

Water Transportation Study Public Meeting #1

October 8, 2025

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us!
The meeting will start shortly.

Water Transportation Study Public Meeting #1

October 8, 2025

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us!

Welcome

Water Transportation Study

3

English

Thank you for joining the meeting! We appreciate your participation.
This meeting will be recorded so that it can be shared with the people that were unable to join.
All participants will be muted upon entry so that only the presenters can be heard.

Spanish

¡Gracias por atender esta reunión! Agradecemos su participación.
Esta reunión será grabada para poder compartir con los que no pudieron asistir.
Los participantes están silenciados al entrar a la reunión para que solo se pueda oír a los presentadores.

Chinese

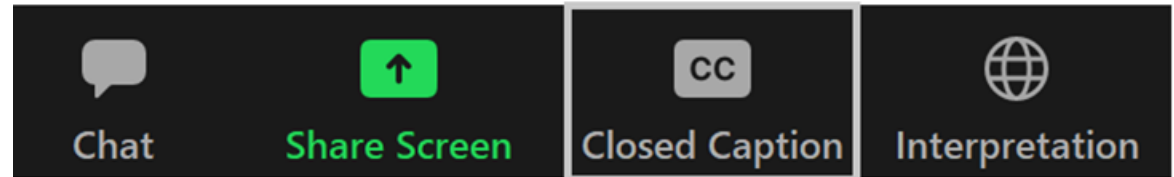
感谢您参与此会议！
本次会议将会被录像，以便我们把它分享给没能来参加的人。
所有参与者在进来时都会被静音，以便于演讲者能被听到。

How to Use Zoom Captions

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4

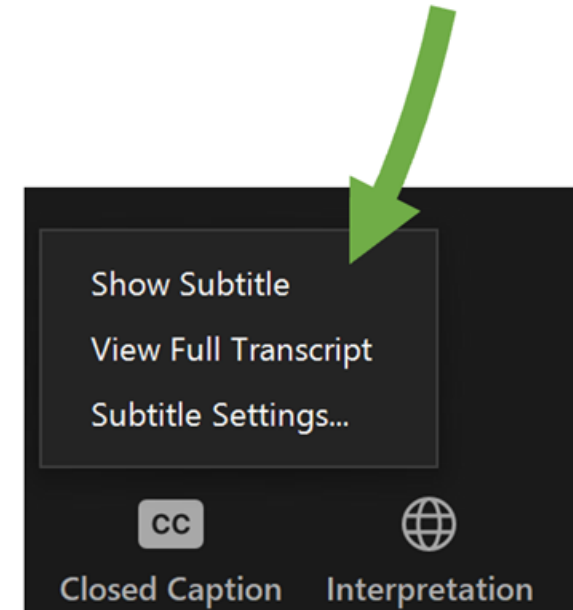
You can view closed captions by clicking the **Closed Captions** feature and selecting from the options shown.



Show Subtitle will display a caption at the bottom of the screen.

View Full Transcript will display the meeting's audio transcription in a window to the right.

To adjust the caption size, click the upward arrow next to **Start Video / Stop Video**. Click **Video Settings** then **Accessibility**. Move the slider to adjust the caption size.



How to Use Zoom Q&A and Chat

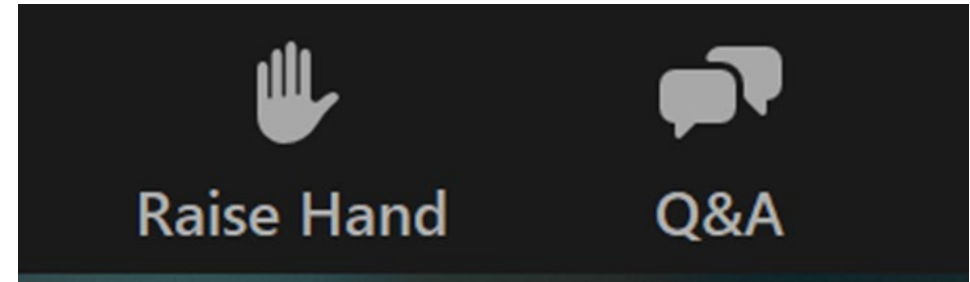
Water Transportation Study

5

To submit a question, click the **Q&A icon** at the bottom of the window. When Q&A window pops up, type your question or comment in the comment box.

