From:	Sylvia Romm
To:	jerome.grafe@state.ma.us; christine.kirby@state.ma.us; David.mohler@state.ma.us; Katherine.fichter@dot.state.ma.us; publicinformation@ctps.org; arnold.anne@epa.gov; cooke.donald@epa.gov; monahan.rosemary@epa.gov; pamela.stephenson@dot.gov; michael.chong@dot.gov; william.gordon@dot.gov
Subject:	Please reverse the GLX Delay
Date:	Monday, September 05, 2011 2:21:49 PM

Dear State Representatives,

My name is Dr. Sylvia Romm and I am a pediatrician and expectant mother who lives in Somerville, MA. I am writing to protest the State's recent efforts to further delay the Green Line extension (GLX). Not only is the Green Line extension a legal obligation under the Clean Air Act, it is also an essential part of the breathing life into the community and economy in Somerville. One of the main reasons my husband and I bought a condo near Union Square last month was the promise of the green line extension. Although we have already bought and are planning to stay, I'm sure that the decision to buy for others will be postponed as long as the city and state continue to be so unreliable with their building plans.

I urge the State to meet its legal and environmental obligations (SIP air quality and federal Transportation Conformity Measures) by keeping the project to its December 31, 2014 deadline. Full funding must be identified in the Boston MPO's 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

Delaying the GLX would:

* Needlessly cost taxpayers statewide an extra $200 million -or more - plus the added costs of air quality mitigation to offset the new delays.
* Jeopardize the State's federal transportation funding - $650 million per year!
* Delay the Community Path, since the two projects need to be designed and built together.
* Delay personal and commercial economic investment into Somerville when it is needed most

The GLX project is a wonderful transportation project that needs to be supported in a much stronger manner than it currently is. I urge you to make this project an absolute priority.

Sincerely,
Dr. Sylvia Romm, MD, MPH
5 Vinal Ave. Somerville, MA 02143