

# Highway Administrator's Report

Jonathan L. Gulliver

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# Tobin Bridge / Chelsea Curves Update



## Tobin Bridge

- On schedule
- 4<sup>th</sup> Street ramp closed during the week of July 8<sup>th</sup>
- Demolition of deck complete

## Chelsea Curves

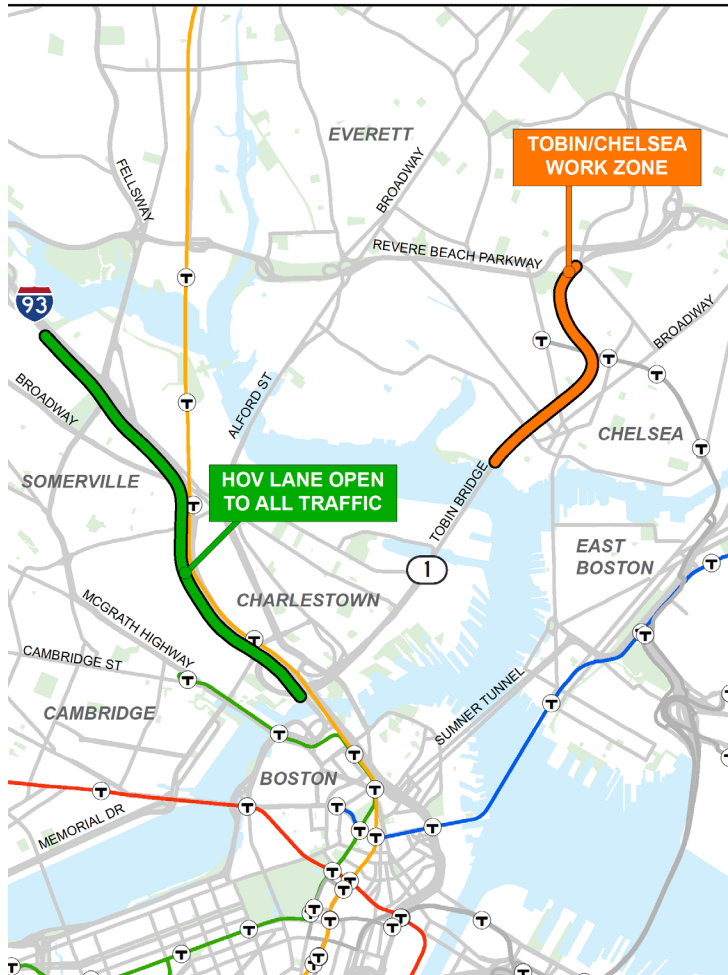
- On schedule
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> – NB lane shifts from Right travel lane to middle travel lane
- Median demolition completed and paving



# Tobin Bridge / Chelsea Curves

## HOV Lane Update

MassDOT Opening I-93 HOV Lane to All Traffic



### Overview:

- Allows all vehicles use of the lane 24/7
  - Southbound only
- Temporary measure to alleviate impacts of:
  - Tobin/Chelsea
  - North Washington Street Bridge
  - GLX – full bridge closures/detours
- May be in place for 2 years (for Tobin/Chelsea)
- No plan/intention to make this permanent
- Ongoing monitoring

### Other mitigation efforts:

- Additional MBTA Blue Line trains
- Free inbound SL service from Chelsea
- CharlieCards accepted on Commuter Rail
  - Between Chelsea and North Station

# Tobin Bridge / Chelsea Curves HOV Lane Monitoring



## Pre-Implementation:

- Evaluated I-93 SB approaching Boston
  - Developed a detailed FREEVAL Work Zone model
  - Traffic counts and driver's behavior
  - Determined there was capacity with entry to HOV causing additional friction

## On-Going Monitoring and Data Analysis:

- Starting June 19<sup>th</sup> traffic counts will be taken specific to "Express Lane"
- Evaluating permanent counting stations to see how/if traffic has changed
- Route 1A toll gantry to see if there is a reduction in volume
- Moving people vs. moving vehicles
  - Partnering with CTPS to count passengers in vehicles prior and post implementation
- MBTA Coordination
  - Monitoring bus travel times
  - Using GPS data to track pre/post travel times
  - Currently varied delays of 5 to 10 minutes both SB and NB

