



Fitchburg

Commuter Rail

Line Improvement Project

Project Update

July, 2013



Program Definition/Goals

One Program/Multiple Projects:

\$159M Small Starts/Rt 62 Bridge (FTA/State)

\$ 10M CPF 43 (ARRA)

\$ 42M Double Tracking (ARRA/EOHED)

\$ 59M Wachusett Extension (TIGER)

\$ 7M N. Leominster Parking (FTA/State)

\$277M Investment

**Improve
Performance**



Increase Reliability/Access.
Decrease Travel Time
Extend Service



Program Construction Schedule

- **CPF 43**

Complete

- **Double Track**

Spring 2010 - Summer 2013

- **Small Starts/Rt.62**

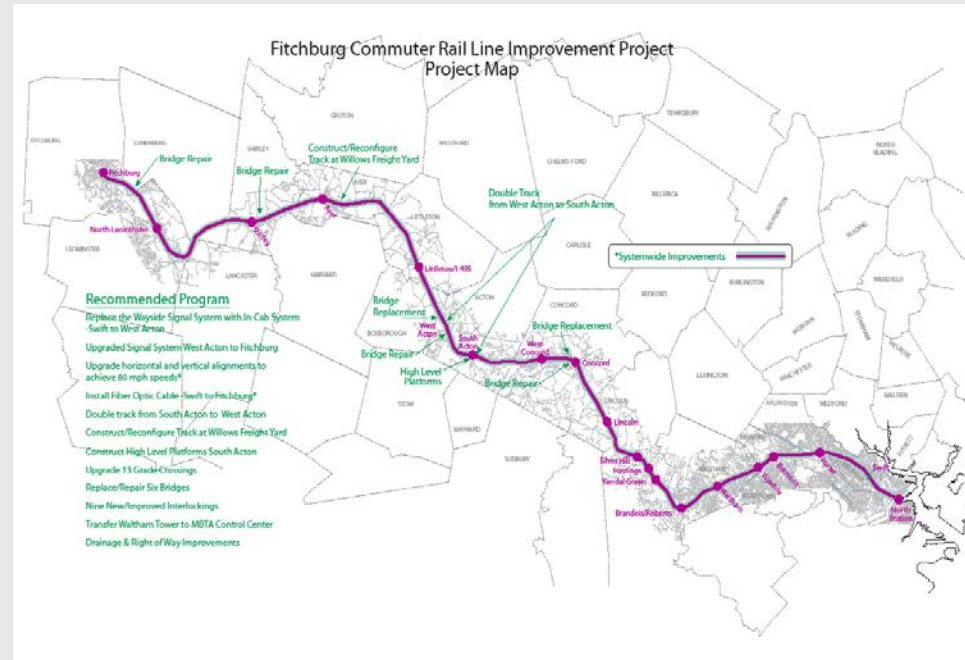
Jan 2012 – Dec 2015

- **N. Leominster Parking Garage**

Spring 2012 – Fall 2013

- **Wachusett Extension**

Fall 2011- Dec 2014





CPF 43 - Complete

Universal Interlocking/Freight Switching Lead





Double Track

8 Mi. of Double Track/New Littleton/495 Station

- Design & Permitting Complete
- Force Account Construction – MBCR
 - Track under construction
 - Signal under construction
 - To be completed Summer 2013
- Littleton Station Construction
 - Contractor NTP Jan 2012 – complete Summer 2013
 - Parking Complete (\$2M EOHED funding)
 - New Platform opened June 3, 2013





Double Track – Littleton Station

May 2013
Aerial Photo
(Courtesy of R.
Coughlin)





Small Starts Project

- New Signal System - Boston to Acton
- Upgrade track alignments to achieve 79 MPH
- 1 Mi double track South Acton to West Acton
- Reconfigure track at Willows Freight area
- Dual high level platforms at South Acton
- Upgrade 30 at-grade crossing warning systems
- Replace/repair seven (7) bridges
- Nine (9) new/modified interlockings
- Transfer Waltham Tower to MBTA Control Center



Small Starts Update

- Funding Application submitted to FTA
 - PCGA approved September, 2011
- Permitting
 - Federal and state complete
 - Local WPA complete
- Construction Packages
 - Track & Signal – NTP July 2013
 - Bridge – NTP Dec 2012
 - South Acton Station – NTP Dec 2012





South Acton Station





Route 62 Bridge





Construction Impact on Service

- Interruption of service is inherent in project
- Limit disruptions to off-peak and weekends
- Minimize impact to Weekday peak service



Weekend Service Plan

- Suspend weekend service outbound of work zone on a 'seasonal' basis
- No replacement service/busing
- Modified service schedule
- No change in service during winter months
- Concept successful on Old Colony Lines
- Mitigation for potential construction delays



