



Implementing Congestion Report Recommendations Joint Boards presentation

February 10, 2020

Overview

- **Last meeting:**

- Congestion follow-up efforts briefly summarized in the Secretary's Report.

- **Today:**

- Providing update on coordinated actions to reduce congestion as follow-ups to the "Congestion in the Commonwealth" report, released in August 2019.
- Describing process, desired outcomes, and projects to address congestion.



Congestion Report Key Findings

- There is no single “silver bullet” for congestion
- Tackling congestion is critical – and complicated
 - Congestion is bad because the economy is good.
 - Congestion occurs throughout the Commonwealth and intensifies approaching Greater Boston.
 - Many roadways are now congested outside of peak periods.
 - Many commuting corridors have become unreliable.
- Many efforts underway to implement recommendations



Congestion Report Follow-ups

- Bi-weekly meetings of Congestion Steering Committee
 - Cross-functional department leaders and divisions involved
 - Highway, Office of Transportation Planning, Rail & Transit, MBTA, Office of Performance Management and Innovation, Legislative Affairs
- 2 Sets of Next Steps
 - Those directed by the Congestion Report
 - Studies
 - Ongoing efforts to address congestion
 - Data analysis
 - Corridor studies
 - Capital projects addressing regional bottlenecks



Congestion Report Recommendations

1. Address local and regional bottlenecks where feasible
2. Actively manage state and local roadway operations
3. Reinvent bus transit at both the MBTA and Regional Transit Authorities
4. Increase MBTA capacity and ridership
5. Work with employers to give commuters more options
6. Create infrastructure to support shared travel modes
7. *Increase remote work and telecommuting*
8. *Produce more affordable housing, especially near transit*
9. *Encourage growth in less congested Gateway Cities*
10. Investigate the feasibility of congestion pricing mechanisms that make sense for Massachusetts, particularly managed lanes

Congestion Report Follow-up Studies

- Shared Travel Network Study
 - Investigates strategies to develop and maintain a network of shared travel facilities, vehicles, and options in Massachusetts, with a focus on Greater Boston.
 - Geographic mapping of park-and-ride, bus-on-shoulder, and other shared infrastructure opportunities.
- Managed Lanes Screening Study
 - Screen our existing infrastructure for the potential development of managed lane systems to support congestion relief in Massachusetts
 - Conversion of existing HOV lanes to tolled lanes
 - Creation of new managed lanes
 - Conversion of existing general-purpose lane
- Legal Analysis of Managed Lanes/ Federal Tolling
 - Exploring legal ability to implement managed lanes across federal and state legal parameters



Address local and regional bottlenecks where feasible

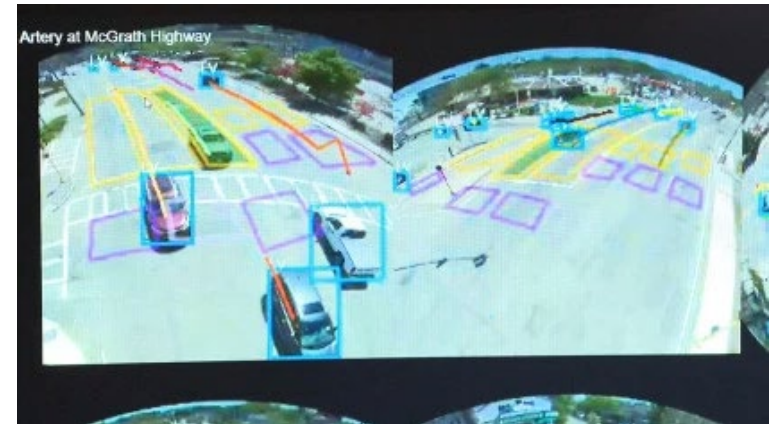
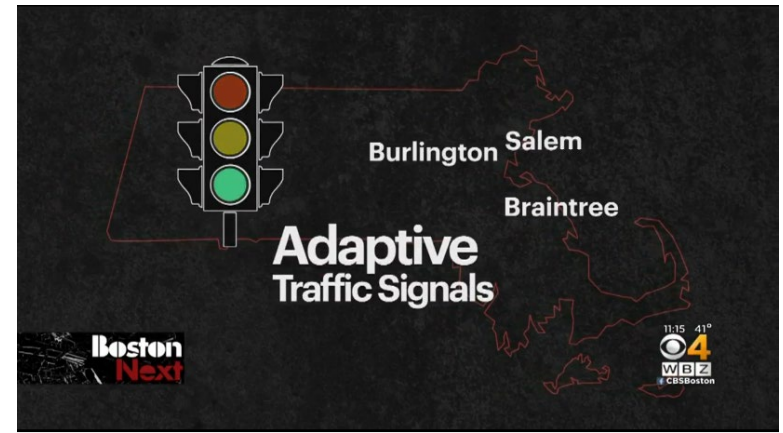
- Funding for the reconstruction of regional bottlenecks in capital plan and bond bill
 - I-90/495
 - Approaches to Cape Cod bridges
- Local bottlenecks funding program included in Transportation Bond Bill
- Working with regional planning agencies to develop bottleneck identification methods



