

Rail & Transit Report

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Transit Update



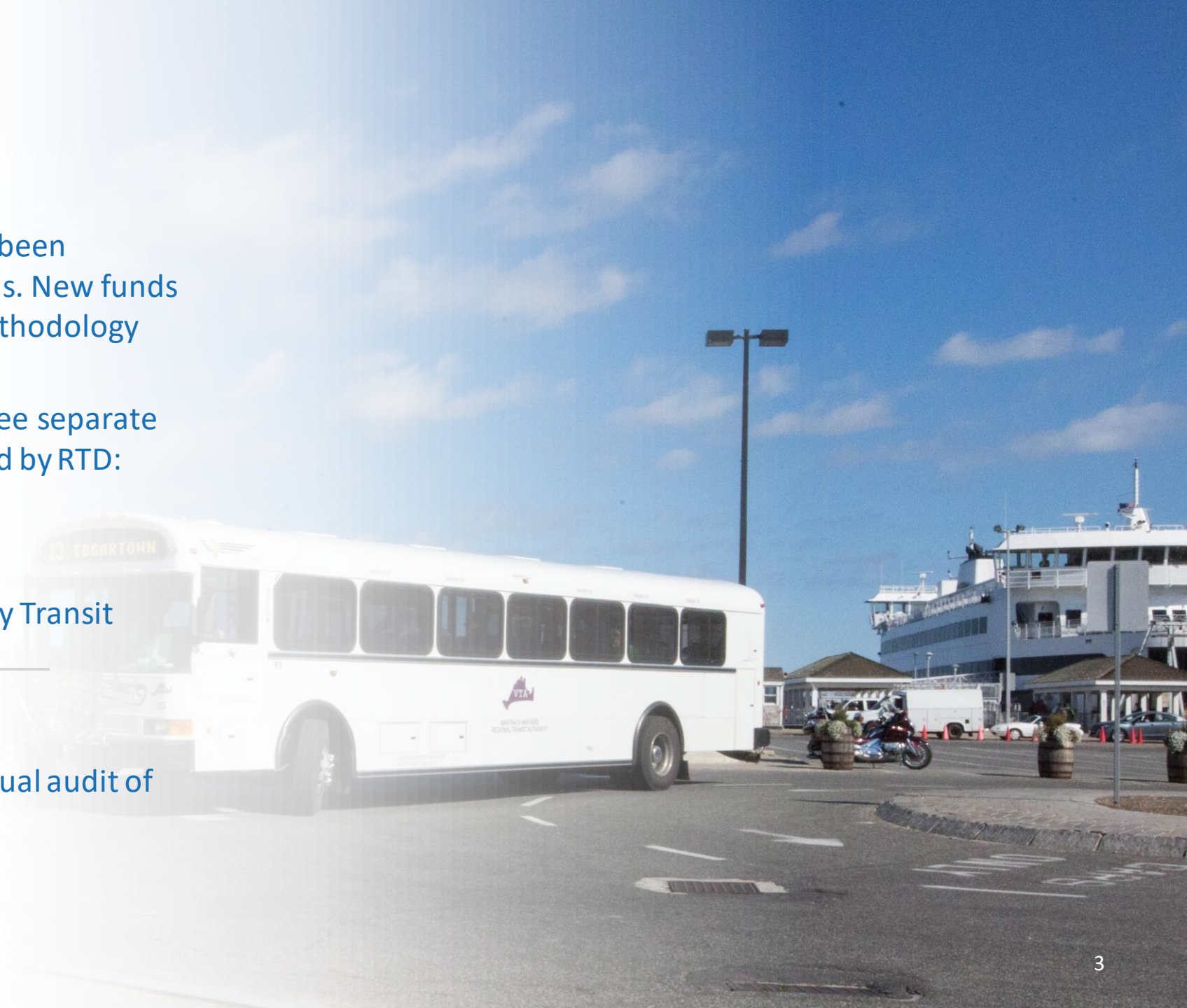


State Budget for Transit

- Regional Transit Authorities (RTA) have been awarded \$150 million in operating funds. New funds (above last year's level) distribution methodology has been finalized with RTAs.
- Additional \$34 million identified for three separate discretionary grants to be administered by RTD:
- Free fare pilots
 - Innovation grants
 - New eligibilities for the Community Transit Grant Program (CTGP)

State Management Review

- Rail and Transit Division underwent virtual audit of Transit program July 18-20.
- Final report from FTA is pending.



Transit Update (cont.)

Electrification Phase II: Zero Emission Bus (ZEB)/Battery Electric Bus (BEB) RTA Implementation Plans

The second phase of the bus electrification study began in late July.

Bus Stop Safety

- MassDOT's Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment has identified high crash locations at intersections with bus stops.
- MassDOT's Highway Division staff are working closely with the Rail and Transit Division and RTAs to identify locations for intersection safety improvements.

Transit Proximity

Within 300 ft of Bus Stops Statewide:

- 34% of KA Bicyclist Crashes
- 41% KA Pedestrian/Skater Crashes
- 6% Centerline Miles

Within 300 ft of MBTA Bus Stops:

- 45% of KA Bicyclist Crashes
- 50% KA Pedestrian/Skater Crashes
- 16% Centerline Miles



Rail Update



Rail Update

Rail Corridors

- Berkshire & Eastern, a subsidiary of Genesee & Wyoming, took over the Pan Am Southern on September 1 as part of the CSX-Pan Am Railways merger.
- WSP has been awarded a task order for planning Inland Route Early Actions.
- MassDOT, Amtrak, and CSX continue service modeling efforts for Inland Route.
- Funding for planning and design for a station in Palmer and infrastructure improvements in Pittsfield to benefit future West-East service have been included in the CIP.
- WSP has been awarded a task order for design of fiber optic cable installation on the Knowledge Corridor as a first step in implementing Positive Train Control.

Industrial Rail Access Program (IRAP)

- IRAP is a capital program for freight rail projects to grow shipping operations, create jobs, and reduce trucks on the road, (thereby helping the Commonwealth reach its greenhouse gas reduction goals).
- Three projects have been identified for SFY24 funding:
 - Environmental Rail Partners LLC, Transload Facility Improvements, \$700,000
 - Gallo Construction Co., Rail Siding Development, \$140,940
 - City of Lawrence, Industrial Track Rehabilitation, \$460,337



Rail Update (cont.)

Western MA Storm Damage

- Record flooding in Western Mass in recent weeks has led to disruptions for Knowledge Corridor services and the Berkshire Flyer.
- MassDOT has worked with CSX to perform emergency repairs along the Knowledge Corridor.

Rail Safety

- On 8/4, an employee employed by Middlesex, a MassDOT contractor, was unfortunately killed on the Berkshire Line in Great Barrington. The NTSB launched an incident investigation. MassDOT halted work to review and enhance safety procedures.
- Executed Mass Central Railroad's Amendment for \$10 million and time extension to continue the Heavy Repair Work Program on the Ware River Secondary that will ensure safe railroad operations.

