# GREEN LINE EXTENSION PROJECT

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GLX Community Working Group Monthly Meeting September 3, 2019

## Agenda

#### Welcome & Outreach Update

➢ Terry McCarthy, GLX – MBTA

#### **Construction Update**

➢ Terry McCarthy, GLX – MBTA

#### **MBTA Better Bus Project**

Melissa Dullea





## **GLX Outreach Update**

- Continued Web-site Update Approximately Every Two Weeks
- MassDOT GovDelivery Email Blast (Close to 8,000 Subscribers) Campaign Subscribership Growing
- Public Meeting on Project Progress November 2019

#### **Recent Meetings**

- Museum of Science
- EF
- DCR
- DCAMM
- BTD





## **GLX-Commuter & Regional Traffic**









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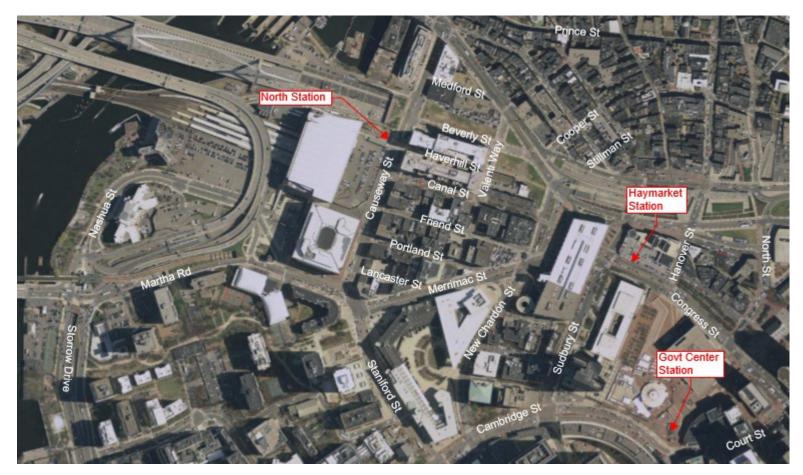


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## **TOD /City of Boston / MBTA**







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#### **Richdale Outreach – Noise Wall Construction (August)**

- Went door-to-door to homes along Richdale speaking to property owners about noise wall work along their fence line.
- Discussed construction impacts including the removal of their fences, installation of construction fence, moving property and protecting property while drilling nearby.







## Cross St., Auburn Ave., Avon Place Outreach – Retaining Wall Construction (August)

- Went door-to-door to 8 homes speaking to property owners about retaining wall work in front of the existing green wall in the area.
- Discussed construction impacts including the removal of fences, possible shrub damage and relocation of at least one shed.



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#### Gilman St. Outreach – Steel Sheeting Removal (Aug. 16)

 Went door to door affected property owners speaking to them about additional work to remove steel sheeting in right-of-way and temporary impacts on their property.







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#### Night Work at Washington Street (starting Aug. 24)

- Sent out email blast to 7,100 plus stakeholders in database
- Went door to door to 50 homes in vicinity of overpass



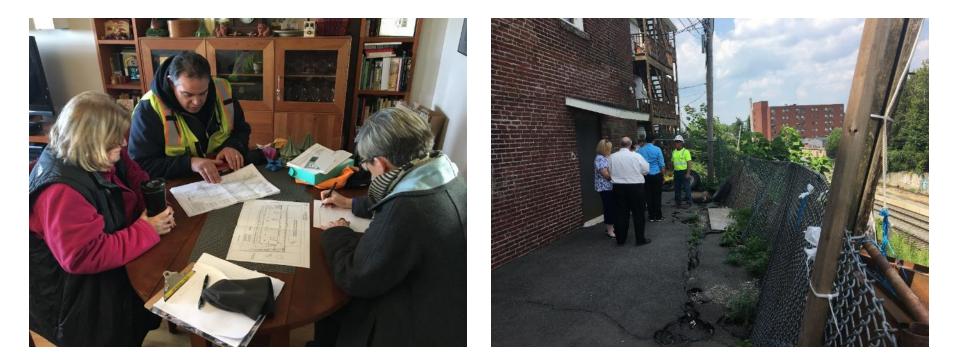




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#### **GLX Hotline and Response to Comments/Requests**

