





www.mass.gov/southcoastrail

South Coast Rail Phase 1 Service

Public Meeting - 3/19/2018

Draft Supplemental Environmental

Impact Report (DSEIR)

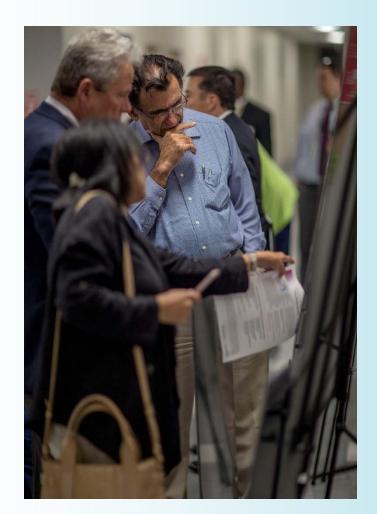






Meeting Guidelines

- Please turn off devices
- Meeting logistics: Presentation first, please hold questions
- Questions and comments
 - ALL speakers will be limited to 2 minutes
 - One speaker at a time
 - At the outset, alternating elected officials and members of the public
 - Please stay on point and be respectful
- How to provide written comments to be on the record





Presentation Overview

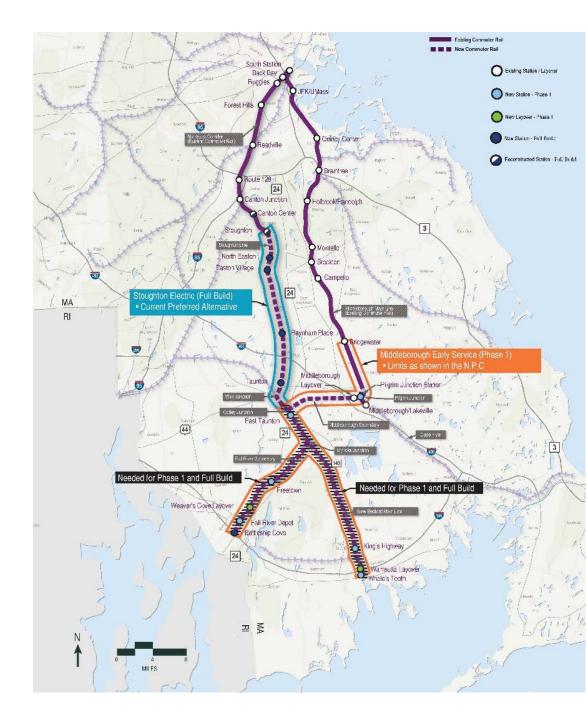
- Phasing South Coast Rail
- Projected Costs
- Schedule and Trip Times
- Projected Ridership
- Environmental Summary
- Next Steps

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is committed to moving forward with the SCR Project and providing commuter rail service for the South Coast region as soon as possible.



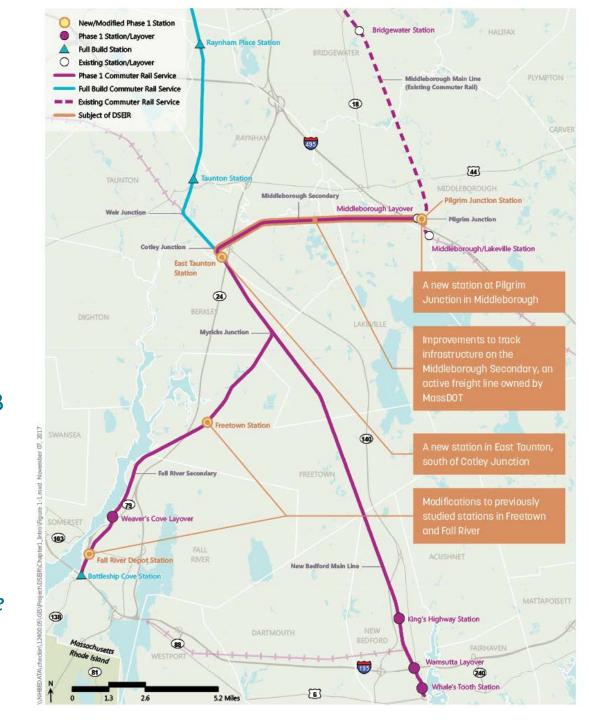
SCR Proposed Phasing

- Phase 1 2022
- Full Build 2030 (at the earliest)



Why Is MassDOT Proposing to Build Phase 1 Now?

