From:	Michael Prange
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Subject:	Green Line Extension – Enforce the SIP air quality and Transportation Conformity Measures in the Boston MPO 2012 – 2015 TIP and LRTP
Date:	Tuesday, September 13, 2011 12:55:37 PM

To whom it may concern,

The Commonwealth's current effort to delay the Green Line Extension to 2018-2020 is unacceptable. I've only lived in Somerville for five years, and this is already the second attempt at significantly delaying the project within my brief tenure. There are a multitude of excellent reasons for shifting more of the Boston-area commuters away from roads and onto public transportation, and yet the state shows strong preference toward funding highway projects to the detriment of public transportation. The proposed delays violate the legal requirement of prioritizing projects such as the GLX that are required to meet Federal transportation conformity measures under the State Implementation Plan (SIP) in the MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). It is critical that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) enforce the SIP requirements and not rubber-stamp MA DOT's efforts to continually delay 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). It is not acceptable for the state to continue ignoring its legal commitments by claiming that land takings and other project elements are causing the delays.

The state has proven through the success of the Fast14 Bridge replacement program that it can move aggressively if there is REAL commitment to completing transportation projects. Why is GLX treated with constant delays rather than being advanced aggressively like the Fast14 project?

Thank you for your attention to my concerns and to the feedback from the public on this critical transportation project.

Sincerely,

Michael Prange
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