



Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor
Richard A. Davey, MassDOT Secretary & CEO
Jonathan R. Davis, Acting General Manager
and Rail & Transit Administrator



May 18, 2012

Mr. Ram Rao, Chair
Brighton Neighbors United
c/o 80 Lake Shore Road
Brighton, MA 02135

Dear Mr. Rao:

Thank you for your recent letter to MassDOT Secretary Richard Davey, on behalf of Brighton Neighbors United, expressing opposition to capital budget programming by the MBTA of funds for proposed improvements at Boston College Station. Secretary Davey asked that I respond to your letter and provide clarification on project status and decision-making.

In 2011, the MBTA received 80% federal grant funding. The \$656,600 grant funding is administered through the Federal Transit Administration and supplemented with a 20% project local match of \$164,500 in MBTA funds. The U.S. Congress appropriated the funding in federal fiscal year 2008 for the preliminary design-engineering of improvements at Boston College Station that advances accessibility, customer convenience, safety, and sustainability.

As the project is envisioned, we would relocate the station and appurtenances that includes an ADA-complaint platform within the median on Commonwealth Avenue. By separating the boarding and alighting area from the light maintenance/vehicle storage yard area, we believe the reconfigured Boston College Station will minimize traffic conflicts and establish safer, more visible and more customer-friendly Green Line access at the B Branch terminus.

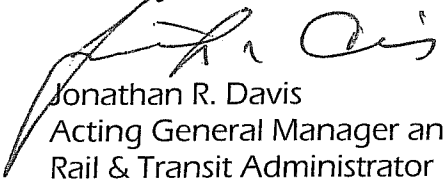
We are in the early stages of design development for this station improvement project. Concept plans are due to be completed later before the end of the summer. Additionally, MassDOT/MBTA will engage stakeholders including neighborhood residents in a public review and dialogue process. We welcome your participation in this process and will keep you posted on when public meetings or workshop presentations are scheduled.

In your letter, you correctly refer to the financial constraints facing the MBTA. The dedicated federal funding has enabled us to move forward with the early design efforts for the Boston College Station Improvements Project. However, we have not committed funds that would enable the project to advance into final design or construction, and, in fact, given our pressing infrastructure needs backlog and budget constraints, the Authority would certainly require funding from sources other than the MBTA should a decision be made to complete the station improvement project.

I hope this letter clarifies some of the issues and concerns you raised. I have asked project staff to keep you and your organization informed on project meetings and progress updates.

Thank you for your interest and involvement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan R. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "D".

Jonathan R. Davis
Acting General Manager and
Rail & Transit Administrator