# Sumner Tunnel – Swing Gate Activation

- Monday, June 17
  - Activation of the swing gate and digital signage will be activated
- Same used on I-93 HOV lane



# Storrow Drive Restriping

- Pilot started November 29, 2018
- Eliminates unsafe weave and lane changes from exit only lane
- Allows drivers to stay in their lane
- Processes additional capacity through the Sumner Tunnel
- Eases gridlock traffic in East Boston

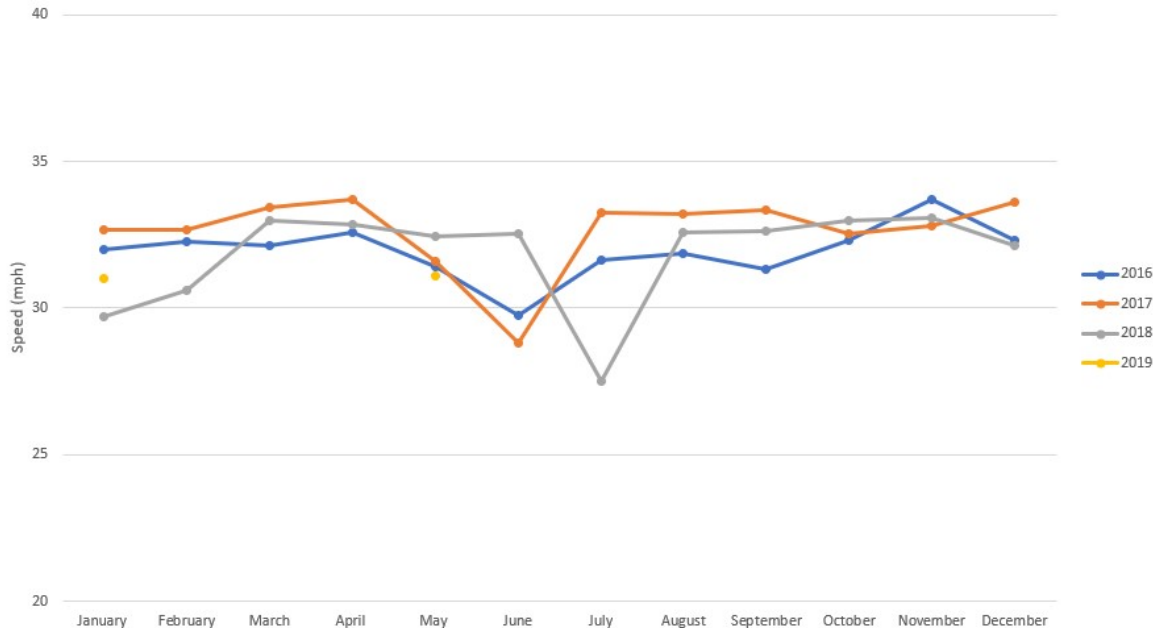




# Storrow Drive Restriping From Pilot to Permanent



Storrow Dr. (MA-28 Southbound) average speeds on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays  
from INRIX



## The Pilot has shown:

- Improved or maintained travel speeds
- Improved or maintained the number of vehicles processed
- Greatest Benefit = Safety
  - Significant reduction in crashes (preliminary data)

# Encore Boston Harbor Opening

- Opening on June 23, 2019
  - Estimated 100k people
  - Anticipated travel delays
- Variable Message Boards:
  - Coordinated from Methuen to Peabody
  - Phased messaging leading up to the opening
  - Using existing boards – any additional were permitted through the casino
  - Advising people to take the MBTA and to expect delays
- Coordination
  - Started months ago
    - Involved state agencies
    - Municipalities
  - Command Post
    - MassDOT will have senior staff there for the first few days

[illegible]