

Secretary Stephanie Pollack's Report

Monday, October 15, 2018

Allston Multi-Modal Project

- The Independent Review Team has completed its report to the Secretary; the executive summary is being released today and the full report (still at the printer) will be released/distributed at Wednesday's task force meeting
- Wednesday's meeting will build on last month's Task Force meeting, which consisted of both a Concepts Open House and discussion with the Task Force about the Independent Review Team's improved "variants" of the three families of options laid out in the draft EIR (highway viaduct, at grade and hybrid)





Boston/North Major Projects Coordination

- Today the MassDOT board is being asked to approve a construction project for major repairs to the viaduct that carries US Route 1 over Chelsea through the "Chelsea Curves" from the County Road Overpass to the Tobin Bridge
- Although no construction work will begin on the superstructure (deck) until the spring of 2020, this project joins ongoing work underway in the area on the Tobin Bridge, Alford Street Bridge and North Washington Street Bridge



Boston/North Major Projects Coordination

Four efforts are currently underway to minimize the adverse impacts of these geographically clustered projects on both MBTA passengers and drivers:

- 1. Short-term steps are being taken to provide better alternatives for MBTA bus riders
 - For example, since 80% of 111 bus passengers transfer to the Green or Orange lines at Haymarket, the T is providing a fare discount on commuter rail from Chelsea to North Station so passengers can avoid roadway bridges entirely and instead transfer to the Green or Orange line at North Station
- 1. The MBTA is launching a Task Force with representation from elected officials and community organizations in Chelsea, and participation by MassDOT Highway, to develop a more comprehensive diversion and mitigation strategy over the next six months (prior to the start of more intrusive construction in spring 2019)
- 3. MassDOT Highway will continue to develop and implement its extensive construction mitigation/traffic diversion plan and implement an extensive outreach and communication program in both English and Spanish

Boston/North Major Projects Coordination

Four efforts are currently underway to minimize the adverse impacts of these geographically clustered projects on both MBTA passengers and drivers:

- 4. On the North Washington Street Bridge, MassDOT, the City of Boston and the Department of Conservation and Recreation are finalizing an agreement to construct a temporary bridge which will shorten overall construction by 6 months
 - Temporary bridge would be built next to the current bridge structure, connecting Keany Square to City Square
 - Eliminates any need to reduce traffic to only one lane in each direction throughout construction
 - Minimizes need for left turn restriction on to Commercial Street
 - As part of agreement, DCR is getting a new, improved playground at Paul Revere Park
 - Public meetings will be scheduled in Charlestown, North End, West End

Construction Impacts & MBTA Buses

Timeline and MBTA Impacts from Chelsea Viaduct, Tobin Bridge, and North Washington St. Bridge Construction Projects (Estimated 9/14/2018)



Municipal Small Bridge Program First project completed following first round of funding: Main St. Bridge in Newbury









RTA Task Force Update

- Members will evaluate how RTAs can best provide and improve service and will make recommendations on service standards, best practices
- Two meetings held so far in October, third scheduled for this week
- Interim report will be sent to Legislature by November 1 deadline



Transit Grant Program Awards

- Total of \$10.2 million being awarded
- Competitive grant program; money to be used for transit operating costs, mobility management or new capital investments
- FY19 program received 72 applications for funding and the program is awarding funding to 19 entities for 25 projects

FY19 Awards Summary- Mobility Management (Total Award \$663,916)

Organization	Project Description	Award Amount
Berkshire Regional Transit Authority	Funding for salaries and materials to support BRTA's travel training program.	\$9,960
Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority City of Boston	Funds to create a training library for COAs, HST and CCRTA.	\$4,000
	City of Boston is currently procuring improved dispatching technology using CTGP funds awarded last year. This year's award will facilitate implementation of the technology and successfully complete the project.	\$50,000
Greater Lynn Senior Services, Inc.	Funding for travel trainers that support consumers' connection to, and use of, a wide range of mobility options; and community-focused driver safety, modification, and cessation supports.	\$255,647
Hilltown Community Development Corporation	Planning funds to study expanding Hilltown CDC service coverage to adjacent towns, expand service hours and availability, and expand vehicles in program by developing a supplemental medical ride driver program.	\$17,258
Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority	Funding to produce and distribute a video to educate seniors and individuals with disabilities about using traditional fixed route transit.	\$24,000
MetroWest Regional Transit Authority Mystic Valley Elder Services, Inc.	Funding for MWRTA travel training program staff salaries.	\$80,000
	The Connect a Ride Alliance Program provides transportation services to eleven communities north of Boston. MVES employs two full time transportation coordinators who are responsible for administering a transportation network and rider program for elders and individuals living with disabilities. This includes managing referrals, and booking rides, maintaining a transportation vendor inventory, and a cost effective human services transportation system.	\$151,800
Pioneer Valley Transit Authority	Funding for PVTA travel training program staff salaries.	\$71,251

RMV Wait Times Continue to Improve

85% customers served under 30 minutes 11% 30 to 60 minutes - 4% over 60 minutes

Service Center Wait Times – September 2018



New Haverhill Service Center



Ability to use full dual-line queuing



Writing counters with easily accessible customer forms



Ample customer seating



Restored permit test option