• 806 Inquiries thru Hotline, e-mail or direct contact with outreach staff (as of Aug. 29)



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#### **<u>Tentative</u>** – Construction Timeline







#### **<u>Tentative</u>** – Stations Construction Timeline

Stations Construction	2019				2020				2021			
	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
Lechmere												1
Union Square												Je
E. Somerville	Subject to Change							Subject to Change				
Gilman Square	Subje	ct to c							SU	IDIco		
Magoun Square												
Ball Square												
College Avenue												





#### **GLX-C Construction Update**





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#### **Key Construction Activities through end of 2019**

- Relocate Commuter Rail Track to its final position on eastern side of alignment (late December)
  - 2 phases: North of College Ave. (Oct. 2019)/Washington St. to Broadway (Dec. 2019)
- Prior to track relocation we must:
  - Complete drainage work including north of Broadway Bridge at Granville (Dec. 2019)
  - Complete noise wall and retaining wall panel placement (Dec. 2019 or nights following track shift)

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- Vehicle Maintenance Facility
  - $\circ$  Steel framing underway
- Lechmere area/Boston Engine Terminal
  - Steel in place throughout & deck placement underway
  - Work started on Lechmere station







#### **Broadway Bridge**

- A lot of work happening in a small footprint including: drainage, wall construction and bridge construction
- Frequent weekend and night work will coincide with track shutdowns





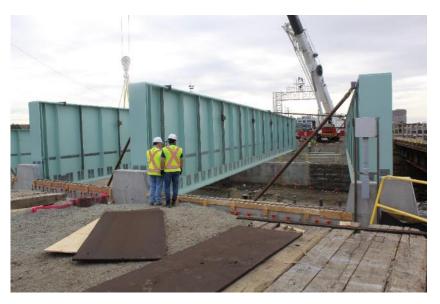


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#### Washington St. Bridge

- First steel placement on Aug. 24
- Night work currently underway as crews install steel deck
- Will continue construction through winter and <u>NOT reopen in November 2019</u>. Change allows us to complete work and reopen road by April 2020.
- Outreach campaign to start in late September













#### Medford St. Bridge

- Work start on west abutment pushed back from August. Now set to start mid to late September.
- Tremendous amount of work underway between Medford St & School St.











#### School St. Bridge Closure

- School St. Bridge to close in early spring 2020
- This will likely overlap several months with Medford St. Bridge closure
- Working to minimize impact on pedestrian traffic
- Outreach campaign will begin 2 months prior to closure



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#### **School St. to Rogers Foam – Drainage**

- Placing 60" reinforced concrete pipe between School St. and Central St.
- Micropiles used to create re-enforced duct bank below future commuter track alignment

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• Crews working at night to install lagging











#### **Preparing for Track Shift**

• Railroad tie delivery continues. 20,000 ties to support track shift.



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## Vehicle Maintenance Facility

• 276 piles planned for VMF foundation. Pile driving and saw cutting continues.

22

- Building out sub-grade for foundation
- Retaining wall work started













#### **Work near Union Square Station**

- Wall behind Target MSE wall (UN-2) construction underway
- Work makes room for expanded track bed











#### **Lechmere Area**

- Both drilling crews working between BET area and Water St.
- Crews actively pouring concrete columns and pier caps for viaduct



24







#### **Boston Engine Terminal (BET) Area**

- Viaduct work continues with frequent night and weekend work
- First steel placement on August 17
- Arial structures will quickly start to take shape



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#### **Brickbottom Area**

• Work along this part of the Fitchburg line includes viaduct construction, utility relocations and wall construction (N-3A/N-3B)



July 2019

August 2019





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#### **Noise & Retaining Walls** Between McGrath Hwy – Walnut St.

