

ALLSTON MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

Task Force Meeting

November 19, 2026

Zoom Controls



- Drop down menu to check microphone and speakers



- Ask a question and share comments; Alt+H



- Raise your hand - *9 for users dialing in; Alt+Y



- Closed captioning is automatically generated by ZOOM



- If you are unable to access the internet or are having technical problems, please call into the meeting at 305-224-1968, Meeting ID: 823 5047 7701 Passcode: 914220



- Ask for support from the Virtual Public Involvement team



If you have trouble with the meeting technology during the presentation, please call:

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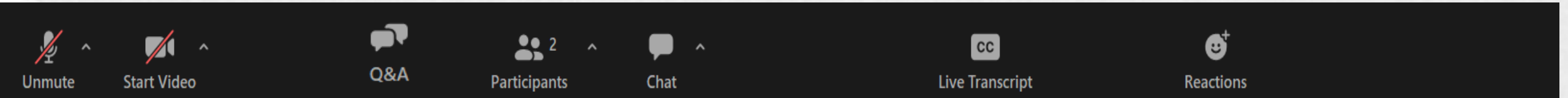


Public meeting notes and procedures:

Notification

- While this virtual public meeting is not being recorded, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute images, reports, and/or the Q/A transcript.
- All parts of this meeting are considered public record.
- If you are not comfortable being part of the official record, please refrain from utilizing the Q/A feature, turn off your camera, and keep your microphone muted, or you may choose to excuse yourself from the meeting.

Important notes

- Your microphone is automatically disabled upon entering the meeting.
- The meeting will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation, with opportunities to ask questions after each of the updates as well.
- Task Force members will be prioritized for questions and comments

All questions and comments are welcome and appreciated, however we do request that you refrain from any disrespectful comments.

Notice of MassDOT's policy on diversity and civil rights:

- All MassDOT activities, including public meetings, are free of discrimination.
- MassDOT complies with all federal and state civil rights requirements preventing discrimination based on sex, race, color, ancestry, national origin (limited English proficiency), religion, creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or veteran's status.
- We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit https://www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

Thank you for joining our meeting. We appreciate your participation!