If you want to make a comment during the meeting, please feel free to use the **Chat feature**. It will be open during the meeting.

If you have a technical problem in the meeting, please share your issue using the Q&A feature at any point during the meeting, and we will respond as quickly as possible.



What's your favorite candy?

☒ Send anonymously

Cancel

Send

Meeting Purpose

Our goals for tonight's meeting are to talk about the purpose and need of the Water Transportation Study and to seek your input on where we should direct our analysis.

01 | Welcome

02 | Project Presentation

- Current Ferry Service
- Why Now
- Project Purpose, Goals, and Timeline

03 | Breakout Session

04 | Questions & Answers

05 | Next Steps

Study Team

Water Transportation Study

7



Leading study



Project Management · Waterfront Planning and Engineering · ADA and Inclusive Design · Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering



Transportation
Planning ·
Permitting and
Regulatory



Outreach ·
Engagement



ADA and
Inclusive Design
· Buildings and
Utilities



Ferry Operations



Ferry Operations
and Ridership ·
ADA and
Inclusive Design



Outreach ·
Engagement



Buildings and
Utilities



Who Is Here Tonight?

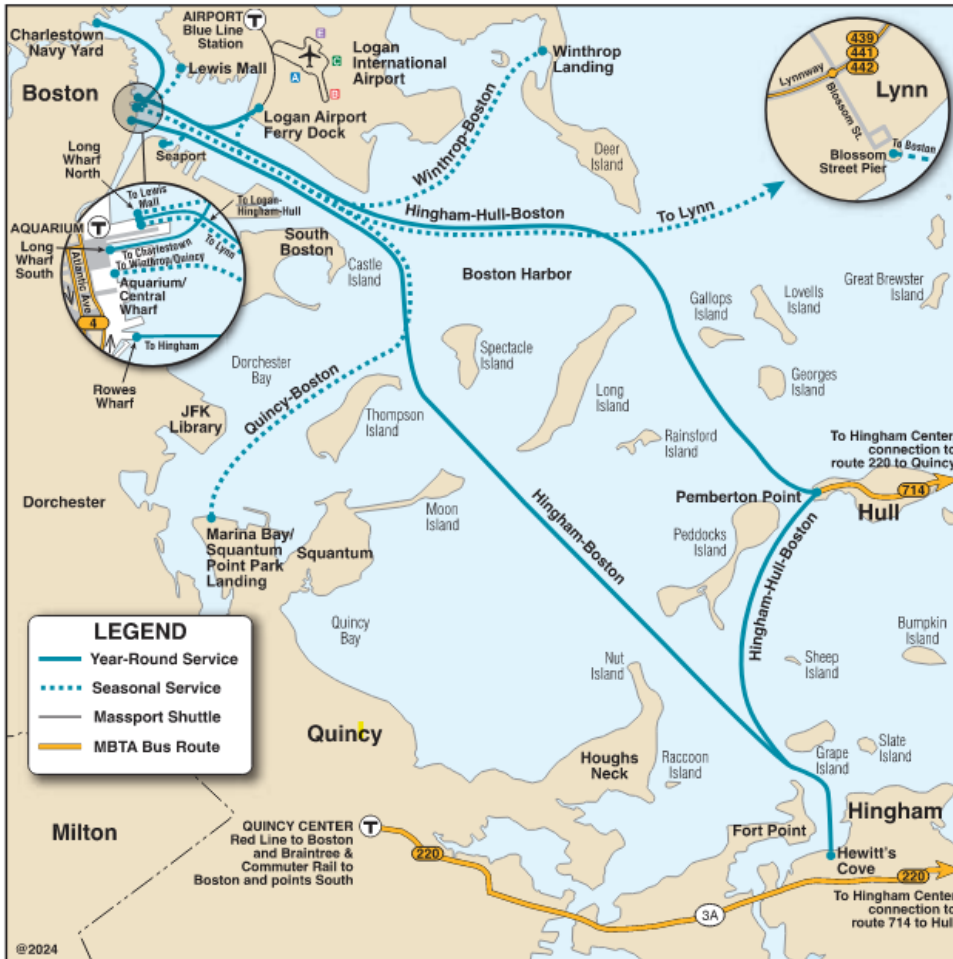
Current MBTA Service

Current MBTA Services

Water Transportation Study

10

T FERRY ROUTE MAP



F1 Hingham to Boston

Year Round, Weekdays only

F2H Hingham/Hull

Year round, Weekdays; Seasonal Weekends

F3 East Boston to Boston

Seasonal, Weekdays and Weekends;
2025 Season: 03/31/25 to 11/28/25

F4 Charlestown to Boston

Year round, Weekdays and Weekends

F5 Lynn to Boston

Seasonal, Weekdays and Weekends;
2025 Season: 03/31 to 11/26/25 (Weekdays)

F6 Winthrop / Logan / Seaport to Boston

Seasonal, Weekdays and Weekends;
2025 Season: 04/28/25 to 11/26/25 (Weekdays)

F7 Quincy / Logan / Seaport to Boston

Seasonal, Weekdays and Weekends
2025 Season: 04/28/25 to 11/26/25 (Weekdays)

Water Transportation Study

What is this project and why are we doing it?

Legislative Initiative – 2022 Bond Bill

Water Transportation Study

12

