From:	Mark Chase
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Subject:	MBTA Green Line Extension/ Please Help
Date:	Monday, September 12, 2011 3:09:30 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing you to urge you with any power you possess to require the State to finish the Green Line extension to Somerville and Medford by 2015 at the latest. There are sound economic, public health and legal reasons to do so.

Economically it will cost the State at least an additional $200 million more to delay the project by three years. This huge sum does not even include the cost of interim offset measures that the state will be required to implement in the absence of the Green Line's completion by 2014. Furthermore with the current recession, a project like the Green Line will put thousands of Massachusetts residents to work at a time when our state economy most needs help. Finally contracting firms who bid to complete the work will do it at the lowest possible price. It makes perfect economic sense to do the Green Line now.

From a public health standpoint any delay in completing the Green Line adds to unnecessary excess deaths that will result form exposure to unhealthy air, increased obesity and incremental car-accidents as more people choose to drive in the absence of more healthy public transit.

Finally, the State is legally obligated to complete the Green Line. It has already lost one law suit. The State would additionally lose hundreds of millions of additional dollars if it is determined to have a transportation plan that does not conform with the air quality mandates of the Clean Air Act.

Please make the right decision: Force the state to honor its commitment to complete the Green Line by 2014.

Sincerely,

Mark Chase
13 Belmont Street
Somerville, MA
02143

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Mark Chase

Transportation Planning Consultant

A good city is like a good party: you stay longer than you planned because it's so wonderful
~ Jan Gehl