Actively manage state and local roadway operations

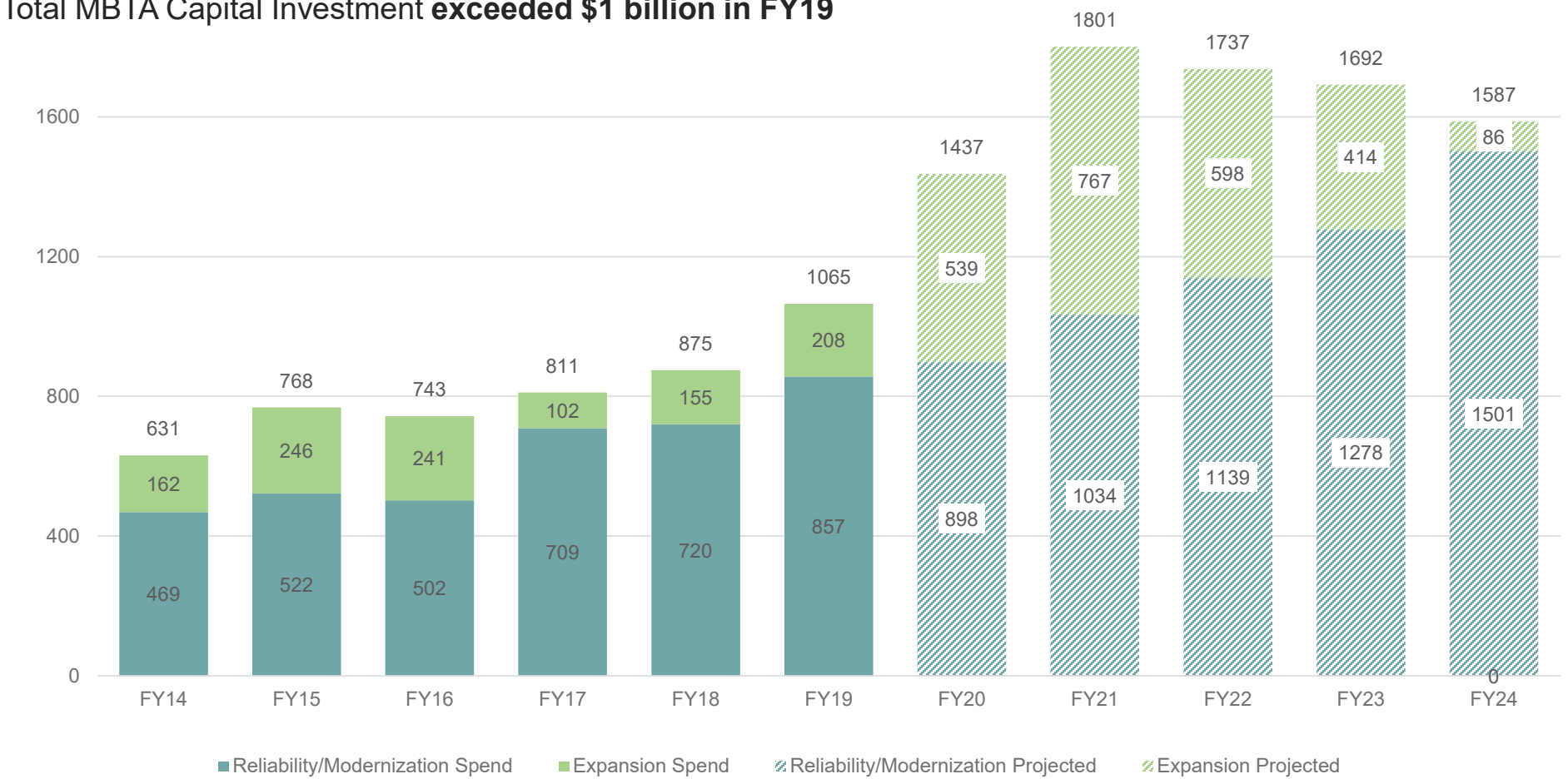
Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO)

- Working group meeting monthly
- Highway Operations Center
 - Traffic Desk development
- Incident Detection Project
- Smart signals installations
 - Route 9
 - Seaport



Increase MBTA capacity and ridership

Total MBTA Capital Investment **exceeded \$1 billion in FY19**



1801	Reliability/Modernization Capital Spending	Total Capital Spending
FY14-FY18	\$2.9 billion	\$3.8 billion
FY19-FY24	\$6.7 billion	\$9.3 billion

Work with employers to give commuters more options

- Employee commute option grant program
- Market and expand MBTA Perq and other pass programs
- Work with DEP to analyze potential regulatory approaches
- Outreach to employers to identify and share best practices



mass.gov/workforce-transportation-program



Create infrastructure to support shared travel modes

- Bus on shoulder pilots and infrastructure
- Shared Travel Network study



Investigate feasibility of congestion pricing mechanisms, particularly managed lanes

Managed Lanes

- Screening Study
 - Screen our existing infrastructure for the potential development of managed lane systems to support congestion relief in Massachusetts
 - Conversion of existing HOV lanes to tolled lanes
 - Creation of new managed lanes
 - Conversion of existing general-purpose lane
- RFP Development
 - Analyze technical feasibility of selected managed lanes strategies and specific corridors identified from the screening study
- Legal Analysis of Managed Lanes/ Federal Tolling
 - Exploring legal ability to implement managed lanes across federal and state legal parameters

TNC Fee

- Increase per-trip fee from 20 cents to \$1
 - 70% to the state, 30% to municipalities

Congestion Report Follow-ups: Next Steps

- Managed Lanes
 - Screening study work commencing
- Shared Travel Network
 - Finalizing scope details
- Bus-on-shoulder
 - Developing study and pilot project
- Cross-functional congestion leadership team continuing to meet and advance projects
- Will report back to the Board regularly with updates