Share Your Questions and Comments



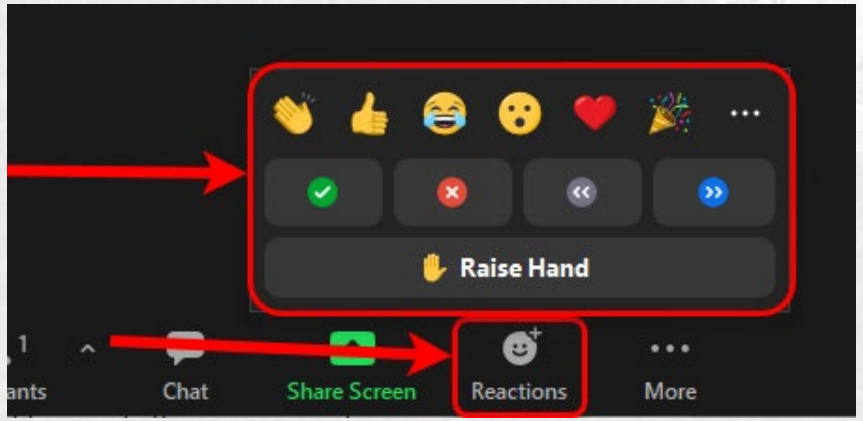






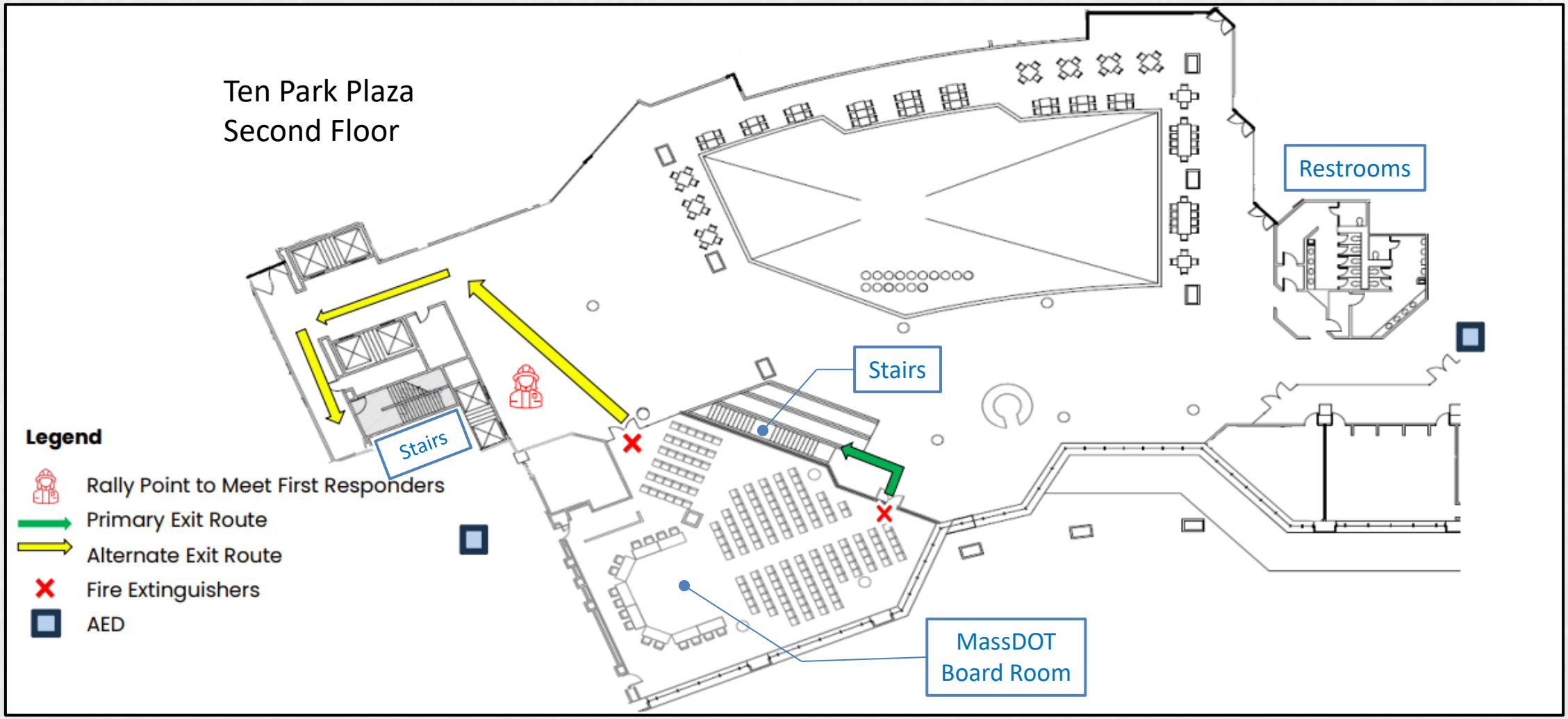


- Submit your questions and comments
- "Raise your hand" to be unmuted for verbal questions
- Please state your name before your question
- Please share only **1** question or comment at a time, limited to **2** minutes, to allow others to participate.
- To ask a question via phone, dial *9 and the moderator will call out the last 4-digits of your phone number and unmute your audio when it is your turn.



Please be advised that all comments are subject to disclosure for public records, therefore use these functions for project-related business only.

Safety Minute



Today's Agenda

- **Welcome/Introductions**

- Lincoln Street Noise Barriers
- Boston Layover Study
- Independent Cost and Engineering Analysis

- MBTA Regional Rail Modernization Plan Discussion

- Looking Ahead

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Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

RegionalRAIL

Regional Rail Modernization Planning

AMTP Monthly Task Force Meeting

November 2026



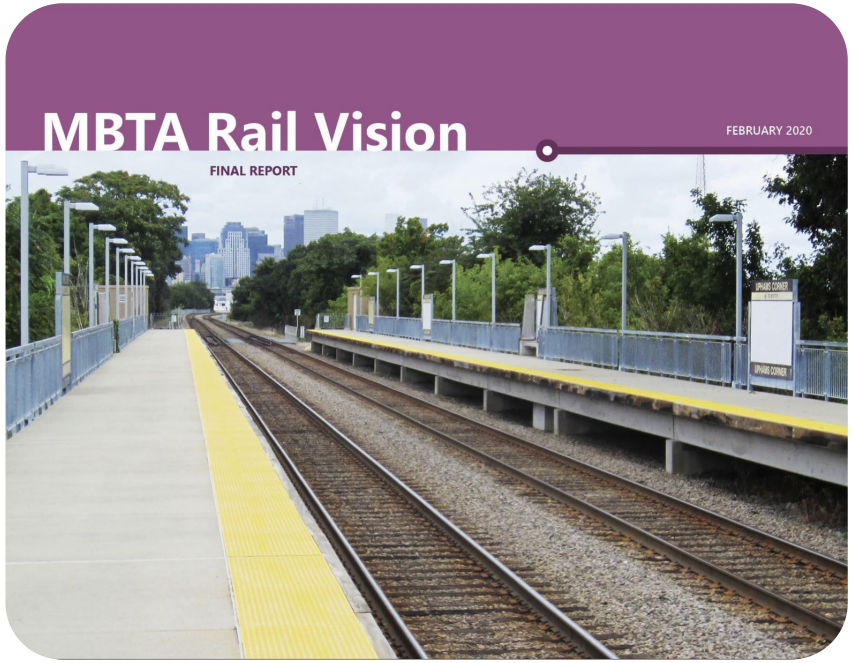
Agenda

- Regional Rail Modernization Overview / review of content from October 2026 presentation
- Q&A