This project is based on language in the Massachusetts State Legislature 2022 Bond Bill to “seek opportunities **to expand the current ferry system and to ensure equal and broad access**” to cities and towns.

The language specifically identifies Gloucester, Lynn, Quincy, Salem, Winthrop, and Boston.

We’re including places **beyond** that language.



Christening of the *Abigail Adams* and *Harbor Gem*.

Project Need and Goals

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13

The purpose of the Water Transportation Study is to plan and design the next version of the ferry system.

But what does that **mean**?

What We're Doing

Water Transportation Study

14

This study will:

- Identify potential **improvements to existing ferry routes and infrastructure**
- Explore **new routes and dock locations**
- Identify **multimodal access improvements** to current and potential ferry dock locations
- Identify **upgrades to improve the ferry experience** for all riders (e.g.: accessibility improvements, climate resilience measures, better way finding and navigation, etc.)

Project Coordination

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15

We recognize that this project is happening at the same time as other projects that are important to our region.

We are actively working with staff from these efforts to ensure consistency across our methods and approach:

- MBTA Bus Transformation and Bus Network Redesign
- MBTA Program for Mass Transportation (PMT)
- MBTA Full T Ahead
- City of Boston/US Army Corps Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study
- Regional/municipal transportation improvements/long range plans

Full T Ahead

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16

Goal: Establish a consistent, rationalized network of all inner-harbor water transportation services

- Route all Long Wharf ferry services through a **central ferry terminal**, facilitating timed connections between ferry routes.
- Continue to **improve headways** to every 10 mins in the inner harbor and every 30 mins in the outer harbor.
- **Expand service hours and access** during non-commute times, depending on seasonality.
- Expand access for communities in **Gateway Cities**.
- Purchase **state-of-the art vehicles**.

