



Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lt. Governor

Jeffrey B. Mullan
MassDOT
Secretary & CEO

John R. Jenkins
MassDOT
Board Chair

Richard A. Davey
General Manager and
Rail & Transit Administrator

April 23, 2010

[REDACTED]
State House
[REDACTED]
Boston, MA 02133

Dear [REDACTED]:

MassDOT and the MBTA would like to provide an update on the planned project to address chronic problems with the concrete railroad ties along both the Middleborough and Plymouth/Kingston branches of the Old Colony System. Enclosed please find a Power Point presentation made at a meeting held in March with legislators to address this issue.

This project will affect the entire Old Colony System between South Station and the terminal Stations of both lines. There will also be some operational impacts to the Greenbush Line when crews are working on the commuter Rail mainline between Braintree and South Station. This project is estimated to have a total value of \$91,500,000. Tie replacement is expected to last until the end of calendar year 2011. Final completion including pavement restoration, landscaping and demobilization will extend into Summer 2012. The scope of work involves the full replacement of all 147,000 concrete ties along the 61 miles of track. The replacement ties will be wood and construction crews will also be replacing the road crossings as part of the project. The total number of road crossings to be replaced is 59.

To complete the tie replacement work by the end of 2011, work will occur 7 days per week. During the week, Monday through Friday the work hours will be 9:00AM to 4:00PM and the trains will continue to provide service during both the morning and afternoon peak travel times. During the day on weekdays alternative bus transportation will be provided. On weekends, it is anticipated that crews will work 2 shifts from 7:00 AM until 11:00PM. No weekend train service on either the Middleborough or Plymouth/Kingston lines will be provided for the duration of this project and no alternative bus transportation on weekends will be provided.

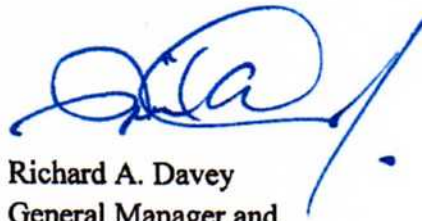


Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Ten Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116-3974

When the contractor is working on the mainline segment between Braintree and South Station the Greenbush line will also be affected and weekend service on this line will be suspended. Road crossing replacement work will be coordinated with each community and some of road crossing replacement work may require night work. The MBTA anticipates awarding this contract in July and work is estimated to begin in August 2010.

I want to thank you in advance for your patience, cooperation and understanding in the implementation of this very vital project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Davey', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Richard A. Davey
General Manager and
Rail & Transit Administrator