- Noise Wall (N-6) awaiting panel installation later this year
- Remaining steel sheeting in process of being removed



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#### **Noise & Retaining Walls** Between Schools St. – Sycamore

- Noise Wall (N-7A & B) work continues
- Built up embankment to support drill rig for wall foundations
- Coordinating this work and 60" storm drain placement closer to School St.



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## **Project Status**



#### **Noise & Retaining Walls**

#### Between Lowell – Cedar St.

- Drainage installation and post installation for Noise Wall (N-10, ME-2, ME-2A & N-11) continues
- Noise wall H-piles to be attached to retaining wall piles
- Current activity focused behind Department of Public Works building



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#### Noise & Retaining Walls – Drainage Between Cedar St. - Broadway

- ME-2.1/ Noise Wall N-12 posts in place
- Removing earthen ramp
- Major drainage work underway near Wilson St.











#### Noise & Retaining Walls - Drainage Between Broadway – Harvard St.

 ME-2.4/Noise Wall N-14A & N-14B wall work giving way to manhole installations near Newbern and Granville Ave.











#### Noise & Retaining Walls

#### Between College Ave. – Winthrop St.

- · Wall work on east side of alignment ready for next steps
- Starting to build up earthen ramp on west side of alignment for upcoming retaining wall construction.







#### Community Connection Team – Medford Family Network School Supply Drive

 More than \$1,000 worth of school supplies provided to Medford Elementary School Students











# Better; Bus; Project

Set 1

Making transit better together

## About the MBTA Bus Service Network

- More than a third of all MBTA trips are taken on buses.
- The MBTA's bus network consists of 180 routes.
- Over 400,000 trips are taken on MBTA buses every single weekday.
- Serving 50 communities, the bus network provides critical connections where our rail system does not go.

#### **Better Bus Project Components**



Multi-year Investment Strategy

> Bus Network Redesign

### **Proposed Near-term Changes: Principles for Change**

<b>Keep Proposals Cost Neutral</b> Consider route changes that improve bus service, without requiring additional resources to implement the proposal.	<b>\$</b> = <b>\$</b>
<b>Combine Similar Services</b> Combine routes that serve the same areas in slightly different ways to create a more reliable and frequent service that's easier for our customers to use.	Better Worse
<b>Minimize Route Variations</b> Reduce route variations that create customer confusion, serve few people, and do not impact vulnerable populations who do not have other alternatives. This creates faster and more reliable service for customers that's easier to understand.	Better Worse
<b>Shorten Unproductive Sections</b> Many routes are very long with sections that have little to no <u>ridership. or</u> have other service options. By shortening routes, we provide customers on the remaining service with increased frequency and reliability.	°,**
<b>Straighten Routes</b> The less a bus needs to turn or deviate from a straight path, the faster it will travel. This makes bus routes easier to understand while also provide faster and more reliable service for our customers.	Better Worse

## September 1 29 routes will change

## **December 22** 19 or more will change

Detailed information on each change available online: **mbta.com/betterbus-sept1** 



# How we are telling the public

- ~800 Bus stop sign updates
- 700+ Redesigned service notices at bus stops
- 500 Bus advertisements
- Digital ads at targeted rail and bus stations
- On-bus announcements
- Block-by-Block prepared with BBP info
- Call Center prepared with BBP info
- Online maps with stop-by-stop changes
- Updated paper schedules and maps
- Email lists (Corporate customers, BBP email list, state and local elected officials and staff)
- T-Alerts (multiple times)
- Upcoming press release
- Targeted newspaper ads

