From:	Naomi Slagowski
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Subject:	Green Line Extension delay unacceptable
Date:	Monday, September 12, 2011 9:43:09 AM

Dear public officials,

I am writing to express my deep concern and frustration with the additional delay of the Green Line extension.

The current plan to delay the Green Line Extension to 2018-2020 is unacceptable. The proposed delays violate a legal requirement to prioritize projects such as the Green Line Extension that are required to meet Federal transportation conformity measures under the State Implementation Plan (SIP) in the MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) andLong Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). It is critical that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) enforce the SIP requirements.

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. It is not acceptable to delay this project based on land takings for the maintenance facility. The maintenance facility is NOT part of your legal obligation, and should be considered separately to fulfill your long overdue obligation for mitigating the effects of running a highway and rail (and already one maintenance yard) through Somerville. I also don't want to see the commonwealth lose federal transportation funding as a result!

Delaying the extension will only serve to increase the cost, as MassDOT has stated. If we can't fund this now, how can we fund it at a higher cost, along with the interim replacement air quality mitigation projects?

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

Sincerely,

Naomi Slagowski
19 Spring Hill Terrace
Somerville, MA