

# **Rail and Transit Report**

## **Administrator Meredith Slesinger**

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# Fare Free Transit

Grants awarded to 13 Regional Transit Authorities to provide year-round, fare free service

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*Governor Healey speaks in Greenfield October 24, 2024*

- The grant provides \$30 million to 13 Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) to provide year-round, fare free service.
- The RTAs submitted a joint application.
- The program builds off of two years of successful pilot programs.
- The program saves money for riders and encourages more people to use public transportation.
- The initiative promotes equity and greater access to mobility options.
- It is funded through the Fair Share Amendment's Education and Transportation Fund.

# Transit Connectivity Grant Awards

Enhancing transit through new connections

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- \$10 million grant program
- Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) can apply for grants for the creation or altering of routes that advance connectivity between existing public transportation routes.
- For operating projects that increase ridership, increase coverage, and improve reach to low-income individuals
- Ten project applications submitted by nine RTAs.



*A Berkshire Regional Transit Authority bus*



# Industrial Rail Access Program (IRAP) Awards

\$1.5 million awarded to three projects in fiscal year (FY) 2025

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- \$700,000 grant to Transload X to support improvements to the Framingham Transload Facility, supporting a new use of a former auto distribution terminal
- \$415,000 grant to ECR Services support building a new rail siding in Ware to allow construction equipment to be transported by rail
- \$479,000 grant to Broco Energy in Haverhill to build rail storage tracks for additional deliveries of renewable fuel



*Railyard in Wilbraham completed in FY24 with IRAP Funding – serves 5,000 rail cars annually = 20,000 truck trips removed from Massachusetts Highways*

# Thank You