Project Schedule

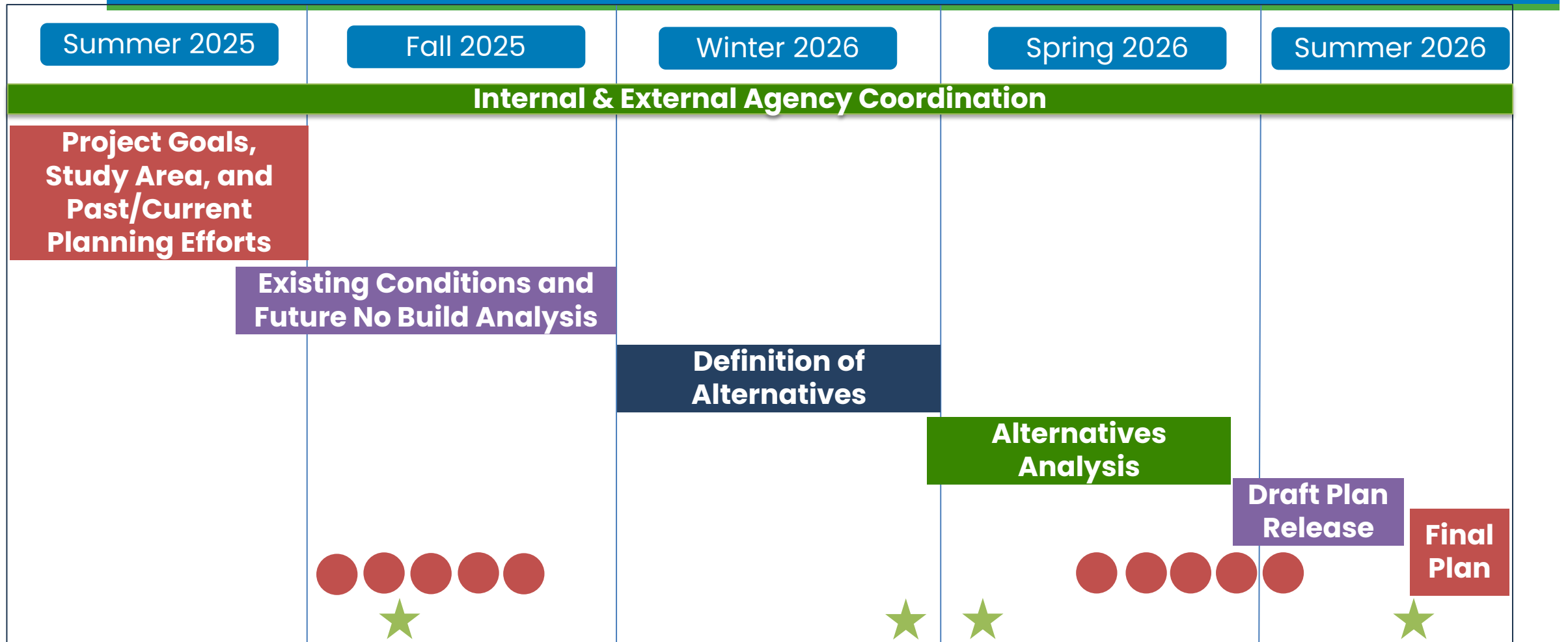


Public meetings



Public engagement

17



Municipal/legislative briefings to occur throughout

What We've Done

Water Transportation Study

18

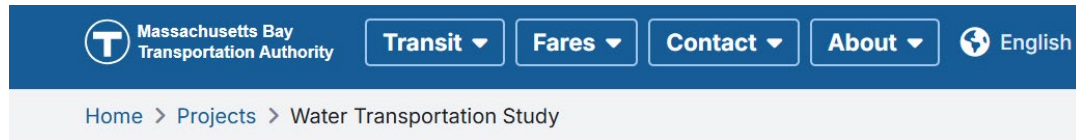
So far, we have:

- Created a **project website** and posted materials
- Published an **online feedback form** in multiple languages
- Created an **email distribution list** for project updates
- **Met with staff and elected representatives** from study area municipalities
- Held **Pop-Up events** in
 - Hull
 - Lynn
 - Seaport (Boston)
 - Quincy
 - Salem

How Can You Stay Involved?

Water Transportation Study

19



Water Transportation Study



★ **Timeline:** Summer 2025 – Summer 2026

★ **Status:** In progress

Right now – on the project website!

mbta.com/watertransportationstudy

Take our survey: mbta.com/watersurvey

Sign up for updates

Email us: watertransportationstudy@mbta.com

Visit one of our Pop-Up Open Houses!

Future Opportunities

- Meetings and workshops
- Attendance at local events
- Future surveys

What We're Doing Now and What We'll Do Next

Existing Conditions

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21

We do an **Existing Conditions analysis** for a few reasons:

We want to ensure we understand how the system is used today so that our recommended changes are truly improvements.