- Provides commuter rail to the region by 2022
- One-seat ride from New Bedford and Fall River to Boston
- Cost of the Stoughton Full Build has increased to \$3.2B while design and construction timeline lengthened
- Environmental permitting is less complex - No wetland variances required for Phase





What Elements Are Included in Phase 1?

- Extends existing Middleborough/Lakeville service using diesel-powered trains to New Bedford and Fall River
- Reconstructs 17.3 miles of New Bedford Main Line and 11.7 miles of Fall River Secondary (common to both Phase 1 and Full Build)
- Upgrades existing Middleborough Secondary track from Pilgrim Junction to Cotley Junction (7.1 miles)
- Constructs 2 new layover facilities
- Constructs 6 new stations

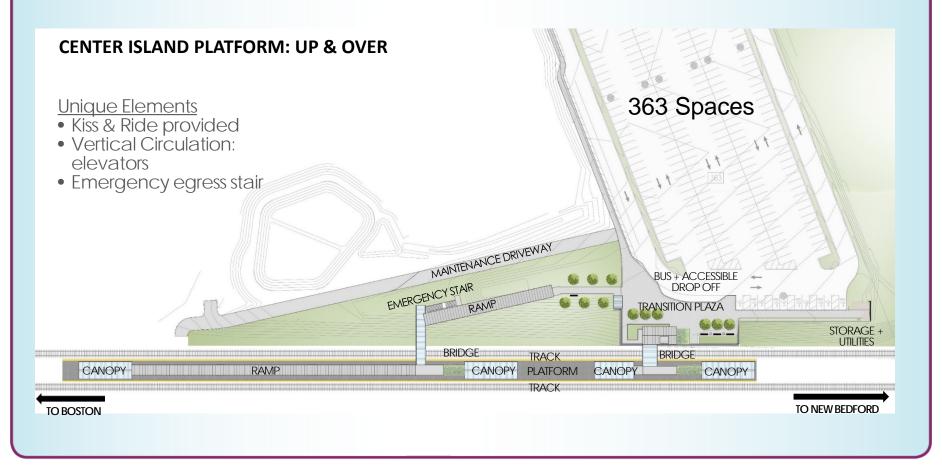
Elements of Phase 1







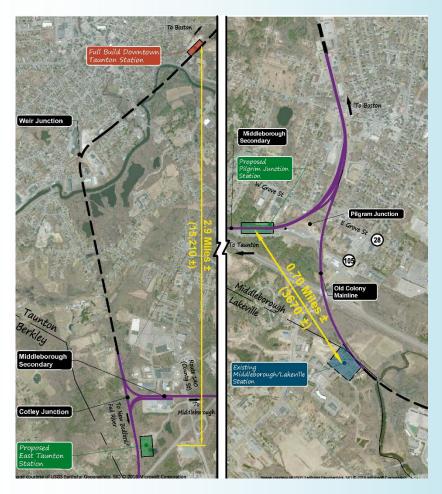
East Taunton Station





Station Distance Comparison

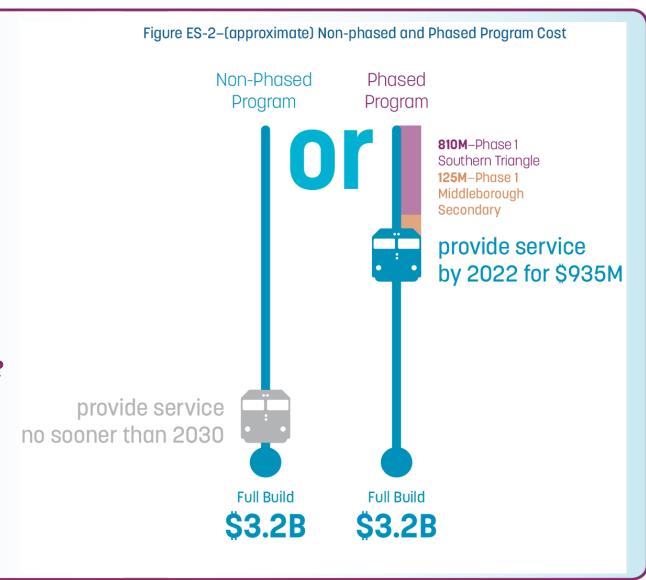
- Proposed East Taunton Station to Full Build Downtown
 Taunton Station – 2.9 miles
- Proposed Pilgrim Jct. Station to Middleborough/Lakeville
 Station – 0.7 miles





How Will
Phasing the
Project Affect
Cost?