Rail Vision called for a transformed Commuter Rail System

- In 2019, the MBTA released Rail Vision to guide our planning to **turn peak-hour Commuter Rail into an all-day, bi-directional Regional Rail System**
- Provided insight into potential **unconstrained investments** needed to achieve the vision
- Full Transformation Alternative would cost **$40.7B in 2030$**

RAIL VISION



Overview

Early Action Projects – Key Updates

- Procurement of battery-electric fleet and low-emissions diesel locomotives underway
- Accessibility upgrades across the network with mini-high and high-level platforms
- South Coast Rail service restored for the first time since the 1950s
- Worcester Line Track & Signal improvements to unlock additional service
- Investments in new maintenance facilities to support future service increase





Why update our plans?

- **Funding** – Full Transformation Alternative was estimated at $40.7 billion, far beyond available funding.
- **No prioritization, no tradeoffs** – It treated every improvement as equally achievable and equally beneficial.
- **COVID19** – Remote and hybrid work have reshaped ridership, requiring a focus on new markets
- **Technology** – Fleet technology has advanced considerably allowing for less capital intensive decarbonization.

Overview

Turning Vision into Action

MBTA's **Regional Rail Modernization Plan** will:

- Translate Rail Vision into a **concrete, actionable, phased plan**
- Ground decisions in today's ridership and travel patterns, line-by-line operating conditions, and evolving technologies
- Enable the T to make near- and medium-term progress while advancing longer-term transformation
- Identify service improvements and required investment in distinct time horizons



2019 Rail Vision

2020-current Early Actions and Progress

2026-2027 Regional Rail Modernization Plan

The Plan will support the Commonwealth's broader goals:

- **Housing**
- **Economic development**
- **Sustainability & resilience**
- **Mobility**

Achieving these goals require improvements across different components of the system.

Goals

- Reliability
- Frequency & Speed
- Accessibility
- Decarbonization

Components of a Modernized Regional Rail System



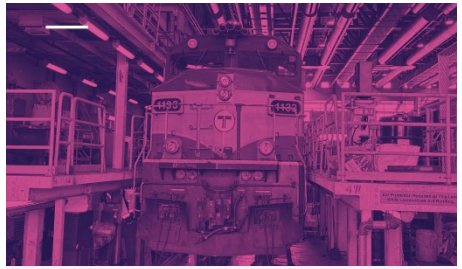
Track, Signal, & Power

A new track segment could help resolve bottlenecks and improve reliability.



Passenger Facilities

Low-level platforms can increase boarding times and delay trains.



Vehicles & Support Facilities

Introducing new fleet technology requires new maintenance processes.



Structures

Bridge constraints can limit electrification and impact service reliability.



Operations & Workforce

Crew training and availability are important for fleet and service expansion.

Framingham/Worcester Line

- Existing 4 **express and zonal express trips** each during morning and evening rush hours
- West-East Rail Project to provide additional rail service between Framingham, Worcester and South Station
- Track and signal projects under progress to improve service on the line
- Key challenges to service enhancements: multiple grade crossings, freight train interactions, closely-spaced stations



Planning Process

Development of the Regional Rail Modernization Plan

Goals and Existing Capacity

Define prioritization for service improvements

Fall 2026 Public Engagement

1

Market Assessment

Analyze current and future travel market within the MBTA service area

2

Capital Planning

Identify capital investments and infrastructure improvements

4

Build Now

Build Next

Build Towards

Service Planning

Develop and refine scenarios based on priorities, market analysis, public input, infrastructure trade-offs

Spring 2027 Public Engagement

3

Final Rail Modernization Plan

Delivery plan that identifies the investments and improvements in distinct time horizons.

5

Stay Connected

For updates and outreach:
https://www.mbta.com/projects/rail-modernization-plan

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority



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- **Looking Ahead**

Looking Ahead

- Proposed Upcoming Task Force Meeting Dates

  December 17, January 27, February TBD

- Task Force Meeting Locations

- Potential Topics at Upcoming Task Force Meetings
  - Planned and Ongoing Projects in the Project Area
  - Boston Layover Study
  - Independent Consultant Review

- Other Suggested Topics for Upcoming Task Force Meetings?

Thank You!

