



Charles D. Baker, Governor
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor
Stephanie Pollack, MassDOT Secretary & CEO
Astrid Glynn, MassDOT Rail & Transit Administrator



To: MassDOT Board
From: Astrid Glynn, Rail and Transit Administrator
Re: Current Activities
Date: May 9, 2018

Transit:

- One hundred fifty-two (152) vehicles to grantees will start to be delivered the week of May 14th and completed by June 30th. This grant award is from the FY18 Community Transit Grant Program which awards Section 5310 and state Mobility Assistance Program (MAP) funding to awardees. These awards were made last summer and the vans were manufactured during the past year.
- The FY19 Community Transit Grant Program application process will open on Monday, May 14 and close on Monday, June 11. In preparation for this process MassDOT Transit staff conducted five Community Transit Grant Program trainings across the Commonwealth in order to teach potential grantees how to apply for the CTGP. These trainings took place in New Bedford, Worcester, Springfield, Lawrence, and Boston. The trainings attracted a total of 64 attendees representing a variety of Councils on Aging, non-profit organizations, governmental authorities, and Regional Transit Authorities. Successful applicants from this year's application process will receive funding for vans and related items to be delivered next May/June.
- Federal Transit Administration announced the Federal Fiscal Year 2018 funding to support public transportation services. Year over Year, FFY 18 has increased federal transit funding to Massachusetts-Transit Division as follows: Bus and Bus Facilities-Statewide and Small Urban (Section 5339) increased 85.61%, Formula Grants for Rural Areas (Section 5311) increased 7.27% and Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) increased 2.61%.
- FTA announced the results of the recent round of funding through FTA's competitive Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program. Two Massachusetts applicants were awarded grants. The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA) was awarded \$660,721 to purchase new replacement buses to improve reliability of bus service in Berkshire County. Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA), which is a rural agency and therefore applied through

MassDOT, was awarded \$6,000,000 for a new maintenance and operations facility replacing a 1911 facility. While this was one of the two the largest awards in the nation, it fell far short of the request, and so MassDOT, FTA, and BRTA will be meeting to discuss options.

Rail:

- Platform C at Springfield Union Station was bid and awarded to JF White for approximately \$8.2M. When the platform is completed late this year it will provide an accessible high platform for the renovated station, along with an elevator that will facilitate access from the station to the new platform. Until the new platform is completed, passengers will continue to use the existing platform.
- The environmental process for South Coast Rail (SCR) continues to move forward. On April 30, 2018, MassDOT filed a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (FSEIR) for SCR. In response to the Secretary of Environmental Affairs' Certificate on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report, the FSEIR includes Responses to Comments and updated Draft Section 61 Findings.
- MassDOT has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) asking for bids on reconstruction of the Cohasset Narrows Bridge. The bridge is used by the Cape Flyer. The bids are to be opened on May 17 and work will require approximately 9 months. The work is being let directly by MassDOT and not through the licensed rail operator. This is expected to result in a savings of over \$700,000.