

Rail and Transit Report

Administrator Meredith Slesinger

April 15, 2026

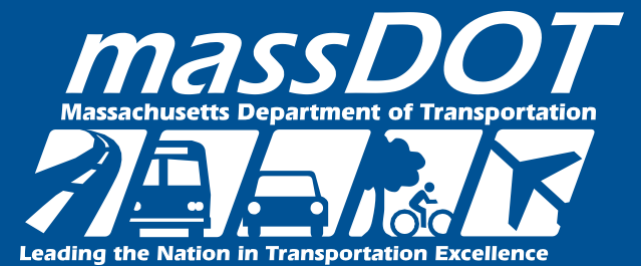


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Regional Transit Authority Council

Regional Transit Authority (RTA) and MBTA collaboration

- RTAs and MBTA met on March 31 for the quarterly RTA Council meeting.
- This was an opportunity to collaborate amongst each other and with MassDOT.
- Key topics included planning for the World Cup and an MBTA/Central Transportation Planning Staff study on wayfinding to help riders navigate connections between MBTA stops and co-located RTA or Transportation Management Association services.



A Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) bus outside of Springfield Union Station. PVTA is one of the larger RTAs in the Commonwealth.

Northeast Corridor Commission Meeting

Administrator Slesinger participates in March meeting



- On March 13, Administrator Slesinger represented Massachusetts at the Northeast Corridor Commission (NECC) meeting in New York City.
- The NECC is represented by states, operators, Amtrak, and the USDOT – all entities with a vested interest in the Northeast Corridor (NEC).
- The Commission works together to plan the maintenance and expansion of corridor infrastructure and service.
- The March meeting agenda included NEC project prioritization, federal funding strategies, World Cup planning, and updates from Federal Railroad Administrator David Fink.

The Northeast Corridor rail line between Boston and Washington, D.C. and its many operators.

Knowledge Corridor Positive Train Control

MassDOT receives funding award to design safety improvements

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- Congressman Richard Neal has announced a \$1.2 million award to support design of a positive train control (PTC) system on the Knowledge Corridor.
- PTC is a safety technology that can monitor a train's movement and prevent an incident, such as slowing a train moving too fast into a curve.
- PTC is required for commuter railroads and class 1 freight carriers, and the Knowledge Corridor currently has a PTC waiver.
- The PTC waiver limits any increases to train frequency on the corridor.
- MassDOT will soon be soliciting bids for fiber optic cable installation on the corridor which is a requirement for future PTC.



A Vermonter train in South Deerfield

Thank You

