From:	Enid Kumin
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Subject:	Green Line Ext.: reasons to oppose delay and to ensure that Extension & Community Path projects go forward in tandem
Date:	Tuesday, September 13, 2011 10:57:50 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I oppose plans to delay the Green Line Extension project. Delaying the project will result in abnegation of the Commonwealth's responsibility to implement U.S. Transportation Conformity Measures and SIP air quality standards. In short, the Commonwealth is obligated to construct the Green Line Extension under the Clean Air Act. To demonstrate its commitment to these obligations and to guarantee proper funding of the Extension, the state must ensure that the Boston MPO 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) both show full funding for the project and any interim replacements.

As a Somerville resident, mayoral appointee to the Somerville Bicycle Committee, and supporter of the Community Path in Somerville, I also support timely construction of the Green Line Extension in conjunction with construction of the Community Path. I urge full funding of the Community Path in the 2012-2015 TIP and LRTP along with the Green Line Extension. In combination, the two projects are a major step towards reducing greenhouse gas and particulate matter production, lessening of roadway congestion, and provision of much needed employment and spillover economic opportunities.

Past emphasis on roadway construction (e.g., the Big Dig) without equal or greater emphasis on alternative transportation has proven a misguided approach to regional transportation. Delaying the current project will not only delay potential transportation and health benefits of the Extension and the Community Path, it will also add considerably to the ultimate cost of project completion. Let us aspire to learn from transportation planning mistakes of prior decades rather than repeat them.

Sincerely,

Enid Kumin
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