	R, WE'RE M		USES BE	TTER.	
On September 1, 2019 the route the right will be changing. To f on these changes, call 617-222-3 mbta.com/betterbus. By listening to thousands of bu like you, we're now making cha and improvements to many bu as part of the Better Bus Projec	ind details 3200 or visit s riders nges s routes	CT1 4 ( 59 89 ( 111 120 ( 435 441 ( 459 501 (	SEPTEMBER 1 CHANGES 5 16 90 92 134 411 442 448 502 503	34E     44       95     106       424     428       449     455       504	
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Bus Ad Sample					
441         442         448         449           Service Chai         Effective September 1, 2019		œ	as a constant	111 Sign in	
448 and 449 service will be replace service on Routes 441 and 442 WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU Routes 448 and 449 are being eliminated. The 441 and 442 provide service Wonderland for connections to Boston (servi Airport). Both routes charge a Local Bus fare (monthly LinkPa	stop at most 448 and 449 stops, and ce to Seaport available via SL3 at	600	43		
KEY CHANGES Service to and from Inbound (toward Boston)	Outbound (to Marblehead)	2 Q	Cemeters 435		
Point of Pines @ Some 441/442 buses will provide Lynnway AM peak service at this stop. Visit mbta.com for a full schedule.	Some 441/442 buses will stop here during PM peak service. Visit mbta.com for full schedule.	683	S		
Swampscott, from New Ocean St to Salem St @ Humphrey St Take the 441 or 442 inbound. Outbound service will no longer make a loop.	Take the 441 or 442.			a map	
See more details about this change at <b>mbta.com/betterbus</b> translation assistance, call 617-222-3200.	-440s. If you have questions or need	1	and the stands	435 435 435	
Autobas samble de sanchies Hadrá cambios al anchicos de autobases el Pél a seguinamente Rear mais información visite el allo vero to tame al número que se muestra artítica. Alteresola de serviço entolises O enviço de chibases O enviço entolises O enviço entolises O enviço entolises O enviço de chibas e alter de la enviço este ella velta de la enviço este ella de la este ella este ella de la este ell					
oswa rele nimewo ki endike a anwo. ngày 1 tháng	y đổi địch vụ. Dịch vụ xê buýt thay đối vào g Chín: Để biết thêm thông tin, xin vào mạng pi số điện thoại ghi ở đày bên trên.	Stop clo	sing daps		
New Service Notice		Online St	tops Map	39	

### Route 89

#### How This Route is Changing

 <u>Route 89</u> will only stop between Clarendon Hill and Davis on weekdays before 9 AM, and from 1 PM – 7 PM.

#### 

#### What You Can Expect

- If you take the 89 between Clarendon Hill and Davis:
- On weekdays, from 9 AM 1 PM and after 7 PM, or on weekends, take Route <u>87</u> or <u>88</u> from your current stop to Davis, where you can transfer to the <u>89</u> for service to Sullivan Square
- On weekdays before 9 AM and from 1 PM 7 PM, the regular schedule has been adjusted to meet demand

#### Why We're Making This Change

• By shortening the route at certain times, we can provide more frequent bus service between Davis, Broadway/Winter Hill, and Sullivan Square.

## Route 90

#### How This Route is Changing

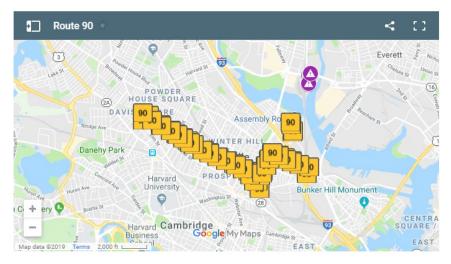
• <u>Route 90</u> service will no longer provide service beyond Assembly Row to Wellington Station.

#### What You Can Expect

- If you take Route 90 to or from Wellington or Corporation Way after Bridge, transfer between the 90 and Orange Line at Assembly or Sullivan Square
- To or from any other stop, your service is more frequent

#### Why We're Making This Change

• By shortening this route, we can provide more frequent and reliable service between Davis and Assembly Row.



