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Subject:	Green Line Extension: Comments on the SIP Status Report, Boston MPO 2012-2015 TIP and LRTP
Date:	Tuesday, September 13, 2011 4:27:58 PM

As the Trustees of the Brickbottom Condominium Trust, we are writing to protest the State's recent proposal to further delay the opening of the Green Line Extension (GLX) to as late as 2020.

As such, we are urging federal and state government entities to enforce the legal and environmental obligations of the project. The GLX is one of SIP Transportation Control Measures that the state has committed to giving highest priority to in order to become compliant with the federal Clean Air Act. The proposed delay violates this commitment.

Meeting this legal obligation also requires the Boston MPO to show realistic funding sources and timely completion of the Green Line Extension in both the 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The TIP does not currently satisfy Federal Transportation Conformity because it shows less than 50% of the money allocated and less than 50% of the GLX as being completed by the legal deadline of 2014.

Besides the failure to meet these legal requirements, the new time frame has a significant negative impact on the communities that GLX will serve, including the Brickbottom Artists Building. It delays better access to public transportation, will also delay the Community Path, prolongs the negative health effect being inflicted on the communities by poor air quality and adds an estimated $200 million to the overall cost of the project.

Despite several aspects of the GLX that will have or have threatened to have a significant impact on the residents of Brickbottom (particularly the track layout adjacent to the building and the original maintenance facility site), the project has still enjoyed overwhelming support here. But the uncertainty that comes with this delay causes residents to lose confidence in the process and may hurt quality of life and property values, especially as economic development in the area is inevitably delayed as well. Plus, a longer construction schedule threatens to prolong the negatives before any of the benefits can be enjoyed.

The Green Line Extension is a great, sustainable transportation project that will hugely benefit a large number of people, but not until it starts running. We urge you to reject this delay and to use all of the tools available to your agencies to accelerate the opening of the entire Green Line Extension.

Sincerely,

Ramon Bueno, Trustee
William Kipp, Trustee
Robert Martel, Property Manager
Cynthia Dana Pellegrini, Trustee
Randal Thurston, Trustee

Heather Van Aelst, Trustee

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