Advantages

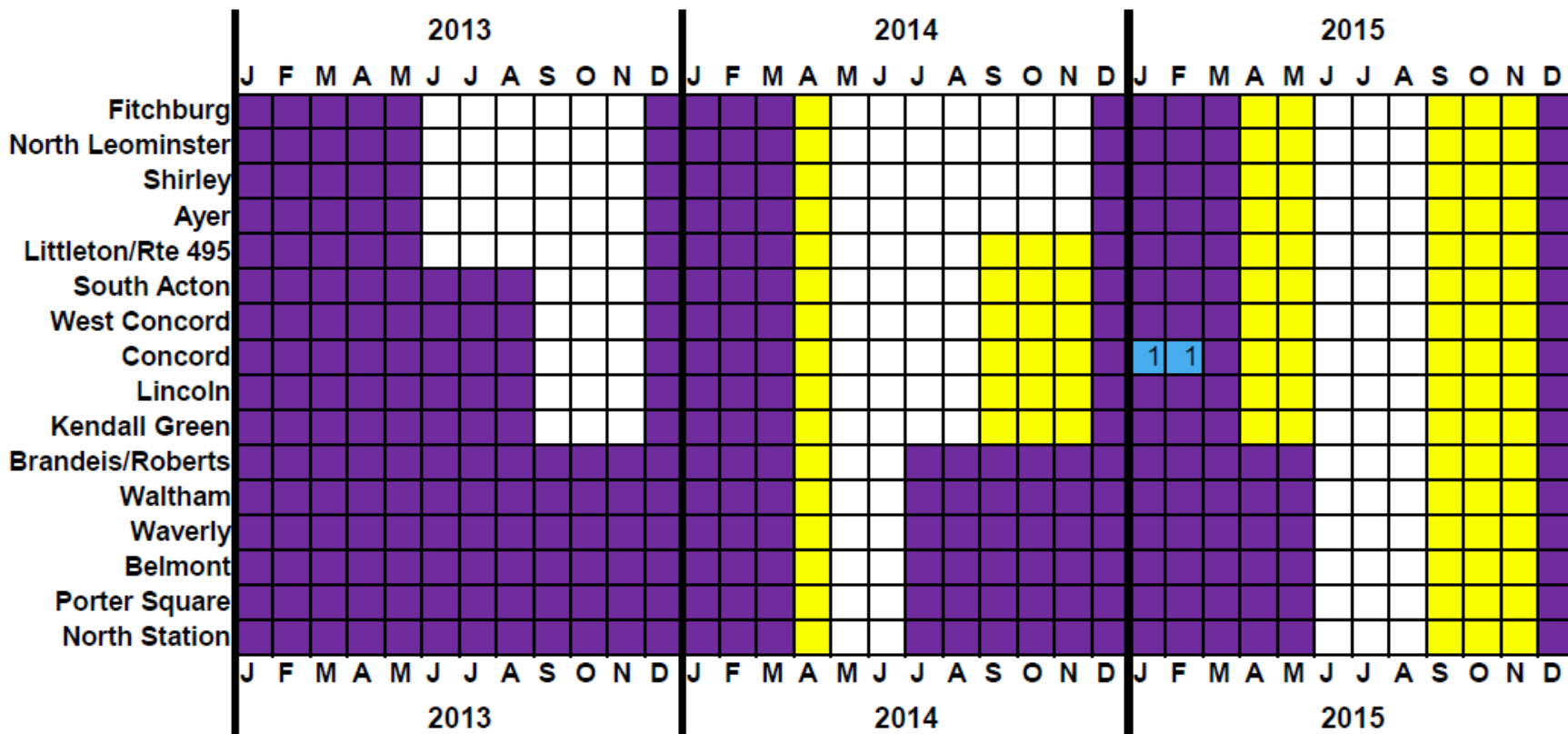
- Consistent and predictable service
- More time and flexibility for work
- Minimize service impacts during week
- Minimize conflicts with other projects
- Minimize MBCR staffing requirements
- Ensure that project is completed on time



Weekend Service Schedule

MBTA Fitchburg Line

Weekend Service Outage Plan for Construction



- = TRAIN SERVICE OPERATING
- = NO SERVICE
- = Potential Additional Outages
- 1 = Weekend busing/work location (# weekends)

rev. 07-17-2013



Communication

- MBTA Web Site/Alerts
- MBCR RailMail
- Signage at stations
- On Train Crew Announcements
- On Platform Scrolling LED Sign Alerts
- Regular Legislative, Press, and Website Updates
- Project Inquiry Email and Hotline



Conclusion

- Consistent service suspensions rather than unpredictable weekend busing
- Minimize weekday impacts to service
- Ensure other projects proceed
- Complete Fitchburg project on schedule
- Realize project benefits by Dec 2015