## Route 95

#### How This Route is Changing

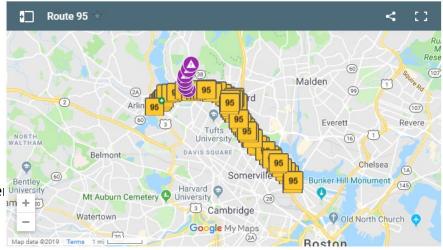
 We're extending service on <u>Route 95</u>, with new stops on High St and Medford St, between Arlington Center and Medford. Buses will alternate between trips to West Medford and trips to Arlington.

#### What You Can Expect

- To/from stops on Playstead Rd in Medford: Only every other bus will provide service through West Medford via Playstead Rd. The electronic signs on the front of buses stopping on Playstead Rd will say "95 W Medford". Walk to High St for Route 95 service. All outbound 95 trips will stop at High St @ Warren St, and all inbound 95 trips will stop at High St @ Canal St.
- To/from Any other stop on the route, your stop will not change, but check the schedule.
- If you travel between Arlington Center and Medford, you have a new service option. The electronic signs on the front of buses traveling to Arlington Center will say "95 Arlington Ctr"

#### Why We're Making This Change

• By adding service between Arlington Center and Medford, we can provide more transit connections in the area.

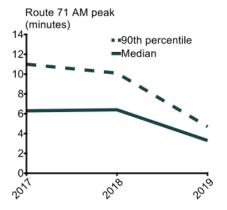


## More operators

What do we get for:	~\$9-12M	Highest Ridership Routes / Corridors Definition: >3,200 daily weekday riders						
Additional operators	~45 FTEs (off peak only)	Key Bus Routes	1 15	28 32	66 71	111 116/117 *		
Deployed to which	All Top 40 routes /	(14)	22 23	39 57/57A*	73 77			
routes	corridors	Silver Line (5)	SL1 SL2	SL3 SL4	SL5			
Predicted impact (off peak only) 90% OTP (trip start) SDP frequency SDP span of service	Local Routes w/ highest ridership (21)	7 9 16 21	31 34/34E* 35/36/37* 44	47 70/70A* 86 87	88 89 93 101	104 109 110 220/221/222*	441/442*	
Recommended								

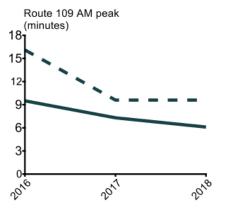
## Bus priority (bus lanes, TSP, etc.)

#### Mt. Auburn (Cambridge) Routes 71 & 73



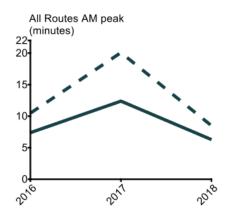
- Up to 5 minutes saved per trip versus 2017
- 50% reduction in variability versus 2017

Broadway (Everett) Routes 97, 104, 109, 110 & 112



- Up to 7 minutes saved per trip versus 2016
- 40% reduction in variability versus 2016

#### Washington St. (Boston) Routes 30, 34, 34E, 35, 36, 37, 40, 50, & 51



- Up to 2-3 minutes saved per trip versus 2016
- 10% reduction in variability versus 2016

- Ø Boston/MBTA: Sullivan Sq.\*
  - Boston: Brighton Ave.\*

#### Planned in 2019:

- In Arlington: Mass Ave.\*
- 1 Boston: N. Washington St.\*

Completed since Jan. 1, 2019:

