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Subject:	Green Line Extension
Date:	Saturday, September 10, 2011 6:28:41 PM

I am writing to protest the State's misguided attempt to delay the Green Line extension (GLX). At a time of national economic downturn and growing greenhouse effects related in large measure to burning of fossil fuels, this very modest project, tiny and almost laughable in comparison with the scale of public transportation growth in advanced and developing countries around the world, would indeed help get people out of their cars and lower pollutants stemming from automobile exhaust.

This extension, among other benefits, would serve the environmental justice community -- people for whom getting from Union Square Somerville to jobs in the Longwood Medical Area entails up to two hours of cross-town travel by bus, with multiple changes during off-hours.

I am urging federal and state government entities to enforce the legal and environmental obligations (federal Transportation Conformity Measures and SIP air quality) of the project. The Green Line extension is a legal obligation under the Clean Air Act. Full funding of the project and any interim replacements must be identified in the Boston MPO 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Delaying the GLX project also delays the Community Path, since the two projects need to be designed and built together. Full funding of the the Community Path should also be programmed in the 2012-2015 TIP and LRTP along with the GLX. The GLX and Community Path are both sustainable transportation projects that will encourage people to get around with fewer car trips, curb greenhouse gases, and provide needed regional economic opportunities.

Thank you.

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