Sets the context of where our work is, in relation to all the work that has been done before.

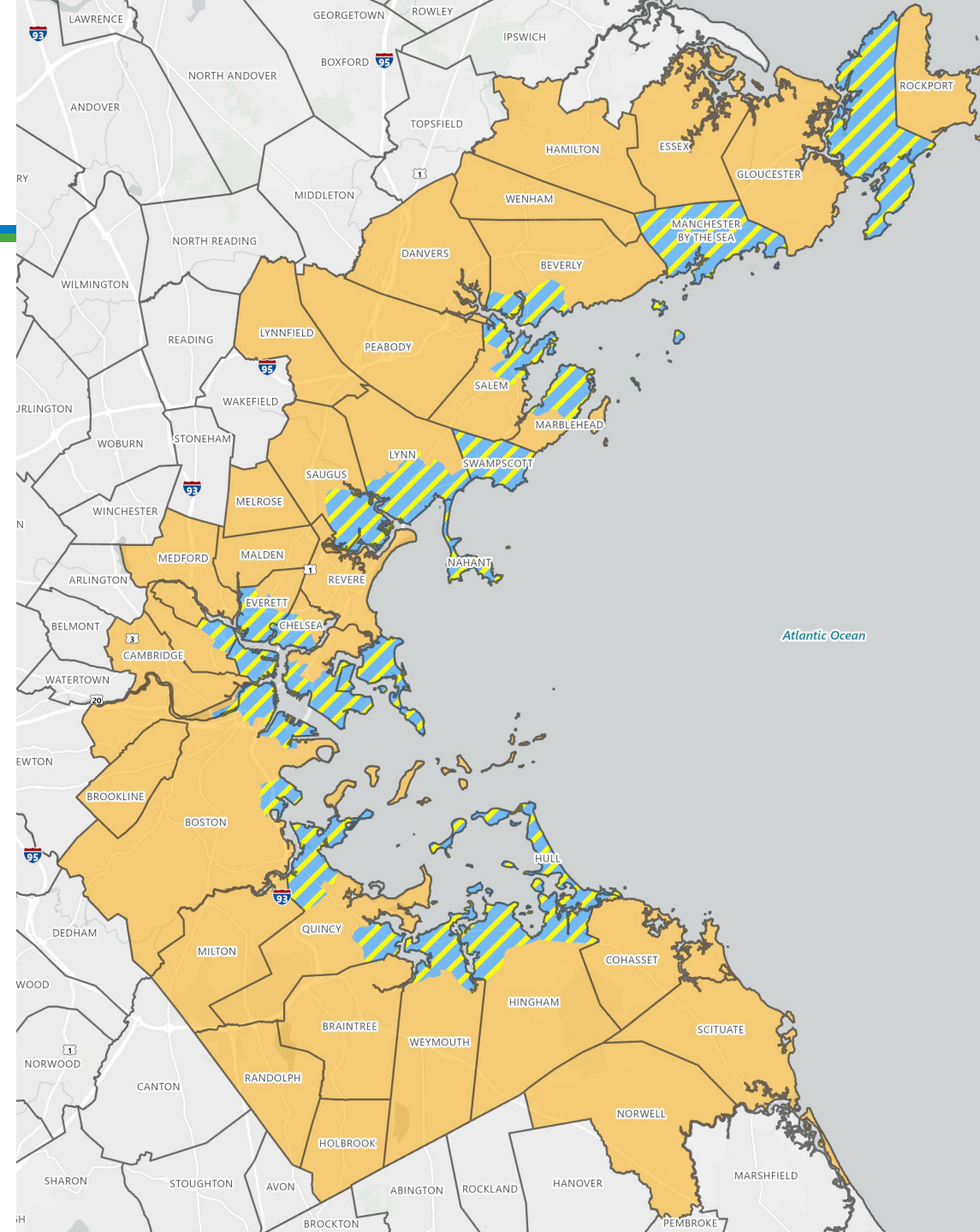
The data we collect serves as a baseline for our future work:

