

MBTA DEPARTMENT OF SYSTEM-WIDE ACCESSIBILITY FIXED ROUTE REPORT – October 27, 2010

DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

October 29 Copley Station Re-Dedication

Re-dedication ceremonies are planned for this Friday, October 29, 10:30 am, at Copley Station on the Green Line to celebrate the completion of the modernization of one of the nation's oldest subway stations. Among the features included in this major accessibility project are elevators, escalators, raised platforms, lighting, signage, dual mode communications and tactile platform warning edges.

State Street Project Nears Completion

A major accessibility improvement project at State Station on the Blue and Orange lines is nearing completion with new elevators expected to be in operation by the end of the year. Upon completion of the project, for the first time customers who use elevators will be able to exit the inbound Blue Line train at State, transfer to the Orange Line, or exit to the street.

Preliminary Design Underway - Wollaston, Hynes, Symphony

The MBTA has begun preliminary design work for accessibility at Wollaston Station on the Red Line and Hynes and Symphony stations on the Green Line. The term "preliminary" means that the design is developed up to the 15% stage.

Wachusett Commuter Rail Extension

The Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line is being extended to Wachusett. The \$55.5 million project is funded by a federal stimulus grant. The work will extend the Fitchburg line by 4.5 miles to a brand new Wachusett commuter rail station. The project also

includes track improvements to support freight and passenger rail and a new layover facility.

South Station

As part of the Vision for the New England High Speed and Intercity Rail Network, Governor Patrick and members of the Massachusetts Congressional delegation this week announced more than \$160 million in federal funding for rail expansion in the Commonwealth, including a \$32.5 million grant to support the design phase of the Boston South Station expansion project. The grant will fund the environmental permitting and design phase of the project, which includes constructing seven new tracks at South Station. The expansion will support a significant increase in Amtrak Acela Express High Speed Rail service to Boston along with planned MBTA commuter rail service expansion.

MBTA BUS OPERATIONS RECERTIFICATION TRAINING

Bus Operations continues to hold monthly recertification training classes at the Charlestown Bus Garage for Operators and other Bus personnel. The training classes include modules and videos illustrating the MBTA's policies on assisting customers with disabilities, service animals, use of ramps and lifts, and other accessibility-related topics. The next class will be on Tuesday, November 2. Please contact Robin Howard in the MBTA's System-Wide Accessibility Department at 617-222-1666 voice; 617-222-5045 TTY; rhoward@mbta.com, if you are interested in attending this or future classes.

SWA-BACK BAY CHARLIECARD OUTREACH PROGRAM

Staff from the Department of System-Wide Accessibility at Back Bay are visiting area Senior Centers and other facilities an average of twice per month to issue Senior, Transportation Access Pass (TAP) and Blind Access CharlieCards to eligible MBTA customers.

Outreach events are scheduled for Braintree, November 1; Lynn, November 16; Marshfield, November 30. More information about the events is available at www.mbta.com, or by calling the MBTA Customer Support Services Center at 617-222-3200 voice; 617-222-5146 TTY.