Cost is the same for earlier service start





Cost Comparisons and Sources

- Green Line Extension: Total cost of \$2.28 billion; \$996M from Federal Transit Admiration Full Funding Grant Agreement. Cambridge and Somerville are contributing \$75 million (The FFGA funds are no longer available to the state)
- Greenbush Line: Total cost of \$553 million, opened in 2007, state funding
- South Coast Rail: Phase 1 est. cost of \$935m; Full Build, est. cost of \$3.2 billion, state funding; federal Tiger Grant funding of \$20 million for 3 bridges



How Was the Phase 1 Route Selected?

MassDOT screened seven service alternatives based on the following factors:

- One seat ride to Boston
- Minimal environmental impacts
- Efficient train operations
- Passenger service by 2022
- Allow potential future expansion of Cape Service

The selected alternative provides the shortest travel time and distance of all alternatives studied



Proposed Weekday Service under Phase 1

	DAILY INBOUND	DAILY OUTBOUND	TOTAL	PEAK PERIOD
New Bedford	7	7	14	3 Morning Peak Trains3 Evening Peak Trains
Fall River & Freetown	6	6	12	3 Morning Peak Trains3 Evening Peak Trains
Taunton & Middleborough	13	13	26	6 Morning Peak Trains 6 Evening Peak Trains
TOTAL	13	13	26	6 Morning Peak Trains 6 Evening Peak Trains



Ridership for Phase 1

- Daily one-way trips 3,220
- One-way trips per year 837,200
- Ridership at new stations in Phase 1 will be 41% of Full Build ridership for 1/3 the cost.
- Reduction in Vehicle Miles Traveled 66,400 that's 2.67 times around the earth each day
- One-way trips before Full Build completed about 7 million



Phase 1 Travel Time Savings*

To/From South Station:

Taunton: 62 minutes

Fall River: 51 minutes

New Bedford: 63 minutes

* as compared to vehicular travel





What's included in the DSEIR?

The DSEIR Analyzes the anticipated environmental effects associated with the changes proposed for Phase 1:

Land Alteration

Traffic

Climate Change

Endangered Species

Hazardous Materials

Historic and Archeological Resources

Environmental Justice

Air Quality

Wetlands/Waterways

Noise / Vibration

Smart Growth

Cultural Resources



Benefits of Phase 1

- Provides service for the South Coast in 2022
 while MassDOT advances Stoughton Electric
- Catalyzes air quality, economic and smart growth benefits much sooner as detailed in comprehensive DSEIR



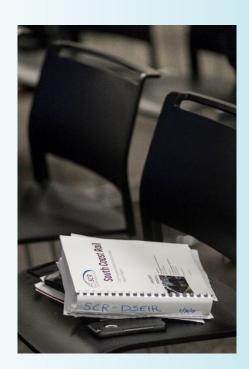
- Uses active rail lines owned by MassDOT
- Avoids major wetlands impacts (no variances required)
- Provides a foundation for Stoughton Electric
 Service and service while Full Build complexities are addressed





What are the next steps?

- Complete the MEPA process
- Written comment period expires
 March 23
- Complete the state and federal permitting process
- Continue early construction as needed
- Finalize the designs, including any mitigation identified during permitting
- Bid the project and construct between 2019 and 2022





Where can I get the document?

- Download the document: www.mass.gov/southcoastrail
- Wide distribution of DSEIR to local libraries
- Executive Summary, in English,
 Portuguese, and Spanish, is
 available on the website
- Web based document is accessible for visually impaired







How to Comment on the DSEIR

- Send a letter, postcard or email to the Secretary of EOEEA (see the handout or fact sheet for information) or fill out a comment sheet at the meeting
- Include copy to Jean Fox at MassDOT (Jean.Fox@state.ma.us)
- Submit your written comment by March 23, 2018





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