- Creating and Evaluating Alternatives
- Recommending a preferred system

What We're Looking At

Water Transportation Study

- **Ferry Terminal Infrastructure** – Docks, gangways, passenger shelters, passenger information, life-safety elements, and vessel/shore power/pump out capability
- **Transportation Network and Conditions** – areas served by other transportation (including other MBTA services)
- **Travel Demand and Trip Activity** – travel flows between and to areas with ferry terminal access
- **Land Use and Socio-Demographic** – existing and future development, changes to population and employment, population characteristics



Defining Alternatives

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23

To develop and narrow down alternatives, the team will consider:

Operations

Inner Harbor vs. Outer Harbor vs. Outside Harbor routes

Availability of alternative passenger travel options

(e.g., bus, rapid transit, commuter rail)

Schedule and route timing (peak commute times, non-peak commute times, evening, weekend, offseason, etc.)

Potential **new ferry dock locations**

Ground access to ferry docks (e.g., park-and-ride, walk and bike, transit connections)

Land **development** and environmental **permitting factors**

Small Group Discussion

Breakouts

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25

At this time, meeting attendees are in small groups, discussing potential alternatives.

If you are just joining:

Please select a breakout room to join the discussion
We will be reconvening at 7:40 pm.

Small Group Debriefs

Questions and Answers

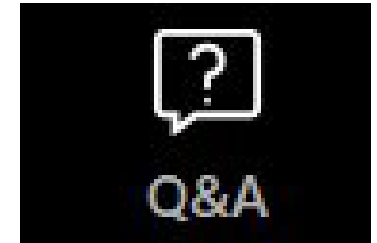
Q&A Instructions

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28

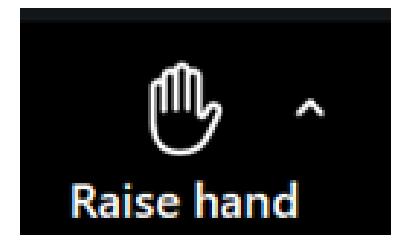
Please share only one question or comment at a time.

Use the “**Q&A**” button to submit a typed question or comment.



Press the “**Raise Hand**” button to share your question or comment verbally. Wait for the moderator to recognize and unmute you before speaking.

If you have joined by phone only, you may “raise your hand” by pressing the star button and then nine (*9).

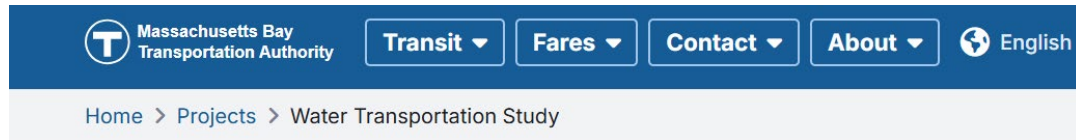


After you speak, we will lower your hand, and you will be muted to allow the team to respond and provide opportunities for others to participate.

How Can You Stay Involved?

Water Transportation Study

29



Water Transportation Study



★ **Timeline:** Summer 2025 – Summer 2026

★ **Status:** In progress

Right now – on the project website!

mbta.com/watertransportationstudy

Take our survey: mbta.com/watersurvey

Sign up for updates

Email us: watertransportationstudy@mbta.com

Visit one of our Pop-Up Open Houses!

Future Opportunities

- Meetings and workshops
- Attendance at local events
- Future surveys

Next Steps

Where We Go From Here

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31

Between now and Public Meeting #2, we will:

- Continue to meet with you in your communities.
 - **Gloucester**, MBTA Commuter Rail Station, October 15, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
 - **East Boston Ferry Terminal**, October 16, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
 - **Chelsea, Bellingham Square**, October 22, 2:00 – 5:00 PM
 - **Hingham Ferry Terminal**, October 23, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
 - **Everett Square**, October 29, 2:00 – 5:00 PM
 - **Winthrop Ferry Terminal**, October 30, 4:00 – 7:00 PM
- Complete our Existing Conditions and Future No Build Analysis
- Screen and evaluate ferry system concepts against project goals and your feedback

Thank you!

For questions and comments, please email
watertransportationstudy@mbta.com