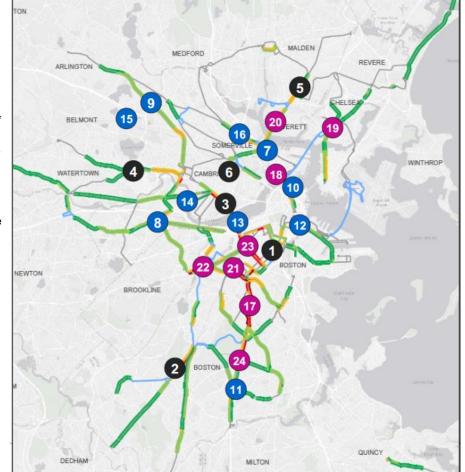
- 1 Boston/MassDOT: Morton St.\*
- 12 Boston: Summer St.\*
- Boston/Cambridge/MassDOT/ DCR: Mass Ave Bridge\*
- Boston/MassDOT/DCR: Soldiers Field Rd.\*
- Gambridge/MassDOT: Alewife access ramp\*
- Somerville: Broadway

#### In Planning for 2020+:

- 17 Boston: Warren St.
- 19 Boston: N. Washington Bridge
- 10 Chelsea: Broadway
- 2 Everett: Broadway (cont.)

### Other MBTA High Priority Corridors:

- 21 Boston: Tremont St.
- 2 Boston: Huntington Ave.
- Boston: Mass Ave.
- Boston: Blue Hill Ave.



 (minutes saved at 90<sup>th</sup> percentile):
 Boston: Essex/Washington St (Silver Line)\* (N/A)

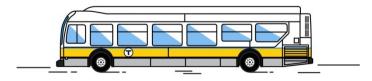
Pre-2019 Bus Lane Investments Include

- Boston: Washington St. (Roslindale)\* (2-3 min)
- 3 Cambridge: South Mass Ave (under review)
- Cambridge: Mt. Auburn St. (5 min)
- 5 Everett: Broadway (7 min)
- 6 Somerville: Prospect St. (6-10 min)

## • Replace and expand our fleet

Facility	Year Built	Bus Count	Maint. Capacity*	% of Maint. Capacity	Storage Capacity	% Storage Capacity	Condition Rating
Albany Street	1941	116	35	333%	116	100%	2.7
Arborway	2004	118	52	226%	118	100%	3.1
Cabot	1975	180	104	172%	160	111%	2.8
Charlestown	1975	254	157	162%	310	82%	2.5
Everett Heavy Maintenance	1947	-	-	-	-	-	2.6
Fellsway	1925	76	52	146%	74	102%	2.4
Lynn	1936	89	87	102%	99	90%	2.7
North Cambridge	1979	28	35	80%	32	88%	3.2
Quincy	1930	86	70	124%	90	95%	2.4
Southampton	2002	104	76	137%	101	103%	3.6

## Bus Network Redesign



- A complete reassessment of the MBTA's bus network to respond to changing travel patterns in the region
- Using location based data to redesign the bus system
- New network implemented beginning in mid-2022

## Why are we Doing This?

The MBTA bus network carries 1/3 of our customers, but has not changed drastically since the mid-20th century.

Since that time:

- Demographics have shifted
- New destinations have emerged and many communities have transformed
- Travel patterns have changed alongside new mobility options such as ridesharing and bike share
- Traffic congestion has increased
- Ridership has declined



### **Bus Network Redesign Process**



# Approach to Developing Metrics: Understanding Priorities for Different People

Through the last three years of engaging with stakeholders, we have identified the following factors of making transit a viable option:

- Trip time
- Frequency
- Cost
- Span of service
- Reliability
- Comfort
- Simplicity of Network
- Transfers
- First/Last Mile Connections; Coverage
- Communications

#### Connectivity for whom and to what: Existing riders

- Riders that previously used the system but no longer do today
- Low income populations
- People with limited mobility

#### **Potential riders**

- People who do not use the system but could given proximity to MBTA
- People whose tripmaking patterns are not served by MBTA

