



# Secretary Stephanie Pollack's Report to the Boards

September 17, 2018

# Merrimack Valley emergency occurs

## Thursday, September 13: gas leaks, fires, explosions



*Friday morning-  
Haverhill  
Station.  
No train service  
but bus shuttles  
from the station  
to accommodate  
customers.*



*Track corridor  
inspected for  
possible damage  
due to fire  
incidents.*



*MBTA installed  
generators at  
some grade  
crossings*

# Merrimack Valley emergency occurs

## Thursday, September 13: gas leaks, fires, explosions



*9/14 news conference, (photo from NECN)*

To the citizens of Lawrence, Andover, and North Andover, the RMV Lawrence Service Center team is here for you.  
To the family and friends of **Leonel Rondon**, our thoughts and prayers are with you.



# MassDOT “Intern Transportation Institute”

- High school students attending the "Institute" learned about many transportation topics
- MassDOT also offered summer internships to college students





# Rail Trail Investments

- Since 2015, Baker-Polito Administration has constructed or funded 150 miles of paved trails.
- Over 30 miles of trails to be completed across MA in 2018.



August 10: official opening for 3.4 mile trail segment of the Assabet River Rail Trail in Acton & Maynard.

# Safe Routes To Schools

- As of August 1, MassDOT had partnered with schools across 207 communities; a total of 828 schools.
- Between January and August this year, 788 walk to school events, pedestrian/bike safety events, walk assessments and summer programs held.



## Safe Routes To School

Providing safe places for children to walk and bike, starting with their trip to school

The Massachusetts Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program works to increase safe biking and walking among elementary and middle school students by using a collaborative, community-focused approach that bridges the gap between health and transportation. SRTS utilizes the six E's to implement its program- Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation, Engineering, and Equity. Learn more about the six E's and find other SRTS resources below.

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## Biking in Massachusetts should be **safe, comfortable, and convenient**

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Provide high comfort  
and well-connected  
**bike networks.**

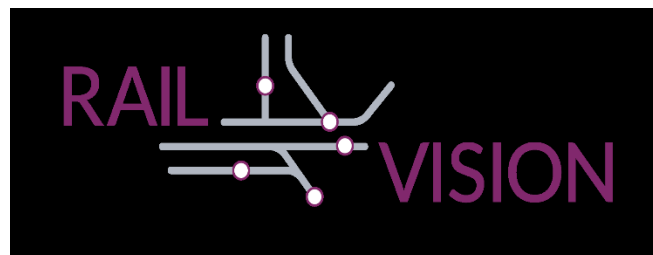
Advance biking for  
**everyday travel**, especially  
for short trips.

Appeal to the  
**broadest base of  
users**, statewide.



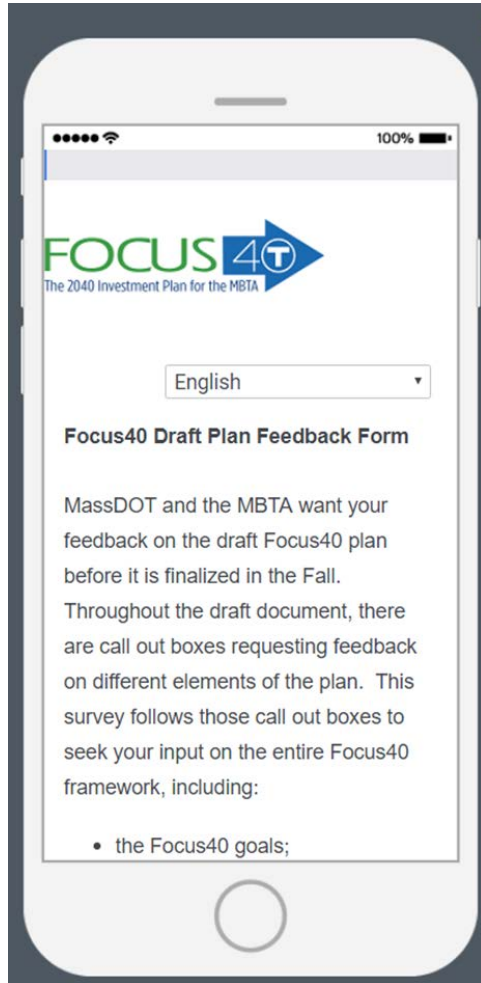
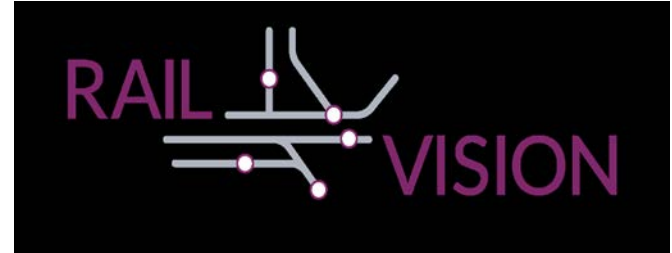
# MBTA's Rail Vision

- Project will identify cost-effective strategies to transform the T's existing system to better support improved mobility and economic competitiveness in Boston region.
- October: evaluate service concepts against travel time savings, ridership and land use benefits and operational efficiencies.
- November: present results of Tier 1 evaluation using “sketch tools”





# Focus40 and Commuter Rail Vision



- Feedback on **Goals**: 142 comments
- Feedback on **Trends/Scenarios**: 86 comments
- Feedback on **Priority Places**: 106 comments
- Feedback on **Program Objectives**: 104 comments
- Feedback on **Programs**: 81 comments
- Additional **Comments/Suggestions**: 93 comments

# Focus40 Final Plan

- **The public comment period is open through October 22.**
- Steps to release the final plan include:

Step	Timeframe
Stakeholder outreach	Ongoing
Host internal workshop	Early October
Analyze/summarize feedback	Late October
Present proposed conceptual changes to the board	Early/Mid November
Make updates and release plan	November/December

# Moving Together 2018: November 1

Workshops will highlight current pedestrian, bicycle and public transportation topics. There will be site visits, exhibits and mobile workshops.

Conference at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 50 Park Plaza.

Information: [www.umasstransportationcenter.org](http://www.umasstransportationcenter.org)



# Thank You

