From:	Ruth Alfasso
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Subject:	Green Line Extension – Enforce the requirements and stop the delays
Date:	Monday, September 12, 2011 6:20:41 PM

Gentlefolk,

The Commonwealth's current effort to delay the Green Line Extension to 2018-2020 is unacceptable. 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. This isn't fair to the residents of the underserved areas of Somerville and Medford who were promised this project as mitigation for the Big Dig.

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? The constant delays are an economic disincentive in the area which would be benefiting from smart transit-oriented growth if anyone could count on when, if at all, this project will be finished.

I am a ten-year homeowner in the area, who currently walks a mile to the Davis Square Red Line Station in order to meet my daily commute needs; many of my neighbors are unable or unwilling to walk so far and so rely on cars; traffic around here is a frustrating, polluting mess. A green line connection is part of the solution. Don't make us wait more than necessary.

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

Sincerely,

Ruth D. Alfasso and Gavin R. Schnitzler
45 Marion Street
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