## Using Location-Based Data To Reimagine The Bus System

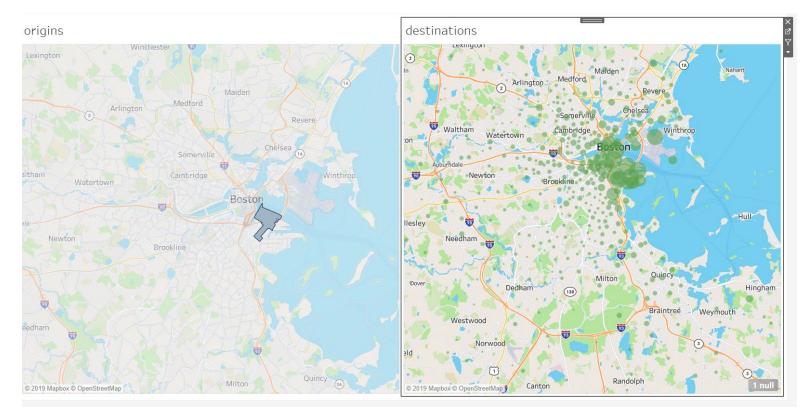
- To understand how people are moving across the region (approximately 20 million trips daily)
- Data are anonymized and cannot be linked to cell phone numbers or individuals
- Data come from a range of applications (multi-language, lifestyle, travel, news, etc.) where people have opted in for location-tracking and is representative of different demographic groups
- Data captures seasonal travel (12 months of travel data)
- Data are representative of different demographics (with some exceptions)

### **Demographic Representation of Smartphone Users**

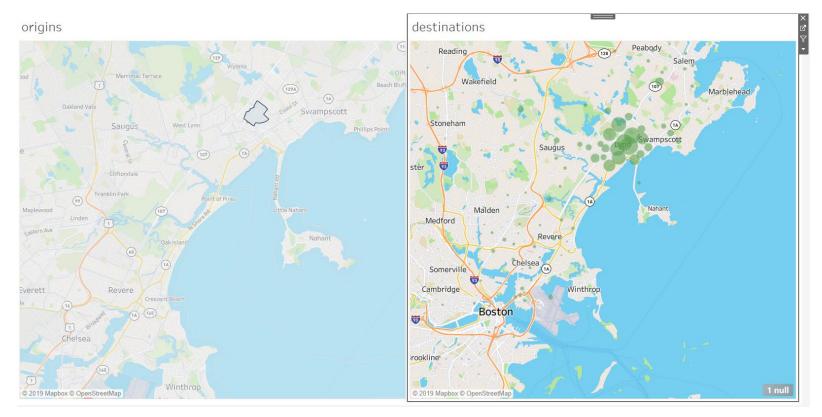
	Smartphone (% of adults)
Total	81%
Men	84%
Women	79%
Ages 18-29	96%
30-49	92%
50-64	79%
65+	53%
White	82%
Black	80%
Hispanic	79%
Less than \$30,000	71%
\$30,000-\$49,999	78%
\$50,000-\$74,999	90%
\$75,000+	95%

Source: Pew Research Center, 2019

## **Example of Tripmaking from the Seaport**



## **Example of Tripmaking from Lynn**



## **Demonstration Projects**

The FMCB asked project team to identify demonstration projects by end of 2019

Demonstration Projects will be identified in the following ways:

- Better Bus Project
- Origin-Destination dataset
- Submissions from online intake form due September 6/October 4 (available on <a href="https://www.mbta.com/policies/service-pilot-process">https://www.mbta.com/policies/service-pilot-process</a>)

**Timeline:** Demonstration projects agreed to by FMCB in late 2019 would be on street in Summer 2020 rating. (Note: Some concepts may need to go into a design process before being implemented.)

## **Next Steps**

#### Winter Service Change

• 19 or more routes

#### **Multi-year Investments**

- More operators
- Bus priority (bus lanes, TSP, etc.)
- Replace and expand our fleet

#### **Network Redesign**

- Demonstration project applications
- Continue Network Redesign analysis





## **Discussion**

## Q & A





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