planning discussions will include Boston University, Boston Redevelopment Authority and the town of Brookline. After this process, we will schedule public meetings.
- Government Center Modernization: The MBTA Board of Directors recently approved a contract award to Barletta Heavy Division, Inc. The Notice to Proceed will be issued shortly and work is planned to commence in late summer.
- Fenway Multi-Use Trail: The MBTA will coordinate with the City of Boston Transportation Department as the City begins to advance design of Multi-use path extension of the Muddy River Reservation to Fenway Station, under Park Drive. Based upon latest CSX acquisition, the MBTA has more right of way room to allow the path to be built without interfering with the Green Line tracks.

- Green Line Vehicle Programs: Our original letter stated that funding for the replacement of a portion of the Green Line cars was not in The Way Forward Plan. As a point of clarification, assuming full funding of The Way Forward Plan, replacement of a portion of the Green Line fleet was included as part of the original Plan. Ultimately, our overall capital program and project priorities will be significantly dependent upon available funding.
- Power System Upgrades: The twenty-nine million dollars has been allotted in the MBTA Capital Improvement Plan over the next five years.

1 look forward to our continued strong working relationship. Thank you for your genuine interest and active support of public transit.

Sincerely.

Beverly A. Scott, Ph.D.

MBTA General Manager and

MassDOT Rail & Transit Administrator